

1 HJR398  
2 178027-1  
3 By Representatives Knight, Ainsworth, Alexander, Baker, Ball,  
4 Bandy, Beckman, Beech, Black, Blackshear, Boothe, Boyd, Bracy,  
5 Brown, Buskey, Butler, Carns, Chesteen, Clarke, Clouse,  
6 Coleman, Collins, Crawford, Davis, Drake, Drummond, England,  
7 Farley, Faulkner, Faust, Fincher, Ford, Forte, Fridy, Garrett,  
8 Gaston, Givan, Greer, Grimsley, Hall, Hammon, Hanes, Harbison,  
9 Harper, Henry, Hill (J), Hill (M), Holmes (A), Holmes (M),  
10 Howard, Hubbard, Hurst, Ingram, Jackson, Johnson (K), Johnson  
11 (R), Jones, Lawrence, Ledbetter, Lee, Lindsey, Martin,  
12 McCampbell, McClammy, McCutcheon, McMillan, Melton, Millican,  
13 Mooney, Moore (B), Moore (M), Morrow, Nordgren, Patterson,  
14 Pettus, Polizos, Poole, Pringle, Rich, Robinson, Rogers, Rowe,  
15 Sanderford, Scott, Sells, Sessions, Shedd, Shiver, South,  
16 Standridge, Todd, Treadaway, Tuggle, Wadsworth, Warren,  
17 Weaver, Whorton (I), Whorton (R), Wilcox, Williams (JD),  
18 Williams (JW), Williams (P), Wingo and Wood  
19 RFD:  
20 First Read: 04-MAY-16

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8 CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND MOURNING THE DEATH OF DR.  
9 GREGORY T. GRAVES.

10  
11 WHEREAS, it is with deep sorrow and regret that we  
12 note the lamentable death of Gregory T. Graves, a lifelong  
13 educator and advocate for public education in the State of  
14 Alabama; and

15 WHEREAS, Dr. Graves was born in Tuskegee, Alabama,  
16 and reared in Macon County, earned Bachelor's and Master's  
17 Degrees in Elementary Education, along with certification in  
18 Educational Leadership from Auburn University at Montgomery,  
19 and a juris doctor degree from the Thomas Goode Jones School  
20 of Law; and

21 WHEREAS, Dr. Graves began his career as a teacher at  
22 South Highlands Middle School in Bullock County, he served as  
23 an interim assistant principal before being hired as assistant  
24 principal, and, later, acting principal, at the Wallace School  
25 for incarcerated juveniles with the Department of Youth  
26 Services, Mt. Meigs, Alabama; and

1           WHEREAS, in 2005, he became the Legal Advisor to the  
2 Associate Executive Secretary of the Alabama Education  
3 Association in 2005 and became Associate Executive Secretary  
4 in 2012; and

5           WHEREAS, Dr. Graves was a tireless advocate for  
6 public education, having seen its power to transform lives in  
7 his service to "the least of these" in one of Alabama's most  
8 economically challenged areas and in its correctional system;  
9 and

10           WHEREAS, he was constantly seeking ways to enhance  
11 opportunities for the less fortunate in our state and to  
12 defend against things that he believed to be detrimental to  
13 Alabama's school children; and

14           WHEREAS, Dr. Graves is survived by his beloved wife,  
15 Tara Outsey Graves and his daughter, Tai Jewel Graves; and

16           WHEREAS, Dr. Graves was a proud member of Phi Delta  
17 Kappa Legal Fraternity, Sigma Pi Phi and Alpha Phi Alpha  
18 Fraternity, Incorporated, had recently served as Secretary of  
19 the Alabama Democratic Party, and was a devoted fan of the  
20 Auburn Tigers; now therefore,

21           BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
22 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Gregory T. Graves  
23 is recorded with deep sadness and even as we mourn his tragic  
24 death and the loss it represents to the State of Alabama, we  
25 also celebrate his life; this resolution is offered in highest  
26 tribute to his life, along with the heartfelt sympathy to his  
27 family and friends, whose grief is shared by many.

