

1 HJR127
2 218548-1
3 By Representatives Rogers, Alexander, Allen, Almond, Baker,
4 Ball, Bedsole, Blackshear, Boyd, Bracy, Brown (C), Brown (K),
5 Carns, Chestnut, Clarke, Clouse, Coleman, Collins, Crawford,
6 Daniels, Dismukes, Drake, Drummond, Easterbrook, Ellis,
7 England, Estes, Farley, Faulkner, Faust, Fincher, Forte,
8 Garrett, Gaston, Givan, Gray, Greer, Grimsley, Hall, Hanes,
9 Harbison, Hassell, Hill, Hollis, Holmes, Howard, Hurst,
10 Ingram, Isbell, Jackson, Jones (M), Jones (S), Kiel, Kitchens,
11 Lawrence, Ledbetter, Lee, Lipscomb, Lovvorn, Marques,
12 McCampbell, McClammy, McCutcheon, McMillan, Meadows, Mooney,
13 Moore (M), Moore (P), Morris, Oliver, Paschal, Pettus,
14 Pringle, Rafferty, Reynolds, Rich, Robbins, Robertson,
15 Sanderford, Scott, Sells, Shaver, Shedd, Shiver, Simpson,
16 Smith, Sorrell, Sorrells, South, Stadthagen, Standridge,
17 Stringer, Sullivan, Treadaway, Wadsworth, Warren, Wheeler,
18 Whitt, Whorton, Wilcox, Wingo, Wood (D) and Wood (R)
19 RFD:
20 First Read: 08-MAR-22

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8 CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DR. AUTHERINE JUANITA LUCY
9 FOSTER, THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA'S FIRST BLACK STUDENT.

10
11 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the
12 death on March 2, 2022, of Dr. Autherine Juanita Lucy Foster,
13 The University of Alabama's first black student, at the age of
14 92; and

15 WHEREAS, her passing leaves a void in the lives of
16 her loving family, many friends, and the entire community,
17 where she was highly regarded; and

18 WHEREAS, Dr. Foster was born on October 5, 1929, in
19 Shiloh, Alabama; and

20 WHEREAS, in 1956, Dr. Foster briefly attended the
21 then all-white University of Alabama, where she was expelled
22 three days later after her presence brought protests and death
23 threats; a graduate student studying education, she had faced
24 hostile crowds hurling racially charged threats and debris;
25 later, The University of Alabama celebrated Dr. Foster's
26 legacy, her role in desegregating the institution, and her

1 bravery at a time when much of the deep south was still
2 segregated; and

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Foster's passing came less than one
4 week after The University of Alabama officials dedicated the
5 campus building where she briefly attended classes in her
6 honor; during the dedication ceremony, she was also proclaimed
7 a Master Teacher; she stated at the event, "If I am a master
8 teacher, what I hope I am teaching you is that love will take
9 care of everything in our world, don't you think? It's not
10 your color. It's not how bright you are. It's how you feel
11 about those that you deal with"; and

12 WHEREAS, in 2019, The University of Alabama honored
13 Dr. Foster with an Honorary Doctorate, where she had returned
14 and earned a Master's Degree in Education in 1992; recently,
15 University President Stuart R. Bell said in a statement, "Dr.
16 Foster will always be remembered as one who broke barriers,
17 reminded us of the respect due to every individual, and lived
18 a life of strength in steadfast service to her students and
19 community"; and

20 WHEREAS, although her presence will be greatly
21 missed, the memory of Dr. Foster will be cherished in the
22 hearts of all who knew and loved her; she is one of the most
23 dedicated and remarkable leaders who has ever lived, and the
24 incredible legacy that she created continues to inspire and
25 uplift the lives of many; now therefore,

26 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
27 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Dr. Aurtherine

1 Juanita Lucy Foster, The University of Alabama's first black
2 student, is recorded with deep sadness, and this resolution is
3 offered in tribute to her life, along with heartfelt sympathy
4 to her family, whose grief is shared by many.