

1 HJR80  
2 205831-1  
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

2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8 COMMENDING THE WINNERS OF THE GREAT ALABAMA 650  
9 RACE.

10  
11 WHEREAS, the Alabama Scenic River Trail (ASRT) was  
12 established in 2008 and designated by the United States  
13 Secretary of the Interior as a National Recreational Trail in  
14 2009, and a National Water Trail in 2012; and

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

20 WHEREAS, in 2020, the ASRT is comprised of more than  
21 6,500 miles of accessible waterways and has also helped to  
22 develop over 60 canoe and kayak rental shops and outfitters to  
23 promote the Great Natural Resources of the State of Alabama  
24 and contribute to the state's trail system economy; and

25 WHEREAS, the ASRT is operated by a small team of  
26 employees and a network of volunteers; it has developed  
27 statewide safety and education initiatives, 216 river-front

1 campsites and with grant funds erected more than 200  
2 informational signs on waterways across the state; and

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

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

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

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