

1 SJR61
2 218459-1
3 By Senators Weaver, Butler, Albritton, Allen, Barfoot,
4 Beasley, Chambliss, Chesteen, Coleman-Madison, Dunn, Elliott,
5 Figures, Givhan, Gudger, Hatcher, Holley, Jones, Livingston,
6 Marsh, McClendon, Melson, Orr, Price, Reed, Roberts,
7 Sanders-Fortier, Scofield, Sessions, Shelnutt, Singleton,
8 Smitherman, Stutts, Waggoner, Whatley and Williams
9 RFD:
10 First Read: 08-MAR-22

HONORING TOM WALKER ON HIS SERVICE TO THE AMERICAN
VILLAGE.

WHEREAS, highest commendations are herein presented
to Mr. Tom Walker for outstanding service to the American
Village; and

WHEREAS, Tom Walker is the Founder and President of
the American Village, chartered in 1995; in the late 1980s, he
conceived the idea of the American Village to be an American
history and civics educational campus to inspire and prepare
young people for their roles as good citizens and leaders; he
led efforts to build the 188-acre campus just south of
Birmingham, Alabama, in Montevallo, and to design and
implement its widely acclaimed and engaging history and civics
programs; the campus has served over three-quarters of a
million students from throughout the Southeastern United
States since its opening and draws thousands of visitors each
year; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, Tom Walker was one of only sixteen
citizens appointed by Congressional leaders to the United

1 States Semiquincentennial Commission; the commission is
2 responsible for leading the Nation's 250th birthday
3 celebration and commemoration of American Independence in
4 2026; he was unanimously elected as Vice Chair of the national
5 commission at its first meeting in Philadelphia; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Walker earned his Bachelor of Arts
7 Degree with honors in History and Political Science at the
8 University of Montevallo and his Master of Arts in Political
9 Science at Mississippi State University; and

10 WHEREAS, in December 2020, Mr. Walker was conferred
11 the Honorary Doctor of Laws by Troy University; he has
12 received numerous other honors; he is a past recipient of the
13 American Bar Association's highest national award for
14 excellence in K-12 law-related education; he is the recipient
15 of the DAR Medal of Honor and the SAR Gold Citizenship Medal,
16 the highest national honors awarded by the National Societies
17 of the Daughters of the American Revolution and of the Sons of
18 the American Revolution, respectively; he has received
19 numerous other state, regional, and national awards and was
20 named as "Birmingham Citizen of the Year" by The Women's
21 Committee of Birmingham; and

22 WHEREAS, Mr. Walker is the former City Manager of
23 Northport, Alabama, and formerly served as Special Assistant
24 to the President of the University of Montevallo; he is the
25 former Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees of the University
26 of Montevallo and was the founding chair of the Alabama Higher
27 Education Partnership; Mr. Walker is both a writer and

1 frequent speaker; he advocates teaching American history,
2 government, and civic engagement as a vital part of an
3 American education for students; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Walker is married to the former Betty
5 Ann Driver of Montgomery and they have three adult children
6 and one grandson; now therefore,

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE LEGISLATURE OF
8 ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Mr. Tom Walker
9 is highly honored and commended, and this resolution is
10 offered to him in deepest admiration and appreciation, along
11 with sincere best wishes for all future endeavors.