

1 HJR270
2 214044-2
3 By Representatives Wood (R), Baker, Ball, Bedsole, Boyd, Brown
4 (C), Brown (K), Carns, Clouse, Drake, Ellis, Estes, Farley,
5 Faulkner, Faust, Fincher, Forte, Gaston, Greer, Hanes,
6 Harbison, Hill, Hurst, Ingram, Isbell, Jones (M), Kitchens,
7 Ledbetter, Lee, Lovvorn, Marques, McCutcheon, McMillan,
8 Meadows, Mooney, Nordgren, Oliver, Pettus, Reynolds, Rich,
9 Robertson, Rowe, Sanderford, Scott, Sells, Shaver, Shedd,
10 Shiver, Simpson, Smith, Sorrell, South, Standridge, Stringer,
11 Treadaway, Wheeler, Whitt, Wilcox and Wingo
12 RFD:
13 First Read: 06-MAY-21

1
2 ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,

3 MOURNING THE DEATH OF FORMER STATE REPRESENTATIVE
4 RICHARD JOEL LAIRD, SR.
5

6 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the
7 death of former State Representative Richard Joel Laird, Sr.
8 of Roanoke, Alabama, on December 14, 2020, at the age of 81;
9 his passing leaves a void in the lives of his loving family,
10 many friends, and the entire community, where he was highly
11 regarded; and

12 WHEREAS, Representative Laird was born on June 4,
13 1939, in Floyd County, Georgia, to the Reverend Charles O.
14 Laird and Rosa Lee Burgess Laird; he was a graduate of Handley
15 High School; he was a prominent businessman, owning and
16 operating Laird's Five and Dime and the Radio Shack in
17 Roanoke; he was the developer of Peachtree Apartments,
18 Randolph Plaza Shopping Center, and Deer Run Subdivision; he
19 served on the Roanoke City Council from 1972-1976; he served
20 as a Board Member for the Randolph County Economic Development
21 Authority, First Bank, and the Randolph County ALFA Division;
22 he was most prominently known as a member of the Alabama House
23 of Representatives, where he proudly represented Chambers,
24 Clay, and Randolph Counties for 36 years; and

1 WHEREAS, he was a member of the Handley Avenue
2 Church of God where he served as clerk and Sunday School
3 teacher for more than 48 years; he was a charter member of the
4 Randolph County Camp of Gideons International for over 30
5 years; he was named Co-Man-of-the-Year for Randolph County
6 with Tom Burnside in 1978; a stretch of Highway 431 between
7 Interstate 20 and Interstate 85 and the Woodland High School
8 Gymnasium are named in his honor; and

9 WHEREAS, Representative Laird was predeceased by his
10 parents; sister, Joyce Haynes; and brother, Eugene Laird; and

11 WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife of 62 years,
12 Peggy Richardson Laird; son, Richard Joel Laird, Jr.
13 (Whitney); grandchildren, Richard "Rich" Joel Laird, III
14 (Mackenzie) and Stokes Laird (Kendra); great-grandchildren;
15 Caroline Laird and Charlotte Jane "Charlie" Laird; sister,
16 Martha Kelley (Al); and a host of other relatives and many
17 friends; and

18 WHEREAS, although the presence of Representative
19 Laird will be greatly missed, the memories of him will be
20 cherished in the hearts of all who knew and loved him; now
21 therefore,

22 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
23 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of former State
24 Representative Richard Joel Laird, Sr. is recorded with deep

1 sadness, and this resolution is offered in tribute to his life
2 and with heartfelt sympathy to his family.

