

HJR158 INTRODUCED



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



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

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

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

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

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

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



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29 WHEREAS, at this critical juncture in our history,
30 the State of Alabama should recommit to infusing robust
31 character and virtue education into our schools; and

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

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