

1 HR11
2 216437-1
3 By Representative Gray
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 13-JAN-22

HONORING THE LEE COUNTY REMEMBRANCE PROJECT.

WHEREAS, the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI) collaborates with communities to memorialize documented victims of racial violence and foster meaningful dialogue about race and justice; and

WHEREAS, the Lee County Remembrance Project was created by Ashley Brown and Olivia Nichols, two doctoral students at Auburn University; and

WHEREAS, in the summer of 2018, Olivia Nichols and Monique Napier began researching newspaper articles and census records to start piecing together the narratives and experiences of John Moss, George Hart, Charles Humphries, and Samuel Harris, four Black men who were recorded victims of racial terror lynchings in Lee County, Alabama; and

WHEREAS, over the next year, they met with community organizations and began building a coalition of community volunteers and leaders interested in progressing the research into opportunities for education and commemoration; by the fall of 2019, the Lee County Remembrance Project (LCRP)

1 application was accepted to become an official Community
2 Remembrance Project through the Equal Justice Initiative; and

3 WHEREAS, in partnership with the Equal Justice
4 Initiative, they followed their truth and reconciliation
5 framework to engage the community in deeper discussion about
6 racial injustices, as well as finding ways in the community to
7 commemorate the men who were victims of racial terror
8 lynchings; one way the community initiative honored these men
9 was by having a historical marker installed in their honor in
10 historic Opelika on June 12, 2021; and

11 WHEREAS, the placement of this marker in Lee County
12 serves as a place of public healing, acknowledgement, and
13 unity honoring the victims of lynching and racial injustice,
14 while sharing their stories with the wider community; now
15 therefore,

16 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, That
17 the Lee County Remembrance Project is highly commended, and
18 this resolution is offered in deepest admiration and
19 appreciation, as well as in heartiest congratulations and
20 sincere best wishes for continued success in all future
21 endeavors.