

1 HR51  
2 179516-1  
3 By Representatives Clarke, Drummond, Bracy, Buskey, Sessions,  
4 Wilcox, Williams (JW), Davis, Gaston and Pringle  
5 RFD:  
6 First Read: 24-AUG-16

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7  
8 MOURNING THE DEATH OF ROSETTA GAMBLE BROWN.

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10 WHEREAS, Mrs. Rosetta Gamble Brown played a very  
11 important role in the history of Mobile, Alabama, and the  
12 desegregation of the Mobile County Public School System in the  
13 1960s; and

14 WHEREAS, Mrs. Brown transferred from Williamson High  
15 School to become one of the first African-American students to  
16 attend Murphy High School after passing academic, as well as  
17 mental agility and psychological tests to prove her ability  
18 and strength to endure the monumental challenge that she  
19 undertook; and

20 WHEREAS, in a concerted effort to desegregate  
21 Mobile's Public School System, Rosetta Gamble Brown enrolled  
22 at Murphy High School as an 11th grade student in 1964, along  
23 with Birdie Mae Davis, Betty Davis and a small group of other  
24 African-American students; and

25 WHEREAS, the longstanding Davis V. Board of School  
26 Commissioners of Mobile County was filed on behalf of the

1 Davis sisters, Rosetta Gamble Brown and other African-American  
2 students; and

3 WHEREAS, as a teenager, Mrs. Brown bravely and  
4 consistently endured harassment and threats, and was even  
5 assaulted during this turbulent time in our nation for the  
6 sake of school desegregation in Mobile, Alabama; and

7 WHEREAS, Mrs. Brown graduated from Murphy High  
8 School in 1965; and

9 WHEREAS, Mrs. Brown attended Kent State, Tuskegee  
10 Institute and later enrolled at Birmingham Southern College,  
11 where at age 38 she was chosen Homecoming Queen; and

12 WHEREAS, Mrs. Brown continued to fight for equality  
13 and justice for all, and in 1998, was presented a Freedom  
14 Flame Award by the National Voting Rights Museum; and

15 WHEREAS, Mrs. Brown lived on the face of the Earth  
16 for 68 years, and on July 17, 1947, became the last of 11  
17 children born to the union of Nellie and Joseph Gamble in  
18 Orville, Alabama; and

19 WHEREAS, Mrs. Brown lost her two-year battle with  
20 cancer and transitioned from life to eternity in May 2016; now  
21 therefore,

22 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
23 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That while grieving the death of  
24 Rosetta Gamble Brown, we are extremely grateful for her  
25 abundant life, and we offer this resolution in highest tribute  
26 to her memory, as well as our heartfelt sympathy to her family  
27 and friends.

