

1 HR356
2 185102-2
3 By Representative Poole
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 25-APR-17

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7
8 COMMENDING WILLIAM R. BATTLE FOR PROFESSIONAL
9 ACHIEVEMENT AND DEDICATED SERVICE.

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11 WHEREAS, highest commendations and congratulations
12 are herein presented to William R. Battle for outstanding
13 professional achievement on the occasion of his retirement as
14 Director of Athletics, The University of Alabama; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Battle has led the Crimson Tide
16 athletics department since March of 2013, when he succeeded
17 the late Mal Moore; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Battle has done a tremendous job as
19 Director of Athletics; his business expertise, coupled with
20 his coaching experience and his strong understanding of the
21 role of an athletic department in the daily fabric of a
22 university has allowed The University of Alabama to achieve
23 the great successes during his tenure; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Battle has placed increased focus on
25 his primary mission for Alabama athletics which is to recruit
26 and develop student-athletes to compete at the highest levels

1 in life after graduation, and to accomplish both with honor
2 and integrity; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Battle has not only maintained the
4 unprecedented level of competitive and academic success that
5 was occurring when he took the post, but has overseen a
6 department that expanded upon that success; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Battle's vision has impacted the
8 Alabama Athletics Department in numerous ways, particularly in
9 revitalized fund-raising efforts that directly enhance the
10 daily experience of every Crimson Tide student-athlete; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Battle revitalized the Bryant Society,
12 Alabama's highest level of donors that exceed a million
13 dollars, and has overseen that group to grow from nine members
14 in 2013 to twenty-six in 2016; and

15 WHEREAS, under Mr. Battle's leadership, the Crimson
16 Tide had a Graduation Success Rate of 92 in 2016, which ranked
17 second in the SEC and the Crimson Tide was first or tied for
18 first in nine different sports (football, men's basketball,
19 gymnastics, men's golf, women's golf, men's tennis, women's
20 tennis, softball, and men's swimming and diving); and

21 WHEREAS, Mr. Battle has earned immense respect for
22 his tireless dedication and exceptional abilities and will
23 continue to serve The University of Alabama in a new role as
24 Special Assistant to the President; now therefore,

25 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
26 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That William R. Battle is truly
27 deserving of special recognition upon of his retirement as

1 Director of Athletics, and congratulations as he moves into
2 his new position as Special Assistant to the President, and
3 commendation is herein conveyed, and a copy of this resolution
4 is provided in highest appreciation, along with best wishes
5 for the future.