

1 HJR80
2 205831-2
3 By Representatives Shaver, Brown (K), Kitchens, South, Weaver,
4 Wood (R), Fridy, Rowe, Ellis, Stadthagen, Smith, Sorrell,
5 Lipscomb, Oliver, Moore (M), Wilcox, Wheeler, Faust, Garrett,
6 Shedd, Harbison, Wood (D), Robertson, Ball, Farley, Hall and
7 Nordgren
8 RFD: Rules
9 First Read: 03-MAR-20

1
2 ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,
3 COMMENDING THE WINNERS OF THE GREAT ALABAMA 650
4 RACE.

5
6 WHEREAS, the Alabama Scenic River Trail (ASRT) was
7 established in 2008 and designated by the United States
8 Secretary of the Interior as a National Recreational Trail in
9 2009, and a National Water Trail in 2012; and

10 WHEREAS, ASRT originally extended for 650 miles and
11 was designated as the longest one-state river trail starting
12 in Northeast Alabama on the Coosa River's Weiss Lake and
13 ending at Fort Morgan, Alabama, where Mobile Bay meets the
14 Gulf of Mexico; and

15 WHEREAS, in 2020, the ASRT is comprised of more than
16 6,500 miles of accessible waterways and has also helped to
17 develop over 60 canoe and kayak rental shops and outfitters to
18 promote the Great Natural Resources of the State of Alabama
19 and contribute to the state's trail system economy; and

20 WHEREAS, the ASRT is operated by a small team of
21 employees and a network of volunteers; it has developed
22 statewide safety and education initiatives, 216 river-front
23 campsites and with grant funds erected more than 200
24 informational signs on waterways across the state; and

1 WHEREAS, to further the goals of ASRT, the Great
2 Alabama 650 adventure race was inaugurated in 2019 along the
3 original 650-mile section of the ASRT drawing international
4 attention, including over 1,000,000 "impressions" from news
5 stories and social media posts; and

6 WHEREAS, winners in this race and their winning
7 times were: Male solo, Bobby Johnson from Dunedin, Florida, 7
8 days, 8 hours, and 1 minute; female solo, Salli O'Donnell from
9 Fort Walton Beach, Florida, 7 days, 15 hours, and 19 minutes;
10 two-person team, Susan Jordan, Mississippi, and Ryan Gillikin,
11 Bay Minnette, Alabama, 9 days, 3 hours, and 18 minutes; and

12 WHEREAS, this body recognizes the skill,
13 perseverance and mental and physical toughness of all
14 participants, and particularly of the division winners; now
15 therefore,

16 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
17 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the division winners of the
18 Great Alabama 650 are highly commended for this achievement,
19 and that a copy of this resolution be sent to ASRT office
20 headquarters and to each of the Division Winners.

