

## SJR85 ENROLLED



1     SJR85  
2     HGB5J88-2  
3     By Senator Orr  
4     RFD: Rules  
5     First Read: 29-Apr-25



## SJR85 Enrolled

1 Enrolled, An Act,

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4 SJR\_\_\_\_ COMMENDING THE COOK MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCE.  
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6 WHEREAS, with great pride and special pleasure,  
7 highest commendations are conveyed to the Cook Museum of  
8 Natural Science in support of their mission to introduce the  
9 natural world to students of all ages in North Alabama; and

10 WHEREAS, the Cook Museum of Natural Science began in  
11 1968 when John Cook, Sr. opened his professional insect  
12 collection to the public by appointment; and

13 WHEREAS, the Cook family, in 2016, expressed their  
14 vision of the museum as a more engaging, exciting, and  
15 educational experience for the next generation; the new Cook  
16 Museum of Natural Science reopened as a nonprofit  
17 organization on June 7, 2019; and

18 WHEREAS, today, the Cook Museum of Natural Science is  
19 a 62,000 square foot, state-of-the-art natural science  
20 museum with STEM classrooms and an exhibition space that  
21 holds nine themed galleries, providing a hands-on, immersive  
22 experience where kids can explore, interact with, and learn  
23 about nature; some of the highlights that museum guests can  
24 experience include an immersive cave experience; live  
25 animals, including baby alligators, lizards, snakes,  
26 insects, jellyfish, fresh and saltwater fish, an endangered  
27 Kemp's ridley sea turtle; a forest exhibit with a climbing  
28 tree; and much more; and



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29           WHEREAS, since its opening in 2019, the museum has  
30   partnered with North Alabama schools to bring students to  
31   its STEM classrooms; during 2023, the museum's total number  
32   of visitors was 85,626 which includes 16,243 students from  
33   72 cities and 19 Alabama counties; those numbers increased  
34   to 86,725, with 18,764 of those being students from 90  
35   cities and 21 Alabama counties; the program is so successful  
36   and enriching for the students that the museum has plans to  
37   raise funds to expand its STEM program; now therefore,

38           BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE LEGISLATURE OF  
39   ALABAMA, That the Cook Museum of Natural History is highly  
40   commended for bringing essential learning experiences to the  
41   residents and students of North Alabama and designated to  
42   serve as the North Alabama STEM Center as a partner in  
43   education with North Alabama schools.



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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR85

Senate 29-Apr-25

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

Patrick Harris,  
Secretary.

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House of Representatives

Passed: 01-May-25

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By: Senator Orr