

SJR41 ENROLLED



1 SJR41
2 G3YU92C-2
3 By Senator Beasley
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 18-Mar-25



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1 Enrolled, An Act,

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4 SJR____ COMMENDING JOHN F. SMITH III FOR HIS MANY
5 PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

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7 WHEREAS, with great pride and special pleasure,
8 highest commendations are conveyed to John F. "Trey" Smith
9 III for his many professional accomplishments, including
10 being a 2021 recipient of the Presidential Awards for
11 Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, which is the
12 highest honor a teacher can receive by the U.S. government;
13 this honor was bestowed upon him by President Biden; and

14 WHEREAS, Trey Smith was born in Vero Beach, Florida,
15 and moved with his family to Beauregard, Alabama, in 1985;
16 both of his parents are Auburn University graduates with
17 degrees in education, and Trey graduated as valedictorian
18 from Lee-Scott Academy in Auburn; he earned dual Bachelor's
19 Degrees from Louisiana State University in Political Science
20 and Communication Studies; he earned his Master of Education
21 from the University of Pennsylvania; and

22 WHEREAS, Trey was recruited by Teach for America
23 after earning his two undergraduate degrees and moved to
24 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; he taught seventh and eighth
25 grade science and social studies at Morrison Elementary; he
26 later joined the faculty at Boys' Latin of Philadelphia
27 Charter School as a teacher and Science Department Chair;
28 during his tenure at the school, he established a junior



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chapter of National Society of Black Engineers, a science research and internship program, and two robotics teams among many other accomplishments; he co-founded the Philadelphia Engineering and Math Challenge in partnership with educators from the Math Forum to provide a yearlong series of competitions for middle and high school math teams from Philadelphia public schools; and

WHEREAS, Trey moved to Washington, D.C., to serve as an Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellow on Capitol Hill; as a legislative fellow in the U.S. Senate, he helped secure bipartisan amendments to the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2016 relating to engineering and computer science education, career and technical education, and teacher professional development; he continues to engage in education policy as an advisor to the American Association of Physics Teachers; after he completed his fellowship year, the Library of Congress selected him to be the first ever Teacher-in-Residence, where he explored teaching and learning with historical primary sources in science and engineering classrooms; with that experience, he has facilitated workshops sponsored by the National Council for History Education and hosted by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Astronauts Memorial Foundation at the Kennedy Space Center, and the Henry Ford Learning Institute; and

WHEREAS, since 2009, Trey has served as a teacher-consultant with the Philadelphia Writing Project, for which he co-facilitated its signature Invitational



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57 Summer Institute on Writing and Literacy for six summers and
58 co-chaired the advisory board from 2020 to 2024; he co-led a
59 \$60,000 grant for the National Writing Project and the
60 Association of Science-Technology Centers to create the
61 after-school program, "GAME ON! Philadelphia: Science,
62 Literacy, and the Pursuit of Happiness" in partnership with
63 the Academy of Natural Sciences at Drexel University; he has
64 also co-led several grants from the Library of Congress,
65 including a four-year \$225,000 grant to create curriculum
66 materials for using primary sources to support civically
67 engaged argument writing in K-12 classrooms; and

68 WHEREAS, Trey currently teaches new teachers in
69 secondary science education methods and foundations in
70 education at the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School
71 of Education; he also teaches K-8 students in a
72 multidisciplinary makerspace at the Marian Anderson School
73 in Philadelphia; he has authored several publications in
74 peer-reviewed journals, book chapters, and web publications
75 for educators; he has given many presentations and has been
76 invited to give lectures and keynote addresses; we would be
77 remiss if we did not mention his humble career beginnings at
78 Toomer's Drugs, which was under the ownership of Senator
79 Billy Beasley, who has watched his career with admiration;
80 now therefore,

81 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
82 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That John F. "Trey" Smith III is
83 highly commended for his dedication to education from the
84 classroom to Congress and this resolution is offered to him



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85 as evidence of our high regard and with best wishes for
86 continued success and prosperity.



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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

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Senate 18-Mar-25

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and
passed the Senate.

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

House of Representatives

Passed: 01-Apr-25

By: Senator Beasley