

1 SJR54
2 175313-1
3 By Senators Melson, Albritton, Allen, Beasley, Blackwell,
4 Brewbaker, Bussman, Chambliss, Coleman-Madison, Dial, Dunn,
5 Figures, Glover, Hightower, Holley, Holtzclaw, Livingston,
6 Marsh, McClendon, Orr, Pittman, Reed, Ross, Sanders, Sanford,
7 Scofield, Shelnutt, Singleton, Smith, Smitherman, Stutts,
8 Waggoner, Ward, Whatley and Williams
9 RFD:
10 First Read: 08-MAR-16

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8 COMMENDING CIARA LAIRD FOR RECEIVING A TOP ALABAMA
9 PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARD.

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11 WHEREAS, Ciara Laird of Troy, Alabama, has achieved
12 national recognition for exemplary volunteer service by
13 receiving a 2016 Prudential Spirit of Community Award; this
14 award, presented by Prudential Financial in partnership with
15 the National Association of Secondary School Principals,
16 honors young volunteers across America who have demonstrated
17 extraordinary commitment to serving their communities; and

18 WHEREAS, Ciara Laird, a fifth-grader, was nominated
19 by New Life Christian Academy and was selected as one of the
20 top two state honorees; she will receive \$1,000, an engraved
21 silver medallion, and all-expense-paid trip to Washington,
22 D.C., in May 2016 to join the top two honorees from each state
23 for four days of educational experiences and national
24 recognition events; and

25 WHEREAS, Ciara earned this award by giving
26 generously of her time and energy to worthy projects in her
27 community; she began a food drive by placing a box in her

1 classroom that grew into becoming a continuous food drive; as
2 president of her school's honor society, she is encouraging
3 other students to work together to feed the hungry; Ciara has
4 filled shoeboxes at Christmas for children in need, she has
5 made care packages for families affected by local storms, she
6 assisted at a local community garden that is connected to an
7 after school center, and has volunteered at a local nursing
8 home, including singing Christmas songs to the residents; and

9 WHEREAS, the success of the State of Alabama, the
10 strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of
11 American society depend, in great measure, upon the dedication
12 of young people like Ciara Laird, who use their considerable
13 talents and resources to serve others; and

14 WHEREAS, Ciara Laird was initially inspired by
15 witnessing someone eating out of a trash dumpster outside a
16 restaurant; she turned this experience into faithful and
17 meaningful service for others; she is truly worthy of this
18 distinctive award for her outstanding record of volunteer
19 service, peer leadership, and community spirit; now therefore,

20 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
21 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Ciara Laird is most highly
22 commended, and this resolution is offered with heartiest
23 congratulations to her on her accomplishment as a recipient of
24 a top Alabama 2016 Prudential Spirit of Community Award with
25 best wishes for her continued success and happiness.