

1 SJR45  
2 117038-2  
3 By Senator Little (T)  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 04-FEB-10

1 SJR45

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4 ENROLLED, SJR45,

5 MOURNING THE DEATH OF MR. TENNIS CLINTON BRITTON,  
6 JR.

7  
8 WHEREAS, it is with an inconsolable sense of loss  
9 that this legislative body records the death of Mr. Tennis  
10 Clinton "T. C." Britton, Jr., of Smiths Station, Alabama, on  
11 November 12, 2009, at the age of 77; and

12 WHEREAS, widely known as "Mr. Smiths Station," Mr.  
13 Britton was a beloved coach, esteemed educator, and dedicated  
14 civic leader; and

15 WHEREAS, a veteran of the Korean War, he served with  
16 honor and distinction in the First Airborne Division of the  
17 United States Army; his educational credentials included a  
18 Bachelor's Degree from the University of West Alabama and both  
19 a Master's Degree and an AA in Administration from Auburn  
20 University; and

21 WHEREAS, Mr. Britton's successful coaching tenure at  
22 Smiths Station High School began in 1956 and spanned 13 years,  
23 during which he compiled a 99-25-1 gridiron record and led the  
24 team to the State Football Championship; in addition, he had a

1 177-58 record as a basketball coach and 148-31 in baseball;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, in 1968, Mr. Britton stepped away from  
4 coaching and embarked upon a distinguished 24-year career as  
5 Superintendent of Lee County Schools; and

6 WHEREAS, among his roles of community leadership,  
7 Mr. Britton was a longtime member of the Smiths Station  
8 Ruritan Club, and in September 2009 he was honored by the  
9 Opelika Kiwanis Club for 40 years of dedicated service; his  
10 additional honors included induction into the Alabama High  
11 School Sports Hall of Fame; and

12 WHEREAS, for 53 years, Mr. Britton was a devout  
13 member of Smiths Station Baptist Church, teaching Sunday  
14 School for 24 years and serving in numerous other capacities  
15 including deacon and trustee; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Britton was a great motivator who made  
17 the transition from coaching to administration and was  
18 responsible for many improvements in the Lee County School  
19 System, focusing on a commitment to educational excellence as  
20 well as providing a network of solid, suitable school  
21 buildings to enhance the learning process; and

22 WHEREAS, through the years, Mr. Britton earned  
23 widespread respect for his exceptional abilities and tireless  
24 commitment; he devoted the entirety of his noble life to

1 Smiths Station and Lee County, and his legacy will endure for  
2 future generations; now therefore,

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
4 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Mr. Tennis  
5 Clinton Britton, Jr., is recorded with deep sadness, this  
6 resolution is offered in highest tribute to his life of  
7 achievement and service, along with heartfelt sympathy to his  
8 widow, Vernice Lowery Britton, and the family.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR45  
Senate 04-FEB-10  
I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution  
originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

McDowell Lee  
Secretary

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House of Representatives  
Adopted: 23-FEB-10

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By: Senator Little (T)