

1 SJR9
2 172529-2
3 By Senators Ward, Allen, Orr, Albritton, Beasley, Blackwell,
4 Brewbaker, Bussman, Chambliss, Coleman-Madison, Dial, Dunn,
5 Figures, Glover, Hightower, Holley, Holtzclaw, Livingston,
6 Marsh, McClendon, Melson, Pittman, Reed, Ross, Sanders,
7 Sanford, Scofield, Shelnutt, Singleton, Smith, Smitherman,
8 Stutts, Waggoner, Whatley and Williams
9 RFD:
10 First Read: 03-FEB-16

1 SJR9

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4 ENROLLED, SJR9,

5 ENCOURAGING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MONUMENT
6 COMMEMORATING THE BILL OF RIGHTS OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION.

7
8 WHEREAS, the lasting promises of our great nation,
9 those of freedom from oppression and the preservation of
10 individual liberty, are fundamental themes of the very
11 document upon which our system of government was founded; and

12 WHEREAS, the central importance of the principles
13 outlined in the United States Constitution once prompted
14 President Harry Truman to describe it as "a living force";
15 similarly, President Ronald Reagan evoked the power of the
16 individual liberties safeguarded by the constitution,
17 referring to "a government which empowers its people" as
18 "mankind's best defense against tyranny," and nowhere are
19 these constitutional guarantees regarding the rights of the
20 individual articulated more clearly than in the first 10
21 amendments - the aptly named Bill of Rights; and

22 WHEREAS, while the Capitol grounds and other
23 properties and sites throughout the state display statues,
24 memorials, and commemorations of people, ideals, and events
25 that demonstrate our country's abiding dedication to the

1 values established by the Bill of Rights, there is no specific
2 tribute to the Bill of Rights; and

3 WHEREAS, the general laws of the state authorize the
4 Alabama Historical Commission to provide for the placement and
5 acquisition of historical sites and monuments, and the
6 Department of Finance Division of Construction Management to
7 acquire property and structures in the name of the State of
8 Alabama; and

9 WHEREAS, we find that a commemorative structure to
10 honor the Bill of Rights would be a worthy addition to the
11 recognition and memorialization of historic sites in this
12 state; and we support the inclusion of a monument that will
13 convey to visitors a sense of history and the faith in human
14 liberty symbolized by the Bill of Rights; now, therefore,

15 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
16 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we hereby encourage the
17 Alabama Historical Commission and the Department of Finance
18 Division of Construction Management, subject to state law and
19 rules of the commission and the division, to approve and
20 permit the construction or acquisition of a monument on state
21 property to specifically commemorate the Bill of Rights of the
22 United States Constitution.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That no public funds be used
24 for the design and construction of the monument.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That official copies of this
2 resolution be provided to the executive director of the
3 Alabama Historical Commission and the Director of Construction
4 of the Division of Construction Management.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR9
Senate 03-FEB-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: 09-FEB-16

By: Senator Ward