

HR187 INTRODUCED



1 HR187
2 ZQHU5RW-1
3 By Representative Mooney
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 26-Feb-26



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HR_____ COMMENDING JERRY BASSETT FOR RECEIVING THE
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE STATES AWARD FROM THE COUNCIL
OF STATE GOVERNMENTS.

WHEREAS, it is with the highest commendation that we
recognize Mr. Jerry Bassett as the recipient of the Council
of State Governments' Distinguished Service to the States
Award for his exemplary dedication to the nation's state
legislative community; and

WHEREAS, the Distinguished Service to the States
Award is the highest honor bestowed by the Council of State
Governments and is rarely bestowed upon staffers; his
receipt is a true testament to his record of influence and
the far-reaching impact of his work relating to the
legislative institution; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bassett has represented our state and
the Alabama Legislature in an exceptional manner; in
addition to holding the distinction as the longest-serving
Director of the Legislative Reference Service from 1991
until 2015, where he continues to serve the Legislature as
Senior Counsel to the Legislative Services Agency, he has
volunteered his expertise to numerous national committees
and prestigious legal and bill drafting organizations; his
passion for state legislatures began even before his work in
Alabama, as he spent over 20 years as a state legislative



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29 staffer in California before his move to Alabama; and
30 WHEREAS, Jerry is particularly interested in
31 ensuring consistency among state law, serving many years on
32 the highly respected Style Committee of the Uniform Law
33 Commission as well as many drafting committees, often as
34 reporter or chair; one of Mr. Bassett's most notable
35 professional endeavors is his service on The Council of
36 State Governments' Suggested State Legislation Committee;
37 the Suggested State Legislation Committee works to review
38 newly-passed state laws, determine whether other states
39 should be made aware of the legislation, and publish annual
40 volumes of Suggested State Legislation; he spent several
41 decades as a member of the committee, many of those years as
42 its chair; and

43 WHEREAS, across the country, Mr. Bassett is known
44 for his unparalleled institutional knowledge of state law
45 and legislative drafting; at meetings of the Suggested State
46 Legislation Committee, he was frequently armed with multiple
47 large binders of state legislation that he had diligently
48 combed through in order to lead the committee through a
49 critical discussion about whether those bills merited
50 inclusion in that year's annual volume; and

51 WHEREAS, Jerry is a meticulous and effective leader,
52 and his opinion has, and continues to carry, tremendous
53 weight; he is well respected across the country for his
54 intellect, vast knowledge of the rules, processes, and legal
55 theories of lawmaking, and his dedication to uniformity
56 across state laws; he is no doubt deserving of this



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57 prestigious award; now therefore,

58 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
59 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That with the utmost respect and
60 highest regard, we heartily congratulate Mr. Jerry Bassett
61 on being honored by the Council of State Governments with
62 the Distinguished Service to the States Award, and this
63 resolution is offered with the sincerest gratitude for his
64 service to the residents of Alabama and his contributions to
65 state legislatures across the country.

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