

## HJR164 INTRODUCED



1 HJR164

2 VAWTPLP-1

3 By Representatives Mooney, Almond, Baker, Bedsole, Blackshear,  
4 Bolton, Boyd, Bracy, Brinyark, Brown, Butler, Carns, Chestnut,  
5 Clarke, Clouse, Collins, Colvin, Crawford, Daniels, Drummond,  
6 DuBose, Easterbrook, Ellis, England, Ensler, Estes, Faulkner,  
7 Fidler, Fincher, Forte, Garrett, Gidley, Givan, Givens, Gray,  
8 Hall, Hammett, Harbison, Harrison, Hassell, Hendrix, Hill,  
9 Holk-Jones, Hollis, Hulsey, Hurst, Ingram, Jackson, Jones,  
10 Kiel, Kirkland, Lamb, Lands, Lawrence, Ledbetter, Lee,  
11 Lipscomb, Lomax, Lovvorn, Marques, McCampbell, McClammy, Moore  
12 (M), Moore (P), Morris, Oliver, Paramore, Paschal, Pettus,  
13 Pringle, Rafferty, Rehm, Reynolds, Rigsby, Robbins, Robertson,  
14 Sellers, Sells, Shaver, Shaw, Shedd, Shirey, Simpson, Smith,  
15 Sorrells, Stadthagen, Standridge, Starnes, Stringer, Stubbs,  
16 Tillman, Travis, Treadaway, Underwood, Wadsworth, Warren,  
17 Whitt, Whorton, Wilcox, Wood (D), Wood (R), Woods, Yarbrough

18 RFD:

19 First Read: 04-Apr-24



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HJR\_\_\_\_\_ MOURNING THE DEATH AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF JOHN  
MICHAEL KOLEN.

WHEREAS, it is with deep sadness that we note the  
passing of John Michael "Mike" Kolen of Birmingham, Alabama,  
on April 3, 2024, at the age of 76; and

WHEREAS, his passing leaves a void in the lives of  
his loving family, many friends, and the Auburn, Birmingham,  
Miami, and Montgomery communities he called home, where he  
was highly regarded; and

WHEREAS, Mike Kolen was born on January 31, 1948; he  
attended W.A. Berry High School in Hoover, Alabama, where he  
was a star on the football team; he matriculated to Auburn  
University and played Linebacker position under Coaches Shug  
Jordan and Paul Davis; he remained a loyal and dedicated  
alumnus to his alma mater and returned every A-Day to  
present the Mike Kolen Award to the leading tackler from the  
previous season; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure with the Auburn Tigers,  
Mr. Kolen led in tackles in 16 of the 25 games he started  
from 1967 to 1969, earning All-SEC honors as a junior and  
senior and was named Second-team All-American in 1969; he  
was nicknamed "Captain Crunch" for his hard-hitting style,  
but he was also a man of deep faith and was the first  
recipient of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes College



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29 Athlete of the Year Award in 1970; and

30 WHEREAS, Mike Kolen was drafted to the Miami Dolphins  
31 in 1970, Round 12, pick 289; he played eight seasons with  
32 the Dolphins under Coach Don Shula and was part of the  
33 "Perfect" 1972 unbeaten Super Bowl Champion team, the only  
34 undefeated Super Bowl champion team in NFL history; he  
35 played in three consecutive Super Bowls with the Dolphins in  
36 1972, 1973, and 1974, and won both the 1972 and 1973 Super  
37 Bowls; and

38 WHEREAS, after retiring from the NFL, Mike Kolen  
39 became a successful businessman; he enjoyed success in real  
40 estate, as the owner and operator of the Montgomery Athletic  
41 Club, and as the founder of Kolen Financial Team; he authored  
42 *The Greatest Team: A Playbook for Champions*; and he was  
43 inducted into Alabama Sports Hall of Fame in 1985; and

44 WHEREAS, Mike Kolen had a fierce love for his family;  
45 he was predeceased by his wife of 45 years, Nancy Kolen; he  
46 is survived by his two children, Kelly and John, and his  
47 five grandchildren, whom he treasured wholeheartedly;  
48 although his presence will be greatly missed, the memory of  
49 Mike Kolen will be cherished in the hearts of all who knew  
50 and loved him; now therefore,

51 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
52 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of John Michael  
53 "Mike" Kolen is recorded with deep sadness, and this  
54 resolution is offered in tribute to his life and with  
55 heartfelt sympathy to his family, whose grief is shared by  
56 many.