

HR257 INTRODUCED



1 HR257
2 EJZTM9C-1
3 By Representative Shaver
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 17-Apr-25



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4 HR_____ MOURNING THE DEATH AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
5 REVEREND MELVYN WATSON SALTER.
6

7 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the
8 death of Reverend Melvyn Watson Salter, on April 13, 2025,
9 at the age of 83; his departure leaves a void in the lives
10 of his loving family, many friends, and the community where
11 he was highly regarded; and

12 WHEREAS, Melvyn Salter entered the ministry in 1957
13 at Inglenook Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, and
14 continued in ministry his entire life; he was a chaplain at
15 the local hospital and a faithful servant to his local
16 community through his role as the Judge of Probate of
17 Cherokee County from 2008-2013; and

18 WHEREAS, he received his Bachelor of Arts from
19 Samford University in 1965 and his Master of Divinity from
20 Southeastern Baptist Seminary; from there, he would go on to
21 lead several churches as pastor, including Beaver Creek
22 Baptist Church in Linden, Alabama, and Lamison Baptist
23 Church in Lamison, Alabama, (1963-1965); Maple Springs
24 Baptist Church in Louisburg, North Carolina, (1968-1970);
25 and First Baptist Church in Centre, Alabama, (1976-1998);
26 and

27 WHEREAS, Reverend Salter's other achievements include
28 establishing the Chaplain's program at East Alabama Medical



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Center, leading the first interracial worship service in Opelika and Lee County; and chairing the Advisory Board of Auburn and Jacksonville State Baptist Campus Ministry Programs, the Board for the Baptist Health System Advisory Board, and The Manor, a senior housing facility; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Salter was preceded in death by his parents, Roy and Ovell Salter; sisters, Marie Williams and Betty Dunning; and nephew, Dale Williams; he will be lovingly remembered by his loving wife of 61 years, Doris; son, Duane Salter (Erin); daughter, Sheri Green (Jerry); grandchildren, Hunter Huffman, Grayson Huffman, and Hayden Huffman; sisters, Mary Jo Sanders (Neal) and Linda Hayes (Ray); brother-in-law, Robert Williams; and many nieces, nephews, and loved ones; and

WHEREAS, beyond his service to the church and professional capacities, Reverend Salter lived a life of caring for everyone, with an immense love for family and any person he met along the way; his capabilities allowed him to turn every negative into a positive, and his strong faith in Jesus Christ helped him persevere; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the death of Reverend Melvyn Watson Salter is recorded with deep sadness, and this resolution is offered to his family in tribute to his life and with heartfelt sympathy to his loved ones whose grief is shared by many.