

1 HJR183
2 191483-2
3 By Representative Hall
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 13-FEB-18

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2 ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,
3 RECOGNIZING ALABAMA HIV AWARENESS DAY.
4

5 WHEREAS, throughout the United States there are an
6 estimated 1.1 million Americans living with HIV with Southern
7 states accounting for half of new HIV diagnoses; and

8 WHEREAS, the State of Alabama has 14,042 citizens
9 currently living with HIV and another 2,340 who may be living
10 with HIV and not know it; and

11 WHEREAS, the State of Alabama has the 15th highest
12 new HIV diagnosis rate in the nation and the ninth highest
13 AIDS-related death rate in the nation; and

14 WHEREAS, certain groups such as gay and bisexual
15 men, transgender people, youth, African-Americans, and Latino
16 Americans, and people living in the Southern United States are
17 disproportionately affected by HIV; and

18 WHEREAS, HIV continues to be a very stigmatized
19 disease that creates barriers to HIV prevention and treatment;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, community involvement in promoting HIV
22 testing and education is crucial in our efforts to stem the
23 rise of HIV transmissions; and

24 WHEREAS, we must encourage treatment as prevention
25 efforts, expand access to Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP),

1 strengthen the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP), and
2 establish harm-reducing syringe exchange programs; and

3 WHEREAS, Alabama AIDS Service Organizations (ASOs),
4 state legislators, local and state health officials, networks
5 of people living with HIV, and allies are committed to ending
6 the epidemic in the State of Alabama; and

7 WHEREAS, Alabama HIV Awareness Day offers an
8 opportunity to combat HIV stigma and discrimination while
9 communicating important prevention education about the
10 epidemic; now therefore,

11 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
12 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That March 7, 2018, is recognized
13 as Alabama HIV Awareness Day and encourages all Alabamians to
14 increase their awareness and understanding of HIV, participate
15 in prevention efforts, and offer compassion and support to
16 those people impacted by the disease.

