

1 HB287
2 199375-2
3 By Representatives Hall, Weaver, Rowe, Scott, Ellis, Wilcox,
4 Morris, Rogers, Moore (M), Coleman, Collins, Wood (D), Shaver,
5 Nordgren, Moore (P), Warren, Drummond, Clarke, Farley, Wingo,
6 Estes, Jones (S), Bracy, Howard, Shiver and Simpson
7 RFD: State Government
8 First Read: 21-MAR-19

1 ENGROSSED

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4 A BILL
5 TO BE ENTITLED
6 AN ACT
7

8 Relating to historical monuments; to create the
9 Women's Tribute Statue Commission; to provide for the
10 membership and duties of the commission; to provide for the
11 termination of the commission; to require the Alabama
12 Historical Commission and the Division of Construction
13 Management of the Department of Finance to implement placement
14 of the statues; and to provide that public and private funds,
15 including in-kind services, may be used for the commission of
16 the monuments.

17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

18 Section 1. The Legislature does hereby find as
19 follows as to Rosa Parks:

20 (1) On December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks refused to give
21 up her seat on a Montgomery bus; and

22 (2) This bold act led to the Montgomery bus boycott,
23 a major event in the United States' Civil Rights struggle; and

24 (3) Rosa Parks spent all of her life advocating for
25 Civil Rights for African-Americans; and

26 (4) Following the death of Rosa Parks, her body lay
27 in honor in the rotunda of the United States Capitol, making

1 her the first woman given such honor, the second
2 African-American, and the first American who was not a
3 government official; and

4 (5) A statue of Rosa Parks was placed in the
5 National Statuary Hall at the U.S. Capitol by special action
6 of the U.S. Congress; and

7 (6) The Legislature does hereby find that a
8 commemorative statue to honor Rosa Parks would be a worthy
9 addition to the grounds of the Alabama State Capitol, and it
10 supports the inclusion of such a statue in a place of
11 prominence on the West front of the Capitol facing Bainbridge
12 Street that will convey to future generations the importance
13 of Rosa Parks to the State of Alabama, the United States, and
14 the world.

15 Section 2. The Legislature does hereby find as
16 follows as to Helen Keller:

17 (1) Helen Keller was born in Tuscumbia and, at age
18 nineteen months, contracted an illness which left her deaf and
19 blind; and

20 (2) How Helen Keller learned to communicate is a
21 quintessential story of overcoming adversity and is
22 inspirational to many people in Alabama, the United States,
23 and the world; and

24 (3) A statue of Helen Keller is in the National
25 Statuary Hall Collection as one of two statues representing
26 Alabama since 2009, making hers one of only nine statues in
27 the Collection representing women; and

1 (4) The Legislature does hereby find that a
2 commemorative statue to honor Helen Keller would be a worthy
3 addition to the grounds of the Alabama State Capitol, and it
4 supports the inclusion of such a statue in a place where it
5 will be readily accessible to, and touchable by, disabled
6 persons.

7 Section 3. (a) (1) The Women's Tribute Statue
8 Commission is created to fund, commission, and place statues
9 of Rosa Parks and Helen Keller. The statue of Rosa Parks shall
10 be placed on the West front of the Capitol facing Bainbridge
11 Street. The statue of Helen Keller shall be placed on the
12 grounds of the Capitol in a place where it will be readily
13 accessible to, and touchable by, individuals with
14 disabilities.

15 (2) The commission may solicit input from public and
16 private organizations and entities regarding the design and
17 proposed plans for the statues.

18 (b) (1) The commission shall consist of seven members
19 to be appointed as follows:

20 a. Three members appointed by the Governor.

21 b. Two members appointed by the President Pro
22 Tempore of the Senate.

23 c. Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House
24 of Representatives.

25 (2) Appointed members shall be representative of the
26 areas of the arts, disabilities, and civil rights.

1 (3) The appointing authorities shall coordinate
2 their appointments so that the diversity of gender, race, and
3 geographical areas is reflective of the makeup of this state.

4 (4) Members of the commission shall serve without
5 compensation.

6 (c) (1) The Governor shall select one of his or her
7 three appointees as chair of the commission, and the members
8 may elect a vice-chair from the membership of the commission.
9 The commission shall meet at the call of the chair or half of
10 its members, and four of the members present at a called
11 meeting shall constitute a quorum. The commission may choose
12 to adopt bylaws.

13 (2) Meetings of the commission shall be subject to
14 the Alabama Open Meetings Act, and its members shall be
15 considered public officials for purposes of Chapter 25 of
16 Title 36, Code of Alabama 1975. Members of the commission
17 shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing authorities.

18 (d) Public and private funds, including in-kind
19 services, may be used to commission the monuments for Rosa
20 Parks and Helen Keller.

21 (e) The commission shall be terminated upon the
22 placement of the statues in accordance with this act.

23 Section 4. The Alabama Historical Commission and the
24 Division of Construction Management of the Department of
25 Finance shall implement the placement of the statues on the
26 grounds of the Capitol according to the recommendations and

1 findings of the Women's Tribute Statue Commission, as provided
2 in this act.

3 Section 5. This act shall become effective
4 immediately following its passage and approval by the
5 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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House of Representatives

Read for the first time and re-
ferred to the House of Representa-
tives committee on State Government
..... 21-MAR-19

Read for the second time and placed
on the calendar with 1 substitute
and..... 11-APR-19

Read for the third time and passed
as amended..... 23-APR-19

Yeas 102, Nays 0, Abstains 0

Jeff Woodard
Clerk