

HR49 INTRODUCED



1 HR49
2 FKWJ1DC-1
3 By Representative McClammy
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 22-Jan-26



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4 HR_____ MOURNING THE DEATH AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF FORMER
5 EDUCATOR JOHN BRADFORD.

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7 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the
8 passing of John Bradford in Montgomery, Alabama, on January
9 15, 2026, while we also celebrate the ways he spent his life
10 serving others; and

11 WHEREAS, John Bradford was a man whose life was
12 defined by faith, service, curiosity, and love, leaving a
13 lasting impact on his family, church, students, and
14 community; and

15 WHEREAS, he began his spiritual journey at Morning
16 Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church; he later became a
17 faithful and devoted member of Stonetank Antioch Baptist
18 Church on Old Selma Road, where he served with dedication
19 and was ordained as a Deacon on December 10, 2000; and

20 WHEREAS, John was among the first students to
21 integrate Sidney Lanier High School, graduating in 1970 and
22 quietly making history through his dignity, intelligence,
23 and determination; and

24 WHEREAS, he dedicated his professional life to
25 education and service, beginning his career at LaGrange Boys
26 Junior High School, where he served as an administrative
27 assistant, team leader, and teacher from 1974 until 1990;
28 and

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29 WHEREAS, he served the Montgomery Public School
30 System as an educator at Cloverdale Junior High School from
31 1991 to 2002 and Jefferson Davis High School from 2002 to
32 2005; and

33 WHEREAS, he later became a mathematics professor at
34 Alabama State University, serving until 2023, where he was
35 widely respected for his brilliance, patience,
36 encouragement, and warm sense of humor, often reminding
37 students that they were "cooking with gas"; and

38 WHEREAS, John Bradford's love of learning extended
39 beyond the classroom, as he was a gifted mathematician with
40 a sharp mind, a passion for problem-solving, and an enduring
41 intellectual curiosity; and

42 WHEREAS, he continued his commitment to hard work
43 even after retirement by working during the summer months as
44 a mover for a bonding company, reflecting his tireless
45 spirit and strong work ethic; and

46 WHEREAS, John also served his community with
47 compassion as a funeral director at Phillips-Riley Funeral
48 Home from 1982 to 2021; and

49 WHEREAS, on March 17, 2000, he was initiated into
50 Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, an honor he
51 carried with pride and distinction; and

52 WHEREAS, he also found great joy in fishing and
53 traveling, especially alongside his beloved wife, finding
54 peace in nature, movement, and shared experiences; and

55 WHEREAS, John's love story with Earnestine Fletcher
56 Bradford reflected faith and divine timing, as their paths

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57 first crossed in youth, separated, and later reunited,
58 resulting in 29 years of marriage filled with devotion,
59 companionship, laughter, and love; she stood faithfully by
60 his side until his final breath; and

61 WHEREAS, his life was a blessing, and he will be
62 lovingly remembered by the countless lives he touched; now
63 therefore,

64 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
65 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the death of Mr. John Bradford
66 is recorded with deep sadness, and even as we mourn his
67 death and the loss it represents, we also celebrate his
68 faith, kindness, and spirit, which will remain a lasting
69 inspiration, carried forward by those he cherished so
70 dearly.