

1 HJR9  
2 116185-1  
3 By Representatives Hinshaw, Allen, Baker (A), Baker (L), Ball,  
4 Bandy, Barton, Beasley, Beck, Beech, Bentley, Black, Boothe,  
5 Boyd, Bridges, Buskey, Canfield, Clouse, Coleman, Collier,  
6 Curtis, Davis, DeMarco, Drake, Dukes, England, Faust, Fields,  
7 Fincher, Ford, Galliher, Gaston, Gipson, Gordon, Graham,  
8 Grantland, Greeson, Grimes, Guin, Hall, Hammett, Hammon,  
9 Harper, Hill, Hilliard, Holmes, Howard, Hubbard, Hurst, Irons,  
10 Ison, Jackson, Johnson, Kennedy, Knight, Laird, Letson, Lewis,  
11 Lindsey, Love, Martin, Mask, McAdory, McCampbell, McClammy,  
12 McClendon, McClurkin, McCutcheon, McDaniel, McLaughlin,  
13 McMillan, Millican, Mitchell, Moore (M), Moore (P), Morrow,  
14 Newton (C), Newton (D), Oden, Page, Payne, Robinson (J),  
15 Robinson (O), Rogers, Salaam, Sanderford, Scott, Sherer,  
16 Shiver, Spicer, Taylor, Thigpen, Thomas (E), Thomas (J), Todd,  
17 Treadaway, Vance, Ward, Warren, White, Williams (J), Williams  
18 (P), Wood and Wren  
19 RFD:  
20 First Read: 12-JAN-10

2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8 MOURNING THE DEATH OF MR. BILLY JOE COOLEY.

9  
10 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow and regret that  
11 news is received of the death of Mr. Billy Joe Cooley of  
12 Huntsville, Alabama, on January 3, 2010, at the age of 78; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Cooley was a well-known journalist,  
14 author, humorist, and storyteller; for many years, he was a  
15 reporter and editor for the Huntsville News in addition to  
16 producing a regular column on Huntsville nightlife that was a  
17 favorite of many fans; most recently, he was a columnist for  
18 The Valley Planet; and

19 WHEREAS, born September 8, 1931, he was a former  
20 resident of South Pittsburg, Tennessee, and an alumnus of  
21 Middle Tennessee State University; a proud veteran, Mr. Cooley  
22 served his country with honor and distinction during the  
23 Korean War; and

24 WHEREAS, among his published works were two books,  
25 "Full of It" and "Away Down South," which were entertaining  
26 collections of true stories about people in the South; he was  
27 endowed with a keen intellect and phenomenal memory, and in

1 his coverage of world events and top newsmakers, he was  
2 consistently admired for his accuracy, fairness, and  
3 objectivity; and

4 WHEREAS, in addition to his distinguished journalism  
5 career, Mr. Cooley at times held positions in the world of  
6 advertising and in public relations; and

7 WHEREAS, along with his writing talent, he was  
8 musically gifted, singing in gospel quartets and performing  
9 solos at the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, Tennessee, and on  
10 other Southern stages; Mr. Cooley also formed a rock 'n' roll  
11 band and for a time he was a radio personality with a loyal  
12 following; and

13 WHEREAS, he leaves to mourn his death his daughter,  
14 Constance Lynn Cooley; brother, Paul Payne; sister, Margaret  
15 Ann Strickland; four grandchildren; special friends, Gail  
16 Gallagher and Patsy Trigg; and his canine companion, Jenny;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Cooley was an accomplished journalist  
19 and a valued member of the community; his presence will be  
20 greatly missed by all those who were privileged to know him;  
21 now therefore,

22 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
23 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Mr. Billy Joe  
24 Cooley is recorded with deep sadness, and this resolution is  
25 offered in tribute to his life, along with heartfelt sympathy  
26 to his grieving family.