

HB661 INTRODUCED



1 HB661

2 6Y97C13-1

3 By Representatives Garrett, Moore (M), Tillman, Datcher,
4 Givan, Collins, Baker, Holk-Jones, Kiel, Givens, Drummond,
5 Warren, Shaw, Shaver, Nelson, DuBose, Crow, Sellers, Wilcox,
6 England, Rafferty, McCampbell

7 RFD: State Government

8 First Read: 31-Mar-26



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SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, the official state song is "Alabama." This bill would designate "Stars Fell on Alabama" as the official state song.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to state symbols; to amend Section 1-2-16, Code of Alabama 1975; to designate "Stars Fell on Alabama" as the official state song.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 1-2-16 of the Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:

"§1-2-16

~~The poem "Alabama," a gift to the people of the state from Julia S. Tutwiler, together with the original music written for such poem by Edna Cockel-Gussen, which music has been approved and adopted by the Alabama Federation of Music Clubs, is hereby adopted as the state song of Alabama."~~

(a) The Legislature finds and declares both of the following:

(1) "Stars Fell on Alabama," with music by Frank



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29 Perkins and lyrics by Mitchell Parish, has long been
30 associated with the State of Alabama, reflecting a unique
31 chapter in the state's cultural history and resonating broadly
32 with Alabamians and visitors alike.

33 (2) Elevating "Stars Fell on Alabama" to the status of
34 the official state song will honor Alabama's musical heritage
35 and strengthen the state's identity across civic, educational,
36 and cultural settings.

37 (b) "Stars Fell on Alabama" is hereby designated and
38 named the official state song of Alabama.

39 (c) Any prior statutory designation of a different
40 official state song is hereby superseded and replaced by the
41 designation in subsection (b).

42 (d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to
43 authorize the reproduction, distribution, or public
44 performance of the musical composition or lyrics of "Stars
45 Fell on Alabama" in violation of applicable intellectual
46 property laws.

47 (e) This section does not limit counties,
48 municipalities, or state agencies from recognizing additional
49 songs or musical works for ceremonial, educational, or tourism
50 purposes consistent with state law."

51 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October
52 1, 2026.