

1 HJR109
2 173513-1
3 By Representatives Sessions, Davis, Faust, Pringle, McMillan,
4 Williams (JW), Gaston, Drummond and Clarke
5 RFD: Rules
6 First Read: 01-MAR-16

2
3
4
5
6
7
8 SUPPORTING THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS IN
9 EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH LIVING SHORELINES, AND URGING THE CORPS
10 TO ISSUE A NEW NATIONWIDE PERMIT FOR LIVING SHORELINES.
11

12 WHEREAS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mobile
13 District is commended for issuing the first regional general
14 permit in the United States of America for living shorelines,
15 incentivizing greater adoption of living shorelines; and

16 WHEREAS, living shorelines can reduce erosion while
17 maintaining the land and water connection important to
18 sustaining habitats, important for the aquatic health of
19 Alabama waterways, which supply seafood for the American
20 public and support the hospitality industry and
21 tourism-related businesses; and

22 WHEREAS, living shorelines maintain or restore
23 natural waterfronts contributing to the vibrant recreational
24 and commercial fishing and hunting industries; and

25 WHEREAS, there is no current U.S. Army Corps of
26 Engineers Nationwide Permit for living shorelines; and

1 WHEREAS, project developers often align their
2 activities to meet general permit specifications where
3 possible in order to avoid the time and expense of an
4 individual permit application; and

5 WHEREAS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mobile
6 District issued Living Shorelines General Permit, ALG10-2011,
7 for the preservation and restoration of dunes, beaches,
8 wetlands, submerged grassbeds for the protection and
9 propagation of essential fish habitat, and for shoreline
10 restoration and nourishment; and

11 WHEREAS, concern is increasing about the expansion
12 and negative impact of seawalls and bulkheads along the shore
13 leading to coastal habitat loss and degradation; and

14 WHEREAS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mobile
15 District permits, through ALG11-2011, Armoring Systems
16 (Riprap), Bulkheads, River Training Structures,
17 Bioengineering, and other Standard Shoreline
18 Protection/Stabilization Devices, only where it is
19 demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Corps that there are
20 no feasible non-structural alternatives available including,
21 but not limited to, preservation and restoration of wetlands,
22 submerged grassbeds, shoreline restoration and/or nourishment;
23 now therefore,

24 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
25 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we hereby express our
26 commitment to the support of the expanded use of living
27 shorelines, to the long-term conservation of Alabama water

1 resources, and to the protection of the Alabama waterfront
2 communities, and we hereby support the U.S. Army Corps of
3 Engineers efforts to encourage living shorelines over less
4 natural bank stabilization approaches, where feasible, by
5 issuing a new nationwide permit for living shorelines in
6 accordance with ALG10-2011 and ALG11-2011, in the subsequent
7 reissuances of the nationwide permits.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this
9 resolution be made available to each member of the Alabama
10 Congressional Delegation.