

1 HJR4
2 216051-2
3 By Representative Paschal
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 11-JAN-22

MOURNING THE DEATH OF COLONEL (RETIRED) CLINTON
JAMES BLACK.

WHEREAS, Colonel (Retired) Clinton James Black,
servant of God and citizen of Temple Hills, Maryland, departed
this life on Friday, December 17, 2021, at the age of 82, and
left a great void in the lives of family, friends, and fellow
residents of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Black began his formative years in
Beatrice, Alabama, born on December 19, 1938, as the fifth of
seven children to Billie Black and V. Oweda Black; he was
inspired to further his education and follow in the footsteps
of his elder siblings at the historic Tuskegee Institute; and

WHEREAS, he matriculated at Tuskegee Institute, now
Tuskegee University, where he graduated with honors and was
awarded a Bachelor of Science Degree in Electronics in 1963
and subsequently earned a Direct Commission in the United
States Army; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Black served nearly three decades
of dedicated and distinguished service in numerous units and

1 commands, including two tours in Vietnam, and he was a
2 decorated officer with the Bronze Star and other medals and
3 ribbons, including the Joint Chiefs of Staff Badge and the
4 Parachutist Badge; and

5 WHEREAS, he was inducted into the inaugural class of
6 the Tuskegee University Reserve Officers' Training Corps Hall
7 of Fame in 2016; and

8 WHEREAS, Colonel Black's legacy continued through
9 his son, Colonel (Retired) United States Air Force, Michael B.
10 Black, a 1985 graduate of the United States Air Force Academy,
11 who received an appointment to the United States Air Force
12 Academy from Congressman Jack Edwards from Alabama's 1st
13 Congressional District; and

14 WHEREAS, Colonel Black's legacy further continues
15 through his grandson, Captain Clinton M. Black, United States
16 Space Force, a 2017 graduate of the United States Air Force
17 Academy; and

18 WHEREAS, Colonel Black was preceded in death by his
19 parents; brothers, Bradley F. Black and Billy C. Black, Ph.D.;
20 and sisters, Crystal Brown and Velma Pace; and

21 WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife, Rhutelia
22 McCants Black; son, Colonel (Retired) Michael B. Black
23 (Wilda); daughters, Michelle Black and Marcia Black;
24 grandchildren, Jordan Black, Captain Clinton M. Black, and
25 Hannah Black; siblings, Dan T. Black, Ph.D. (Maude) and Dovie
26 Holliman (Charles); many nieces, nephews, and cousins;
27 in-laws, Cecil Pace and Helen Jennings Black; and friends; and

1 WHEREAS, Colonel Black's leadership, mentorship, and
2 commitment to the professional development of those that
3 followed him allows them the potential to achieve even more
4 success than he achieved; and

5 WHEREAS, although his presence will be greatly
6 missed, the memory of Colonel Black will be cherished in the
7 hearts of all who knew and loved him; now therefore,

8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
9 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Colonel (Retired)
10 Clinton James Black is recorded with deep sadness, and this
11 resolution is offered in tribute to his life, along with
12 heartfelt sympathy to his family, whose grief is shared by
13 many.