

1 SJR87
2 160146-3
3 By Senators Allen, McGill, Glover, Holtzclaw, Smith, Taylor,
4 Williams, Fielding, Holley, Hightower, Blackwell, Waggoner,
5 Coleman, Dunn, Beasley, Irons, Figures, Ross, Keahey, and
6 Bussman
7 RFD: Rules
8 First Read: 18-MAR-14

1 SJR87

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4 ENROLLED, SJR87,

5 MOURNING THE DEATH OF FORMER UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
6 PRESIDENT JOAB L. THOMAS.

7
8 WHEREAS, we note the death of former University of
9 Alabama President Joab L. Thomas with deep sadness and regret;
10 his immeasurable life of 81 years is commended and celebrated
11 with great thanksgiving; and

12 WHEREAS, the passing of Dr. Thomas leaves a void in
13 the lives of his loving family, many friends, and the entire
14 community, where he was highly regarded; and

15 WHEREAS, born in Holt, Alabama, on Valentine's Day
16 in 1933, he was the son of a school superintendent and music
17 teacher; he grew up as a standout athlete who enjoyed the
18 outdoors in Russellville, Alabama; he was offered athletic
19 scholarships in football, but he chose to accept an academic
20 scholarship to Harvard, where he earned his bachelor's,
21 master's, and doctoral degrees in biology; and

22 WHEREAS, over the course of his distinguished
23 career, he taught at Harvard University, held teaching and
24 administrative positions at UA, served as Chancellor of North
25 Carolina State University, and served as President at UA from

1 1981 to 1988 and Pennsylvania State University from 1990 to
2 1995; and

3 WHEREAS, he married his beloved and devoted wife,
4 Mary Dukes, on December 22, 1954, and fathered four children,
5 Catherine, David, Jennifer, and Frances; and

6 WHEREAS, through the years, he earned immense
7 respect for his tireless dedication, exceptional abilities,
8 and strong integrity, and he enriched the lives of countless
9 students; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Thomas was a valued member of the
11 community; although his presence is greatly missed, his memory
12 is cherished in the hearts and minds of all those who were
13 fortunate enough to know him; now therefore,

14 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
15 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That while grieving the death of
16 Dr. Joab L. Thomas, we are highly grateful for his abundant
17 life, and we offer this resolution in highest tribute to his
18 inspiring legacy, as well as in heartfelt sympathy to his
19 family and friends.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR87

Senate 19-MAR-14

I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

Patrick Harris
Secretary

House of Representatives
Adopted: 02-APR-14

By: Senator Allen