

1 SJR51  
2 207024-1  
3 By Senators Whatley, Price, Ward, Singleton, Stutts,  
4 Albritton, Allen, Barfoot, Beasley, Burkette, Butler,  
5 Chambliss, Chesteen, Coleman-Madison, Dunn, Elliott, Figures,  
6 Givhan, Gudger, Holley, Jones, Livingston, Marsh, McClendon,  
7 Melson, Orr, Reed, Roberts, Sanders-Fortier, Scofield,  
8 Sessions, Shelnutt, Smitherman, Waggoner and Williams  
9 RFD:  
10 First Read: 04-MAY-20

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8 MOURNING THE DEATH OF COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR  
9 (RETIRED) BENNIE G. ADKINS.  
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11 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the  
12 death of Command Sergeant Major (Retired) Bennie G. Adkins, of  
13 Opelika, Alabama, on April 17, 2020, at the age of 86 years;  
14 his passing leaves a void in the lives of his loving family,  
15 many friends, and the entire community, where he was highly  
16 regarded; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Adkins was born on February 1, 1934, in  
18 Waurika, Oklahoma; for more than 20 years, he served our  
19 country in the U.S. Army, over 13 of those years were spent as  
20 a Green Beret in 7th, 3rd, 6th, and 5th Special Forces Groups;  
21 he was deployed to Vietnam three times; in 2014, he was  
22 awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his heroic  
23 actions in 1966 during a battle in Vietnam; he retired from  
24 the Army in 1978 at the rank of Command Sergeant Major; and

25 WHEREAS, following his retirement from the military,  
26 he earned a Bachelor's degree and two Master's degrees from  
27 Troy University; he later established an accounting firm in

1 Auburn, which he headed for 22 years until he retired; in  
2 2017, he established The Bennie Adkins Foundation, which  
3 provides educational scholarships to Special Forces soldiers;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Adkins was predeceased by his wife,  
6 Mary Adkins; sons, Dennis Adkins and Wayne Adkins; his  
7 survivors include daughter, Mary Ann Adkins Blake (David) and  
8 sons, Michael Adkins (Christine) and W. Keith Adkins (Jaime);  
9 brothers, Gerrol Adkins (June) and Jim Adkins (Katie); and a  
10 host of other relatives and many friends; although his  
11 presence will be greatly missed, the memories of him will be  
12 cherished in the hearts of all who knew and loved him; now  
13 therefore,

14 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
15 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Command Sergeant  
16 Major (Retired) Bennie G. Adkins, is recorded with deep  
17 sadness, and this resolution is offered in tribute to his life  
18 and with heartfelt sympathy to his family.