

1 HR8
2 116180-1
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

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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 Pittsburgh, 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 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
23 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, 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.