

**SJR10 ENROLLED**



1 SJR10

2 5IQH6M3-2

3 By Senators Singleton, Smitherman, Albritton, Allen, Barfoot,  
4 Beasley, Bell, Butler, Carnley, Chambliss, Chesteen, Coleman,  
5 Coleman-Madison, Elliott, Figures, Givhan, Gudger, Hatcher,  
6 Hovey, Jones, Kelley, Kitchens, Livingston, Melson, Orr,  
7 Price, Reed, Roberts, Sessions, Shelnut, Stewart, Stutts,  
8 Waggoner, Weaver, Williams

9 RFD: RULES

10 First Read: 07-Feb-24



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4 SJR\_\_\_ MOURNING THE DEATH AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF JUDGE  
5 JOHN LAWRENCE CARROLL.

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7 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the  
8 death on August 14, 2023, of United States Marine Corps  
9 Veteran, Judge John Lawrence Carroll, of Birmingham,  
10 Alabama, at the age of 79; his passing leaves a void in the  
11 lives of his loving family, many friends, and the community  
12 where he was highly regarded; and

13 WHEREAS, Judge Carroll grew up in Washington, D.C.,  
14 and attended Gonzaga High School; in 1965, he graduated from  
15 Tufts University and entered the United States Marine Corps;  
16 he served as a Marine Flight Officer during the Vietnam War  
17 and flew 230 combat missions in an A-6A Intruder as a  
18 Bombardier Navigator with Marine All Weather Attack Squadron  
19 242; his call sign was "Zard"; upon returning from Vietnam,  
20 he was stationed at Cherry Point in North Carolina, where he  
21 met and married his beloved wife, Susan; and

22 WHEREAS, he then matriculated to Samford University's  
23 Cumberland School of Law and graduated magna cum laude in  
24 1974; in 1975, he received his Masters of Law (LLM) from  
25 Harvard University; and

26 WHEREAS, Judge Carroll next moved to Montgomery,  
27 Alabama, where he served as the Legal Director of the  
28 Southern Poverty Law Center until 1984; during that time, he



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29 handled civil rights cases, class actions, and various  
30 criminal matters; he represented clients on death row, and  
31 he twice argued before the Supreme Court of the United  
32 States; and

33 WHEREAS, he moved to Macon, Georgia, to teach as a  
34 Professor of Law at Mercer University School of Law; in  
35 1986, he returned to Montgomery to accept an appointment as  
36 a United States Magistrate Judge for the Middle District of  
37 Alabama; he served in that capacity for 14 years; and

38 WHEREAS, in 2001, Judge Carroll relocated to  
39 Birmingham, Alabama, to become Dean of his alma mater,  
40 Cumberland School of Law; under his tenure, the law school  
41 returned to an earlier focus on trial advocacy and improved  
42 their national ranking; Judge Carroll was beloved by the  
43 Samford family as a colleague, friend, and mentor; upon  
44 leaving his position as Dean after 13 years, he returned to  
45 the classroom until his retirement in 2022; and

46 WHEREAS, over the course of his career, Judge Carroll  
47 received many honors; some of the dearest to him included  
48 selection as a Community Hero Olympic Torch Bearer in 1996;  
49 appointment by Chief Justice William Rehnquist of the  
50 Supreme Court of the United States to serve on the Judicial  
51 Conference's Advisory Committee on the Federal Rules of  
52 Civil Procedure; receipt of the 2011 Chief Justice of  
53 Alabama's Professionalism Award; receipt of an Award of  
54 Merit in 2014 from the Alabama State Bar Association for  
55 outstanding and constructive service to the legal  
56 profession; receipt of the 2017 Alabama Appleseed



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57 Brewer/Torbert Public Service Award; and receipt of the 2018  
58 American Inns of Court Professionalism Award for the  
59 Eleventh Circuit; and

60 WHEREAS, Judge Carroll was a member of and chaired  
61 the Alabama Law Institute statute drafting committees,  
62 providing invaluable insight on various legislative  
63 projects; and

64 WHEREAS, Judge Carroll was a lifelong Catholic, and  
65 he loved teaching and mentoring; he was also an athlete and  
66 an avid sports fan; he competed in triathlons well into his  
67 seventies, and he always seemed younger than his years; he  
68 loved reading, being outdoors, watching the Atlanta Braves,  
69 listening to the Rolling Stones, eating spicy food, and  
70 drinking red wine; and

71 WHEREAS, Judge John Lawrence Carroll is survived by  
72 his wife of 53 years, Susan Gaskins Carroll; daughter,  
73 Catherine Carroll Sanders (William Parker Sanders);  
74 grandsons, States Carroll Sanders and Forrest Weddell  
75 Sanders; and a host of other much loved family and friends;  
76 now therefore,

77 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
78 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That although his presence will  
79 be greatly missed, the memory of Judge John Lawrence Carroll  
80 will be cherished in the hearts of all who knew and loved  
81 him; his death is recorded with deep sadness, and this  
82 resolution is offered in tribute to his life and service to  
83 others, along with heartfelt sympathy to his family, whose  
84 grief is shared by many.



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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR10

Senate 07-Feb-24

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed the Senate.

Patrick Harris,  
Secretary.

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House of Representatives

Passed: 20-Feb-24

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By: Senator Singleton