

HR75 INTRODUCED



1 HR75
2 MS4EFW1-1
3 By Representative Boyd
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 18-Feb-25



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HR_____ COMMENDING STEVLEN DICKERSON, SR. ON BEING NAMED A WILLIE AND BETTY FARRIOR FAMILY FOUNDATION HONOREE.

WHEREAS, highest commendations are extended to Stevlen Dickerson, Sr. for being recognized as a Willie and Betty Farris Family Foundation Honoree for his many contributions to his community; and

WHEREAS, the foundation is named in honor of Willie Farris, the first African American hired by the Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind (AIDB) and the first African American to be recognized as Blind Worker of the Year in 1973; in 1974, he was promoted to training instructor and became the first Black assistant supervisor for AIDB in 1979; in 2017, the foundation was established by his daughter, Mary Louise Farris-White and grandson, Retired Colonel Cedrick A. Farris; the foundation recognizes certain individuals who have selflessly contributed their time for the betterment of their community; and

WHEREAS, Stevlen Dickerson, Sr. was born June 11, 1970, in Talladega, Alabama, he is the son of the late Earlene Dickerson Simmons and James A. Williams, Sr.; he grew up with 14 brothers and sisters; he is the proud father of Danielle Swain, Stephanie A. Dickerson, Stevlen Dickerson, Jr., Michael Meadows, Nicole Meadows, Jarvis Wilson, and Ricardo Calhoun; and



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29 WHEREAS, Steve is a 1988 graduate of Talladega High
30 School; he is also a 1988 graduate of the U.S. Army Basic
31 Training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, where he graduated
32 with Honors at the top of his class and was Soldier of the
33 Cycle; he is also a graduate from the U.S. Army Advanced
34 Individual Training Signal Corp at Fort Gordon, Georgia,
35 where he again graduated with Honors as the Soldier of the
36 Cycle; he is a 1993 graduate of Talladega College where he
37 received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business
38 Administration with a double concentration in Accounting and
39 Management; in 2005, he graduated from Purdue University
40 School of Pest Science Management; in December 2022, he
41 earned and received a Master's of Business Administration
42 from Talladega College; he is also an active licensed
43 Funeral Director in the State of Alabama; and

44 WHEREAS, Steve has worked in the Funeral Industry for
45 40 years with 34 years of service at one local funeral home,
46 having only worked for two in his entire funeral career; he
47 owns and operates Dickerson's Services, LLC, which is a
48 small business enterprise where he buys, sells, and rents
49 properties, and operates as a freelance Funeral Director and
50 as a funeral consultant; in August of 2023, Steve was
51 elected to the Talladega City Council, Ward I, winning 79.3
52 percent of the votes; he is currently employed with Delta
53 airlines as a Gate Agent; and

54 WHEREAS, Steve retired from the Federal Bureau of
55 Prisons in Talladega as Supervisor Contract
56 Specialist/Assistant Business Administrator, with over 30



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57 years of service in June 2022; he retired with 23 years of
58 service from United States Army Reserve in 2010; he is an
59 active member of Peace Missionary Baptist Church, where he
60 currently serves under the leadership of Pastor Van Tony
61 Welch and Minister Betty Welch; he is active in Bible Study
62 as well as Sunday School and serves on the Trustee Board; he
63 is a member of Mt. Moriah Lodge #12 in Talladega, where he
64 has held several progressive positions but served as
65 Worshipful Master for 30 years; he now holds the position of
66 Past Master; he is the Assistant Deputy of District 13 and
67 the Past President of District 13 Masters Council; and

68 WHEREAS, Steve is a member of the Talladega County
69 Democratic Conference, the Talladega County Democratic
70 Party, Local Chapter of the NAACP, Alabama Funeral Services
71 Board, and the Black Funeral Directors Association; now
72 therefore,

73 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
74 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That highest honors and
75 commendations be given to Stevlen Dickerson, Sr. for his
76 distinguished service in his community and being recognized
77 as a Willie and Betty Farris Family Foundation Honoree, and
78 we offer this resolution as a token of our gratitude and as
79 evidence of our sincere appreciation and high regard.