

1 HR977
2 122095-1
3 By Representative Hammett
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 21-APR-10

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8 MOURNING THE DEATH OF MR. MARK ELTON STOKES.

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10 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow and an
11 inconsolable sense of loss that news is received of the tragic
12 yet heroic death of Mr. Mark Elton Stokes of Andalusia,
13 Alabama, on April 18, 2010, at the age of 36 years; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Stokes was known as a quick-thinking
15 and decisive man, and his valiant, selfless actions resulted
16 in saving a woman and child from drowning in the Gulf of
17 Mexico off Panama City Beach; and

18 WHEREAS, a widely admired painter, Mr. Stokes was a
19 creative and independent artist whose impeccable sense of
20 color and attention to detail were reflected in countless
21 works that decorate Covington County landmarks, including the
22 Covington Arena sign and the mascot-embellished gymnasium
23 walls in a number of high schools; he also painted popular
24 restaurant murals and numerous additional creative works that
25 established his reputation as an artist of great talent; and

26 WHEREAS, he leaves to mourn his death his beloved
27 daughter, Mercedes; proud parents, Charles and Susan Stokes;

1 brother, Kevin Charles Stokes; paternal grandmother, Christine
2 Powell Stokes; maternal grandmother, Evelyn McCord Lambert;
3 and a very close friend, Cathy Huckaba; and

4 WHEREAS, John 15:13 is the Scripture that defined
5 this brave and gallant citizen: "Greater love hath no man than
6 this, that a man lay down his life for his friends"; while Mr.
7 Stokes' vibrant presence will be missed, his memory will be
8 treasured in the hearts and minds of all who were privileged
9 to know him during the brief span of his life; now therefore,

10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
11 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the tragic death of Mr. Mark
12 Elton Stokes is recorded with profound sadness, and this
13 resolution is offered in highest tribute to his heroic life,
14 along with heartfelt sympathy to his grieving family.