

1 HJR50
2 179633-1
3 By Representatives McMillan, Faust, Davis and Baker
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 24-AUG-16

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8 HONORING PAUL DOUGLAS RAINS FOR HIS VALOROUS SERVICE
9 IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY.

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11 WHEREAS, highest commendations are herein proudly
12 presented to Paul Douglas Rains, a lifelong resident of
13 Daphne, Alabama, for his valorous service in the United States
14 Army; and

15 WHEREAS, early in life, Mr. Rains developed a strong
16 desire to become a soldier and serve his country; he answered
17 his calling to join the United States Army at only 17 years of
18 age and shipped out on May 31, 2002, for basic training at
19 Fort Benning, Georgia; and

20 WHEREAS, a member of the Army's Airborne Infantry,
21 Mr. Rains was stationed in Alaska and served a tour of duty in
22 Afghanistan; and

23 WHEREAS, Mr. Rains went on to serve a second tour of
24 duty, this time in Iraq; while serving in Iraq, he incurred
25 severe wounds that made his survival unlikely on the grim day
26 of January 3, 2006; Mr. Rains, who credits God with his
27 survival, suffered a traumatic brain injury, a shattered arm,

1 a severe injury to his right leg, and shrapnel wounds from top
2 to bottom on his right side; one piece of shrapnel pierced his
3 liver and one of his lungs; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Rains has exuded an iron will and
5 abounding positivity during his healing journey; he told a
6 doctor, who claimed he would not be able to walk for three to
7 six months, that he would walk in two or three weeks; he
8 proved the doctor wrong and miraculously began walking two
9 weeks later; upon returning home to Baldwin County, Alabama,
10 he worked as an equipment operator until the pain of his
11 injuries became unbearable; and

12 WHEREAS, the Baldwin County Home Builders
13 Association Charitable Foundation in partnership with the
14 community is building Mr. Rains a new home in appreciation for
15 his service; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Rains and his wife, Jessica, have four
17 daughters, Sophia, Taylor, Juliana, and Reese; and

18 WHEREAS, Paul Douglas Rains demonstrated immense
19 courage and discipline in the midst of war; his unwavering
20 commitment to excellence in defending freedom and democracy is
21 a tremendous source of credit; we are indebted to this true
22 American Hero for his brave actions and willingness to pay the
23 ultimate sacrifice for our liberties; now therefore,

24 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
25 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Paul Douglas Rains is honored
26 and commended, and this resolution is offered to him in

1 highest tribute, along with sincere best wishes for the
2 future.