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3 By Senators Waggoner and Allen  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 04-FEB-20

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7  
8 MOURNING THE DEATH OF MR. ELMER B. HARRIS.

9  
10 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the  
11 death on December 23, 2019, of Mr. Elmer B. Harris, at the age  
12 of 80; and

13 WHEREAS, his passing leaves a void in the lives of  
14 his loving family, many friends, and the entire community,  
15 where he was highly regarded; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Harris was born in Clanton, Alabama, to  
17 Lera Mae Mitchell and Alton C. Harris; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Harris attended Auburn University,  
19 where he earned two degrees in Electrical Engineering and a  
20 Master's Degree in Business Administration; later, he returned  
21 to Auburn University and served on the Auburn Foundation Board  
22 and the Alumni Board; later, throughout the years, he earned  
23 several Honorary Doctorate Degrees from other universities;  
24 and

25 WHEREAS, Mr. Harris made numerous accomplishments  
26 during his successful career; he worked at Georgia Power,  
27 where he was responsible for getting Vogel Nuclear Plant

1 online; Alabama Power, where he began his career as a co-op  
2 student and progressed through the ranks to Chairman and Chief  
3 Executive Officer; and the utilities' parent corporation, the  
4 Southern Company, where his career spanned a total of 44  
5 years; some of his other accomplishments during his lifetime  
6 included helping create Alabama's automotive industry by  
7 assisting in the recruitment of Mercedes Benz to Alabama;  
8 sending representatives all over North America and abroad to  
9 observe successful models of childcare centers and then  
10 joining with other corporations to build the center now known  
11 as the Elmer and Glenda Harris Early Learning Center; serving  
12 in the Air National Guard, where he achieved his lifelong  
13 dream of flying jet aircraft and retired as a Lieutenant  
14 Colonel; serving as the Honorary Consul General to Japan from  
15 the State of Alabama, where he made several trips to Japan;  
16 receiving The Order of the Rising Sun with Gold Rays Award  
17 from the Emperor of Japan; being a faithful member of Dawson  
18 Memorial Baptist Church and the Agape Life Group; serving as a  
19 member of the Board of Trustees of Samford University in  
20 Birmingham, Alabama; taking part in the WKLF radio station's  
21 70-year celebration after serving as the station's disc jockey  
22 when he was a young man; and being inducted into the Alabama  
23 Business Hall of Fame in 2007; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Harris was preceded in death by his  
25 parents; and

26 WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife of 57 years,  
27 Glenda Steele Harris; daughter, Lori Elmore (David); son,

1 Tommy Harris (Suzanne); grandchildren, Carlyn Tyree (Brent),  
2 Harrison King, Sarah King, Connor King, Ashley Meinhardt  
3 (Daniel), Austin Harris, Houston Elmore, and Cade Elmore;  
4 great-grandson, John Thomas Tyree; brothers, Curtis Harris and  
5 James R. Harris; special nieces and nephews; his wife's much  
6 loved family; and many friends; and

7 WHEREAS, although his presence will be greatly  
8 missed, the memory of Mr. Harris will be cherished in the  
9 hearts of all who knew and loved him; now therefore,

10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
11 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Mr. Elmer B.  
12 Harris is recorded with deep sadness, and this resolution is  
13 offered in tribute to his life, along with heartfelt sympathy  
14 to his family, whose grief is shared by many.