

1 HJR501  
2 193844-1  
3 By Representative Hall  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 27-MAR-18

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8 COMMENDING THE DEDICATED SERVICE OF MRS. SYLVIA  
9 OAKES AND CONGRATULATING HER UPON HER RETIREMENT.

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11 WHEREAS, after 40 years of remarkable and dedicated  
12 service to the Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES) as  
13 an Urban Regional Extension Agent, Sylvia Oakes retired  
14 January 1, 2018; and

15 WHEREAS, Mrs. Oakes provided educational outreach to  
16 the citizens of Alabama on behalf of the two land-grant  
17 universities, Alabama A&M University and Auburn University;  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, she coordinated and delivered  
20 research-based educational programs designed to empower  
21 individuals to improve their quality of life and economic  
22 well-being, such as Diet Our Thing, Today's MOM, SPACE  
23 Program, and Successful Aging Initiative; and

24 WHEREAS, under the leadership of Sylvia Oakes, the  
25 federal based reading program was implemented for elementary  
26 students in the Lawrence County Public School System; and

1           WHEREAS, Sylvia held the position of County Agent in  
2 the Mobile County Extension office where she supervised the  
3 Nutrition Education program; and

4           WHEREAS, the crowning achievement of Sylvia's career  
5 was her tenure as interim Madison County Extension  
6 Coordinator, she facilitated the day-to-day operations of  
7 managing the staff, overseeing the budget, and meeting with  
8 county commissioners and other public officials to secure  
9 continued funding for county programs; and

10           WHEREAS, Sylvia was assigned to the federal program,  
11 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP"), assisting  
12 participants to become focused on a healthy diet; and

13           WHEREAS, Sylvia presented educational diabetes  
14 programs on the national and international levels; and

15           WHEREAS, she was instrumental in taking the 4-H  
16 youth to Washington, D.C., and to Montgomery, Alabama, to the  
17 State Legislature exposing the youth to the formation of laws,  
18 policies, and procedures; and

19           WHEREAS, Sylvia was the cofounder of the Urban Youth  
20 Farm Day, which was designed to introduce urban youth to an  
21 agricultural environment; and

22           WHEREAS, Sylvia authored several publications to be  
23 used as a guide for proper etiquette for youth and adults; and

24           WHEREAS, Sylvia has numerous civic and professional  
25 affiliations, including Kappa Omicron Nu, National Education  
26 Association, American Association of Retired Person, Alpha

1 Kappa Alpha Sorority, and the American Diabetes Association;  
2 now therefore,

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
4 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we are proud to commend Mrs.  
5 Sylvia Oakes for her professional achievement and  
6 contributions to this state, and by copy of this resolution we  
7 convey our highest esteem and best wishes for her  
8 well-deserved retirement.