

1 SJR115  
2 130896-2  
3 By Senator Whatley  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 04-MAY-11

1 SJR115

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4 ENROLLED, SJR115,

5 MOURNING THE DEATH OF DR. R. ONEAL SMITHERMAN.

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7 WHEREAS, with an overwhelming sense of loss, we  
8 receive news of the death of Dr. R. Oneal "Smitty" Smitherman  
9 on April 14, 2011, at the age of 73 years; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Smitherman was Professor Emeritus at  
11 Auburn University's Department of Fisheries and Allied  
12 Aquaculture; and

13 WHEREAS, born on August 26, 1937, in Randolph,  
14 Alabama, he had lived at Lake Martin in Dadeville since  
15 retirement; and

16 WHEREAS, his loves in life were his family and  
17 Auburn University, with a special regard for Auburn  
18 University's Arboretum; there he left a legacy of beauty  
19 through his much beloved native azaleas collected from every  
20 county in Alabama where they grow naturally; his plantings  
21 grace the Auburn campus and many private gardens, and his most  
22 recent endeavor was lobbying for change of the State Flower  
23 from the exotic Camellia to the native Rhododendron  
24 Alabamense; and

1           WHEREAS, Dr. Smitherman received numerous awards for  
2 his work at Auburn University's Fisheries and Allied  
3 Aquaculture Department; he was recognized throughout the  
4 country and internationally for the impact of his research,  
5 which was instrumental to the current successful farming  
6 practices of catfish, tilapia, redfish, snapper, salmon,  
7 shrimp, and other species; and

8           WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife, Patsy Linton  
9 Smitherman; daughters and sons-in-law, Shelly and Mike Parks  
10 and Susan and Jason White; sister, Patty Pruitt; and brother,  
11 Marshall Smitherman; preceding him in death were his parents,  
12 Grover and Gladys Epperson Smitherman; and

13           WHEREAS, Dr. Smitherman's contributions to Auburn  
14 University and to the State of Alabama were innumerable and  
15 far-reaching; although his presence will be missed, his legacy  
16 will endure and his memory will be cherished in the hearts and  
17 minds of those who were fortunate to know him; now therefore,

18           BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
19 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Dr. R. Oneal  
20 Smitherman is recorded with deep sadness, and this resolution  
21 is offered in highest tribute to his life, along with  
22 heartfelt sympathy to his grieving family.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR115  
Senate 04-MAY-11  
I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution  
originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

Patrick Harris  
Secretary

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House of Representatives  
Adopted: 24-MAY-11

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By: Senator Whatley