

1 SJR15  
2 179430-2  
3 By Senators Waggoner, Albritton, Allen, Beasley, Blackwell,  
4 Brewbaker, Bussman, Chambliss, Coleman-Madison, Dial, Dunn,  
5 Figures, Glover, Hightower, Holley, Holtzclaw, Livingston,  
6 Marsh, McClendon, Melson, Orr, Pittman, Reed, Ross, Sanders,  
7 Sanford, Scofield, Shelnutt, Singleton, Smith, Smitherman,  
8 Stutts, Ward, Whatley and Williams  
9 RFD:  
10 First Read: 18-AUG-16

1 SJR15

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4 ENROLLED, SJR15,

5 MOURNING THE DEATH OF FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE JIM  
6 BENNETT.

7  
8 WHEREAS, it is with deep sorrow and regret that we  
9 note the lamentable death of James R. "Jim" Bennett on August  
10 17, 2016, at the age of 76; he was a lifelong public servant;  
11 he served four times as Alabama Secretary of State; he served  
12 in the Alabama House of Representatives from 1978 through  
13 1983, the Alabama Senate from 1983 until 1993, and was  
14 appointed by Governor Bob Riley as the Commissioner of the  
15 Alabama Department of Labor; and

16 WHEREAS, a graduate of Jacksonville State University  
17 and the University of Alabama; he was a longtime member and  
18 former President of the Board of Trustees for Jacksonville  
19 State University; and

20 WHEREAS, from 1961 through 1971, prior to his  
21 political career, he was a reporter for the Birmingham  
22 Post-Herald; later he wrote a series of columns for AL.com and  
23 is the author of several history books including, Historic  
24 Birmingham and Jefferson County and Tannehill and the Growth  
25 of the Alabama Iron Industry; and

1           WHEREAS, while serving as Secretary of State, he  
2 also served as President of the National Association of  
3 Secretaries of State and brought the national convention of  
4 that organization to Mobile, Alabama; and

5           WHEREAS, with decades of involvement in government  
6 and public affairs, he was known for his unselfish service to  
7 the Citizens of Alabama; he was recently awarded the  
8 Governor's Cross, which is the highest honor bestowed by the  
9 Alabama National Guard; and

10           WHEREAS, Jim Bennett was a valued member of the  
11 community and loved by many, and we join with others to mourn  
12 the death of our friend and colleague; although his presence  
13 will be greatly missed, his memory will be cherished in the  
14 hearts and minds of those who were fortunate to know him and  
15 all those whom he served; now therefore,

16           BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
17 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Jim Bennett is  
18 recorded with deep sadness, and even as we mourn his death, we  
19 also celebrate his life; this resolution is offered in highest  
20 tribute, along with heartfelt sympathy to his family, whose  
21 grief is shared by many.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR15  
Senate 18-AUG-16  
I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution  
originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

Patrick Harris  
Secretary

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House of Representatives  
Adopted: 23-AUG-16

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By: Senator Waggoner