

1 SJR41
2 174652-1
3 By Senator Waggoner
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 01-MAR-16

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7
8 CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MR. DAVID R.
9 BELCHER.

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11 WHEREAS, with utmost reverence and respect, we
12 uplift the life and legacy of Mr. David R. Belcher, who passed
13 away January 31, 2016, at 78 years of age; and

14 WHEREAS, his passing leaves a void in the lives of
15 his loving family, many friends, and the entire community,
16 where he was highly regarded; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Belcher was born April 15, 1937, in
18 Roanoke, Alabama; he attended Roanoke Elementary School and
19 Handley High School; he graduated from Jacksonville State
20 University, where he served as Treasurer and President of the
21 Student Government Association and Chair of the University
22 Honor Council and earned selection as Who's Who in American
23 Colleges and Universities; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Belcher received a Regular Army
25 Commission following college and entered the US Army as a
26 Second Lieutenant; he served tours of duty in Korea and South
27 Vietnam in the 101st Airborne Division, where he was awarded

1 two Bronze Stars; he obtained the rank of Major and was
2 discharged in 1968; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Belcher began his automotive career in
4 Jacksonville, Florida, and moved his family to Huntsville,
5 Alabama, before purchasing Royal Oldsmobile Company in
6 Vestavia in 1974; he served in leadership roles in local,
7 state, and national automotive organizations; he served his
8 community as a member of the Vestavia City Council, President
9 of the Vestavia Hills Board of Education, and as a member of
10 numerous clubs and organizations; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Belcher was recognized by The Vestavia
12 Rotary Club as a Paul Harris Fellow and received the Lifetime
13 Achievement Award from Leadership Vestavia Hills; he was a
14 major supporter of Auburn University and The University of
15 Alabama and was extremely active in Auburn's Fellowship of
16 Christian Athletes and co-founder of the Birmingham fund
17 raising efforts; in addition, he was a supporter and board
18 member of the John Croyle's Big Oak Boys' and Girls' Ranches;
19 he recently completed an eight-year appointment as a Trustee
20 for Samford University, and was elected to another term prior
21 to his passing; he was a faithful and devoted member of Shades
22 Mountain Baptist Church, where he served as Deacon and Chair
23 of the Finance Committee; and

24 WHEREAS, survivors include his beloved and devoted
25 wife, Sue Merrill Belcher; sons, David Harold Belcher (Alisa),
26 and Gregory Lee Belcher (Leigh); one granddaughter, Merrill
27 Grace Belcher; four grandsons, David Richard Belcher, II,

1 Robert Brock Belcher, Gregory Gaines Belcher, and Grant Allen
2 Belcher; and one sister, Sue Bannister (Johnny); he was
3 preceded in death by his parents, Mamie and Elmer Belcher; two
4 sisters, Jane Ann Upchurch and Jerry Hall; and one brother,
5 Elmer Belcher, Jr.; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Belcher was a valued member of the
7 community; although his presence is greatly missed, his memory
8 is cherished in the hearts and minds of all those who were
9 fortunate enough to know him; now therefore,

10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
11 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That while grieving the death of
12 Mr. David R. Belcher, we are extremely grateful for his
13 abundant life, and we offer this resolution in highest tribute
14 to his inspiring legacy, as well as in heartfelt sympathy to
15 his family and friends.