

**Hall of the House of Representatives**  
88th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2011  
**Amendment Form**

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**Subtitle of House Memorial Resolution No. 1005**

IN RESPECTFUL MEMORY OF MR. SANDY ALEXANDER ROBINSON AND IN  
RECOGNITION OF HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF ARKANSAS AND HIS  
LOCAL COMMUNITY.

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**Amendment No. 1 to House Memorial Resolution No. 1005**

Amend House Memorial Resolution No. 1005 as originally introduced:

Page 1, delete lines 23 through 25, and substitute the following:

"WHEREAS, Mr. Sandy Alexander Robinson, Jr. was born August 18, 1925, in Keiser, Arkansas, to the late Sandy Alexander Robinson, Sr., and Babe Rose (Cole) Robinson; and also preceding him in death were his brothers Colie Robinson and John Robinson, and his sisters, Jessie Culberson and Catherine McIntosh; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Robinson was reared as a farmer of cotton, soybeans, and corn; and his elementary and high school years were at Carson Lake School and Rosenwald High School; and

WHEREAS, while serving in the United States Army, his commanding officer, Lieutenant Hood, was killed in action and he was ordered to take his place without recognition or promotion in rank; was later transferred to Fort Reynolds, Pennsylvania, and was the first African-American drill sergeant of his unit; and upon his honorable discharge, he received a WWII Victory Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, American Theatre Ribbon, KAME Theatre Ribbon, and three (3) Bronze Stars; and

WHEREAS, his college educational background includes being a graduate of Mississippi Industrial College in Holly Springs, Mississippi; Shorter College in Little Rock, Arkansas; Alabama College in Huntsville, Alabama; Christian Brothers College in Memphis, Tennessee; Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, Arkansas; Philander Smith College in Little Rock, Arkansas; and Tennessee State University in Nashville, Tennessee, where he received a degree as a certified mortician and where he met his future wife; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Robinson accepted Christ into his life at an early age at Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church and later joined Gospel Temple Church in Luxora, Arkansas, under the leadership of Pastor Lawrence Haley, where he has served on the Board of Trustees; was an active member of Gospel



Temple until his health began to fail; and was also a member of Kappa Alpha Psi; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Robinson married the love of his life, Mary L. Mabins, on March 22, 1952, and to this union they were blessed with two (2) children; and

WHEREAS, in 1952, he was employed by the Keiser Public School District and managed with four (4) small rooms and three (3) teachers, including himself; was the principal, teacher, bus driver, and janitor; the school went only to the eighth grade; because of segregation, once the eighth grade was completed, African-American students in Keiser were finished with school with no further educational opportunities; and he took it upon himself to add the ninth grade without the proper books or equipment but based solely on his knowledge; and

WHEREAS, after years of seeing the plight of African-American students and their lack of opportunity to further their education, Mr. Robinson fought hard to have students completing the eighth grade to be allowed to transfer to a neighboring school in Wilson, Arkansas; he would get up every morning at 5:00 a.m. to pick up all the students in rural areas and in town; in the old overcrowded, used bus, he would drop off the students at Keiser and then drive to Wilson to drop off the older students; in the afternoon he would drive back to Wilson and back to Keiser, repeating this same routine every day; and he would not arrive home sometimes until 5:30 or 6:00 in the evening; and

WHEREAS, in 1962, the four-room school burned completely to the ground, leaving students without a place for their education; nevertheless, Mr. Robinson would still get up morning after morning to take the other students to Wilson; with no other alternative and without help from the school board, he petitioned the local African-American ministers of the Baptist Church and the Church of God in Christ in Keiser to allow them to continue their classes in the churches; this continued until the new three-room all-brick building was completed; and by 1966, school segregation in Keiser had ended and Mr. Robinson was no longer the principal and the janitor but still remained as the teacher, bus driver, and advocate for higher learning for African-American students; and

WHEREAS, in 1987 after thirty-seven (37) years of teaching, Mr. Robinson retired from Keiser Public School district, as his task had been completed; had it not been for his fight for higher education for African-American students, many of them would not have gone on to become doctors, lawyers, administrators, teachers, ministers, and much more; even today many of his students, both African-American and white, still honor him as being the most influential and instrumental teacher in their lives; and

WHEREAS, Sandy will be best remembered by many family members and friends, including his wife of fifty-eight (58) years, nine (9) months, and seventeen (17) days, Mary L. Robinson; one (1) daughter, Vickie Pugh-Richardson; one (1) son, Vonzell (Phyllis) Robinson; nine (9) grandchildren, Arthur Pugh, Corey Pugh, Vonzell Smith, Candace Smith, Torthell Robinson,

Jamal Robinson, Brandon Robinson, Antjuan Robinson, and Marcus Virgies; five (5) great-grandchildren, including Robin Pugh; one (1) sister, Louise Dickens of Talladega, Alabama; one (1) brother, Carl (Betty) Robinson of Detroit, Michigan; four (4) sisters-in-law, Martha Moore, Pearlana Myles, Cloteria (Willie) Brown, and Wilma Mabins; and a host of loving nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends,"

AND

Page 1, delete line 32, and substitute the following:  
"his local community."

The Amendment was read \_\_\_\_\_  
By: Representative Clemmer  
KLL/DRM - 03/15/11 09:59  
KLL255

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk