

SJR64 ENROLLED



1 SJR64

2 1C1WZLL-2

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

9 RFD: RULES

10 First Read: 23-Apr-24



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1 Enrolled, An Act,

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4 SJR___ MOURNING THE DEATH AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
5 STEPHEN CHARLES SLOAN.

6

7 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the
8 death of Stephen Charles "Steve" Sloan on April 14, 2024, at
9 the age of 79; and

10 WHEREAS, his passing leaves a void in the lives of
11 his loving family, many friends, and the many communities he
12 called home throughout the United States; and

13 WHEREAS, Steve Sloan was born on August 19, 1944, in
14 Austin, Texas, to C.L. "Preacher" Sloan and Virginia Byrd
15 Sloan; in 1953, his family settled in Cleveland, Tennessee,
16 where Steve was a stand-out athlete on the football and
17 basketball teams of Bradley Central High School; he was
18 All-State as both a quarterback and a guard, winning state
19 championships in both sports his senior year; he was also
20 one of the top prep golfers in the state; and

21 WHEREAS, Steve Sloan attended The University of
22 Alabama where he excelled in both academics and athletics;
23 he was an Academic All-American in 1964 and 1965, majoring
24 in Business and Education; he played defensive back under
25 legendary coach, Paul "Bear" Bryant; he played in the 1964
26 Sugar Bowl against the University of Mississippi with a
27 victorious final score of 12-7 and won the National
28 Championship Title that year and in 1965; in the 1966 Orange



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29 Bowl, Steve was selected Most Valuable Player; that same
30 year, he was consensus All-American, named MVP in the
31 Southeastern Conference, and won the Sammy Baugh Trophy as
32 the nation's best passer; and in his senior year, he was
33 voted Co-Captain of the 1965 Crimson Tide Football Team; and

34 WHEREAS, Steve had a strong faith in Jesus Christ,
35 even as a popular student-athlete; he was a founding member
36 of the Alabama Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), which
37 is the longest-running college FCA huddle in the United
38 States; he became one of FCA's greatest role models during
39 his career as a Christian coach; he was an outstanding
40 speaker and was invited to speak at worship services and
41 universities across the nation, including an invitation from
42 Billy Graham; and

43 WHEREAS, Steve was drafted by the Atlanta Falcons and
44 played as a back-up for two years before returning to his
45 alma mater as a member of Coach Bryant's staff from
46 1968-1970 and golf coach in 1969; his coaching career took
47 off and he became offensive coordinator for Florida State
48 University; under his leadership, the Seminoles led the
49 nation in offense; he also held that position for Georgia
50 Tech before taking his first head coaching job at Vanderbilt
51 University in 1973, becoming the youngest college head
52 football coach in the nation; Vanderbilt University played
53 in their first bowl game since 1955 during his time there;
54 and he was named Southeastern Conference Coach of the Year
55 in 1974 and Southwest Conference Coach of the Year in 1976;
56 he continued his highly successful coaching career with



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57 Texas Tech, Ole Miss, and Duke University where he continued
58 to head championship teams and compile records; Steve also
59 mentored junior coaching staff who went on to become
60 successful coaches in their own right; and

61 WHEREAS, Steve returned to The University of Alabama
62 as Athletic Director in 1987; he excelled in this role as
63 well and with his advisement, the most successful football
64 donor program in the nation, Tide Pride, was launched; he
65 also led the expansion of Bryant-Denny Stadium, increasing
66 the seating capacity to 70,123; during his tenure the
67 football team played in the Sugar Bowl, the basketball team
68 gained two berths in the NCAA Tournament, and the gymnastics
69 team won a National Championship; and

70 WHEREAS, Steve was a successful Athletic Director at
71 North Texas State University where he elevated the football
72 program to Division I status; he did the same as the
73 Athletic Director of the University of Central Florida,
74 leading the Golden Knights to 36 Atlantic Sun Conference
75 Championships and 26 NCAA Tournament berths during his
76 nine-year tenure; he continued his success as Athletic
77 Director of the University of Chattanooga, launching that
78 athletic program into a new era of athletic achievements
79 nationally; and

80 WHEREAS, Steve was inducted into the Tennessee Sports
81 Hall of Fame in 2000 and the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame in
82 2003; Sports Illustrated selected him as one of the 50
83 Greatest Sports Figures from Tennessee from 1900 to 2000; in
84 2019 he was selected for the Paul W. Bryant Alumni-Athlete



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85 Award; he fulfilled a lifelong dream of qualifying for a
86 major golf championship and played in the U.S. Senior Open
87 in Bethesda, Maryland; he authored two books based on his
88 Christian faith and how he used his platform in football to
89 serve Jesus Christ; and he served his country in the United
90 States Air National Guard; and

91 WHEREAS, Steve was preceded in death by his parents;
92 stepmother, Samye Jean Phillips Sloan; and his son, Jonathan
93 Sloan; he will be lovingly remembered by his devoted wife of
94 55 years, Brenda Faw Sloan; and his son, Stephen Sloan, Jr.;

95 and

96 WHEREAS, although his presence will be greatly
97 missed, the memory of Steve Sloan will be cherished by all
98 who knew and loved him; now therefore,

99 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
100 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Stephen Charles
101 "Steve" Sloan is recorded with deep sadness and this
102 resolution is offered in tribute to his life and with
103 heartfelt sympathy to his family, whose grief is shared by
104 many.



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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR64

Senate 23-Apr-24

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

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

House of Representatives

Passed: 25-Apr-24

By: Senator Allen