

1 SJR57
2 183494-1
3 By Senators Albritton, Scofield, Livingston, Allen, Melson,
4 Bussman and Holley
5 RFD:
6 First Read: 14-MAR-17

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8 URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PASS AN
9 AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION TO LIMIT LAWS
10 PASSED BY CONGRESS TO A SINGLE SUBJECT CLEARLY EXPRESSED IN
11 ITS TITLE.

12
13 WHEREAS, each measure before a legislative body
14 should pass on its own merits without depending on legislative
15 support for other unrelated measures to achieve the required
16 number of votes for passage; and

17 WHEREAS, a single-subject constitutional provision
18 addresses this concern by prohibiting a legislative body from
19 enacting a law that embraces more than one subject; and

20 WHEREAS, 41 of the 50 states, including Alabama,
21 have a single-subject provision in their respective state
22 constitutions, and the legislatures and citizens of these
23 states have benefited from a single-subject requirement; and

24 WHEREAS, the Constitution of the United States is
25 the supreme law of the United States of America, touching the
26 lives of every citizen in the several states, but is missing
27 this important provision; and

1 WHEREAS, our great country is deep in debt and
2 Congress is currently searching for a solution; and

3 WHEREAS, a federal single-subject amendment would
4 provide the means to limit pork barrel spending, control the
5 phenomenon of legislating through riders, limit omnibus
6 legislation produced by logrolling, prevent public surprise,
7 and increase the institutional accountability of Congress and
8 its members; and

9 WHEREAS, it is Alabama's hope and desire that
10 Congress will be able to conduct its business in a more
11 productive, efficient, transparent, and less acrimonious way
12 with a single-subject requirement; now therefore,

13 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
14 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we strongly urge the United
15 States Congress to pass an amendment to the Constitution
16 providing that Congress shall pass no bill, and no bill shall
17 become law, which embraces more than one subject, that subject
18 to be clearly expressed in its title and to send it to the
19 states for ratification.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this
21 resolution be provided to the Majority Leader of the United
22 States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of
23 Representatives, and the members of Alabama's Congressional
24 Delegation.