

HR15 INTRODUCED



1 N69LT8-1
2 By Representative Warren
3 RFD:
4 First Read: 21-Jul-23
5 2023 Second Special Session



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HR___ HONORING MRS. JOSEPHINE VIOLA WALKER WALTON ON HER
100TH BIRTHDAY.

WHEREAS, with very special pleasure, we highly honor
Mrs. Josephine "Jo" Walker Walton on the occasion of her
100th Birthday on August 22, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Walton graduated from Ballard High
School as valedictorian; earned an Associate of Arts Degree
from Talladega College in Talladega, Alabama, in 1944; and
pursued graduate study in the School of Religion at Howard
University in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Walton and Allen Walton were united in
holy matrimony in Macon on June 16, 1945, and they moved to
Tuskegee, Alabama, on June 30, 1945; their union was blessed
with four children, eight grandchildren, nine
great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Walton was initiated into Delta Sigma
Theta Sorority, Alpha Zeta Chapter at Talladega College on
November 15, 1941, and has remained active throughout the
years; she is a Golden Life Member; her first term as
President of the chapter was from 1952-1954, and her second
term as President of the Tuskegee Alumnae Chapter was from
1971-1974; notable accomplishments during her tenures as
President include receiving a visit from Founder Vashti
Turley Murphy in 1954, delegating to the National Convention



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29 in New York City in 1954, giving the Chapter's generous
30 contribution to the American Red Cross in 1971, receiving
31 presentation of the NAACP Life Membership Plaque to Chapter
32 by Reverend K.L. Buford in 1972, honoring Soror Artemesia
33 Junier as Zeta Woman of the Year with the presentation of a
34 Chapter gift in 1973, serving as the last sponsor of The
35 Friends of Delta and serving as President of The
36 Interfraternal Council; and

37 WHEREAS, Mrs. Walton taught in the Macon County
38 School System for six years prior to employment at the VA
39 Medical Center in Tuskegee as a Contract Specialist in the
40 Procurement Section of Supply Service; she retired from the
41 VA Medical Center after 30 years of service; and

42 WHEREAS, Mrs. Walton is a very active member of St.
43 Andrew's Episcopal Church and has served in many capacities,
44 including organist, Church School Teacher, Guild Chairman,
45 President of The Women of the Church, Lector, Lay
46 Eucharistic Minister, President and Director of the Senior
47 Choir, President of The Daughters of The King, Parish
48 Secretary, and a member of numerous Parish committees; in
49 addition, she has served on several Diocesan Commissions,
50 Committees, and Councils listed in the Episcopal Lay
51 Leadership Directory; she was the first woman of color to
52 serve as President of the Episcopal Church Women, Diocese of
53 Alabama; she received an award at the Triennial Meeting of
54 Episcopal Church Women in 2000 as Honored Woman in Alabama
55 for her service and ministry; in Church Women United, she
56 served as the first Black woman in Alabama to be elected as



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57 a national officer (2nd Vice President) after having
58 numerous leadership roles on the local, state, and regional
59 levels; and

60 WHEREAS, some of Mrs. Walton's other achievements
61 over the years include serving as the President of the
62 Tuskegee-Talladega Alumni Club and receiving an award for
63 leadership, involvement, and impact in the Tuskegee-Macon
64 County community in celebration of Women's History Month by
65 the AAUW and Coalition of 100 Black Women in 1995; and

66 WHEREAS, Mrs. Walton's hobbies and interests include
67 listening to music, playing the piano, reading, watching
68 movies, playing bridge, dancing, traveling, loving people,
69 exuding a positive attitude, and being involved in church
70 activities; and

71 WHEREAS, Mrs. Walton's goal is to be an ambassador
72 for Christ, Who is her anchor, her strength, her sustainer,
73 and the center of her life; she is indeed a remarkable woman
74 and centenarian and is deeply loved and appreciated by all
75 who know her; now therefore,

76 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
77 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That Mrs. Josephine "Jo" Walker
78 Walton is highly honored on the occasion of her 100th
79 Birthday, and we hereby dedicate this resolution to the
80 inspirational woman with warmest admiration and regard.