

SJR27 ENROLLED



1 SJR27
2 6YKVV3Z-2
3 By Senator Elliott
4 RFD: RULES
5 First Read: 20-Feb-25



SJR27 Enrolled

1 Enrolled, An Act,

2
3
4 SJR____ HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL
5 GEORGE A. GARZON.
6

7 WHEREAS, it is with deep reverence that we mark the
8 passing of United States Air Force Lieutenant Colonel George
9 A. Garzon, Retired, on February 12, 2025, at the age of 87,
10 and celebrate his extraordinary life that remains a
11 testament to duty, honor, and an unwavering devotion to his
12 family, community, and country; and

13 WHEREAS, he was born in Montgomery, Alabama, on
14 September 6, 1937, and grew up in the Mount Meigs Community
15 under the care of his devoted grandparents and beloved aunt,
16 Thelma Eubanks; he distinguished himself both academically
17 and athletically at Sidney Lanier High School, earning a
18 letter in varsity tennis, before he pursued higher education
19 at Huntingdon College where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in
20 1959; and

21 WHEREAS, he answered his nation's call to service and
22 was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States
23 Air Force through the Alabama Air National Guard; he honed
24 his aviation skills at the pilot training program at
25 Laughlin Air Force Base in Del Rio, Texas, and at the
26 Advanced Fighter School at Luke Air Force Base in Phoenix,
27 Arizona; subsequently, he graduated from Squadron Officer
28 School and Air Command and Staff College; and



SJR27 Enrolled

29 WHEREAS, Colonel Garzon's military career was marked
30 by valor and excellence; he served as an elite fighter pilot
31 flying the RF-84 and RF-4C with the 160th Tactical
32 Reconnaissance Squadron at Dannelly Field in Montgomery; his
33 distinguished service during the Berlin Crisis earned him
34 the National Defense Service Medal, the Combat Readiness
35 Medal, and the Small Arms Expert Marksman Ribbon, among
36 numerous other commendations and honors; eventually he
37 retired as a Command Pilot with the rank of Lieutenant
38 Colonel, but for the rest of his life he enjoyed reminiscing
39 and telling tales about flying with his friends and brothers
40 in arms; and

41 WHEREAS, even beyond the skies, Colonel Garzon
42 continued his lifelong mission of service and was a pillar
43 of the Montgomery business community while still serving the
44 public; he was appointed Director of the Alabama Department
45 of Aeronautics from 1990 to 1994, where he played an
46 instrumental role in shaping aviation policy on a national
47 level through his involvement as Regional Vice President and
48 Board Member for the National Association of State Aviation
49 Officials as well as serving as a Board Member for the
50 Center of Aviation Research and Education in Washington,
51 D.C.; and

52 WHEREAS, his lifelong love of knowledge was
53 unceasing, and he earned both a Bachelor of Science and a
54 Master in Education from Auburn University; he was
55 recognized for his academic excellence by being selected for
56 membership in Alpha Epsilon Delta and Kappa Delta Pi Honor



SJR27 Enrolled

Societies; additionally, he served as an esteemed member and Board Chair for the Auburn University School of Nursing, he was a stalwart member of The University of Alabama School of Medicine's Internal Medicine Program Advisory Board, and he was lauded as Auburn University at Montgomery's Distinguished Alumnus in 2000; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Garzon was also an engaged civic leader, serving as Mayor of the Old Cloverdale Association in Montgomery, Chair of the Sewanee: The University of the South Parents' Council, was elected President of the South Alabama State Fair in 1991, served on the Board of Directors of the Group Homes for Children and The Montgomery Academy, was a devoted member of the Order of the Daedalians, the Quiet Birdmen Society, the Montgomery Jaycees, and the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association; was a lifetime member of the Radio Aero Modelers Montgomery and the International Miniature Aircraft Association; and also volunteered his leadership and expertise to organizations like the United Way, the Kiwanis Club of Montgomery, the Montgomery Country Club, and his two terms of service on the Vestry at St. John's Episcopal Church; and

WHEREAS, above all his achievements, his greatest joy and highest devotion was his beloved family, the four children and seven grandchildren he shared with Marney V. Garzon: daughter, Marney Garzon and her son Reed; June Garzon; Georganne Perrine (Thomas) and their children Tiley, Belle, Anne Archer, and Caroline; and Retired Lieutenant Colonel George H. Garzon (Katherine) and their children



SJR27 Enrolled

85 George Jr. and Alice; he leaves to them an indelible legacy
86 of warmth, wisdom, and love; and

87 WHEREAS, the State of Alabama stands in eternal
88 gratitude for the distinguished and selfless service that
89 Lieutenant Colonel George A. Garzon showcased throughout his
90 entire life, exemplifying the highest ideals of leadership,
91 devotion, and kindness; now therefore,

92 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
93 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we do hereby reverently
94 commemorate the extraordinary life and enduring legacy of
95 Lieutenant Colonel George A. Garzon, honoring his unwavering
96 dedication and offering our deepest condolences to his
97 family, friends, and all who mourn his passing.

98 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this
99 resolution be provided to the family of Lieutenant Colonel
100 Garzon as a token of the highest esteem in which he was held
101 by this body and the people of Alabama.



SJR27 Enrolled

102
103
104
105
106
107
108
109
110
111
112
113
114
115
116
117
118
119
120
121
122
123
124
125
126
127
128
129
130
131
132
133
134

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR27

Senate 25-Feb-25

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

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

House of Representatives
Passed: 04-Mar-25

By: Senator Elliott