

## HR242 INTRODUCED



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2     SL2MB77-1

3     By Representatives Clarke, Jones, Bracy, Pringle, Drummond,

4     Brown, Stringer, Wilcox, Shirey

5     RFD:

6     First Read: 15-Apr-25



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4 HR\_\_\_\_\_ MOURNING THE DEATH AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF FORMER  
5 STATE REPRESENTATIVE MARY STEPHENS ZOGHBY.  
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7 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the  
8 death of former State Representative Mary Stephens Zoghby of  
9 Mobile, Alabama, on April 12, 2025, at the age of 86; and

10 WHEREAS, her departure leaves a void in the lives of  
11 her loving family, many friends, and the community where she  
12 was highly regarded; and

13 WHEREAS, Mary Elizabeth Stephens was born on July 23,  
14 1938, in Gulfport, Mississippi; she was a lifelong and  
15 devoted Catholic and attended St. John's High School in  
16 Gulfport; she matriculated to the newly established  
17 University of South Alabama in Mobile and became a member of  
18 St. Pius X Catholic Church; and

19 WHEREAS, Mary Zoghby was an advertising executive  
20 before running for a seat in the Alabama House of  
21 Representatives in 1978 on a desegregation platform; she was  
22 a dedicated public servant until 1994; and

23 WHEREAS, in 1985, Mary Zoghby was the chief sponsor  
24 of legislation that restructured the Mobile governance from  
25 an at-large, three commissioner system of city government to  
26 a mayor/council form of government, which also required that  
27 Mobile's budget be balanced; the adoption of the new  
28 government helped resolve decades of litigation involving



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voter suppression; the residents of Mobile affectionately dubbed this legislation the "Zoghby Act"; and

WHEREAS, after leaving political office, Mary Zoghby remained a committed public servant in her community; she retired after two decades of service with the Boys and Girls Clubs of South Alabama, serving six years as its Resource Development Director and 14 years as Executive Director; she was recognized as Mobile's First Lady in 1986, Mobilian of the Year in 1996, and was the recipient of the Liberty Bell Award; she served on numerous charitable boards, including AltaPointe Health Systems, Catholic Social Services, the Mobile Lion's Club, and the Children's Policy Council; and

WHEREAS, Mary Zoghby's life was characterized by intelligence, compassion, and an unwavering commitment to her community; she was predeceased by her husband, Mitchell P. Zoghby; and sister, Patti A. Stephens; her memory will be lovingly cherished by numerous nieces, nephews, friends, neighbors, and former colleagues; and

WHEREAS, although her presence will be greatly missed, the contributions of Mary Zoghby left an indelible mark on Mobile and will be remembered in the hearts of all who knew and loved her; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the death of former State Representative Mary Stephens Zoghby is recorded with deep sadness, and this resolution is offered to her family in tribute to her life and with heartfelt sympathy to her loved ones whose grief is shared by many.



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