

1 HR450
2 153471-1
3 By Representatives Bracy, Grimsley, Jackson, Forte, Colston,
4 McClammy, Moore (M), Robinson (O), Scott and McAdory
5 RFD: Rules
6 First Read: 07-MAY-13

8 EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF TAMARA
9 HARRIS JOHNSON AND URGING THE PRESIDENT TO APPOINT AND THE
10 SENATE TO CONFIRM MS. JOHNSON TO THE U.S. DISTRICT COURT,
11 NORTHERN DISTRICT.

12
13 WHEREAS, there are three U.S. District Courts in the
14 State of Alabama: Northern, Middle, and Southern; and

15 WHEREAS, currently, there is a U.S. District Court
16 judicial vacancy on the Northern District Court, which was
17 created on March 10, 1824, and, in its 189-year history, only
18 two African-Americans, both male, have served as U.S. District
19 Court Judges; and

20 WHEREAS, in the history of the three U.S. District
21 Courts in Alabama, an African-American female has never been
22 appointed to serve any of the three courts; and

23 WHEREAS, it is critically important that the courts
24 reflect the diversity of the communities they serve, as true
25 diversity through qualifications, life experience, and
26 personal factors such as age, race, ethnicity, and gender,
27 significantly reduce the affects of discrimination and the

1 manner in which the administration of justice is perceived;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, the symbol of Lady Justice, blindfolded and
4 balancing scales, symbolizes the need for judicial balance in
5 qualifications, life experience, and diverse personal factors;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, the citizens of the Northern District of
8 Alabama and the State of Alabama want and deserve a U.S.
9 District Court Judge who encompasses the balance of
10 qualifications, trial experience, and life experience and
11 whose appointment further diversifies the federal court; and

12 WHEREAS, the citizens of the Northern District have
13 identified Tamara Harris Johnson as their choice in being
14 appointed as a U.S. District Court Judge in the Northern
15 District, as she possesses broad and varied trial experience,
16 legal qualifications, and life experience in addition to being
17 an African-American female, and she is identified as being
18 uniquely qualified to best represent the citizens of the
19 Northern District of Alabama; and

20 WHEREAS, this body represents the citizens of
21 Alabama and promotes all things that are in the best interests
22 of the persons we serve, individually and collectively, and we
23 serve as the voice of the people to promote the will of the
24 people; now therefore,

25 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
26 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we urge the President of the
27 United States to nominate Tamara Harris Johnson to serve as a

1 U.S. District Court Judge for the Northern District of
2 Alabama, and we urge the U.S. Senate to confirm her
3 nomination.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this
5 resolution be provided to President Barack Obama and the
6 members of the Alabama Delegation of the U.S. Senate to
7 express our support for Tamara Harris Johnson to become the
8 next U.S. District Court Judge for the Northern District of
9 Alabama.