HR20

81LK2F2-1

By Representatives Hall, Wilcox

RFD: RULES

First Read: 07-Feb-24

HR____ RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY 7, 2024, AS NATIONAL BLACK HIV AND AIDS AWARENESS DAY.

WHEREAS, National Black HIV and AIDS Awareness Day (NBHAAD), observed nationally every February 7th since 1999, was created to bring more awareness to HIV and AIDS within Black communities; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, Black and African Americans accounted for 41 percent of the estimated 34,800 HIV infections in the United States and dependent areas, even though Black and African Americans represent only 12 percent of the U.S. population; and

WHEREAS, societal and structural factors increase the risk of HIV acquisition and poor treatment outcomes, contributing to the disproportionate impact of HIV on Black and African American populations; and

WHEREAS, to fully respond to the impact of HIV on Black and African Americans, the HIV public health enterprise must increase Black and African American representation across the research, public health, and health services workforce; and

WHEREAS, this year's theme of NBHAAD is *Engage, Educate, Empower: Uniting to End HIV/Aids in Black Communities*; and

WHEREAS, on NBHAAD and throughout the year, the

people of Alabama are encouraged to *Engage* by discussing ways to better involve the Black community in HIV and AIDS prevention and treatment efforts; *Educate* by focusing on improving HIV and AIDS education among Black youth and adults; and *Empower* by highlighting success stories and strategies that have effectively empowered Black individuals living with HIV or AIDS; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we recognize February 7, 2024, as National Black HIV and AIDS Awareness Day in the State of Alabama and commend its observance to all citizens.