

1 SJR62  
2 175290-1  
3 By Senators Sanders, 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, Sanford,  
7 Scofield, Shelnutt, Singleton, Smith, Smitherman, Stutts,  
8 Waggoner, Ward, Whatley and Williams  
9 RFD:  
10 First Read: 15-MAR-16

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8 MOURNING THE DEATH AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND  
9 LEGACY OF NELLE HARPER LEE.

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11 WHEREAS, it is with deep sorrow and regret that we  
12 note the death of Nelle Harper Lee, of Monroeville, Alabama,  
13 on February 19, 2016, at the age of 89; it is also with utmost  
14 honor and respect we uplift and celebrate the tremendous life  
15 of legendary Nelle Harper Lee as a great Alabamian; and

16 WHEREAS, born in Monroeville, Ms. Lee attended  
17 Huntington College and the University of Alabama before moving  
18 to New York City and working as an airline reservation agent  
19 while writing part time; although she never completed college,  
20 she was later awarded numerous honorary degrees, including one  
21 from the University of Notre Dame; and

22 WHEREAS, best known for her classic novel, To Kill A  
23 Mockingbird, Ms. Lee preferred to surround herself in quiet  
24 solitude rather than notoriety; the movie adaptation of her  
25 successful novel published in 1960 premiered less than three  
26 years after the novel's publication; the movie became a  
27 multiple Academy Award winner; and

1           WHEREAS, among the numerous awards and honors Ms.  
2 Lee received in her lifetime were the 1961 Pulitzer Prize for  
3 Fiction, the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2007, the  
4 National Medal of Arts in 2010, Best Novel of the Century in  
5 1999, the ATTY Award, the Los Angeles Public Library Literary  
6 Award, and membership in the Alabama Academy of Honor; and

7           WHEREAS, in 2015, after much discussion and debate,  
8 Ms. Lee published a second novel, Go Set a Watchman; although  
9 this novel was proclaimed a sequel to To Kill A Mockingbird,  
10 it was developed from her first draft of the original novel;  
11 and

12           WHEREAS, a native Alabamian loved by many throughout  
13 the world, the memory of Nelle Harper Lee is deeply cherished  
14 in the hearts and minds of all those who were fortunate enough  
15 to know her, as well as her many fans; now therefore,

16           BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
17 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That while grieving the death of  
18 Nelle Harper Lee, we are extremely grateful for her abundant  
19 life and literary contributions, and we offer this resolution  
20 in highest tribute to her inspiring legacy, as well as in  
21 heartfelt sympathy to her family and friends.