

SB225 ENROLLED



1 SB225
2 SGLW878-2
3 By Senators Gudger, Weaver
4 RFD: Fiscal Responsibility and Economic Development
5 First Read: 19-Mar-24



SB225 Enrolled

1 Enrolled, An Act,

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4 Relating to state symbols; to designate Little Bluestem
5 as the official state native grass.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

7 Section 1. (a) The Legislature hereby finds and
8 declares all of the following:

9 (1) *Schizachyrium scoparium*, commonly known as Little
10 Bluestem, is a warm-season grass native to lower Canada and
11 all of the United States except Nevada and Washington.

12 (2) Little Bluestem fosters healthier Alabama
13 ecosystems by maintaining ecological balance and creating and
14 enhancing habitats that support environmental heterogeneity.

15 (3) Little Bluestem is vital to the overall resilience
16 of Alabama ecosystems by combating Alabama's challenges
17 regarding drought conditions and soil erosion.

18 (4) Little Bluestem contributes to the overall richness
19 of Alabama's wildlife. In addition to the structure of Little
20 Bluestem offering cover and nesting sites for birds, insects,
21 and small mammals, the seeds of Little Bluestem serve as a
22 food source for various organisms.

23 (5) Little Bluestem's distinctive blue-green foliage
24 and reddish-brown seed heads offer unique aesthetic benefits
25 for the residents and visitors of Alabama by adding to the
26 inherent beauty of Alabama's landscapes and natural areas.

27 (6) The planting of Little Bluestem aligns with
28 existing conservation and ecological restoration initiatives



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29 in Alabama. Little Bluestem's inclusion in restoration
30 projects aids in the rehabilitation of degraded ecosystems,
31 particularly in areas impacted by agriculture, urbanization,
32 and other land-use changes.

33 (b) Little Bluestem, *Schizachyrium scoparium*, is hereby
34 declared to be the official State Native Grass of Alabama.

35 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October
36 1, 2024.



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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SB225
Senate 09-Apr-24
I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed
the Senate.

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

House of Representatives
Passed: 02-May-24

By: Senator Gudger