

1 SJR114  
2 177817-1  
3 By Senators Whatley, Stutts, Albritton, Allen, Beasley,  
4 Blackwell, Brewbaker, Bussman, Chambliss, Coleman-Madison,  
5 Dial, Dunn, Figures, Glover, Hightower, Holley, Holtzclaw,  
6 Livingston, Marsh, McClendon, Melson, Orr, Pittman, Reed,  
7 Ross, Sanders, Sanford, Scofield, Shelnutt, Singleton, Smith,  
8 Smitherman, Waggoner, Ward and Williams  
9 RFD:  
10 First Read: 03-MAY-16

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4  
5  
6  
7  
8 POSTHUMOUSLY HONORING THE HAYNES LIFEFLIGHT  
9 HELICOPTER CREW FROM SOUTHEAST ALABAMA FOR HEROIC ACTIONS.

10  
11 WHEREAS, it is a tremendous privilege to  
12 posthumously honor the members of the Haynes Lifeflight Crew  
13 from Southeast Alabama that crashed in Goodman, Alabama, on  
14 March 26, 2016; and

15 WHEREAS, the Haynes Lifeflight Crew, consisting of  
16 the pilot, Chad Hammond, age 29, nurse Stasi Cernadas, age 38,  
17 and flight medic Jason Snipes, age 34, was dispatched to pick  
18 up Zach Strickland, age 27, who was involved in an automobile  
19 accident and needed to be flown to Montgomery; and

20 WHEREAS, after the crew picked up Mr. Strickland,  
21 the helicopter crashed approximately a half-mile from the  
22 scene of the automobile accident and all four passengers of  
23 the helicopter were killed; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Hammond, a husband and a father, joined  
25 Metro Aviation, Inc., which operated the helicopter for Haynes  
26 Ambulance of Alabama, in October 2015, and he was previously  
27 an instructor at Cloud 9 Helicopters in Florida; Mr. Hammond

1 attended George C. Wallace Community College and was a 2005  
2 graduate of Eufaula High School; he was recognized just three  
3 years ago by the Federal Aviation Administration by being  
4 included in the FAA Airmen Certification Database, a  
5 certification reserved for pilots who have met or exceeded the  
6 high educational, licensing, and medical standards established  
7 by the FAA; and

8 WHEREAS, Ms. Cernadas was born in Huntsville but  
9 reared in Georgia; she was a former flight attendant and a  
10 trauma nurse in Montgomery before becoming a flight nurse in  
11 September 2015; her father, Javier Cernadas, said that she was  
12 living out her dream of being a flight nurse and he conveyed  
13 his immense pride in his daughter; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Snipes was previously a supervisor with  
15 Regional Paramedical Services of Alabama and based in Shelby  
16 County before he joined the crew at Haynes; he is described as  
17 being a very compassionate person who was an outstanding  
18 paramedic; he was known for contacting his patients afterwards  
19 to offer words of encouragement or even his favorite scripture  
20 to help those patients through their difficult recovery time;  
21 although often called a hero for his efforts, he liked to give  
22 credit where he thought credit was due, saying that he was not  
23 the hero, but that God did His work through Mr. Snipes' hands;  
24 and

25 WHEREAS, the members of the Haynes Lifeflight Crew  
26 were all valued members of their communities and their  
27 commitment to their professions and their ultimate heroic

1 sacrifice will never be forgotten; through the years, their  
2 memory will live on in the hearts and minds of those who were  
3 fortunate enough to know them, and their inspiring courage and  
4 legacy will be forever cherished; now therefore,

5 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
6 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we posthumously honor and  
7 commend the Haynes Lifeflight Crew from Southeast Alabama, and  
8 it is directed that a copy of this resolution shall be  
9 presented to the friends and family of each of the crew  
10 members in highest tribute of their noble lives.