

HR144 INTRODUCED



1 HR144
2 9J9CQMP-1
3 By Representatives Holk-Jones, Givens, Fidler, Simpson, Baker,
4 Easterbrook, Stringer, Rehm, Brinyark, Faulkner, Hall, Moore
5 (P), Underwood, Wood (D), Hulsey, Shaver, Collins, Almond,
6 Kiel, Pringle, Lovvorn, Ross, Clarke, Travis, Forte, DuBose,
7 Lomax
8 RFD:
9 First Read: 18-Mar-25



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4 HR_____ CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF OPAL STEELE
5 BLACKWELL.
6

7 WHEREAS, it is with great pride and admiration that
8 we recognize the remarkable milestone that Gulf Shores
9 resident Opal Steele Blackwell has reached on the joyous
10 occasion of her 100th birthday on March 29, 2025; and

11 WHEREAS, she was born to Thomas and Pauline Steele in
12 Tampa, Florida, on March 29, 1925, and as a young child
13 moved with her parents to Foley, Alabama, the place she
14 would call home for a majority of her life; and

15 WHEREAS, she attended and graduated from Foley High
16 School, where she met her future husband, Earl Blackwell,
17 with whom she built a loving family, raising two children,
18 Pairzetty and Michael; and

19 WHEREAS, a devoted homemaker, she also enjoyed her
20 occasional work at Cooper's Department Store in Foley, where
21 she was blessed to see and help so many of her friends from
22 across South Baldwin County; and

23 WHEREAS, she has been a valued member of the
24 community, notably as a founding member of the Foley Civic
25 League, an organization dedicated to the betterment of the
26 city and its residents; and

27 WHEREAS, Opal Steele Blackwell is an accomplished
28 bridge player, having earned the prestigious status of Life



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29 Master, a testament to her skill, dedication, and keen
30 intellect; and

31 WHEREAS, her faith has been a guiding force
32 throughout her life, as she has remained a lifelong
33 Episcopalian and, in recent years, continued to be an active
34 and faithful member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Bon
35 Secour; and

36 WHEREAS, she takes great joy in her loving family,
37 which includes her treasured grandchildren and
38 great-grandchildren, who bring her immense pride and
39 happiness; and

40 WHEREAS, the occasion of her centennial birthday
41 provides an opportunity for her family, friends, and
42 community to reflect on the legacy of kindness, strength,
43 and dedication that Opal Steele Blackwell has imparted over
44 the past century; now therefore,

45 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
46 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we do hereby honor and
47 celebrate the extraordinary life of Opal Steele Blackwell on
48 the occasion of her 100th birthday, commending her for her
49 many contributions to her community and extending our best
50 wishes for continued happiness and health.

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this
52 resolution be presented to Opal Steele Blackwell in
53 recognition of this special occasion, with sincere
54 congratulations and warmest regards.