

HR201 INTRODUCED



1 HR201
2 9Q8LBPB-1
3 By Representative Sellers
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 16-Apr-24



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HR_____ MOURNING THE DEATH AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF CALVIN ELDER.

WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the death on April 8, 2024, of Calvin Elder, of Roosevelt City, Alabama, at the age of 89; his passing leaves a void in the lives of his loving family, many friends, and the community where he was highly regarded; and

WHEREAS, Calvin Elder was born on February 26, 1935, in Wylam, Alabama, to Gennie and Coley Elder; he was blessed to marry the love of his life, Ollie Mae Vickers, on October 4, 1959, and he remained devoted to her for the next 64 years until her passing on March 16, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Elder graduated from Wenonah High School, Class of 1953; he matriculated to Alabama State University and earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in 1961; later he attended The University of Alabama at Birmingham, where he earned his Masters of Arts Degree in 1975; while in school he affiliated with Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated; and

WHEREAS, Calvin Elder was a dedicated teacher for 31 years with the Jefferson County School System where he was respected by his colleagues and known by his students as being a kind and gentle man who cared for them and always ensured that they received his very best; he impacted



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29 thousands of lives over the course of his career; he was
30 first employed as a science teacher at Woodward Junior High
31 School from 1961-1971 and then at Pleasant Grove High School
32 from 1971-1992; he also drove a school bus for both schools
33 for 29 years; and

34 WHEREAS, Calvin Elder believed in civic leadership
35 and making a difference in the community that he loved; he
36 held memberships and leadership positions in various
37 organizations, including, serving as a Deacon at the First
38 Baptist Church of Roosevelt City; Captain of the Nurses
39 Guide; Assistant Sunday School Teacher for the Men's Bible
40 Class; member of P.S. Howard Lodge No. 516; member of the
41 Cooper Green Mercy Hospital Advisory Board; and a former
42 member of the Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority
43 Board; and

44 WHEREAS, Calvin Elder served as President of the
45 Roosevelt Neighborhood Association where he steadfastly
46 dedicated innumerable hours to establishing a Fire Station
47 in Roosevelt City; the Roosevelt Fire and Rescue Station #11
48 is now a standing building for the citizens of Roosevelt
49 City in a large part because of his tireless efforts to
50 improve and provide safety for his community; and

51 WHEREAS, in addition to his chosen profession as an
52 educator and his community service involvement, Mr. Elder
53 worked for 50 years at the Birmingham Times Newspaper as an
54 Advertising Sales Representative; he was also a professional
55 photographer who enjoyed freelance writing and traveling;
56 and



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57 WHEREAS, he received numerous awards and achievements
58 as an Educator, Neighborhood President, and Community
59 Advocate; and

60 WHEREAS, Calvin Elder is preceded in death by his
61 beloved wife, Ollie Mae Elder; brothers, Moses Elder,
62 Rayford Elder, and Aaron Elder; and sisters, Jeffrey Rodgers
63 and Jessie Mae Elder; and

64 WHEREAS, left to treasure his legacy are his
65 children, Gabriel Elder, Darryl Elder (Judith), Delphine
66 Rowe (Clarence), and Octavia Elder; sister-in-law, Callie
67 Stephens; grandchildren, Briana McClain (Donald), Jerron
68 Elder, Haley Elder, Chelsea Elder, Brittney Rowe, Alia
69 McDaniel, Tangi Martin, and Shah Martin;
70 great-grandchildren, Ryder McClain, Kymora McClain, Harmoni
71 Spidle, Christian Marin, Shah Martin, Jr., Seantorious
72 Martin, and Arian Martin; goddaughter, Taiya Bridges; and
73 many other much loved nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends;
74 and

75 WHEREAS, although his presence will be greatly
76 missed, the memory of Calvin Elder will be cherished in the
77 hearts of all who knew and loved him; now therefore,

78 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
79 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the death of Calvin Elder is
80 recorded with deep sadness, and this resolution is offered
81 in tribute to his life and service to others, along with
82 heartfelt sympathy to his family, whose grief is shared by
83 many.