

1 HJR44  
2 205157-3  
3 By Representative Gaston  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 18-FEB-20

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8           CREATING THE JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE ON STATE HOUSE  
9 CONDITIONS.

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11           WHEREAS, the Alabama State House was originally  
12 erected as the State Highway Department Building in 1963 and  
13 was later designated as a temporary meeting location for the  
14 Alabama Legislature in the 1980s during renovation of the  
15 Capitol; and

16           WHEREAS, the Legislature never returned to the  
17 Capitol and has conducted business in the Alabama State House  
18 since the mid-1980s; and

19           WHEREAS, the Alabama State House has many problems,  
20 including air quality, plumbing leaks, electrical power  
21 surges, flooding, inconsistent heating and air conditioning,  
22 accessibility, and lack of space for public access to  
23 committee meetings and other legislative business; and

24           WHEREAS, pursuant to the Alabama State House  
25 Maintenance Agreement, the Department of Finance is conducting  
26 a comprehensive Facility Condition Assessment outlining the  
27 current condition of the Alabama State House and facilities,

1 including the maintenance and operational systems contained in  
2 the building; now therefore,

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
4 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is hereby created the  
5 Joint Interim Committee on State House Conditions to study the  
6 environmental conditions and physical plant systems of the  
7 Alabama State House and to make recommendations to the  
8 Legislature.

9 (a) The committee shall consist of the following  
10 members:

11 (1) Three members of the House of Representatives,  
12 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, two  
13 of whom shall be members of the House Legislative Council and  
14 with at least one of the three members representing the  
15 minority party.

16 (2) Three members of the Senate, two appointed by  
17 the President Pro Tempore from the membership of the Senate  
18 Legislative Council, and one member appointed by the presiding  
19 officer of the Senate from the Senate at-large, with at least  
20 one of the three members representing the minority party.

21 (3) The Secretary of the Senate, or his or her  
22 designee.

23 (4) The Clerk of the House, or his or her designee.

24 (5) The Director of the Legislative Services Agency,  
25 or his or her designee.

26 (b) Legislative members of the committee shall be  
27 entitled to his or her regular legislative compensation, per

1 diem, and travel expenses for each day he or she attends a  
2 meeting of the committee in accordance with Amendment 871 of  
3 the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

4 (c) The Director of the Legislative Services Agency  
5 shall call the first meeting before July 1, 2020, and the  
6 members of the committee shall elect a chair at the first  
7 meeting.

8 (d) The committee shall review the Facility  
9 Condition Assessment conducted by the Department of Finance,  
10 study existing environmental conditions in the State House and  
11 any and all physical plant and utilities systems in the  
12 building, including public access and accessibility to  
13 committees and other legislative meetings, and report its  
14 findings and recommendations to the Speaker of the House of  
15 Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate by  
16 December 1, 2020, at which time the committee shall stand  
17 dissolved.

18 (e) The Legislative Council, from its budget, shall  
19 cover expenses of the committee related to the committee's  
20 work not to exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000).