

HR80 INTRODUCED



1 HR80

2 HGRYK68-1

3 By Representatives Shaw, Underwood, Lovvorn

4 RFD:

5 First Read: 18-Feb-25



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HR _____ HONORING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE STATE OF ALABAMA ON MARCH 4, 2025.

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama and the Nation of Japan are established partners in the global economy, with mutual trade in 2022 between Alabama and Japan reaching nearly \$2 billion, including mineral fuel, aircraft, spacecraft, vehicles, wood pulp, paper, organic and inorganic chemicals, machinery, computers, vehicles, media equipment, ammunition, pharmaceuticals, and financial services; and

WHEREAS, Japanese companies have invested over \$20 billion in Alabama, making Japan the number one foreign direct investor in the state; 20,000 jobs have been created in Alabama, including 8,100 jobs since 2018, by investment from Japanese companies, which include Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, Mazda Toyota Manufacturing USA, Incorporated, Protective Life, Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Alabama, Incorporated, Rheem Manufacturing Company, and Daikin America, Incorporated; and

WHEREAS, in addition to being a regional ally, Japan is a key partner of the United States on the international stage, collaborating with our nation in many critical areas that include global security, development assistance, environmental protection, new energy technologies, supercomputing, critical materials, and space; and



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29 WHEREAS, students at Alabama universities and
30 colleges have been enriched by visits to Japan for study,
31 including students from Birmingham-Southern College, Samford
32 University, University of West Alabama, The University of
33 Alabama at Birmingham, The University of Alabama, Auburn
34 University, The University of Alabama in Huntsville, Troy
35 University, Talladega College, and Miles College; and

36 WHEREAS, the people of Alabama and Japan have enjoyed
37 rich and rewarding friendships and cultural exchange through
38 sister-city relationships, including Birmingham-Hitachi,
39 Anniston-Tatsuno, Tuscaloosa-Narachino, Dothan-Sakado,
40 Mobile-Ichara, Montevallo-Echizen, and Birmingham-Maebashi;
41 the Japanese Garden in the Birmingham Botanical Gardens is
42 recognized by the government of Japan as an official
43 Japanese Cultural Center, and many Alabamians take a lively
44 interest in Japanese culture through organizations such as
45 Bonsai and garden societies, exhibitions, events such as the
46 Sakura festival in Tuscaloosa, and the Japan-America Society
47 of Alabama; now therefore,

48 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
49 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That on this day, March 4, 2025, we
50 hereby honor the long-lasting friendship between the State
51 of Alabama, this body, and the nation of Japan.