

1 HJR127
2 218548-2
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

1
2 ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,

3 CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DR. AUTHERINE JUANITA LUCY
4 FOSTER, THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA'S FIRST BLACK STUDENT.
5

6 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that we note the
7 death on March 2, 2022, of Dr. Autherine Juanita Lucy Foster,
8 The University of Alabama's first black student, at the age of
9 92; and

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

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

15 WHEREAS, in 1956, Dr. Foster briefly attended the
16 then all-white University of Alabama, where she was expelled
17 three days later after her presence brought protests and death
18 threats; a graduate student studying education, she had faced
19 hostile crowds hurling racially charged threats and debris;
20 later, The University of Alabama celebrated Dr. Foster's
21 legacy, her role in desegregating the institution, and her
22 bravery at a time when much of the deep south was still
23 segregated; and

24 WHEREAS, Dr. Foster's passing came less than one
25 week after The University of Alabama officials dedicated the

1 campus building where she briefly attended classes in her
2 honor; during the dedication ceremony, she was also proclaimed
3 a Master Teacher; she stated at the event, "If I am a master
4 teacher, what I hope I am teaching you is that love will take
5 care of everything in our world, don't you think? It's not
6 your color. It's not how bright you are. It's how you feel
7 about those that you deal with"; and

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

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

22 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
23 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the death of Dr. Atherine
24 Juanita Lucy Foster, The University of Alabama's first black
25 student, is recorded with deep sadness, and this resolution is

1 offered in tribute to her life, along with heartfelt sympathy
2 to her family, whose grief is shared by many.

