

# HR41 INTRODUCED



1 HR41  
2 2QH2KII-1  
3 By Representative Givan  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 15-Feb-24



1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

HR\_\_\_ CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF GLADYS MOTLEY  
NORMAN.

WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the death of Gladys Motley Norman, on February 5, 2024, at the age of 84; her passing leaves a void in the lives of her loving family, many friends, and the community where she was highly regarded; and

WHEREAS, Gladys Norman was born on March 28, 1939, to Chinney B. Motley and Annie B. Davis in Montgomery, Alabama; she accepted Christ at an early age and was baptized at North Court Street Missionary Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Norman received her early education in the Montgomery School System and graduated from Booker T. Washington High School; she matriculated to Alabama State University (ASU) where she earned her Bachelor of Arts in Art History and African American History; she furthered her education by pursuing two Master's degrees, one from Alabama State University in Art and History, and the other from Wesley University in Nebraska; additionally, she furthered her education through the Art Institute of Chicago, formerly known as the Chicago Institute of Fine Arts; and

WHEREAS, upon receiving her bachelor's degree from ASU, she became employed at Fairfield Industrial High School in Fairfield as an Art teacher; she later became one of the



## HR41 INTRODUCED

29 first Black teachers to integrate Jefferson County Schools  
30 at Leeds High School; she remained a teacher with Jefferson  
31 County at Minor High School for the following 43 years;  
32 during her career, she received numerous awards and  
33 accolades and was recognized for her work of enhancing the  
34 lives of her many students though art, a tool used to  
35 transcend cultural barriers; and

36 WHEREAS, she was united in holy matrimony to her  
37 loving husband, Theodore Roosevelt Norman, in March of 1965  
38 and their union was blessed with two beautiful daughters;  
39 Gladys Norman remained devoted to her husband until his  
40 death on December 17, 2001; and

41 WHEREAS, Gladys Norman was most content when  
42 surrounded by her family; her love for gardening and  
43 creating a beautiful yard full of flowers was legendary; she  
44 was a stalwart member of her community and was devoted to  
45 her students; and as a result of her generous spirit and  
46 pleasant personality, she was loved by many; and

47 WHEREAS, Gladys Norman is preceded in death by her  
48 parents; and brothers, Robert L. Pitts and Morris L. Pitts;  
49 and

50 WHEREAS, left to treasure her beloved memory are her  
51 daughters, Melonie Norman and Kimberly Norman Fann; bonus  
52 daughter, Shun Sanders; grandchildren, Taylor D. Norman,  
53 Ariana J. Norman, Kayla D. Norman-Fann, and Tristen R.  
54 Norman; great-grandchildren, Skylar N. Ivory and Amoi H.  
55 Ivory; sister, Doris Pitts-Carter; sisters-in-law, Sally  
56 Pitts (Morris) and Rosemary Pitts (Robert); brother-in-law,



## HR41 INTRODUCED

57 Rufus Norman; as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins,  
58 extended family, art club sisters, and friends; and

59 WHEREAS, although her presence will be greatly  
60 missed, the memory of Gladys Motley Norman will be cherished  
61 in the hearts of all who knew and loved her; now therefore,

62 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
63 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the death of Gladys Motley  
64 Norman is recorded with deep sadness, and this resolution is  
65 offered in tribute to her life and service to others, along  
66 with heartfelt sympathy to her family, whose grief is shared  
67 by many.