

1 SJR8
2 147729-2
3 By Senator Bedford
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 06-FEB-13

1 SJR8

2
3
4 ENROLLED, SJR8,

5 RECOGNIZING FRANKLIN COUNTY AS THE WATERMELON
6 CAPITAL OF ALABAMA.

7
8 WHEREAS, the Franklin County Watermelon Festival
9 began in 1981 when a group of local farmers gathered to sell
10 their harvest of watermelons and thereby created what was
11 destined to become the largest festival in Franklin County;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, this annual festival is organized by the
14 Franklin County Chamber of Commerce and is sponsored by
15 Franklin County businesses and individuals; and

16 WHEREAS, the two-day event on the third weekend of
17 August is held at the Franklin County seat in the City of
18 Russellville, where more than 35,000 guests are welcomed to
19 this festival each year from neighboring counties and states;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, civic clubs and organizations participate
22 with their own special watermelon events as a time of
23 fund-raising; and

24 WHEREAS, the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce
25 sponsors Watermelon Contests as well as the Watermelon Pageant

1 that produces a Queen for the festival; awards are presented
2 for best-dressed melon, seed spitting, best-tasting melon,
3 most unusual melon, and of course the largest, heaviest melon;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, the Franklin County Watermelon Festival is
6 made possible by dedicated volunteers who work tirelessly year
7 round to produce the best of entertainment, arts and crafts,
8 food, activities, and watermelon to please every palate; now
9 therefore,

10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
11 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Franklin County is hereby
12 recognized as the Watermelon Capital of Alabama, and it is
13 directed that a copy of this resolution be provided for
14 appropriate presentation and display at the 2013 Franklin
15 County Watermelon Festival, with best wishes for success on
16 this occasion and far into the future.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR8
Senate 06-FEB-13
I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution
originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

Patrick Harris
Secretary

House of Representatives
Adopted: 07-FEB-13

By: Senator Bedford