HR103

1Q46ZL3-1

By Representative Boyd

RFD:

First Read: 06-Mar-24

HR____ HONORING JOHNNY FRANK MCKINNEY FOR HIS RECOGNITION BY THE WILLIE AND BETTY FARRIOR FAMILY FOUNDATION FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO HIS COMMUNITY.

WHEREAS, highest commendations are herein presented to Johnny Frank McKinney who will be honored by the Willie and Betty Farrior Family Foundation for outstanding service to the Talladega Community and the great State of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, the Willie and Betty Farrior Family Foundation is a nonprofit organization established in March 2017 by Colonel (Retired) Cedrick A. Farrior in memory of his grandparents; both were native Alabamians who unfortunately lost their vision at an early age; they attended the Alabama School for the Negro Deaf and Blind in Talladega, Alabama, and they married in October 1945; Willie became the first Black blind individual to be employed at the Alabama Industries for the Blind in June 1950; Willie Farrior was employed until he retired after 40 years, and Betty Farrior retired after 27 years of employment; their persistence for excellence despite having to overcome many obstacles and their commitment to serving others made lasting impressions that are still present today; and

WHEREAS, the Willie and Betty Farrior Family

Foundation was founded to promote the idea of "selfless service with a purpose" and to inspire and support the community; in addition to providing Foundation Scholarships and a Front of The Line Pre-Apprenticeship Program, they recognize individuals who are making a difference through tremendous efforts and achievements in the Talladega Community; and

WHEREAS, one such outstanding individual deserving of recognition for his community leadership is Johnny Frank McKinney; born on October 4, 1952, to Katie Mae and Frank McKinney, he was educated in Talladega and a member of the first graduating class after the full integration of Talladega High School in 1971; and

WHEREAS, subsequently, Dr. McKinney joined the United States Navy and demonstrated loyalty, duty, selfless service, and integrity until his honorable discharge; he became employed with the Department of Defense and retired after 28 years of Federal Civilian Service at Fort McClellan where he worked as the Transportation Motor Pool Officer; and

WHEREAS, Dr. McKinney earned an Associate Degree from Gadsden State Community College and a Bachelor Degree in Theology from Birmingham Baptist Bible College; he was later awarded an Honorary Doctorate Degree from Rushing Springs School of Theology in Sylacauga; and

WHEREAS, he has served as Pastor of the Rocky Mount Missionary Baptist Church since March of 1991; he and his wife, Josephine McKinney, are committed to their church

family and faithfully lead them in community outreach projects; and

WHEREAS, he is very involved in his community and a member of many organizations, including NAACP, AARP, the Talladega County Democratic Conference, and the Knoxville Improvement Association; he has served as both the 2nd Vice President and Secretary of the Northeast District State Convention, and is a past instructor for the Alabama State Congress of Christian Education; and

WHEREAS, Dr. McKinney is currently the Dean of the Rushing Springs School of Theology and an instructor of the Certificate of Progress Program for the Congress of Christian Education at the Rushing Springs District Center; he served as Moderator of the Rushing Springs District Association from 2010-2018; and

WHEREAS, Dr. McKinney serves a Trustee for Selma University, a Chaplain at Citizens Baptist Medical Center, and an appointed board member for the Talladega Housing Authority; his commitment to education has extended to working as a substitute teacher for the Talladega City School System; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we heartily congratulate Mr. Johnny Frank McKinney on being honored by the Willie and Betty Farrior Family Foundation for his outstanding service to the Talladega Community and the State of Alabama, and this resolution is offered with utmost appreciation to him, along with best wishes in all future endeavors.