

1 HJR283
2 219958-1
3 By Representatives Marques, Allen, Sorrells, Clouse, Lee,
4 Sells and Jones (M)
5 RFD:
6 First Read: 06-APR-22

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8 COMMENDING SENATOR JIMMY HOLLEY ON HIS RETIREMENT
9 AND YEARS OF SERVICE.

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11 WHEREAS, at the conclusion of the 2019-2022
12 quadrennium of the Legislature of Alabama, Senator Jimmy
13 Holley will end a 44-year tenure as a state legislator, one of
14 the longest tenures in a state legislature in the nation;
15 indeed, Senator Holley has spent over half of his life serving
16 his fellow Alabamians as their legislator; and

17 WHEREAS, Senator Holley was born on July 30, 1944,
18 in Coffee County, Alabama, and has lived there his entire life
19 except for the years he spent in college; he received his
20 bachelor's degree and his master's degree from East Tennessee
21 State University in 1967 and 1973, during which period he
22 served his nation in the United States National Guard; and

23 WHEREAS, Senator Holley met his wife, Mary, during
24 his time at East Tennessee State University; these college
25 sweethearts have been together through Senator Holley's
26 lengthy legislative career, and Mary is truly the greater
27 woman behind this great man; together, they have reared two

1 successful sons, Jason and John, and were joyed at the
2 additions to the family of brides Julie and Nicole,
3 respectively; they also have two wonderful grandsons whom they
4 love dearly; and

5 WHEREAS, Senator Holley's life exemplifies his
6 professed love of country, state, the City of Elba, and Mary,
7 though perhaps not in that exact order; and

8 WHEREAS, Senator Holley was first elected to the
9 Alabama House of Representatives in 1974, where he served
10 until 1994; he subsequently won election to the Senate in
11 1998, representing the 31st District; and

12 WHEREAS, rather than focus on legislation that
13 garnered public attention, much of Senator Holley's
14 legislative career was spent laboring on the parliamentary
15 procedures of the chambers and ensuring that the State House
16 and its myriad professional staff entities functioned
17 properly, as well as quietly working on legislation that
18 directly benefitted his constituency; his legislative
19 portfolio includes securing appropriations to help rebuild the
20 town of Elba's schools after a flood, and for the rebuild of
21 Enterprise High School after the tragic tornado of 2007, as
22 well as authorship of the legislation that established the
23 largest legislative support staff agency in the state; Senator
24 Holley has been a longtime fixture on the Legislative Council,
25 including service as chair, in which role he transformed the
26 governance of this branch and was always a champion for the

1 staff of the Legislature; Senator Holley also currently serves
2 as chair on the Senate Government Affairs Committee; and

3 WHEREAS, many figures around the State House could
4 recount stories of Senator Holley reading every single piece
5 of legislation on every calendar for every session day and
6 committee meeting he attended; rather than recount that
7 plethora of stories here, let it suffice to say that his
8 colleagues and compatriots will dearly miss Senator Holley's
9 irreplaceable diligence, effort, and knowledge, as will those
10 outside the State House; however, these virtues will
11 undoubtedly serve Senator Holley well in his future endeavors;
12 now therefore,

13 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
14 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That this body hereby commends
15 Senator Jimmy Holley for a lifetime of dedicated service to
16 the State of Alabama, and congratulates him on his well-earned
17 retirement; this body declares him to be a legendary lawmaker
18 of the State of Alabama, and directs that a copy of this
19 resolution be presented to him as a mere token of the
20 immeasurable esteem in which we hold this true statesman.