

1 HJR225
2 151175-5
3 By Representative Lee
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 04-APR-13

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2 ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,
3 CELEBRATING THE LIFE, MOURNING THE DEATH, AND
4 COMMENDING THE LEGACY OF MARY BETH MILLER IN EFFORTS LEADING
5 TO A POLICY FOR PULSE OXIMETRY SCREENING ON ALL ALABAMA
6 NEWBORNS.

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8 WHEREAS, Mary Beth Miller, born on October 17, 2005,
9 to Mark and Stacey Miller of Dothan, Alabama, passed away
10 Saturday, March 23, 2013, at the young age of seven; and

11 WHEREAS, throughout her life Mary Beth was an
12 example of true courage; being born premature at only 3.6
13 pounds and with a very complex heart condition, she endured
14 six open-heart surgeries and more than 340 medical procedures;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Mary Beth saw the world as a place to learn
17 new things, loved making friends, and in her own words wanted
18 to dedicate her life to helping Alabama babies; and

19 WHEREAS, Mary Beth's personal story, along with the
20 dedication of her parents, served as the impetus for statewide
21 efforts to require all Alabama birthing facilities to perform
22 pulse oximetry screening on newborns prior to their being
23 discharged; and

24 WHEREAS, the federal Centers for Disease Control and
25 Prevention states that congenital heart defects (CHD) is the

1 leading cause of infant death due to birth defects, and it is
2 calculated that 300 infants with an unrecognized critical
3 heart defect are discharged each year from newborn nurseries
4 in the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, pulse oximetry is a noninvasive test to
6 estimate the percentage of hemoglobin in blood that is
7 saturated with oxygen and, when performed on a newborn within
8 24 to 48 hours of age, pulse oximetry screening is often more
9 effective at detecting critical, life-threatening CHDs which
10 otherwise go undetected by current screening methods; and

11 WHEREAS, many newborn lives will potentially be
12 saved by earlier detection and treatment of CHDs when birthing
13 facilities in the state are required to perform this simple,
14 noninvasive newborn screening in conjunction with current CHD
15 screening methods; now therefore,

16 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
17 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Mary Beth Miller be commended
18 for her legacy in the efforts leading to a policy requiring
19 that the pulse oximetry testing be completed on all Alabama
20 newborns prior to discharge.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Mark and Stacey Miller,
22 Representative Paul Lee, Senator Marc Keahey, the American
23 Heart Association, the Alabama Hospital Association, the
24 Medical Association of the State of Alabama, and the Alabama
25 Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics also be

1 commended for their collaborative effort working in
2 conjunction with the Alabama Department of Public Health to
3 achieve this very important change in policy in the health
4 care of newborns in Alabama.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Mark and Stacey Miller,
6 Representative Paul Lee, Senator Marc Keahey, Alabama
7 Department of Public Health, the American Heart Association,
8 the Alabama Hospital Association, the Medical Association of
9 the State of Alabama, and the Alabama Chapter of the American
10 Academy of Pediatrics, be presented with a copy of this
11 resolution.

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in
and was adopted by the House 09-APR-13.

Jeff Woodard
Clerk

Senate	18-APR-13	Amended and Adopted
House	02-MAY-13	Adopted, as amended by Confer- ence Committee Re- port
Senate	07-MAY-13	Adopted, as amended by Confer- ence Committee Re- port