

## HR4 INTRODUCED



1 HR4  
2 29AJKSS-1  
3 By Representative Jackson  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 06-Feb-24



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HR\_\_\_ MOURNING THE DEATH AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MRS.  
ETHEL T. LESLIE.

WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the passing of Mrs. Ethel T. Leslie, a native of Thomasville, Alabama, on February 1, 2024; her departure leaves a void in the lives of her loving family, many friends, and her community, where she was highly regarded; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Leslie was born to Helen Lofton Thomas and Benton Thomas, Sr.; after graduating from Thomasville Public High School in 1956, she furthered her education by earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in 1961 from Alabama State University; she developed a love of teaching and matriculated to the University of West Alabama, formerly Livingston University, where she earned a Master's Degree in Education, an Education Specialist (AA) Degree, and an Administration in Supervision Degree; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Leslie devoted her life to serving her community in the field of education and administrative leadership; she served as an elementary teacher and assistant principal from 1961-1995 at Coffeetown Elementary School; Administrator of Coffeetown High School from 1996-2000; and Clarke County Textbook Coordinator from 2001-2010; in 2010, she retired from the Clarke County Board of Education after 49 years and 11 months of dedicated



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29 service; and

30 WHEREAS, Mrs. Leslie generously shared her talents  
31 and gifts of teaching to prepare her students to achieve  
32 success in life; not only did she teach multiple  
33 generations, but she also participated in numerous other  
34 activities within the Coffeetown community, including  
35 serving as cheerleader sponsor, majorette sponsor, Girls  
36 Basketball Coach, Drama Club Sponsor, dance troupe sponsor,  
37 and helping with science fairs and May Day Celebrations; she  
38 also served on the Annenberg Foundation Rural School Project  
39 for The University of Alabama; and

40 WHEREAS, Mrs. Leslie passionately provided charitable  
41 services to many organizations, including The Dannon Project  
42 that her daughter and son-in-law created to change the lives  
43 of those impacted by the justice system; she also worked  
44 diligently to support endeavors of her sorority, Psi Omicron  
45 Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.; and she  
46 was a member of the Bethlehem Chapter #191 Order of Eastern  
47 Star for 39 years; and

48 WHEREAS, a faithful and loyal member of New Hope #1  
49 Baptist Church in Thomasville, Mrs. Leslie served on the  
50 Board of Trustees and was a beloved Sunday School Teacher  
51 and Secretary for 25 years; and

52 WHEREAS, Mrs. Ethel T. Leslie is predeceased by her  
53 loving husband, Woodrow Leslie; parents; grandparents, Ethel  
54 "Erma" Grayson Lofton, Ben Lofton, Lillie Pope Thomas, and  
55 George Thomas; and brother-in-law, Billy Baker; and

56 WHEREAS, left to cherish her memory are her children;



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57 Dr. Kimberly Leslie-Patton (Ralph), Kerri Leslie Pruitt (Jeh  
58 Jeh), and Kristopher Leslie; grandchild, Jehme Leslie  
59 Pruitt; siblings, Annette T. Baker, Roy Lofton (Betty),  
60 Shirley Wrights (Jessie), Patricia Lofton, Jimmy Thomas,  
61 Benton Thomas, Jr. (Gwen), Frankie T. Ruffin, and Andrew  
62 Leslie (Delores); dear friends, Betty Pugh (Ferdinand) and  
63 Mary Roberts; and numerous other close relatives and  
64 friends; now therefore,

65 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
66 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the death of Mrs. Ethel T.  
67 Leslie is recorded with deep sadness, and even as we mourn  
68 her death and the loss it represents, we also celebrate her  
69 life; this resolution is offered in highest tribute, along  
70 with heartfelt sympathy to her family, whose grief is shared  
71 by many.