

HR297 INTRODUCED



1 HR297
2 YQSY262-1
3 By Representative Pringle
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 09-May-24



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HR_____ DESIGNATING THE RECIPIENT OF THE 2024 SHROUD AWARD.

WHEREAS, like most regular sessions of the Alabama House of Representatives, the 2024 Session was one that resembled a twisted and disturbing combination of a number of classic game shows: The Price Is Right, Let's Make a Deal, Wheel of Fortune, and Jeopardy; and

WHEREAS, obviously The Price Is Right and Let's Make a Deal come to mind when thinking of the budget process; and the less said about how this place resembles Jeopardy the better; but it's The Wheel of Fortune that affects every member; and at this moment, one member of this House is about to bankrupt as we present the 2024 Shroud Award; and

WHEREAS, but first, a word from our sponsor; and that would be the runner-up for this year's Shroud Award; this member of the House, who is only in his second year, brought House Bill 128, which would have prevented municipal historic preservation commissions from designating a "place of worship" as a historic property or historic district unless the place of worship agreed to it; and

WHEREAS, Representative Mark Gidley's bill would also have retroactively exempted a place of worship that had already been included in a historic designation; and

WHEREAS, Representative Gidley's bill caused the sound system to overload from members wanting to speak; it



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29 was carried over after two members, two members with
30 extremely divergent viewpoints, came to the well and
31 proceeded to beat the living daylights out of that
32 legislation; Representative Gidley, even though your bill
33 failed to pass, it did give this chamber something to cheer
34 about; if only for one moment, it brought Speaker Pro Tem
35 Chris Pringle and Representative Juandalynn Givan together;
36 Representative Gidley, you, sir, are a miracle worker; and

37 WHEREAS, now back to the House version of The Wheel of
38 Fortune; the clue is "failed amendments"; and

39 WHEREAS, Mr. Pro Tem would you help me out; spin the
40 wheel and pick a letter;

41 Pringle: is there an "h?"

42 Yes there is. Spin again.

43 Pringle: is there a "b?"

44 There is a "b!" Spin again.

45 Pringle: I'd like to buy two numbers. I'd like a "7" and a
46 "3."

47 There is a "7" and a "3!"

48 Pringle: I'd like to solve the puzzle Clay; is it Rep. Jim
49 Hill?; and

50 WHEREAS, it is indeed Representative Jim Hill, the
51 Chairman of the powerful House Judiciary Committee, a former
52 circuit judge, a man of formidable intellect who is the
53 winner of the 2024 Shroud Award; though an undoubtedly noble
54 proposal in his own mind, this man came with two of the most
55 boneheaded amendments this House has seen in years; and

56 WHEREAS, House Bill 73 by Representative Phillip



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57 Pettus would have capped property tax increases on Class II
58 and Class III properties; Representative Hill thought it
59 would be a good idea if his first amendment would limit the
60 application of the cap to only the state portion of the tax;
61 he also thought his second amendment to allow county
62 commissions to opt out of the cap if growth exceeded 1.5
63 percent in a year was just as good; and

64 WHEREAS, it would have made more sense if
65 Representative Hill just came with one amendment to provide
66 county commissions with the combination to the bank vault
67 door and a wheelbarrow to take as much money as they wanted;
68 and

69 WHEREAS, on the other hand, it took a lot of courage
70 for Representative Pettus to table those amendments;
71 Representative Pettus, a word of advice: if I were you and I
72 wanted any future bills I sponsor to have a chance, I'd ask
73 the Speaker to assign them to a committee - any committee -
74 other than Judiciary; now therefore,

75 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
76 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That, as they might say on The Price
77 is Right, Representative Jim Hill "Come on down!" You're the
78 winner of the 2024 Shroud Award.