

1 HJR389  
2 140757-1  
3 By Representatives Davis, Fincher, McClendon, Chesteen, Lee,  
4 Jackson and Grimsley  
5 RFD: Rules  
6 First Read: 12-APR-12

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8 RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF WILDLIFE AND  
9 SPORT FISH RESTORATION PROGRAMS.

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11 WHEREAS, seventy-five years ago, on September 2,  
12 1937, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Federal Aid  
13 in Wildlife Restoration Act which fosters partnerships between  
14 federal and state fish and wildlife agencies, the sporting  
15 arms industry, conservation groups, and sportsmen and women to  
16 benefit wildlife; and

17 WHEREAS, it is appropriate at this time to highlight  
18 its history of achievements and to underscore the positive  
19 impact the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Programs (WSFR)  
20 have had on the citizens of the State of Alabama and the  
21 United States and on the natural resources of our country; and

22 WHEREAS, in the early 1900's many fish and wildlife  
23 species were dwindling in numbers or disappearing altogether,  
24 conservationists began to realize that more actions were  
25 needed to stop continuing losses and conserve wildlife; the  
26 hunting and shooting industries stepped forward to help fish  
27 and wildlife agencies counteract the crisis; funding

1 strategies were developed and partnerships established to  
2 create a successful user pay, user benefit program; and

3 WHEREAS, by 1937, the Wildlife Restoration program  
4 provided grant funds to the state and others for projects to  
5 restore, conserve, manage, and enhance wild birds, mammals,  
6 and their habitats; by the 1950's, the Sport Fish Restoration  
7 program was created to restore and better manage America's  
8 declining fishery resources and was modeled after the  
9 successful Wildlife Restoration program; and

10 WHEREAS, these programs have made the difference  
11 between the survival and abundance of some species and many  
12 fish and wildlife populations are at historically high levels  
13 today; WSFR also increases the number of days and places where  
14 one can go afield or on the water to enjoy favorite outdoor  
15 activities; and

16 WHEREAS, Wildlife Restoration funds can be used for  
17 reintroduction of declining species, wildlife population  
18 surveys, species research, hunter education, acquisition of  
19 wildlife habitat, and the development of shooting ranges;  
20 Sport Fish Restoration funds can be used for fish research,  
21 reintroducing declining sport fish species, restoring aquatic  
22 habitat such as coastal wetlands, aquatic education,  
23 constructing boat ramps and fishing piers and boating access;  
24 and

25 WHEREAS, the mission of the Wildlife and Sport Fish  
26 Restoration programs include the preservation of land,  
27 wildlife, fish, and better opportunities for hunters,

1 fishermen, and others to enjoy America's fish and wildlife  
2 resources and it is one of the most significant and successful  
3 partnership approaches to fish and wildlife conservation in  
4 United States history; now therefore,

5 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
6 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That in recognition of outstanding  
7 achievement in the past 75 years, highest commendation is  
8 herein extended to the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration  
9 Program, and it is directed that a copy of this resolution be  
10 provided for appropriate display with sincere best wishes for  
11 continued success in all future endeavors.