

## SJR73 ENROLLED



1 SJR73

2 FK11H5D-2

3 By Senators Coleman, Hatcher, Coleman-Madison, Singleton,  
4 Smitherman, Albritton, Allen, Barfoot, Beasley, Bell, Butler,  
5 Carnley, Chambliss, Chesteen, Elliott, Figures, Givhan,  
6 Gudger, Hovey, Jones, Kelley, Kitchens, Livingston, Melson,  
7 Orr, Price, Roberts, Sessions, Shelnutt, Stewart, Stutts,  
8 Waggoner, Weaver, Williams

9 RFD: Rules

10 First Read: 15-Apr-25



## SJR73 Enrolled

1    Enrolled, An Act,

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4    SJR\_\_\_ RECOGNIZING APRIL 15, 2025, AS JACKIE ROBINSON DAY IN  
5    THE STATE OF ALABAMA.

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7            WHEREAS, on April 15, 1947, Jackie Robinson made  
8    history when he stepped onto the field with the Brooklyn  
9    Dodgers as the first African American to play Major League  
10   Baseball in the modern era, breaking the league's color  
11   barrier and marking a turning point in both the sport and  
12   the American Civil Rights Movement; and

13           WHEREAS, the Alabama State Legislature is proud to  
14   join Major League Baseball and the Jackie Robinson  
15   Foundation in recognizing and celebrating the life, legacy,  
16   and enduring influence of this baseball giant and American  
17   hero; and

18           WHEREAS, Jack Roosevelt Robinson was born on January  
19   31, 1919, in Cairo, Georgia, near the Alabama state line,  
20   and would go on to break barriers not only on the baseball  
21   diamond but throughout American society; and

22           WHEREAS, Robinson's career intersected with Alabama  
23   history, including playing in the Negro Leagues at historic  
24   Rickwood Field in Birmingham, one of the oldest professional  
25   ballparks in the country, which also hosted many other Negro  
26   League and Major League greats; and

27           WHEREAS, Alabama is proud of its deep baseball roots  
28   and contributions to the Negro Leagues, including legendary



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29 players such as Satchel Paige and Willie Mays, both of whom,  
30 like Jackie Robinson, used their platforms to challenge  
31 segregation and pave the way for future generations; and

32 WHEREAS, Jackie Robinson attended the University of  
33 California, Los Angeles (UCLA), where he became the school's  
34 first four-sport varsity letter winner, excelling in  
35 football, basketball, track and field, and baseball; and

36 WHEREAS, Robinson served with distinction in the  
37 United States Army during World War II, rising to the rank  
38 of Second Lieutenant before receiving an honorable  
39 discharge; and

40 WHEREAS, in 1945, he began his professional career in  
41 the Negro Leagues with the Kansas City Monarchs, and later  
42 that year became the first African American signed to a  
43 Major League organization in the modern era, joining the  
44 Brooklyn Dodgers' minor league affiliate, the Montreal  
45 Royals; and

46 WHEREAS, in 1947, Robinson broke baseball's color  
47 barrier with the Brooklyn Dodgers, was named Rookie of the  
48 Year, and went on to earn National League Most Valuable  
49 Player honors in 1949 and lead his team to a World Series  
50 Championship in 1955; and

51 WHEREAS, his Hall of Fame career included a .311  
52 batting average, 137 home runs, 734 RBIs, 197 stolen bases,  
53 and leadership on and off the field; and

54 WHEREAS, Jackie Robinson was inducted into the  
55 Baseball Hall of Fame in 1962, and his number, 42, was  
56 permanently retired by every Major League team in 1997 in



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57 honor of the 50th anniversary of his debut; and

58 WHEREAS, Jackie Robinson's post-baseball career  
59 included breaking barriers in business and media, founding  
60 Black-owned financial institutions, championing civil  
61 rights, and advocating for social and economic justice until  
62 his passing in 1972; and

63 WHEREAS, since 2004, Major League Baseball has  
64 celebrated Jackie Robinson Day each April 15, and since  
65 2009, every MLB player and coach has worn No. 42 in his  
66 honor on that day; and

67 WHEREAS, the State of Alabama, in honoring Jackie  
68 Robinson's enduring legacy, affirms its commitment to  
69 equality, inclusion, and the fight against discrimination in  
70 all forms; now therefore,

71 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
72 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That April 15, 2025, be  
73 recognized as Jackie Robinson Day in the State of Alabama,  
74 in celebration of his profound contributions to the game of  
75 baseball, to civil rights, and to the betterment of American  
76 society.

77 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State  
78 Legislature proudly joins Major League Baseball and the  
79 Jackie Robinson Foundation in acknowledging and honoring  
80 this towering figure whose courage, dignity, and  
81 determination forever changed the face of American sports  
82 and culture.

83 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this  
84 resolution be provided to the Jackie Robinson Foundation,



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85 Major League Baseball, and other appropriate organizations  
86 as an expression of the State of Alabama's deep respect and  
87 recognition of Jackie Robinson's lasting legacy.



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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

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103 SJR73

104 Senate 15-Apr-25

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

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Patrick Harris,  
Secretary.

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114 House of Representatives

115 Passed: 17-Apr-25

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120 By: Senator Coleman