

1 SR112
2 120209-1
3 By Senators Erwin, Barron, Beason, Bedford, Benefield, Bishop,
4 Brooks, Butler, Coleman, Denton, Dixon, Dunn, Figures, French,
5 Glover, Holley, Keahey, Little (T), Little (Z), Marsh, Means,
6 Mitchell, Mitchem, Orr, Penn, Pittman, Poole, Preuitt, Ross,
7 Sanders, Sanford, Singleton, Smith, Smitherman, and Waggoner
8 RFD:
9 First Read: 23-MAR-10

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8 HONORING THE MEMORY OF DR. EUGENE B. SLEDGE.

9
10 WHEREAS, Eugene B. Sledge, a native of Mobile,
11 joined the United States Marines in 1943 and served our
12 country with pride and patriotism with the First Marine
13 Division during the battles of Peleliu and Okinawa, and on
14 occupation duty in northern China; and

15 WHEREAS, he later compiled memoirs of his military
16 service for his family in a 300-page book, "With the Old
17 Breed: at Peleliu and Okinawa," which was published in 1981;
18 the book sold hundreds of thousands of copies and led to
19 numerous editions; and

20 WHEREAS, Dr. Sledge's book is being used as partial
21 source material in a miniseries on Home Box Office; the
22 series, "The Pacific," tracks the intertwined real-life
23 stories of three Marines, including Dr. Sledge, across the
24 Pacific Theater of World War II; and

25 WHEREAS, after leaving the military, Dr. Sledge
26 earned a Ph.D. in biology and served as a worthy role model

1 for his students as a professor at the University of
2 Montevallo for more than 28 years, where he held firmly to the
3 conviction that education is the key to success for our
4 nation's youth; and

5 WHEREAS, as an avid bird-watcher, Dr. Sledge was
6 motivated by the love of the outdoors and spoke to numerous
7 civic and professional organizations, as well as wrote columns
8 for various magazines, about birds and bird-watching; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Sledge's memory is cherished by
10 thousands of Alabamians, including the members of this body,
11 who honor his service to the United States of America and to
12 the youth of the State of Alabama; now therefore,

13 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE LEGISLATURE OF
14 ALABAMA, That we hereby celebrate the life and memory of Dr.
15 Eugene B. Sledge and that, by copy of this resolution, we
16 extend our sincere gratitude and warm best wishes to his
17 family.