

HR113 INTRODUCED



1 HR113
2 6YS8D11-1
3 By Representative Warren
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 10-Feb-26



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4 HR _____ RECOGNIZING THE BLACK PIONEERS OF MACON COUNTY.

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6 WHEREAS, it is with profound appreciation and deepest
7 admiration that we recognize four outstanding individuals
8 who have not only made a positive impact on the people of
9 Macon County, but they have also served as distinguished
10 pillars of a community that supports fairness, advancements,
11 and opportunities of all African Americans; and

12 WHEREAS, Lucy Mae Young Calloway, Walter Lee Cooley,
13 Johnnie Barnett Harrison, and Michael Wilson will be honored
14 for their contributions at noon on Saturday, February 21,
15 2026, at Mt. Nebo Missionary Baptist Church in Tuskegee,
16 Alabama; and

17 WHEREAS, Lucy Mae Young Calloway was born in the Ft.
18 Davis community of Macon County and graduated from the
19 former Macon County Training School in Roba; Mrs. Calloway
20 joined Mt. Nebo Missionary Baptist Church at an early age
21 and faithfully served in various capacities over the years;
22 she married her loving husband, James M. "Bud" Calloway in
23 August 1952, and they had 63 happy years together until Mr.
24 Calloway's death in 2015; Mrs. Calloway worked at John
25 Andrew Memorial Hospital until its closure, then was
26 employed with the Macon County/Tuskegee Public Library; she
27 was an original member of the The El Quien Sabe Social Club,
28 which hosted debutante balls in the 1960s and '70s; she is

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29 also a member of the Eastern Star; and

30 WHEREAS, Walter Lee Cooley was born in Randolph
31 County on August 25, 1928; following graduation, he elected
32 to serve his country by enlisting in the United States Armed
33 Forces; in April 1954, he married Tuskegee native Rosa
34 Allen, and they have enjoyed 71 blessed years of marriage;
35 Mr. Cooley retired after 20 years of honorable and
36 distinguished service, which included deployments during the
37 Korean and Vietnam conflicts, as well as teaching at West
38 Point Military Academy; after his military career, he served
39 as an Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps instructor for
40 Macon County schools for 20 years, spending most of that
41 time at his beloved South Macon High School; Deacon Cooley
42 has been a faithful member of the Shady Grove Missionary
43 Baptist Church in Tuskegee for more than 50 years; at 97
44 years old, he still keeps the church and cemetery grounds in
45 pristine condition; over the years, Mr. Cooley has also
46 owned several successful local businesses; and

47 WHEREAS, Johnnie Barnett Harrison was born on
48 December 25, 1936, in Roanoke, Alabama; she was educated in
49 the Macon County Public Schools and obtained Bachelor's and
50 Master's Degrees from Tuskegee University; she also earned
51 an Education Specialist Degree from Auburn University at
52 Montgomery; Ms. Harrison worked in various capacities for
53 the Macon County Public School System and the State of
54 Alabama, with her career in education spanning more than 40
55 years; in retirement, she continues to serve as a board
56 member for the Tuskegee Housing Authority, Macon County

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57 Council on Rehabilitation, and Macon County Community
58 Action; in addition, Ms. Harrison is a member of Zeta Phi
59 Beta Sorority's Alpha Xi Zeta Chapter and Phi Delta Kappa
60 Sorority; she is also a founding and very active member of
61 Bowen United Methodist Church; and

62 WHEREAS, Michael Wilson was born in Chicago,
63 Illinois, and moved with his family to Montgomery, Alabama,
64 as a child; upon graduation from high school, he attended
65 Alabama State University, earning a degree in Sociology in
66 1969; the same year, Mr. Wilson married the lovely Marion
67 Harrison; he worked as a teacher before entering the
68 corporate world as an Assistant Personnel Manager of a
69 textile mill in Anniston; he continued corporate employment
70 until he retired as Senior Vice President of Labo Relations
71 in 2009; throughout his career, Mr. Wilson was passionate
72 about helping seniors attain health insurance to meet their
73 needs; he worked tirelessly until he helped each of his
74 senior clients receive health insurance; and

75 WHEREAS, these four individuals have served Macon
76 County with exemplary devotion and impeccable character; now
77 therefore,

78 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
79 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we most highly commend Lucy
80 Calloway, Walter Cooley, Johnnie Harrison, and Michael
81 Wilson for their faithful dedication to their community, and
82 we extend to them our heartfelt gratitude and sincere best
83 wishes for continued health, happiness, and fulfillment in
84 their future endeavors.