

SJR54 INTRODUCED



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2 By Senators Allen, Albritton, Barfoot, Beasley, Bell, Butler,
3 Carnley, Chambliss, Chesteen, Coleman, Coleman-Madison,
4 Elliott, Figures, Givhan, Gudger, Hatcher, Hovey, Jones,
5 Kelley, Livingston, Melson, Orr, Price, Reed, Roberts,
6 Scofield, Sessions, Shelnut, Singleton, Smitherman, Stewart,
7 Stutts, Waggoner, Weaver, Williams

8 RFD:

9 First Read: 27-Apr-23

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11 2023 Regular Session



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SJR___ COMMENDING MRS. JEANA ROSS FOR BEING INDUCTED INTO THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA COLLEGE OF EDUCATION 2023 HALL OF FAME.

WHEREAS, with very special pleasure, we highly commend Mrs. Jeana Ross, retired Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education Secretary, for being inducted into The University of Alabama College of Education 2023 Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, for 18 years, Mrs. Ross served state public schools as both a teacher and an administrator; throughout her career, she remained dedicated to ensuring the existence of quality early childhood programs in Alabama and helped acquire more than \$7.5 million in grant funding to go toward initiatives and services that benefit low-income children and families; she was appointed to the governor's task force to formulate a plan and oversee the expansion of the Alabama First Class Pre-K Program in 2007, was appointed as Secretary of the Department of Early Childhood Education in 2012, and was appointed to serve on the Education Commission of the United States in 2017; although she retired in 2020, she continues to advocate for quality early childhood



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26 education and support for families in need; and

27 WHEREAS, Mrs. Ross's other accomplishments include
28 guiding the Pre-K Through Third Grade P-3 Integrated
29 Approach to Early Learning and its leadership academy;
30 starting one of the first Alabama Office of School Readiness
31 Programs for pre-k in the Marshall County School System;
32 leading the launch of the Born Ready initiative; and forming
33 a research and evaluation team to assess the positive
34 effects of the state's early childhood education programs;
35 Alabama is now considered a model and national leader in
36 high quality early childhood education; and

37 WHEREAS, Mrs. Ross holds a Bachelor of Science Degree
38 in early Childhood Education from The University of Alabama
39 at Birmingham and a Master of Arts Degree in Education
40 Leadership from The University of Alabama; and

41 WHEREAS, Mrs. Ross and her husband have two sons and
42 twin grandchildren; and

43 WHEREAS, Mrs. Ross is a remarkable leader, friend,
44 and inspiration in the lives of many and is very deserving
45 of special recognition; now therefore,

46 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
47 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Mrs. Jeana Ross, retired
48 Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education Secretary,
49 is highly commended for being inducted into The University
50 of Alabama College of Education 2023 Hall of Fame, and we



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51 hereby dedicate this resolution to her with utmost
52 admiration and regard.