

1 SJR88
2 212824-1
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, Shelnuttt, Singleton, Smitherman, Stutts,
8 Waggoner, Whatley and Williams
9 RFD:
10 First Read: 08-APR-21

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8 MOURNING THE DEATH OF DR. JAMES S. FERGUSON, THE
9 FORMER BAND DIRECTOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA'S MILLION
10 DOLLAR BAND.

11
12 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the
13 death on March 17, 2021, of Dr. James S. "Doc" Ferguson, the
14 former Band Director of The University of Alabama's Million
15 Dollar Band, of Woodstock, Georgia, at the age of 85; and

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

19 WHEREAS, Dr. Ferguson grew up in Columbus,
20 Mississippi; upon graduating from The University of
21 Mississippi in 1956, he served as a Band Director at several
22 high schools in the state; in 1966, he became a Professor and
23 the Director of Bands at The University of Mississippi before
24 leaving Oxford and taking the same position at The University
25 of Alabama at Tuscaloosa in 1971; he was phenomenal and
26 diligent in his position at the university, inspiring many
27 during his tenure; in 1983, he left the university and pursued

1 a career in the computer software business before retiring in
2 2011; and

3 WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents,
4 Verell and Ruth Ferguson; brother, Verell "VP" Ferguson, Jr.;
5 and sister, Betty Allen; and

6 WHEREAS, Dr. Ferguson is survived by his wife, Micki
7 Ferguson; sons, James Smith Ferguson, Jr. and Robert Alexander
8 Ferguson; and stepchildren, Travis Childress and Sunshyne
9 Pothier; and

10 WHEREAS, although his presence will be greatly
11 missed, the memory of Dr. Ferguson will be cherished in the
12 hearts of all who knew and loved him; now therefore,

13 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
14 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Dr. James S.
15 "Doc" Ferguson, the former Band Director of The University of
16 Alabama's Million Dollar Band, is recorded with deep sadness,
17 and this resolution is offered in tribute to his life, along
18 with heartfelt sympathy to his family, whose grief is shared
19 by many.