

1 SJR6
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3 By Senators Ross, Dunn, Figures, Smitherman, Coleman-Madison,
4 Singleton, Sanders and Beasley
5 RFD:
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8 HONORING PRESIDENT BARACK HUSSEIN OBAMA AS HE LEAVES
9 OFFICE AND RECOGNIZING THE HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE OF HIS ROLE
10 AS THE FIRST AFRICAN-AMERICAN PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.
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12 WHEREAS, on January 20, 2009, Barack Hussein Obama
13 was inaugurated as the 44th President of the United States,
14 becoming the fifth-youngest President and the first
15 African-American President; and

16 WHEREAS, Barack Hussein Obama was born in Honolulu,
17 Hawaii, on August 4, 1961; and

18 WHEREAS, Barack Hussein Obama graduated from
19 Columbia University and Harvard Law School, where he was the
20 first African-American President of the Harvard Law Review; in
21 1985, Barack Hussein Obama moved to Chicago, Illinois, where
22 he worked as a community organizer with low-income residents
23 of Chicago's Roseland community an Atgold Gardens public
24 housing development; Barack Hussein Obama was a Civil Rights
25 Attorney in Chicago and taught Constitutional Law at the
26 University of Chicago for more than a decade; and

1 WHEREAS, Barack Hussein Obama's work in the
2 community and dedication to civil and constitutional rights
3 led him to run for political office and he was elected in 1996
4 to the Illinois State Senate as the representative from the
5 Chicago neighborhood of Hyde Park; as a State Senator, Barack
6 Hussein Obama was known for working in a bipartisan manner to
7 pass legislation with respect to ethics reform, health care
8 services, early childhood education programs, and an earned
9 income tax credit for the working poor; and

10 WHEREAS, Barack Hussein Obama began his bid to
11 become a United States Senator representing Illinois in 2003
12 and was selected to give the keynote address at the 2004
13 Democratic National Convention; Barack Hussein Obama was
14 elected to the United States Senate in 2004 and quickly became
15 known for his legislative work to support alternative energy
16 sources, reform Senate rules with respect to lobbyists and
17 gifts, improve benefits for veterans, and destroy weapons of
18 mass destruction in Eastern Europe and Russia; and

19 WHEREAS, Barack Hussein Obama's election as
20 President signified a milestone in the history of the United
21 States, as he is the only African-American to hold that
22 office; and

23 WHEREAS, having served as President of the United
24 States for two terms, President Obama will be recorded in
25 history as one of the most consequential presidents in recent
26 history; he accomplished a great deal during his presidency;
27 he led the country through a serious economic crisis, brought

1 the War in Iraq to an end, and enacted health care reform;
2 Barack Obama did indeed change the country's trajectory, by
3 doing pretty much what he said he would; and

4 WHEREAS, prior to 1965, only 100 African-Americans
5 held elective office in all of the United States, and 52 years
6 later, there are thousands of African-Americans in such
7 offices, including the President; and, it is with great pride
8 that we pay tribute to a most public-spirited citizen and
9 leader whose enormous civic energy is a matter of record; now
10 therefore,

11 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
12 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we do hereby honor President
13 Barack Hussein Obama and the historic significance of his
14 becoming the first African-American President of the United
15 States.