

HJR158 ENROLLED



1 HJR158
2 V7STXLP-2
3 By Representative Carns
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 19-Feb-26



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1 Enrolled, An Act,

2

3 HONORING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECLARATION OF
4 INDEPENDENCE AND RECOMMITTING TO THE FOUNDING IDEALS OF
5 VIRTUE AND EDUCATION AND COMMENDING FORMER UNITED STATES
6 SECRETARY OF EDUCATION WILLIAM J. BENNETT FOR HIS
7 CONTRIBUTIONS TO ADVANCE THESE IDEALS.

8

9 WHEREAS, the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of
10 Independence represents an ideal time to reflect and
11 reengage with the critical foundations of our nation; and

12 WHEREAS, our nation's Founding Fathers repeatedly
13 emphasized the necessity of an educated populace, and in
14 particular, a populace educated in the fundamental concepts
15 of virtue; and

16 WHEREAS, the continuation of any republic
17 fundamentally depends upon an educated and virtuous public;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, in too many instances, our schools have
20 strayed from ensuring that students are regularly exposed to
21 the timeless and fundamental concepts of virtue, such as
22 honesty, courage, perseverance, work, and compassion; and

23 WHEREAS, we commend those who have, throughout their
24 careers, worked to advance character and virtue education, a
25 leader among them being former United States Secretary of
26 Education William J. Bennett, author of *The Book of Virtues*
27 and *The Children's Book of Virtues*; and

28 WHEREAS, at this critical juncture in our history,



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29 the State of Alabama should recommit to infusing robust
30 character and virtue education into our schools; and

31 WHEREAS, reading timeless stories of individuals,
32 both from Alabama and beyond, who exhibit timeless virtues
33 in our schools is an ideal way for children to learn about
34 and grow into virtuous adults; now therefore,

35 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
36 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Legislature of Alabama
37 commends all those committed to the endeavor of exposing our
38 children to the critical and timeless characteristics of a
39 virtuous life, including Dr. William J. Bennett, and further
40 encourages all schools to review all aspects of their
41 educational programming and seek to infuse character and
42 virtue education into all aspects of their day.



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Speaker of the House of Representatives

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in
and was passed by the House 26-Feb-26.

John Treadwell
Clerk

Senate

05-Mar-26

Adopted