

1 HR102  
2 190202-1  
3 By Representative Sanderford  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 23-JAN-18

2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8 MOURNING THE DEATH AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MR.  
9 ROBERT FRANK COATES, JR.

10  
11 WHEREAS, we deeply regret to learn of the death of  
12 Mr. Robert Frank "Clip" Coates, Jr., on January 16, 2018, at  
13 55 years of age, and we uplift his inspiring life and legacy  
14 with utmost reverence and respect; and

15 WHEREAS, the passing of Mr. Robert Frank Coates,  
16 Jr., leaves a void in the lives of his loving family, many  
17 friends, and the entire community, where he was highly  
18 regarded; and

19 WHEREAS, a native of Huntsville, Alabama, Mr. Coates  
20 graduated from Randolph School and attended Birmingham  
21 Southern College; at an early age, he became President of the  
22 family business, Avis Rent a Car, and expanded it to include  
23 Budget Rent a Car and Budget Truck Rental; he founded Spirit  
24 Coach in 2000 and invested in its first motorcoach; he  
25 expanded the business to tremendous new heights; and

26 WHEREAS, a man of action, he was involved in  
27 numerous civic organizations including Huntsville Rotary Club

1 and Foundation, Crime Stoppers, Rise, Phoenix, Boys and Girls  
2 Club, Heritage Motorcoach Resort and Marina, Alabama  
3 Motorcoach Association, and Avis Licensee Association; he  
4 served as a mentor through the Huntsville Rotary Club STRIVE  
5 Program; his pastimes included taking Sunday rides to find new  
6 construction sites, chasing trains, and playing in the dirt  
7 with heavy equipment on his property; he loved to travel with  
8 his beloved and devoted wife, Debbie, in their prized  
9 motorhome; and

10 WHEREAS, survivors include his wife; their three  
11 daughters, Nicki Marlowe (Andrew), Brooke Alderman (Fielding),  
12 and Kasie Bishop (Ryan); grandchildren, Brandt and Channing  
13 Marlowe; sister, Jo Lynn Anderson; nephews, Jason and Justin  
14 Anderson; great nephew, Ashtin; numerous cousins; and many  
15 other beloved family and friends including Samantha Russell,  
16 Beth Martin and McKenzie, Mel Madden, Addie and Sebastian, and  
17 Matthew Madden; he was preceded in death by his parents,  
18 Robert and Lois Coates and his nephew, James Anderson; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Coates was a valued member of the  
20 community; although his presence is greatly missed, his memory  
21 is cherished in the hearts and minds of all those who were  
22 fortunate enough to know him; now therefore,

23 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
24 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That while grieving the death of  
25 Mr. Robert Frank Coates, Jr., we are extremely grateful for  
26 his abundant life, and we offer this resolution in highest

1       tribute to his legacy, as well as with heartfelt sympathy to  
2       his family and friends.