

SJR38 INTRODUCED



1 SJR38

2 WDCFEE5-1

3 By Senators Jones, Albritton, Allen, Barfoot, Beasley, Bell,

4 Butler, Carnley, Chambliss, Chesteen, Coleman,

5 Coleman-Madison, Elliott, Figures, Givhan, Gudger, Hatcher,

6 Hovey, Kelley, Kitchens, Livingston, Melson, Orr, Price, Reed,

7 Roberts, Sessions, Shelnuttt, Singleton, Smitherman, Stewart,

8 Stutts, Waggoner, Weaver, Williams

9 RFD:

10 First Read: 19-Mar-24



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SJR_____ CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF CHRIS ABNEY ZEIGLER DENDY,
M.S.

WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the death on July 8, 2023, of Chris Abney Zeigler Dendy at the age of 79; 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, Chris Dendy was born on March 2, 1944, in Lafayette, Georgia, to Judge W.L. and Lillian Abney; she earned degrees from both the University of Georgia and Florida State University; and

WHEREAS, Chris Dendy was recognized nationally and internationally as an expert on attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and executive function deficits (EFD); her strong influence and compassion enriched the lives of countless individuals and organizations; she was a popular speaker at ADHD training events for parents and professionals offering a welcomed message of hope and devising more lasting and impactful solutions; and

WHEREAS, Chris Dendy served as a teacher, school psychologist, counselor, local and state mental health administrator, lobbyist and CEO of a mental health advocacy organization, board director for multiple organizations,



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29 speaker, and author during her 50-year plus career; she
30 worked tirelessly to improve ADHD understanding, as well as
31 the lives of children and adults impacted by ADHD and
32 learning differences; and

33 WHEREAS, Chris Dendy authored five highly respected
34 books, including *Teenagers with ADD & ADHD: A Guide for*
35 *Parents; Teaching Teens with ADD, ADHD, and Executive*
36 *Function Defectives; A Bird's Eye View of Life with ADHD and*
37 *EFD ... Ten Years Later* with her son, Alex Zeigler, who was
38 the inspiration for her work in this field; and *Launching*
39 *Into Young Adulthood with ADHD ... Ready or Not!*,
40 co-authored with Dr. Ruth Hughes; she authored and produced
41 two videos, one with her late husband, Tommy; and her
42 popular ADHD Iceberg poster has been published in several
43 languages and has been recognized worldwide as one of the
44 most effective graphics to convey the complexities of ADHD;
45 and

46 WHEREAS, Chris Dendy was a passionate advocate, role
47 model, mentor, and an Alabama treasure; she created a
48 network of professionals and advocates to continue her
49 mission and legacy of ADHD and EFD education; she conducted
50 four days of intensive training sessions on ADHD and EFD for
51 eight years at her home in Alabama, which she called Camp
52 Dendy, and through the years personally educated more than
53 80 individuals from the United States and Canada; and

54 WHEREAS, Chris Dendy was an active member in the
55 nonprofit organization, Children and Adults with
56 Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (CHADD) for more



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57 than 30 years; she was the lead author for CHADD's ADHD
58 Educator's Manual and co-founded its teacher-to-teacher
59 training program; she was inducted into CHADD's Hall of Fame
60 in 2006 and received CHADD's prestigious Lifetime
61 Achievement Award in 2014; and

62 WHEREAS, Chris Dendy was preceded in death by her
63 parents and beloved husband, Robert Thomas "Tommy" Dendy;
64 she is survived by her two sons, Alex Zeigler (Haley) and
65 Steven Dendy (Sandra); daughter, Audrey Dendy Grabowski
66 (Jay); five grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; sisters,
67 Vicki Abney Ragsdale (Gaut) and Dr. Billie Abney; close
68 friend, Sara Clark; and a host of other family, colleagues,
69 and friends; and

70 WHEREAS, although her presence will be greatly
71 missed, the memory of Chris Dendy will be cherished in the
72 hearts of all who knew and loved her; now therefore,

73 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
74 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Chris Abney
75 Zeigler Dendy is recorded with deep sadness, and this
76 resolution is offered in tribute to her life, along with
77 heartfelt sympathy to her family, whose grief is shared by
78 many.