

1 SJR84
2 159836-1
3 By Senators Whatley and Ross
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 18-MAR-14

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8 RECOGNIZING THE CASEY FELDMAN FOUNDATION AND
9 DESIGNATING APRIL 2014 AS END DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS
10 MONTH.

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12 WHEREAS, the End Distracted Driving (EndDD) Student
13 Awareness Initiative was started by Joel Feldman, founder of
14 the Casey Feldman Memorial Foundation, in an effort to raise
15 awareness of the dangers of distracted driving and to
16 emphasize the importance of focusing full attention on driving
17 safely; and

18 WHEREAS, Joel Feldman has dedicated himself to this
19 cause to honor the memory of his late daughter, Casey Feldman,
20 a 21-year-old, award winning student journalist, who was a
21 senior at Fordham University in New York City when she was
22 killed by a distracted motorist on July 17, 2009; and

23 WHEREAS, distracted driving kills more than 5,000
24 people and injures nearly 450,000 more each year, yet, it
25 received little public attention until EndDD actively targeted
26 audiences, such as students, with its Student Awareness
27 Initiative, geared to educate and inform drivers about the

1 safety crisis related to distracted driving, its costs,
2 implications, and often fatal consequences; and

3 WHEREAS, the Alabama Association for Justice's
4 attorney members are joining more than 850 attorneys, judges,
5 and safety advocates from the United States and Canada in
6 pledging to give safety presentations on distracted driving to
7 local high schools, community groups, and civic organizations,
8 with a goal to reach more than 100,000 drivers and potential
9 drivers each year, with the support of "60 for Safety," a
10 group of attorneys committed to increasing safety awareness to
11 prevent injuries or fatalities; and

12 WHEREAS, the Alabama Legislature commends the
13 commitment and accomplishments of the EndDD awareness and
14 educational campaigns initiated by Joel Feldman and his wife,
15 Diane Anderson, as well as the efforts by the Alabama
16 Association for Justice, to bring this campaign to our local
17 schools and communities, as we strive to make our roads safer
18 for drivers, passengers, and pedestrians; now therefore,

19 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
20 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we recognize the Casey Feldman
21 Foundation and its successful "End Distracted Driving
22 Campaign," declaring the month of April 2014 as the "End
23 Distracted Driving Awareness Month" in the State of Alabama
24 with preparations commencing immediately.