

1 SJR66  
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3 By Senator Waggoner  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 18-MAR-21

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8 OBSERVING SEPTEMBER 17, 2021, AS POW/MIA DAY AND  
9 HONORING ALABAMA'S FORMER POW'S AND MIA.

10  
11 WHEREAS, this year, as we commemorate the 76th  
12 anniversary of the end of World War II and reflect upon the  
13 71st anniversary of the start of the Korean War and the 46th  
14 anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War, we pause to  
15 recognize and extend honor and eternal gratitude to the men  
16 and women of the United States Military who were held as  
17 Prisoners of War or deemed Missing In Action in these  
18 conflicts against repressive ideologies; these service members  
19 and civilians deserve a special place of honor in the hearts  
20 of all Americans because of their selfless devotion,  
21 unflinching courage, and unsurpassed dedication to our  
22 cherished American values; and

23 WHEREAS, we pause to remember the more than 500,000  
24 prisoners of war who have endured incredible suffering and  
25 brutality under conditions of extraordinary privation; we  
26 honor those prisoners of war who faithfully served through  
27 extreme hardship and unimaginable physical and emotional

1 trauma; their lives and resilience reflect the best of the  
2 American Spirit; their immeasurable sacrifices have ensured  
3 the blessings of freedom for future generations; we salute all  
4 American prisoners of war who, in the presence of great  
5 dangers and uncertainties, valiantly honored their duty to  
6 this great country; and

7 WHEREAS, we reflect upon the tens of thousands of  
8 our patriots still missing in action; we commemorate their  
9 bravery and recommit to their long suffering families who  
10 deserve answers and solace for their missing loved ones;  
11 according to the National League of Families of Prisoners and  
12 Missing in Southeast Asia, thousands of United States service  
13 members have been or remain classified as Missing In Action;  
14 including more than 73,000 from World War II, over 120 from  
15 the Cold War, approximately 7,745 from the Korean War, and  
16 more than 1,600 from the Vietnam War; and for the still  
17 missing and unaccounted 30 service personnel from the great  
18 State of Alabama; we reaffirm our unceasing global efforts to  
19 obtain the fullest possible accounting of our Missing in  
20 Action personnel; the search, recovery, and repatriation of  
21 Missing in Action remains help bring closure to families  
22 bearing the burden of the unresolved fate of their loved ones;  
23 and

24 WHEREAS, we remember and honor these valiant members  
25 of our military and salute their courageous families; we will  
26 not forget these patriots who were willing to give their all  
27 to preserve and protect our freedom; the State of Alabama

1 commends and endorses the national commitment, as fully as  
2 possible to account, for the Americans still missing from our  
3 nation's wars; and

4 WHEREAS, the State of Alabama calls upon the  
5 President, Secretary of State, and Secretary of Defense to  
6 consistently raise, with foreign counterparts, the need for  
7 increased action to help account for our missing, alive and  
8 dead, and return them to the United States; now therefore,

9 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
10 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we observe September 17, 2021,  
11 as POW/MIA Day in the State of Alabama, and honor those  
12 Alabama citizens who were Prisoners of War and who are still  
13 Missing in Action; we urge citizens to join in expressing  
14 gratitude to these cherished Americans of the United States  
15 Military for what they have done for our great nation, and we  
16 are forever indebted and deeply grateful for those who have  
17 sacrificed their own safety and freedom for the United States  
18 of America.