

# HJR301 ENROLLED



1 HJR301  
2 6Y7YY31-2  
3 By Representatives Paramore, Robbins  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 31-Mar-26



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1 Enrolled, An Act,

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3 ESTABLISHING THE ALABAMA FOREST PRODUCTS RETENTION  
4 AND PULP AND PAPER MILL STABILITY STUDY COMMISSION.

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6 WHEREAS, the forestry industry is a cornerstone of  
7 Alabama's economy, with over 23 million acres of forestland  
8 covering roughly 69 percent of the state; and

9 WHEREAS, the forestry industry also generates a  
10 total annual economic impact of 36 billion dollars to, and  
11 directly supports over 40,000 jobs in, this state; and

12 WHEREAS, Alabama is home to more than 110  
13 manufacturing facilities, including critical sawmills and  
14 pulp and paper mills, all of which are crucial for rural  
15 economies and economic development; and

16 WHEREAS, the pulp and paper sector of the forestry  
17 industry is facing evolving market challenges, international  
18 competition, and environmental regulatory changes that  
19 necessitate a proactive approach to keeping these facilities  
20 in Alabama; and

21 WHEREAS, it is in the state's best interest to  
22 ensure that pulp and paper mills located in the state remain  
23 competitive, well-capitalized, and operational to sustain  
24 local economies, forestry jobs, and ancillary service jobs;  
25 now therefore,

26 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
27 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Alabama Forest Products  
28 Retention and Pulp and Paper Mill Stability Study Commission



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29 is established to study the forestry industry as a whole,  
30 with a specific focus on the best practices to retain pulp  
31 and paper mills in this state and how best to maintain the  
32 state's attractiveness to these sectors.

33 (a) The study commission shall consist of the  
34 following members:

35 (1) Each member of the Agriculture and Forestry  
36 Committee of the House of Representatives, with the chair of  
37 the committee serving as chair of the study commission.

38 (2) One member of the House of Representatives,  
39 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

40 (3) One member of the Senate, appointed by the  
41 Lieutenant Governor.

42 (4) The State Forester, or his or her designee.

43 (5) The Secretary of Commerce, or his or her  
44 designee.

45 (6) One member appointed by the Alabama Forestry  
46 Association.

47 (7) One member appointed by the Economic Development  
48 Partnership of Alabama.

49 (8) One member appointed by Manufacture Alabama.

50 (b) The appointing authorities shall coordinate  
51 their appointments to assure the study commission membership  
52 is inclusive and reflects the racial, gender, geographic,  
53 urban, rural, and economic diversity of the state.

54 (c) The initial meeting of the study commission  
55 shall be held at the call of the chair no later than July 1,  
56 2026. The study commission may then meet as necessary to



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57 conduct business.

58 (d) The study commission shall assess all of the  
59 following matters:

60 (1) Strategies to retain forest products and pulp  
61 and paper mills in the state, including methods of  
62 encouraging existing pulp and paper mills to maintain and  
63 expand their presence in the state.

64 (2) Infrastructure needs of pulp and paper mills in  
65 the state, including available resources and energy  
66 infrastructure needed for mill operation.

67 (3) Methods by which state environmental, labor, and  
68 tax policies may be revised to ensure a pro-growth  
69 environment for the pulp and paper sectors.

70 (4) Current transitions in the pulp and paper  
71 products market and how the state may attract emerging  
72 paper-based technology manufacturing.

73 (e) The study commission shall prepare and submit a  
74 comprehensive report of its findings, conclusions, and  
75 recommendations for proposed legislation, if any, to the  
76 Legislature not later than November 1, 2026, at which point  
77 the study commission shall stand dissolved.

78 (f) (1) The legislative members of the study  
79 commission shall be entitled to their legislative  
80 compensation, per diem, and travel expenses for each day  
81 they attend a meeting of the study commission pursuant to  
82 Section 49 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022.

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86           (2) The nonlegislative members of the study  
87 commission shall serve without compensation but may be  
88 reimbursed for necessary expenses in attending meetings of  
89 the study commission pursuant to the policies of their  
90 respective appointing authority.

91           (g) Pursuant to Section 36-14-17.1, Code of Alabama  
92 1975, the study commission shall provide to the Secretary of  
93 State a notice of all meetings, the name of each member  
94 serving on the study commission, and a copy of the final  
95 report and any other documents produced by the study  
96 commission throughout its duration.



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Speaker of the House of Representatives

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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 01-Apr-26.

John Treadwell  
Clerk

Senate

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**09-Apr-26**

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Adopted