

# HJR71 ENROLLED



1 HJR71

2 NR1ENJJ-2

3 By Representatives Clarke, Drummond, Jones, Shirey, Stringer,

4 Baker, Wilcox, Bracy, Brown, Pringle, Simpson, Givens,

5 Holk-Jones, Fidler, Jackson

6 RFD: Rules

7 First Read: 29-Jan-26



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1 Enrolled, An Act,

2

3 COMMENDING ROBERTA SWANN ON HER RETIREMENT AS DIRECTOR OF  
4 THE MOBILE BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM.

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6 WHEREAS, it is with great pride and deep appreciation  
7 that we recognize individuals who have devoted their lives  
8 to public service and environmental stewardship, improving  
9 the quality of life for the people and natural resources of  
10 Alabama; and

11 WHEREAS, Roberta Swann has served the Mobile Bay  
12 National Estuary Program since 2004, first as Deputy  
13 Director, and since 2009, as Director, providing more than  
14 two decades of dedicated leadership and guidance through a  
15 period of historic growth and impact; and

16 WHEREAS, throughout her tenure, Roberta Swann has  
17 demonstrated exceptional vision, determination, and  
18 commitment in advancing a community-based approach to  
19 watershed management that significantly improved and  
20 protected Alabama's coastal and estuarine resources; and

21 WHEREAS, under her leadership, more than \$100 million  
22 in federal, state, local, and private funding was invested  
23 in Alabama's estuaries and coastal watersheds, supporting  
24 large-scale restoration, conservation, and resilience  
25 initiatives; and

26 WHEREAS, Roberta Swann has been widely recognized for  
27 her ability to convene and coordinate diverse stakeholders  
28 from government, industry, academia, nonprofit



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29 organizations, and local communities, providing a meaningful  
30 and inclusive voice in environmental decision-making; and

31 WHEREAS, her leadership resulted in the development  
32 and implementation of comprehensive watershed management  
33 plans covering all intertidal watersheds in Mobile and  
34 Baldwin Counties, as well as the completion of multiple  
35 Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plans; and

36 WHEREAS, during her tenure, the Mobile Bay National  
37 Estuary Program completed transformational restoration  
38 projects that restored streams, wetlands, marshes, and  
39 shorelines; improved water quality; protected ecologically  
40 sensitive lands; and strengthened Alabama's coastal  
41 resilience; and

42 WHEREAS, Roberta Swann played a central role in  
43 guiding the unanimous approval of the program's third  
44 Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan and the  
45 publication of the State of Alabama's Estuaries and Coasts  
46 Report, providing a clear roadmap for protecting Alabama's  
47 coastal way of life for the next decade; and

48 WHEREAS, her distinguished career has been recognized  
49 through numerous honors, including the Alabama Wildlife  
50 Federation Conservationist of the Year Award, a Certificate  
51 of Recognition from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
52 for 25 years of service, and the Gulf Coast Marine  
53 Environmental Excellence Award; and

54 WHEREAS, Roberta Swann retired from her position as  
55 Director of the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program  
56 effective January 31, 2026; she leaves a lasting legacy of



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57 collaboration, environmental stewardship, and public service  
58 that has earned the respect and gratitude of community  
59 leaders, colleagues, and citizens throughout coastal  
60 Alabama; now therefore,

61 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
62 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we hereby commend Roberta  
63 Swann for her exemplary service as Director of the Mobile  
64 Bay National Estuary Program and to the State of Alabama,  
65 and we extend heartfelt congratulations on the occasion of  
66 her retirement, along with best wishes for continued health,  
67 happiness, and fulfillment in the years to come.

