

1 HR54

2 179648-1

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

19 RFD:

20 First Read: 24-AUG-16

8 POSTHUMOUSLY HONORING MR. JAMES O. HELMS, JR., ON
9 HIS SELECTION FOR THE ALABAMA AGRICULTURE PIONEER AWARD.
10

11 WHEREAS, it is a tremendous privilege to
12 posthumously honor Mr. James O. Helms, Jr., on his selection
13 for the Alabama Agriculture Pioneer Award; and

14 WHEREAS, through the years, Mr. Helms earned
15 widespread admiration and respect for his tireless dedication
16 and exceptional abilities and enriched countless lives through
17 his passion for agriculture; and

18 WHEREAS, over the course of his distinguished career
19 in agriculture, he taught vocational agriculture to the
20 veterans of Coffee County, Alabama, oversaw the Alabama
21 Polytechnic Institute's North Auburn Teaching Farm, served
22 tractor dealers throughout the Southeast and used his
23 expertise as an agricultural engineer to help farmers during
24 his employment with the Ford Motor Company's Tractor Division
25 in Atlanta, Georgia, served the Birmingham Ford Tractor
26 Company, and owned and operated the lucrative Helms and Sons
27 Tractor Company; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Helms' extensive record of excellence
2 includes his service as President of the Agribusiness Advisory
3 Committee and acceptance of the Community and Economic
4 Development Award presented by the Montgomery County Farmers
5 Service and Welfare Association; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Helms gained invaluable experience
7 while growing up on the family peanut and row crop farm in
8 Coffee County, Alabama; in 1939, his family was one of the
9 first in the area to purchase a tractor to work their
10 operation; with much grit and determination, Mr. Helms drove
11 the tractor from the Helms' farm to the local U.S. Navy
12 recruiting office and enlisted to serve in World War II taking
13 a break from his studies at Alabama Polytechnic Institute; he
14 went on to serve a tour in the South Pacific and complete
15 officer candidate school; after his service, he returned to
16 Auburn to complete his degree in agricultural engineering in
17 1948; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Helms and his beloved and devoted wife
19 of 61 years had three children, Jim, Dick, and Jane; he passed
20 away in 2007; and

21 WHEREAS, Mr. Helms' significant contributions to the
22 rewarding field of agriculture are a tremendous source of
23 credit to the entire State of Alabama; his legacy will remain
24 an inspiration for years to come; now therefore,

25 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
26 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That Mr. James O. Helms, Jr., is

1 posthumously honored and commended, and this resolution is
2 offered to his family in highest tribute to his legacy.