

1 SJR51
2 210472-1
3 By Senators Allen, Albritton, Barfoot, Beasley, Butler,
4 Chambliss, Chesteen, Coleman-Madison, Dunn, Elliott, Figures,
5 Givhan, Gudger, Hatcher, Holley, Jones, Livingston, Marsh,
6 McClendon, Melson, Orr, Price, Reed, Roberts, Sanders-Fortier,
7 Scofield, Sessions, Shelnut, Singleton, Smitherman, Stutts,
8 Waggoner, Whatley and Williams
9 RFD:
10 First Read: 03-MAR-21

MOURNING THE DEATH OF DR. WILLIAM H. STEWART, JR.

WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the death on January 3, 2021, of Dr. William H. Stewart, Jr. of Hartselle, Alabama, at the age of 81; and

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

WHEREAS, Dr. Stewart was born on August 20, 1939, in Hartselle, Alabama, to William H. Stewart, Sr. and Opal Cross Stewart; he earned a Bachelor's and a Doctorate of Philosophy Degree from The University of Alabama and a Master's Degree from George Washington University; he first taught for a year at The Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina; he returned to The University of Alabama as a Political Science Professor in 1969, where he taught for 40 years; Dr. Stewart's students included people of both political parties, many of whom went on to serve in elected offices at the highest levels in Alabama; he had a passion for mentoring students; and

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Stewart's research interests included
2 state and local government, federalism, and public
3 administration; he authored over 20 books; he was frequently
4 asked by the media to comment on local, state, and national
5 politics as well as appearing on numerous television stations
6 as a political commentator; he always offered objective,
7 nonpartisan analysis; for many years he directed a Master's of
8 Political Science program at Maxwell Air Force Base and taught
9 an internship in the Montgomery Experience Program; after
10 retirement, he served as Professor Emeritus in the Political
11 Science Department of The University of Alabama's College of
12 Arts and Sciences; for the past quarter century, he wrote a
13 column for the Hartselle Enquirer, focusing on what happened
14 in Hartselle in decades past; and

15 WHEREAS, outside of politics, he had many interests;
16 he was a devoted father and a man of faith; he was a member of
17 University Church of Christ for most of his adult life; he was
18 an avid runner, participating in several 5K and 10K races, as
19 well as half marathons and marathons; he enjoyed all kinds of
20 music and especially liked to participate in sacred harp
21 singings; and

22 WHEREAS, he is predeceased by his parents and
23 sister, Dottie Stewart Lanier; and

24 WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife of 45 years,
25 Connie Scott Stewart; son, William H. Stewart, III; sister,
26 Susan Stewart Greayer; brother-in-law, Lamar Scott; and
27 sister-in-law, Judy Scott; and

1 WHEREAS, although his presence will be greatly
2 missed, the memory of Dr. Stewart will be cherished in the
3 hearts of all who knew and loved him; now therefore,

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
5 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Dr. William H.
6 Stewart, Jr. is recorded with deep sadness, and this
7 resolution is offered in tribute to his life, along with
8 heartfelt sympathy to his family, whose grief is shared by
9 many.