

HJR167 INTRODUCED



1 HJR167
2 3PN9YVV-1
3 By Representatives Givan, Sellers, Datcher, Morris, Forte,
4 Moore (M), Lawrence, Jackson, Lands, Travis, Bracy, Boyd,
5 Warren, Tillman, Hassell, Drummond
6 RFD: Rules
7 First Read: 20-Mar-25



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4 HJR____ URGING GOVERNOR IVEY TO FOLLOW THROUGH ON DISCUSSIONS
5 WITH SARAH COLLINS RUDOLPH AND HER ATTORNEYS.

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7 WHEREAS, on September 15, 1963, the terrorist group,
8 Ku Klux Klan, bombed the 16th Street Baptist Church in
9 Birmingham; this horrific act left four young girls dead,
10 one young girl maimed for life, both physically and
11 emotionally, and the community and families bereft and in
12 fear of further acts of terror; and

13 WHEREAS, Sarah Collins Rudolph, the "fifth girl" who
14 lived, was only 12 years old at the time of the bombing;
15 glass from the bombing flew like shrapnel into her face,
16 arms, and chest; she lost sight in one eye and still bears
17 the scars on her body from the glass; she was hospitalized
18 for two months and lost her older sister, Addie Mae, to the
19 bombing; she did not know then that she would lose more than
20 her eye; she lost her dream of becoming a nurse due to her
21 disability; and

22 WHEREAS, in 2019, Attorney Ishan Bhabha penned a
23 letter to Governor Ivey requesting an apology and a
24 conversation about the event and its repercussions on Ms.
25 Collins Rudolph, seeking justice in whatever form that
26 takes; in her response, Governor Ivey offered a sincere and
27 heartfelt apology; she also assured Ms. Collins Rudolph and
28 her attorney that attorneys for the Governor's office and

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29 the Legislature would begin such discussions as soon as
30 possible; and

31 WHEREAS, in the six years that have followed that
32 assurance, Ms. Collins Rudolph continues to be overlooked by
33 the state; now therefore,

34 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
35 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That this body supports the
36 acknowledgment of Sarah Collins Rudolph's lasting injuries,
37 both physical and mental, and urges Governor Ivey to follow
38 through on the discussions that she assured would take place
39 between the attorneys of the interested parties.