

1       HR38  
2       126758-1  
3       By Representative Jackson  
4       RFD:  
5       First Read: 08-MAR-11

MOURNING THE DEATH OF MR. EUGENE GARNER, JR.

WHEREAS, with profound sorrow and regret, we receive news of the death of Mr. Eugene "Honey Bunch" Garner, Jr., of Sunflower, Alabama, on February 8, 2011, at the age of 78 years; and

WHEREAS, the passing of Mr. Garner leaves a void in the lives of his loving family, his many friends, and the entire community, where he was well-known and highly regarded as a civic leader and businessman; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Preswick High School in Washington County, he served with honor and distinction as a medic in the United States Army, stationed in Tokyo, Japan, from 1953-1957; upon returning home, he attended Spaulding Business College in Mobile; he retired after a 35-year career with Olin Chemical and was also the owner and operator of Garner Wrecker Service of Sunflower for 35 years; and

WHEREAS, among his roles of community leadership, Mr. Garner was the first charter member of the NAACP chapter in Washington County and served as president for approximately

1       20 years; he was a member of Mt. Shady A.M.E. Zion Church of  
2       Sunflower; and

3               WHEREAS, he is survived by his devoted wife of 58  
4       years, Mary Ludgood Garner; daughters, Norma (Marion) Seals  
5       and Cecelia (Manuel) Goodwin; son, Roberria (JoAnn) Garner;  
6       mother, Ruth B. Massey; nine grandchildren; three  
7       great-grandchildren; six sisters, Ruth Vaughn, Rubye  
8       Gilchrist, Jestine (Lemuel) Dickinson, Annie Bumpers, Betty  
9       (Phillip) Leslie, and Bernice (Alphonse) Davis; two brothers,  
10      John (Carolyn) Massey and George (Clotile) Massey; and

11              WHEREAS, preceding him in death were his adopted  
12      parents, Naomi and Eugene Garner; daughter, Hilda Garner Cox;  
13      son, Eugene Garner, III; and stepfather, Benjamin Massey; and

14              WHEREAS, Mr. Garner was a valued member of the  
15      community; although his presence will be missed, his memory  
16      will be cherished in the hearts and minds of those who were  
17      fortunate to know him; now therefore,

18              BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
19      THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the death of Mr. Eugene  
20      Garner, Jr., is recorded with deep sadness, and this  
21      resolution is offered in highest tribute to his life, along  
22      with heartfelt sympathy to his grieving family.