

1 HR344
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3 By Representatives Shiver, Polizos, Moore (B), Baker, Ingram
4 and Gaston
5 RFD:
6 First Read: 26-APR-16

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8 HONORING AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF NELLE HARPER
9 LEE.

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11 WHEREAS, Nelle Harper Lee was born on April 28,
12 1926, in Monroeville, Alabama, the youngest of four children
13 of Frances Cunningham Finch Lee and Amasa Coleman Lee; her
14 siblings were Alice Finch Lee, Louise Lee Connor, and Edwin
15 Lee; and

16 WHEREAS, Lee was a 1944 graduate of Monroe County
17 High School, where she developed an interest in English
18 literature; and she continued her studies at Huntingdon
19 College in Montgomery, then transferred to the University of
20 Alabama, where she wrote for the college newspaper and studied
21 law; and

22 WHEREAS, after Harper Lee's novel, To Kill A
23 Mockingbird, was published on July 11, 1960, the book became
24 an immediate best-seller, winning the Pulitzer Prize for
25 fiction in 1961 and, with more than 40,000,000 copies in
26 print, was recognized in 1999 as Best Novel of the Century by
27 the Literary Journal; and

1 WHEREAS, it is generally acknowledged that Lee
2 modeled Atticus Finch in her novel on her father, A.C. Lee;
3 the character Dill on her childhood companion, Truman Capote;
4 and the town of Maycomb and its courthouse on her hometown of
5 Monroeville and the old Monroe County Courthouse; and

6 WHEREAS, on July 14, 2015, Lee's early novel, Go Set
7 A Watchman, was published and became an immediate best-seller,
8 bringing unprecedented publicity and hundreds of visitors to
9 the City of Monroeville; and

10 WHEREAS, Nelle Harper Lee died on the morning of
11 February 19, 2016; the funeral service was held at First
12 United Methodist Church in Monroeville with the eulogy by her
13 friend, Wayne Flynt; and

14 WHEREAS, in her lifetime, Miss Lee was the recipient
15 of numerous awards and honors including, the Presidential
16 Medal of Freedom by President George W. Bush in 2007 and the
17 National Medal of Arts by President Barack Obama in 2010; and

18 WHEREAS, Miss Lee's writing has paid tribute to her
19 upbringing in a small southern town and, in her own words, "To
20 Kill A Mockingbird spells out in words seldom more than two
21 syllables a code of honor and conduct Christian in its ethic,
22 that is the heritage of all Southerners"; now therefore,

23 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
24 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we hereby honor the
25 contributions made to the literary world by Nelle Harper Lee
26 and celebrate her life and legacy.