

# HR168 INTRODUCED



1 HR168  
2 4U5WLI3-1  
3 By Representative Forte  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 20-Mar-25



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HR\_\_\_\_\_ MOURNING THE DEATH AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF ALLEN THOMAS.

WHEREAS, with an overwhelming sense of loss, we mourn the death, yet celebrate the life, of Mr. Allen Thomas of Eufaula, Alabama, whose passing on March 5, 2025, at the age of 77, has left a void in the lives of his loving family and friends and the entire community, where he was highly regarded; and

WHEREAS, Allen Thomas was born on August 13, 1947, in Barbour County, Alabama, to the late Clinton and Mamie Griffin Thomas; he pursued his education at Van Buren School and graduated from Dr. TV McCoo High School in 1965; from an early age, he embraced his faith as a devoted member and Deacon of Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, on June 11, 1966, Mr. Thomas married his beloved wife and lifelong partner, Rena Mae Drewery Thomas, sharing a union of love and devotion for more than 58 years; and

WHEREAS, in 1969, he answered the call to serve, enlisting in the U.S. Army at Fort Benning, Georgia, where he bravely fought in the Vietnam War and later continued his military career in the Alabama Army National Guard, retiring as a Sergeant E5 after 21 years of dedicated service; and

WHEREAS, throughout his military career, Mr. Thomas



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29 earned numerous honors, including the Army Commendation  
30 Medal, two Bronze Star Medals, the Purple Heart Medal, the  
31 Vietnam Service Medal, and the National Defense Service  
32 Ribbon, among many others, recognizing his exemplary service  
33 and sacrifice; and

34 WHEREAS, in 1974, he pursued higher education at  
35 Auburn University and Alabama State University, later using  
36 his expertise as a Brick Masonry Instructor at the Eufaula  
37 Area Vocational School, mentoring future generations; and

38 WHEREAS, he dedicated over 40 years as a Master Brick  
39 Mason, leaving his mark on numerous landmarks, including  
40 Zion Hill Baptist Church, Eufaula High School, Auburn High  
41 School, Ventress Prison, and the Eufaula Post Office; and

42 WHEREAS, Allen Thomas was a man of faith, integrity,  
43 dedication, and selfless service, whose legacy will continue  
44 to inspire all who knew him; and

45 WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents,  
46 Clinton and Marnie Thomas; brothers, Clinton Thomas, Jr. and  
47 Sylvester Thomas; and sisters, Mary Thomas and Betty  
48 Parkman; and

49 WHEREAS, left to cherish his memory are his loving  
50 wife; devoted goddaughters and caregivers, Lillie Gilbert  
51 (Bobby) and Cawana Calloway (Felix); goddaughters, Jackie  
52 Pierce (Leotis), Shanda (Britt) Paige, Star Thomas, Mary Eva  
53 Upshaw (Christopher), Tammy Irving (Ricky), and Yolanda  
54 Kelly; god-grandchildren, Aalyiah and Brandy Deloach, and  
55 Consuela Allen; nephews, Jessie Parkman and James Maurice  
56 Thomas (Tiffany); god-sister, Eunice Eddy (Justin); sisters,



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57 Annie Kelly and Ernestine Beatty (Larry); brother, James  
58 Thomas (Gloria); brother-in-law, Earnest Parkman, Sr.;  
59 sister-in-law, Lillie Maude McClendon; devoted friends and  
60 neighbors, Louis and Michelle Hill; and a host of nieces,  
61 nephews, relatives, and friends; and

62 WHEREAS, a valued member of the community and loved  
63 by many, his passion for life will be remembered fondly; we  
64 join with others to celebrate his life and to mourn his  
65 death; although his presence will be greatly missed, his  
66 memory will be cherished in the hearts and minds of those  
67 who were fortunate to know him; now therefore,

68 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
69 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the death of Mr. Allen Thomas  
70 is recorded with deep sadness, and this resolution is  
71 offered in tribute to his life, along with heartfelt  
72 sympathy to his grieving family.