

HR19 INTRODUCED



1 HR19
2 XD3HS7E-1
3 By Representative Tillman
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 14-Jan-26



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4 HR_____ COMMENDING JIMMIE LEE HOLIFIELD, SR. A GREAT MAN OF
5 HONOR AND EXCELLENCE.

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7 WHEREAS, it is with sincere appreciation and
8 gratitude that we recognize and celebrate the distinguished
9 teaching and coaching career of Jimmie Lee Holifield, Sr.;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Jimmie Lee Holifield, Sr. was born in
12 Bessemer, Alabama, to Jesse James Holifield and Mildred
13 Holifield and his loving grandmother, Lessie Holifield; he
14 is the oldest child with five younger siblings; and

15 WHEREAS, he was reared as a strong Christian man of
16 God with a tremendous love for sports; he attended J.S.
17 Abrams High School and graduated in 1964 with a football
18 scholarship to Jackson State University; and

19 WHEREAS, after attending Jackson State University, he
20 received a Masters Degree in Physical Education while
21 playing football; his outstanding football skills were
22 noticed by the NFL and he was drafted in the 12th round by
23 the New York Giants where he played for two years;
24 concluding his time with the New York Giants he went on to
25 play for the Vancouver BC Lions in Canada for one year;
26 being one of the first athletes from Bessemer to accomplish
27 such a feat; and

28 WHEREAS, after his amazing professional football



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29 career, Jimmie returned home to Alabama to pursue his
30 passion to work with youth; he began his teaching career at
31 South Eastlake Elementary and later transferred to Wenonah
32 High School, where he taught and coached baseball, girls
33 basketball, and also became the Dragons Assistant Football
34 Coach; and

35 WHEREAS, after helping lead Wenonah High School as an
36 assistant coach, he was recruited to become Head Football
37 Coach at Miles College; he coached at Miles College for two
38 years before taking his skills to Westend High School where
39 he served as the Assistant Football Coach and Head Baseball
40 Coach; Jimmie was great at mentoring athletes and was named
41 Baseball Coach of the Year; and

42 WHEREAS, he diligently worked with his athletes,
43 determined to teach them that hard work pays off; Jimmie
44 thrived as Head Football Coach of Westend High School,
45 leading the Lions to the 6A Championship game in 1993; and

46 WHEREAS, after Westend High School closed, determined
47 to keep his dream of empowering young people alive, he
48 returned to Wenonah High School as Head Baseball Coach where
49 he retired in 2011 with 39 years of service as an
50 awe-inspiring educator and coach; and

51 WHEREAS, Jimmie has been married to his college
52 sweetheart, Phyllis Myles Holifield, for 59 years; they are
53 the proud parents of three children, Toni Holifield Toney
54 (Jeffery), Candice Holifield-Dooley (Keith), and Jimmie
55 Holifield, Jr. (LaTausha); they have seven grandchildren,
56 Victoria Peake, Jeffery Toney, Jr., Elizabeth Toney,

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57 Christian Dooley, Tyler Holifield, Natalie Toney, and Nyla
58 Holifield; and two great-grandchildren, Ryleigh and Royal;
59 now therefore,

60 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
61 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we highly commend and recognize
62 Jimmie Lee Holifield, Sr. for his outstanding contributions
63 to the students and athletes he taught and coached during
64 his career; this resolution is offered to him in highest
65 regard for his outstanding achievements.