

1 HR453
2 153678-1
3 By Representatives Robinson (J) and Black
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 09-MAY-13

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8 MOURNING THE DEATH OF COUNTRY MUSIC SINGER GEORGE
9 JONES.

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11 WHEREAS, we note with great sadness the death of
12 country music singer George Jones of Nashville, Tennessee, on
13 April 26, 2013, at the age of 81; his amazing and colorful
14 life is celebrated and commended with great thanksgiving; and

15 WHEREAS, George Jones was born September 12, 1931,
16 in Saratoga, Texas, the youngest of eight children; his father
17 noticed his musical talent and bought Jones a guitar; and

18 WHEREAS, from humble beginnings, Jones learned first
19 hand of poverty and suffering; he began performing on the
20 streets for tips when he was only eleven years old; he earned
21 money for his singing but quickly spent it afterwards; and

22 WHEREAS, following three years in the Marine Corps
23 and his first failed marriage, Jones recorded his first
24 record, fittingly entitled "No Money in This Deal"; his first
25 hit came in 1955 with "Why Baby Why" and by the 1960's Jones
26 was one of country music's top stars; and

1 WHEREAS, Jones won Grammy awards in 1981 for "He
2 Stopped Loving Her Today" and in 1999 for "Choices"; in 1992
3 Jones was elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame, and in
4 2008, he was among the artists honored in Washington, D.C., at
5 the Kennedy Center; and

6 WHEREAS, nicknamed "Possum," Jones recorded over 150
7 albums and became the symbol of country music; he recorded
8 number one songs in five separate decades, from 1950 through
9 1990, and recorded duets with other country stars, including
10 Tammy Wynette, Merle Haggard, and Willie Nelson; and

11 WHEREAS, leaving a legacy of precise, profoundly
12 expressive baritone songs to the country music world, Jones
13 was also a memorable character in his private and professional
14 life; Jones endured failed marriages, failed to appear for
15 concerts so often he was nicknamed "No Show Jones," and on
16 more than one occasion was seen driving a lawn mower to get
17 his drinks when others took away his car keys; and

18 WHEREAS, Jones left his music and entertaining
19 memories to everyone; although he will be greatly missed, his
20 memory will be cherished in the hearts and minds of those who
21 were fortunate enough to know him and his music; now
22 therefore,

23 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
24 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That while we mourn the death of
25 George Jones, we are grateful for his abundant life, his
26 talent, and his willingness to share his music with us, and we
27 offer this resolution in highest tribute to his inspiring

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