

1 SJR66
2 175735-2
3 By Senator Smitherman
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 22-MAR-16

1 SJR66

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4 ENROLLED, SJR66,

5 CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF EMORY TATE, JR.
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7 WHEREAS, it is with a profound sense of loss that
8 the death of Emory Tate, Jr., is recorded; Mr. Tate died in
9 October 2015 and was buried in the family plot behind New
10 Union Grove Baptist Church in Smuteye, Alabama; while mourning
11 his death, we celebrate his remarkable life; Mr. Tate's father
12 taught him to play the game of Chess and throughout his
13 lifetime, Mr. Tate excelled at the game and became an
14 International Chess Master; he is internationally renown as
15 one of the top African-American chess players and is an
16 inspiration to many young chess players; and

17 WHEREAS, following graduation from Concord High
18 School in Elkhart, Indiana, Mr. Tate attended Northwestern
19 University and later joined the United States Air Force; Tate
20 won the U.S. Armed Forces Chess Championships in 1983 as a
21 Senior Airman, in 1984 as Sergeant, and in 1987, 1988, and
22 1989 as Staff Sergeant; and

23 WHEREAS, becoming a folk hero, Tate dazzled
24 thousands with his tactical treats and developed an Internet
25 fan base; Tate enjoyed the performance of his games and over

1 the years, Tate became a master-level player and showed his
2 games to the general public; and

3 WHEREAS, an intellectually brilliant man, Tate
4 recited poetry, played the piano, sang, spoke foreign
5 languages, and was a remarkable chess instructor; he traveled
6 the world sharing his craft and passion; and

7 WHEREAS, Tate was inducted into the Indiana Hall of
8 Fame in 2005 and was a six-time champion in Indiana, winning
9 in 1995, 1996, 2000, 2005, 2006, and 2007; he was the 2010
10 Alabama State Champion; although he won numerous titles and
11 made generous contributions to chess, he was never awarded the
12 Grandmaster title; and

13 WHEREAS, a valued member of the community, Emory
14 Tate, Jr., combined his character, integrity, and
15 sportsmanship to inspire countless others; with utmost
16 reverence and respect, we uplift his life and legacy, which
17 has reflected immense credit upon the entire State of Alabama;
18 now therefore,

19 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
20 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That while celebrating the life and
21 legacy of Emory Tate, Jr., we are extremely grateful for his
22 abundant life, and we offer this resolution in highest tribute
23 to his inspiring life and legacy, as well as in heartfelt
24 sympathy to his family and friends.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this
2 resolution shall be provided to the World Chess Hall of Fame
3 and the World Chess Foundation, noting our encouragement to
4 them to posthumously induct Emory Tate, Jr., into the Hall of
5 Fame and to posthumously award the Grandmaster title to Emory
6 Tate, Jr.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR66

Senate 22-MAR-16

I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

Patrick Harris
Secretary

House of Representatives
Adopted: 05-APR-16

By: Senator Smitherman