

HR200 INTRODUCED



1 HR200
2 11VC2ZL-1
3 By Representatives Jackson, Bracy
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 03-Apr-25



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HR_____ MOURNING THE DEATH AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DEACON
WILLIE FRANK WILLIAMS.

WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the death of Deacon Willie Frank Williams of Winn, Alabama, on March 30, 2025, at the age of 83; and

WHEREAS, his departure leaves a void in the lives of his loving family, many friends, and the community where he was highly regarded; and

WHEREAS, Willie Frank Williams was the youngest sibling born to Genoa Hannon Williams and Isaac Lewis Williams on April 1, 1941, in Winn; both of his parents were educators in the one-room school house, and he subsequently began his formal education at the age of three; and

WHEREAS, Deacon Williams accepted Christ at an early age and was a lifelong faithful and dedicated member of Bethlehem Baptist Church in Winn; he served in various capacities, including Deacon, Sunday School Superintendent, Sunday School Teacher, and Clerk; he was also a member of the Bethlehem Lodge #139, which later merged with the Jackson Masonic Lodge #866; he served his community as a member of the boards of the Clarke County Department of Human Resources and the Clarke Washington Electric Membership Corporation; and he was a member of the Clarke County Democratic Executive Committee; and



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29 WHEREAS, Deacon Williams followed in his parents'
30 footsteps and became an educator; he received a Bachelor of
31 Science Degree from Alabama State University; he began his
32 career as a classroom teacher at the age of 19 at Wilson
33 Hall Middle School in Grove Hill, Alabama; he completed his
34 Master of Education Degree from the University of West
35 Alabama, then Livingston University, and his Education
36 Specialist Degree from The University of Alabama; and

37 WHEREAS, affectionately known by his students as
38 "Chief," Deacon Williams spent his entire career as an
39 educator in Grove Hill, advancing to the role of Supervisor
40 and retiring as the first Black Assistant Superintendent of
41 Education for the Clarke County Board of Education in May
42 2005 after 44 years of service; he was featured in a Brown
43 v. Board of Education lecture given by Vanderbilt University
44 Professor, Dr. H. Richard Milner, because he was one of a
45 few teachers still living who had taught in both segregated
46 and desegregated schools; and

47 WHEREAS, Deacon Williams was preceded in death by his
48 sister, Helen Ruth Baldwin; brother, Daniel Tyler Williams;
49 nephew, Morris Lee Baldwin; and nieces, Quindra Williams-Law
50 and Beverly Ann Baldwin-Law; he will be lovingly remembered
51 by his devoted wife of 61 years, Verna Scruggs Williams;
52 daughters, Valerie Bonita Creagh (Alphonse), Sandra Valencia
53 Spence (Darrin), and Dr. Sheneka Maria Williams; grandchild,
54 JaMarlin DeNario Williams (Melissa); brother, Isaac Othello
55 Williams; and a host of in-laws, other relatives, and close
56 friends; and



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57 WHEREAS, although his presence will be greatly
58 missed, the memory of Deacon Williams will be cherished in
59 the hearts of all who knew and loved him; now therefore,

60 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
61 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the death of Deacon Willie
62 Frank Williams is recorded with deep sadness, and this
63 resolution is offered to his family in tribute to his life
64 and with heartfelt sympathy to his loved ones whose grief is
65 shared by many.

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