

HJR50 INTRODUCED



1 HJR50
2 HLTH888-1
3 By Representative DuBose
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 11-Feb-25



HJR___ RECOGNIZING APRIL 17, 2025, AS BUCKETS OF SMILES DAY.

WHEREAS, childhood cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in children, with one out of 285 children in the United States being diagnosed by their 20th birthday; and

WHEREAS, more than 190 children are diagnosed with cancer annually in Alabama, and over 500 children in Alabama undergo treatment each year; and

WHEREAS, Buckets of Smiles is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that was founded by Ella Kate Nichols in 2017 with the mission to bring a smile to the face of every child fighting cancer by providing hospital-approved activity items to children in Alabama hospitals; and

WHEREAS, Buckets of Smiles has raised over \$67,000 to improve the lives of children and families affected by cancer; and

WHEREAS, Buckets of Smiles has also created an ambassador program to encourage youth throughout the United States to become involved in helping others by making deliveries to hospitals in their home states; and

WHEREAS, Buckets of Smiles has delivered over 1,588 buckets filled with activity items to children fighting cancer across the nation; and

WHEREAS, Buckets of Smiles has established a college



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29 scholarship for childhood cancer survivors in the State of
30 Alabama; and

31 WHEREAS, Buckets of Smiles advocates for children
32 with cancer and their families, while fundraising for
33 research that seeks to provide better treatments with fewer
34 side effects and hopefully, one day, a cure; now therefore,

35 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
36 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That April 17, 2025, shall be
37 known as Buckets of Smiles Day in the State of Alabama, and
38 the residents of Alabama are encouraged to recognize this
39 day for its importance in spreading awareness regarding
40 children with cancer and the need for better treatment
41 options with fewer side affects.