

1 SJR6
2 179177-2
3 By Senators Dial and Ross
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 15-AUG-16

1 SJR6

2
3
4 ENROLLED, SJR6,

5 CREATING A JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE TO
6 INVESTIGATE CONFIDENTIALITY ISSUES INVOLVING COMPLAINTS FILED
7 WITH THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION.
8

9 WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes the importance
10 of maintaining the confidentiality of matters pending before
11 the Ethics Commission so that the commission may determine if
12 a complaint is supported by credible and verifiable
13 information; and

14 WHEREAS, baseless and groundless complaints serve
15 primarily to destroy the credibility of innocent persons if
16 the existence of a complaint becomes known to the public
17 before it has been properly investigated; and

18 WHEREAS, with regard to confidentiality, Section
19 36-25-4.1 of the Code of Alabama 1975, provides in pertinent
20 part: "... no complaints shall be made available to the public
21 or available on the Internet until the disposition of the
22 matter. In no event may a complaint be made public or
23 available on the Internet if the complaint is dismissed or
24 found not to have probable cause. In the matters where the
25 complaint is dismissed or found not to have probable cause,

1 only the disposition of the matter may be made available to
2 the public or available on the Internet."; now therefore,

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
4 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That, in order to protect the
5 credibility of innocent persons from groundless complaint, a
6 Joint Legislative Committee is created to investigate
7 confidentiality issues involved with complaints filed with the
8 State Ethics Commission.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the committee shall be
10 comprised of three members of the Senate chosen by the
11 Lieutenant Governor and three members of the House of
12 Representatives chosen by the Speaker of the House.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That each member of the
14 committee shall be entitled to his or her per diem and travel
15 expenses for each day he or she attends a meeting of the
16 committee.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the committee shall
18 report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature by
19 the fifth day of the 2017 Regular Session of the Legislature.

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

SJR6
Senate 16-AUG-16
I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution
originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

Patrick Harris
Secretary

House of Representatives
Adopted: 23-AUG-16

By: Senator Dial