

1 HJR643
2 120309-2
3 By Representative Thomas (J)
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 23-MAR-10

1
2 ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,
3 RECOGNIZING BRUCE PORTERFIELD.
4

5 WHEREAS, it is a privilege to extend highest
6 commendation to an extraordinary Alabamian, Bruce Porterfield,
7 in recognition of his outstanding achievements while
8 overcoming adversity; and

9 WHEREAS, born to Daisy M. Porterfield on February 2,
10 1961, in Fort Deposit, he became an outstanding
11 student-athlete, graduating from Lowndes County High School in
12 1979 and earning a football scholarship to Alabama State
13 University, where he was a three-year starter as a running
14 back; he also received honors for high academic achievements,
15 maintaining an honor student status throughout his university
16 years; and

17 WHEREAS, while attending ASU, he became a member of
18 Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, and was selected to
19 receive the Guy L. Grant Award, one of the highest honors
20 available to an undergraduate member of the fraternity; and

21 WHEREAS, during his student years, he began
22 experiencing symptoms of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS),
23 also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease, and was informed by
24 doctors in 1985 that the incurable disease limited his life
25 expectancy to no more than three to five years; however,

1 through his devout faith and the strength of his
2 determination, along with the support of family and friends,
3 he has beaten the odds and survived for more than 20 years
4 longer than the maximum life expectancy; and

5 WHEREAS, a first-class athlete since grade school,
6 his skills and talent while at ASU provided him the
7 opportunity to sign on as a free agent to play in the NFL with
8 the Saint Louis Cardinals, before his body began to be
9 affected by ALS; and

10 WHEREAS, despite the effects of ALS, he is blessed
11 with a strong mind and indomitable spirit, and he remains
12 active in making his health care and spiritual decisions;
13 although now confined to bed, he is able to stand with support
14 from his loving family and friends; and

15 WHEREAS, every day of this inspirational life story
16 represents a miracle, and with his abiding faith, Bruce
17 Porterfield provides proof that all things are possible
18 through God, who is indeed a "Miracle Worker"; now therefore,

19 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
20 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That in recognition of his
21 exceptional strength and courage, Bruce Porterfield is honored
22 and commended, and this resolution is offered in highest
23 tribute to him, on behalf of the citizens of the State of
24 Alabama, who hold him in great esteem and wish him well.

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in
and was adopted by the House 25-MAR-10.

Greg Pappas
Clerk

Senate

06-APR-10

Adopted