

1 SR97
2 160279-2
3 By Senators Taylor, Dial, Bedford, Allen, Beasley, Beason,
4 Blackwell, Brewbaker, Bussman, Coleman, Dunn, Fielding,
5 Figures, Glover, Hightower, Holley, Holtzclaw, Irons, Keahey,
6 Marsh, McGill, Orr, Pittman, Reed, Ross, Sanders, Sanford,
7 Scofield, Singleton, Smith, Smitherman, Waggoner, Ward and
8 Williams
9 RFD:
10 First Read: 18-MAR-14

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8 HONORING SENATOR TOM WHATLEY FOR HIS HONORABLE
9 SERVICE AS BATTALION COMMANDER OF THE 167TH SPECIAL TROOPS
10 BATTALION.

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12 WHEREAS, highest commendations are herein proudly
13 extended to Senator Tom Whatley for his honorable service as
14 Battalion Commander of the 167th Special Troops Battalion; and

15 WHEREAS, in 1988, Senator Whatley enlisted in the
16 Alabama Army National Guard, where he has served with much
17 honor and distinction for 25 years; and

18 WHEREAS, Senator Whatley received his Commission
19 from Auburn University ROTC in 1992; his last overseas
20 assignment included serving as the Bilateral Affairs Officer,
21 Defense Attache' Office, United States Embassy, Bucharest
22 Romania, where he served as a diplomatic liaison between the
23 US Embassy and the Romanian Ministry of Defense; and

24 WHEREAS, for his exemplary performance in service to
25 his country, Senator Whatley has earned the Army Commendation
26 Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Defense

1 Meritorious Service Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, the Officers and Enlisted Members of the
4 Special Troops Battalion, 167th Theater Sustainment Command of
5 the Alabama Army National Guard will host a Change of Command
6 Ceremony for Senator Whatley on April 6, 2014; and

7 WHEREAS, born and reared on the family dairy farm in
8 Lee County, Senator Whatley graduated from Beauregard High
9 School in 1988; he received a Bachelor's Degree in Public
10 Administration from Auburn University in 1994 and received his
11 Juris Doctorate from the Thomas Goode Jones School of Law; he
12 was admitted to the Alabama State Bar in 1999; and

13 WHEREAS, Senator Whatley was elected to the Alabama
14 Senate on November 2, 2010, and he ably serves as Chairman of
15 the Senate Agriculture, Forestry, and Conservation Committee,
16 Chairman of the Lee County Legislative Delegation, Co-Chair of
17 the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, a member on
18 the Senate Education Finance and Taxation Committee, a member
19 of the Senate Health, Judiciary, Military and Veterans
20 Affairs, Confirmations and Indian Affairs Committees, and as a
21 member of the Legislative Council; and

22 WHEREAS, Senator Whatley resides in Auburn, where he
23 attends Auburn United Methodist Church and operates a small
24 law firm; in addition, he serves as a member of the Opelika
25 Kiwanis Club and the Lee County Cattleman's Association, and
26 he supports various civic organizations; and

1 WHEREAS, Senator Whatley's commitment to excellence
2 is evidenced by the respect and admiration of those with whom
3 he serves and also of the highest government officials who
4 place great trust in his actions; an individual of his
5 character and exemplary execution of duty, who has
6 demonstrated tremendous dedication to the defense of freedom
7 and democracy, is truly deserving of the esteem of all
8 Americans; now therefore,

9 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE LEGISLATURE OF
10 ALABAMA, That with utmost respect we offer tribute to Senator
11 Tom Whatley for his service as Battalion Commander of the
12 167th Special Troops Battalion, and by copy of this
13 resolution, we express gratitude and best wishes for the
14 future.