

HR59 INTRODUCED



1 HR59
2 367GEZV-1
3 By Representative Tillman
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 23-Feb-24



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HR_____ COMMENDING ALTON R. WOODARD FOR HIS MANY PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

WHEREAS, with great pride and special pleasure, Alton R. Wood is highly commended for his many professional and civic achievements; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Woodard attended North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University; while he was earning his degree, he worked with the YMCA as a lifeguard and Youth Program Instructor, taught swimming classes, and coached the swim team and basketball team, foreshadowing his commitment to coaching and caring for others far into the future; he earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Recreation Management in 1977; and

WHEREAS, after graduation, he began his professional career with Western Electric Company in 1976 and was promoted within three years, an achievement that takes most people up to seven years to obtain the necessary knowledge and skills; during this time he gave generously of his time and talents as a volunteer for the American Red Cross; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Woodard accepted a position in Atlanta, Georgia, with the YMCA to oversee construction and serve as the Director of the Aquatics Center and managed five YMCA branches; he continued to volunteer as a disaster worker with the American Red Cross and taught aquatics safety



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29 courses; and

30 WHEREAS, he was recruited to work full-time for the
31 American Red Cross and held positions, including Station
32 Manager and Director of Emergency and Social Services; he
33 earned American Red Cross certifications as a CPR
34 Instructor, First Aid Instructor, Lifeguard Instructor
35 Trainer, Candidate Training Instructor, and Water Safety
36 Instructor Trainer; he also holds certifications as an
37 Advance Open Water SCUBA Diver, Nationally Certified Pool
38 Operator, and SCUBA School International certification;
39 during his decade of service with the Red Cross he had
40 assignments in Indiana, Louisiana, Kentucky, and Alabama;
41 and

42 WHEREAS, during his time with the Birmingham Area
43 Chapter of the American Red Cross, he supervised four
44 divisions and was responsible for seven county area
45 Emergency Services and developed Project S.H.A.R.E. in 57 of
46 Alabama's 67 counties; he earned several awards during his
47 10-year tenure with the nonprofit organization; and

48 WHEREAS, Mr. Woodard made Birmingham his home and
49 worked for Hill Crest Hospital as a Business Development
50 Manager and Community Consultant before returning to his
51 recreation career; in 1994, he became the first Director of
52 Parks and Recreation for the City of Fairfield; during his
53 22 years with the city, he opened the first indoor swimming
54 pool and also became the first Director of the Fairfield
55 Civic Center; in 2016, he was recruited by the City of
56 Bessemer to become the first Director of that city's Parks



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57 and Recreation Department and manage the state-of-the-art
58 recreation center; and

59 WHEREAS, Mr. Woodard furthered his education with an
60 advanced degree from Austin Pea State University in Public
61 Health and Safety in 1985; in 2000, he graduated from The
62 University of Alabama at Birmingham's Minority Business
63 Training Development Program with a certificate in Business
64 Management; and

65 WHEREAS, Mr. Woodard has held past and present
66 memberships and leadership positions on several professional
67 and civic committees and boards, including Fairfield City
68 Schools Education Advisory Board; Fairfield Community
69 Education Program Advisory Council; Fairfield Lions Club;
70 Central Alabama Sickle Cell Foundation; Jefferson, Walker,
71 and Shelby Counties Mental Health Associations; Alabama
72 Kidney Foundations; VOICES for Alabama's Children Steering
73 Committee; National Youth Sports Program Advisory Committee;
74 Jefferson County Family Court Advisory Committee; Magic City
75 Kiwanis Club; National Disaster Medical System Steering
76 Committee; Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated; and
77 Positive Maturity Advisory Committee; now therefore,

78 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
79 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That Alton R. Woodard is highly
80 commended for his many professional and civic achievements
81 and this resolution is offered to him by Representative
82 Ontario Tillman as evidence of our great regard with warm
83 appreciation for the positive impact he has made in the



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84 community, and with best wishes for continued success and
85 prosperity.