

1 HJR77  
2 190018-1  
3 By Representative Mooney  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 18-JAN-18

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7  
8 MOURNING THE DEATH AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MR.  
9 WILLIAM OSSIAN BOLEN, SR.

10  
11 WHEREAS, we deeply regret to learn of the death of  
12 Mr. William Ossian Bolen, Sr., and we uplift his inspiring  
13 legacy with utmost reverence and respect; and

14 WHEREAS, the passing of Mr. William Ossian Bolen,  
15 Sr., leaves a void in the lives of his loving family, many  
16 friends, and the entire community, where he was highly  
17 regarded; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Bolen was born November 15, 1928, in  
19 Selma, Alabama, to Joseph Benjamin Bolen and Roberta Huggins  
20 Bolen; Mr. Bolen graduated from The University of Alabama,  
21 where he is a member of the School of Communications Hall of  
22 Fame; he met the love of his life, Vivian, at The University  
23 of Alabama, and they were married 57 years; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Bolen served with much honor for two  
25 years in the Department of Information Services with the  
26 United States Air Force and continued his service with the Air

1 National Guard and Reserves until his retirement in 1979 as a  
2 lieutenant colonel; and

3 WHEREAS, over the course of his remarkable career in  
4 broadcast journalism, he served as morning disc jockey with  
5 WSGN radio station and headlined the "Rollin' with Bolen"  
6 show, co-anchored two daily newscasts while gathering news  
7 with the help of a Polaroid camera and a tape recorder,  
8 produced and hosted many news segments including a weekly  
9 show, "Religion in the News," and served as the esteemed host  
10 of "Good Day Alabama" while employed with Fox 6; Mr. Bolen let  
11 his light shine for Christ through career opportunities; and

12 WHEREAS, survivors include his children, William  
13 Ossian Bolen, Jr. (Patti), Mallory Bolen Whitaker (Dan),  
14 Jennifer Bolen DuBose (Brent), and Sandra Bolen Ballard (Rob);  
15 grandchildren, Kristin Leigh Bolen, William Kevin Bolen,  
16 Daniel Taylor Whitaker (Maggie), Andrew Tucker Whitaker,  
17 Mallory Evelyn Whitaker, Lina LaTaste DuBose, Lewis Brent  
18 DuBose, Jr., Robert Henry Ballard, III, William Payton Ballard,  
19 and Vivian Carlisle Ballard; and great-grandchildren, Jane  
20 Caruthers Whitaker and Calvin Major Whitaker; brother-in-law,  
21 James Homer Killebrew, Jr. (Gerry); and a host of nieces,  
22 nephews, great nieces, and great nephews, whom he all loved  
23 dearly; he was preceded in death by his parents; his loving  
24 wife, Vivian Killebrew Bolen; his brothers, Joseph Benjamin  
25 Bolen (Genevieve), Frank Seay Bolen (Francis); and infant  
26 sister, Evelyn Marie Bolen; brother-in-law, Alfred Lamar

1 Killebrew; sisters-in-law, Elaine Killebrew Evans (Tom), and  
2 Mildred Killebrew Worsham (Allen); and

3 WHEREAS, the passing of Mr. William Ossian Bolen,  
4 Sr., leaves a void in the lives of his loving family, many  
5 friends, and the entire community, where he was highly  
6 regarded; and

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
8 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That while grieving the death of  
9 Mr. William Ossian Bolen, Sr., we are extremely grateful for  
10 his abundant life, and we offer this resolution in highest  
11 tribute of his memory, as well as in heartfelt sympathy to his  
12 family and friends.