- 1 HR407
- 2 186245-1
- 3 By Representative Knight
- 4 RFD:
- 5 First Read: 02-MAY-17

1	186245-1:n:05/02/2017:JEC/jec LRS2017-1972
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	COMMENDING JIM CALDWELL FOR OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL
9	ACHIEVEMENT.
10	
11	WHEREAS, Jim Caldwell is the legendary Head Coach
12	for the Detroit Lions; he has served as the head football
13	coach at Wake Forest University from 1993 until 2000; he was
14	also the Head Coach of the Indianapolis Colts from 2009 until
15	2011; and
16	WHEREAS, the distinguished native of Beloit,
17	Wisconsin, Jim Caldwell was a standout athlete in three sports
18	at Beloit Memorial High School; as a senior, he was a part of
19	a state championship basketball team and a track team that
20	finished second in the state; and
21	WHEREAS, Jim Caldwell attended the University of
22	Iowa where he gained a first-string spot in the defensive
23	backfield as a freshman; he graduated with a degree in English
24	Literature in 1977; and
25	WHEREAS, after serving one year as a graduate
26	assistant at his alma mater, he accepted his full-time

position under coach Rey Dempsey at Southern Illinois where he stayed three years; and

WHEREAS, Jim Caldwell then worked one season under Dennis Green at Northwestern before moving to Colorado for three years under Bill McCartney who was building a national championship program there; and

WHEREAS, Jim Caldwell's last stop prior to Penn State was Louisville in 1985 where he coached under a former national championship coach, Howard Schnellenberger; he then joined Coach Joe Paterno's staff in 1986 as the wide receivers coach; in 1987, he was assigned to coaching the quarterbacks and then took over the total passing game the following year; and

WHEREAS, Jim Caldwell has a special place in history as the first black football coach in the Atlantic Coach Conference; he accepts that fact as part of his own personal coaching history, but adds that he hopes to increase the recognition of his Wake Forest program for other reasons; and

WHEREAS, Jim Caldwell is currently 27-21 with Detroit in three seasons, and his 0.562 winning percentage is the best for a Lions Coach during the Super Bowl era and the best since Buddy Parker went 50-24-2; and

WHEREAS, the Detroit Historical Society's Black
Historic Sites Committee recognized Jim Caldwell and four
others for being African American "firsts" in their fields of
endeavor; and

WHEREAS, Caldwell is the first African American 1 2 coach hired by the Detroit Lions; now therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF 3 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That Jim Caldwell is highly 4 5 honored and commended, and this resolution is offered to him in deepest admiration and appreciation for his significant 6 7 contributions to coaching, along with sincere best wishes for continued success in all future endeavors. 8