HJR16 ENROLLED



- 1 HJR16
- 2 7DAA222-2
- 3 By Representatives Faulkner, Carns, Mooney
- 4 RFD: Rules
- 5 First Read: 04-Feb-25

HJR16 Enrolled



1 Enrolled, An Act,

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- 3 MOURNING THE DEATH AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF UNITED STATES
- 4 ARMY VETERAN, FORMER STATE LEGISLATOR, AND FORMER
- 5 AMBASSADOR, WILLIAM JELKS CABANISS, JR.

6

- 7 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the
- 8 death of William Jelks "Bill" Cabaniss, Jr. of Birmingham,
- 9 Alabama, on February 2, 2025, at the age of 86; and
- 10 WHEREAS, his departure leaves a void in the lives of
- 11 his loving family, many friends, and the community where he
- 12 was highly regarded; and
- 13 WHEREAS, Bill Cabaniss was born in 1938 in Birmingham
- 14 to William Jelks Cabaniss, Sr. and Florence Pierson Sanson
- 15 Cabaniss; he graduated from the Lawrenceville School in New
- Jersey in 1956 and matriculated to Vanderbilt University,
- 17 graduating in 1960; he trained in Vanderbilt's ROTC program
- 18 and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the United
- 19 States Army; he served as an Airborne Ranger for three years
- of active duty in Germany; and in 1964, he was awarded the
- 21 Army Commendation Medal; and
- 22 WHEREAS, in 1962, Bill Cabaniss married his wife of
- 23 58 years, Catherine Hood Caldwell; they shared an
- 24 extraordinary life together, beginning in Zweibrucken,
- 25 Germany; after Bill's honorable discharge from active duty,
- 26 the couple moved to Birmingham to start their family; he
- 27 acquired a small metal grinding company that he successfully
- 28 built into Precision Grinding, Inc.; and

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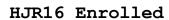
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29	WHEREAS, concerned about Alabama's relationship to
30	business, Bill Cabaniss ran for and won a seat in the
31	Alabama House of Representatives in 1978; in 1982, he was
32	elected to the Alabama State Senate and served eight years;
33	he supported many bipartisan bills that most benefited the
34	citizens of Alabama; his peers voted him one of five
35	outstanding state senators; and
36	WHEREAS, State Senator Cabaniss attempted a run for
37	the U.S. Senate and, although he was unsuccessful, he gained
38	the friendship of President George W. Bush who appointed him
39	Ambassador to the Czech Republic; he served that post with
40	distinction from 2004 to 2006, further cementing ties
41	between the two democracies; he traveled and lectured
42	throughout Europe on behalf of the United States and the
43	Czech Republic; he maintained a friendship with President
44	Vaclav Klaus and upon returning home, he became involved in
45	several not-for-profit organizations in Prague and New York;
46	and
47	WHEREAS, he was active in his Birmingham community
48	and served on the boards of directors for several notable
49	firms; he chaired the Metropolitan Development Board and the
50	Board of Junior Achievement of Jefferson County; he was
51	inducted into the Alabama Academy of Honor in 2004 and the
52	Alabama Business Hall of Fame in 2006; he served faithfully
53	as Senior Warden at Saint Luke's Episcopal Church for many
54	years; and
55	WHEREAS, he was predeceased by his wife; son, William
56	Jelks Cabaniss III; and sister, Joan Cabaniss Harrison; he



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57	will be lovingly remembered by his loving fiance, Linda
58	Parker Johnson; daughters, Mary Cabaniss Ballard and Frances
59	Cabaniss Johnson (Kenny); sister, Florence Cabaniss Parnegg;
60	his beloved grandchildren, Mary Steele Johnson, Bill
61	Johnson, Kenny Johnson, and twins, Frances Jean and Maria
62	Nancy Ballard; and a host of nieces, nephews, extended
63	family, and many friends and former colleagues; and
64	WHEREAS, although his presence will be greatly
65	missed, the memory of Bill Cabaniss will be cherished in the
66	hearts of all who knew and loved him; now therefore,
67	BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
68	HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of William Jelks
69	Cabaniss, Jr. is recorded with deep sadness, and this
70	resolution is offered to his family in tribute to his life
71	and with heartfelt sympathy to his loved ones whose grief is
72	shared by many.





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	Speaker of the House of Representatives	
	President and Presiding Officer of the Senate	
	-	
	House of Representatives	
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	I hereby certify that the within Act originated i	n
and	was passed by the House 13-Feb-25.	
	John Treadwell	
	Clerk	
Sen	ate 25-Feb-25	Adopt
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