

1 HJR283
2 176847-1
3 By Representatives Faulkner, England, Whorton (I), Hill (J),
4 Beckman and Black
5 RFD: Rules
6 First Read: 12-APR-16

2
3
4
5
6
7
8 CREATING THE STUDY COMMITTEE ON THE USE OF PRIVATE
9 JUDGES.

10
11 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
12 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is hereby established a
13 Study Committee on the Use of Private Judges to study the ways
14 to improve the use of private judges in the State of Alabama.

15 Membership of the committee shall be as follows:

16 (1) The Chairs of the House and Senate Judiciary
17 Committees, or their designees.

18 (2) The Chair of the House Committee on Commerce and
19 Small Business, or his or her designee.

20 (3) Two persons engaged as private judges in the
21 State of Alabama one appointed by the Speaker of the House of
22 Representatives and one appointed by the President Pro Tempore
23 of the Senate.

24 (4) One member of the House, to be appointed by the
25 Speaker of the House of Representatives.

1 (5) One member of the Senate, to be appointed by the
2 President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

3 (6) The Governor's Legal Advisor, or his or her
4 designee.

5 (7) Two members to be appointed by the Chief Justice
6 of the Alabama Supreme Court.

7 (8) One member to be appointed by the Chair of the
8 Business Council of Alabama.

9 (9) One member to be appointed by the Chair of the
10 Alabama Civil Justice Reform Committee.

11 (10) Two members to be appointed by the President of
12 the Alabama Association for Justice.

13 (11) The Chair of the Family Law Section of the
14 Alabama State Bar, or his or her designee.

15 (12) The President of the Alabama Circuit Judges
16 Association, or a sitting or retired circuit judge appointed
17 by him or her.

18 (13) One member to be appointed by the President of
19 the Alabama State Bar, who shall be a licensed attorney in the
20 state practicing in the role of general counsel or in-house
21 counsel.

22 The appointing authorities shall coordinate their
23 appointments to assure membership of the Study Committee on
24 the use of Private Judges is inclusive and reflects the
25 racial, gender, geographic, urban, rural, and economic
26 diversity of the state.

1 A majority of the committee shall constitute a
2 quorum for the transaction of business. The committee shall
3 meet at least once per month beginning the second month
4 following the adjournment of the 2016 Regular Session. The
5 first committee meeting shall be set by the Governor's Legal
6 Advisor. At that meeting, the committee shall elect a chair
7 and vice chair. Members shall serve without compensation.

8 The committee shall have the following duties:

9 (1) Study the potential benefits, detriments, and
10 feasibility of increasing the use of private judges.

11 (2) Recommend any changes in the law that would
12 facilitate increased use of private judges.

13 (3) Report its findings and recommendations to the
14 Legislature by the third Legislative day of the 2017 Regular
15 Session.

16 Each legislative member of the committee shall be
17 entitled to his or her regular legislative compensation, per
18 diem, and travel expenses for each day he or she attends a
19 meeting of the committee in accordance with Amendment 871 of
20 the Constitution of Alabama of 1901. These payments shall be
21 paid out of any funds appropriated to the use of the
22 Legislature.

23 The committee shall be dissolved after the final
24 report is made unless otherwise authorized to continue.