

1 HJR5
2 197326-1
3 By Representative Wood (R)
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 05-MAR-19

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7
8 COMMENDING WT2C EDGAR DAVID GROSS FOR HIS MILITARY
9 SERVICE.

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11 WHEREAS, highest commendations are herein proudly
12 presented to WT2c Edgar David Gross for his extraordinary
13 military service; and

14 WHEREAS, WT2c Edgar David Gross was born on October
15 25, 1901, in Athens, Alabama, to George and Susan Gross; he
16 was the youngest of ten children; and

17 WHEREAS, WT2c Edgar David Gross was married to the
18 late Anne Pearl Marbut Gross; they resided in the Elkmont
19 community in Athens, Alabama; and

20 WHEREAS, he was a Water Tender 2nd Class in the US
21 Naval Reserve, serving aboard the USS Oklahoma BB-37; he
22 served a total of 16 years in the Navy before he was killed
23 during the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on
24 December 7, 1941; his cause of death was stated as "Killed in
25 Action", and his manner of death is certified as homicide; a
26 total of 429 sailors and Marines on the Oklahoma were killed;
27 32 sailors and Marines were rescued; and

1 WHEREAS, between December 9, 1941, and June 27,
2 1944, Navy personnel recovered various remains of the deceased
3 crewmen; the recovered remains were interred into two
4 cemeteries in Hawaii, and they were listed as unknowns; and

5 WHEREAS, in 2011, WT2c Edgar David Gross' family
6 members, Stephen W. Gross, Carolyn C. Warren, and Emily C.
7 McDonald, submitted DNA for analysis in the hopes of
8 identifying his remains; and

9 WHEREAS, as a result of advances in forensic and
10 scientific analytical capabilities, the POW/MIA Accounting
11 Command successfully identified the remains of WT2c Edgar
12 David Gross; Stephen W. Gross was informed of the news on
13 September 7, 2018; WT2c Edgar D. Gross' remains were
14 officially recorded as identified on November 3, 2018; and

15 WHEREAS, on Memorial Day, May 27, 2019, a full
16 military funeral honoring WT2c Edgar David Gross will be held
17 at Cherry Grove Baptist Church in Athens, Alabama, followed by
18 the burial of his remains in the family cemetery, Evans
19 Cemetery; and

20 WHEREAS, although he is greatly missed, WT2c Edgar
21 David Gross has earned widespread admiration and respect for
22 the time he served in the Navy, and he is cherished in the
23 hearts of many; he is truly deserving of special recognition
24 and praise; now therefore,

25 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
26 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That WT2c Edgar David Gross is

1 highly honored and commended, and this resolution is offered
2 to his family with deepest admiration.