

## HJR71 INTRODUCED



1 HJR71  
2 NR1ENJJ-1  
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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4 HJR\_\_\_ COMMENDING ROBERTA SWANN ON HER RETIREMENT AS  
5 DIRECTOR OF THE MOBILE BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM.  
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7 WHEREAS, it is with great pride and deep appreciation  
8 that we recognize individuals who have devoted their lives  
9 to public service and environmental stewardship, improving  
10 the quality of life for the people and natural resources of  
11 Alabama; and

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

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

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

27 WHEREAS, Roberta Swann has been widely recognized for  
28 her ability to convene and coordinate diverse stakeholders



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from government, industry, academia, nonprofit organizations, and local communities, providing a meaningful and inclusive voice in environmental decision-making; and

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, Roberta Swann retired from her position as Director of the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program



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57 effective January 31, 2026; she leaves a lasting legacy of  
58 collaboration, environmental stewardship, and public service  
59 that has earned the respect and gratitude of community  
60 leaders, colleagues, and citizens throughout coastal  
61 Alabama; now therefore,

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