

# HR77 INTRODUCED



1 HR77  
2 L5ZHGY-1  
3 By Representative Boyd  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 18-Feb-25



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HR\_\_\_\_\_ COMMENDING RONALD LEE AND JOAN GARRETT ON BEING NAMED  
WILLIE AND BETTY FARRIOR FAMILY FOUNDATION HONOREES.

WHEREAS, highest commendations are extended to Ronald  
Lee and Joan Garrett for being recognized as Willie and  
Betty Farrior Family Foundation Honorees for their many  
contributions to their community; and

WHEREAS, the foundation is named in honor of Willie  
Farrior, the first African American hired by the Alabama  
Institute for Deaf and Blind (AIDB) and the first African  
American to be recognized as Blind Worker of the Year in  
1973; in 1974, he was promoted to training instructor and  
became the first Black assistant supervisor for AIDB in  
1979; in 2017, the foundation was established by his  
daughter, Mary Louise Farrior-White and grandson, Retired  
Colonel Cedrick A. Farrior; the foundation recognizes  
certain individuals who have selflessly contributed their  
time for the betterment of their community; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Lee Garrett and Joan Garrett are  
graduates of the Alabama School for the Blind in Talladega,  
Alabama; Ronald attended Auburn University and The  
University of Alabama in Birmingham, receiving a Bachelor of  
Education, Master of Education, and Education Specialist  
degree; Joan is a graduate of The University of Alabama in  
Birmingham, Jacksonville State University, and Gadsden State



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29 Community College; and

30 WHEREAS, Ronald served as Principal of the Alabama  
31 School for the Blind; Joan served as the Regional Director  
32 of the Talladega Regional Center Alabama Institute for the  
33 Deaf and Blind of Talladega, Alabama; and

34 WHEREAS, community involvement for the couple  
35 includes, but is not limited to, the following: AIDB alumni  
36 works, American Association for the Education and  
37 Rehabilitation for the Blind and Visually Impaired, the Red  
38 Door Kitchen Board of Directors, Alabama Institute for the  
39 Deaf and Blind Board of Trustees, President of Local and  
40 State Alabama Council of the Blind Organization, Exie Hill  
41 Service Awards from the Alabama Council of the Blind,  
42 Marguerite McKennon Service Award, and active members of  
43 Central Baptist Church; now therefore,

44 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
45 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That highest honors and  
46 commendations are given to Ronald Lee and Joan Garrett for  
47 their distinguished service in their community and for being  
48 recognized as Willie and Betty Farrior Family Foundation  
49 Honorees, and we offer this resolution as a token of our  
50 gratitude and as evidence of our sincere appreciation and  
51 high regard.