

1 SJR16  
2 216800-2  
3 By Senators Roberts, Waggoner, Albritton, Allen, Barfoot,  
4 Beasley, Butler, Chambliss, Chesteen, Coleman-Madison, Dunn,  
5 Elliott, Figures, Givhan, Gudger, Hatcher, Holley, Jones,  
6 Livingston, Marsh, McClendon, Melson, Orr, Price, Reed,  
7 Sanders-Fortier, Scofield, Sessions, Shelnut, Singleton,  
8 Smitherman, Stutts, Weaver, Whatley and Williams  
9 RFD:  
10 First Read: 01-FEB-22

MOURNING THE DEATH OF MRS. BARBARA BROWN BARKER.

WHEREAS, it is with profound sadness that we note the death on January 13, 2022, of Mrs. Barbara Brown Barker of Birmingham, Alabama, at the age of 85 years; and

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

WHEREAS, Mrs. Barker was born on March 26, 1936, in Birmingham, Alabama; she attended Lakeview Elementary and Shades Valley High School; and

WHEREAS, at the age of 12, she began pursuing her dream of a career as a professional ballerina with an opportunity to train at Ballet Arts in New York City, she exchanged those dreams for marriage to U.S. Navy pilot, Frank Barker; in 1980, Reverend Frank Barker opened Briarwood Church and invited Mrs. Barker to use her gifts to begin a ballet ministry in the afternoons; armed with the conviction that the arts were to be used for God's glory, she began Briarwood Ballett with 45 students the first year; since that time,

1 thousands of students have been trained in classical ballet  
2 for the glory of God; she also formed two performing  
3 companies, Ballet Exaltation and Immanuel, both of which have  
4 served as missions arms of the ballet, performing both locally  
5 and internationally; and

6 WHEREAS, Mrs. Barker was preceded in death by her  
7 husband, Reverend Doctor Frank Barker, Jr.; parents, Richard  
8 Hale Brown and Anita Shepard Brown; and sister, Anita Brown  
9 Cowart (John); and

10 WHEREAS, survivors include her children, Anita  
11 Barnes (Billy), Frank Barker, III (Pam), and Peggy Townes  
12 (Tim); sister, Margaret Brown Evans (Barry); 14 grandchildren;  
13 9 (plus 2-on-the-way) great-grandchildren; thousands of  
14 ballerinas; and untold numbers of those who call her their  
15 "Spiritual Mother"; and

16 WHEREAS, although her presence will be greatly  
17 missed, the memory of Mrs. Barker will be cherished in the  
18 hearts of all who knew and loved her; now therefore,

19 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
20 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Mrs. Barbara  
21 Brown Barker is recorded with deep sadness, and this  
22 resolution is offered in tribute to her life and with  
23 heartfelt sympathy to her family, whose grief is shared by  
24 many.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR16  
Senate 01-FEB-22  
I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution  
originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

Patrick Harris,  
Secretary.

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House of Representatives  
Adopted: 10-FEB-22

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By: Senator Roberts