

HR101 INTRODUCED



1 HR101
2 PD5NRGG-1
3 By Representative Boyd
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 06-Mar-24



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HR_____ HONORING JOSEPHINE SAWYER MCKINNEY FOR HER
RECOGNITION BY THE WILLIE AND BETTY FARRIOR FAMILY
FOUNDATION FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO HER COMMUNITY.

WHEREAS, highest commendations are herein presented
to Josephine Sawyer McKinney who will be honored by the
Willie and Betty Farring Family Foundation for her
outstanding service to the Talladega Community and the great
State of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, the Willie and Betty Farring Family
Foundation is a nonprofit organization established in March
2017 by Colonel (Retired) Cedrick A. Farring in memory of
his grandparents; both were native Alabamians who
unfortunately lost their vision at an early age; they
attended the Alabama School for the Negro Deaf and Blind in
Talladega, Alabama, and they married in October 1945;
Willie became the first Black blind individual to be
employed at the Alabama Industries for the Blind in June
1950; Willie Farring was employed until he retired after 40
years, and Betty Farring retired after 27 years of
employment; their persistence for excellence, despite having
to overcome many obstacles, and their commitment to serving
others made lasting impressions that are still present
today; and

WHEREAS, the Willie and Betty Farring Family



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29 Foundation was founded to promote the idea of "selfless
30 service with a purpose" and to inspire and support the
31 community; in addition to providing Foundation Scholarships
32 and a Front of The Line Pre-Apprenticeship Program, they
33 recognize individuals who are making a difference through
34 tremendous efforts and achievements in the Talladega
35 Community; and

36 WHEREAS, one such outstanding individual who
37 epitomizes the community leadership characteristics that
38 were so admired in the lives of Willie and Betty Farrior is
39 Josephine Sawyer McKinney, who is a native of Talladega; and

40 WHEREAS, Mrs. McKinney earned degrees from Gadsden
41 State Community College, Jacksonville State University,
42 Rushing Springs School of Theology, and is currently
43 pursuing a Masters in Christian Education from the
44 Pollard-Carter Graduate Program at Selma University; and

45 WHEREAS, she has represented her community with honor
46 through various appointments; she was recommended by Senator
47 Jim Pruettt and named by the Commissioner of Agriculture to
48 the Talladega County Board of Registrars; she has served as
49 Secretary, Membership Chairperson, and Scholarship Committee
50 Member to the Talladega County NAACP; she is a member of the
51 Talladega County Democratic Conference; and she was
52 appointed as a member of the Talladega Redevelopment
53 Authority by the Talladega City Council; and

54 WHEREAS, Mrs. McKinney is dedicated to community
55 service endeavors in the Talladega area and throughout the
56 state; through her participation with the Alabama Baptist



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57 State Minister's Wives Auxiliary's Outreach, she has served
58 as part of the Julia Tutwiler Prison for Women Ministry; and
59 through her affiliation with the Rushing Springs District
60 Missionary Baptist Association, where she an instructor and
61 President Emeritus, she has worked with the Aid to Inmate
62 Mothers (AIM) Prison Ministry and the Second Chance Ministry
63 Program for victims of domestic violence; and

64 WHEREAS, Mrs. McKinney is married to Reverend Dr.
65 Johnny F. McKinney, the Pastor of Rocky Mount Baptist Church
66 in Talladega; she is committed to her church family and has
67 served within the church in many areas, including as
68 Christian Education Director, Vacation Bible School
69 Director, and Adult Sunday School Teacher; and

70 WHEREAS, in addition to her many community service
71 and outreach involvements, Mrs. McKinney has been employed
72 at Fort McClellan in various positions; she retired as a
73 Senior Auditor in the Internal Review and Audit Compliance
74 Office; now therefore,

75 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
76 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we heartily congratulate Mrs.
77 Josephine Sawyer McKinney on being honored by the Willie and
78 Betty Farris Family Foundation for her outstanding service
79 to the Talladega Community and the State of Alabama, and
80 this resolution is offered with utmost appreciation to her,
81 along with best wishes in all future endeavors.