

# HJR76 ENROLLED



1 HJR76  
2 U9H19DX-2  
3 By Representatives Crawford, Whitt, Moore (P), Harrison,  
4 Rigsby  
5 RFD: Rules  
6 First Read: 03-Feb-26



## HJR76 Enrolled

1 Enrolled, An Act,

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3 COMMENDING SANDRA THOMPSON FOR HER OUTSTANDING  
4 LEADERSHIP AS DIRECTOR OF THE ALABAMA VETERANS MUSEUM AND  
5 ARCHIVES.

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7 WHEREAS, it is with profound appreciation and deepest  
8 admiration that we recognize Sandra "Sandy" Thompson for 17  
9 years of steadfast service and exemplary leadership as  
10 Director of the Alabama Veterans Museum and Archives; and

11 WHEREAS, open in Athens since 2000, the Alabama  
12 Veterans Museum and Archives (AVMA) is dedicated to the  
13 memory of veterans from Alabama who served in all branches  
14 of the United States Armed Forces; and

15 WHEREAS, due to Sandy's calm, innovative, and highly  
16 efficient guidance, the past 17 years have been filled with  
17 numerous accomplishments at the museum; her positive,  
18 persuasive nature has been a tremendous tool in sustaining  
19 the AVMA, which is now home to 2,000 artifacts belonging to  
20 local veterans both past and present; the collection  
21 includes uniforms, medals, weapons, photographs, and books  
22 from all major American wars; and

23 WHEREAS, Sandy's job performance has exceeded  
24 expectations; the AVMA mainly relies upon donations and  
25 daily volunteers, and she is the only paid staff member;  
26 under her leadership, the museum continues to succeed and  
27 grow, due largely to Sandy's encouragement of others in  
28 order to accomplish a mission; and



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29           WHEREAS, moving the museum from the Louisville and  
30 Nashville Railroad Depot to its current location in the  
31 larger Limestone County Events Center was indeed a great  
32 challenge; however, Sandy, who is a retired Air Force Master  
33 Sergeant with 20 years of service, met the challenge head-on  
34 while organizing, planning, and executing the move in a  
35 seamless fashion; her leadership style is commendable; and

36           WHEREAS, her ability to interact with elected  
37 officials at the city, county, and state levels is another  
38 positive attribute; she is well respected within the  
39 business and political communities, and she has been very  
40 connected in getting the community involved with the museum  
41 as a whole; and

42           WHEREAS, under Sandy's direction, the museum has  
43 sought to institute a variety of programs and activities to  
44 bring in more members for the Alabama Veterans Museum  
45 Foundation, raise funds, and increase the number of tourists  
46 visiting the museum; some of these new activities include  
47 blood drives, an annual fish fry, political rallies,  
48 military shows, and participation in a yearly Veterans Day  
49 Parade; these efforts also include a variety of successful  
50 memorial programs; and

51           WHEREAS, Sandy has also helped initiate two of the  
52 most popular fundraisers for the museum, such as the  
53 "Threads of Honor" program allowing patrons to donate money  
54 to have veterans' names and other military information  
55 hand-stitched by local quilters into a quilt that hangs in  
56 perpetuity in the museum in their honor, and the monthly



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57 "Coffee Call" offering visitors and locals the opportunity  
58 to meet and talk with veterans while enjoying a free  
59 breakfast; each event is sponsored by a local business or  
60 group of veterans or civilians in honor of the men and women  
61 who gave their lives in the service of the United States  
62 Armed Forces; and

63 WHEREAS, Sandy Thompson has indeed left big  
64 footprints to fill upon her retirement as Director of the  
65 Alabama Veterans Museum and Archives; museum officials  
66 estimate that more than 12,000 individuals visit the AVMA  
67 each year; shortly after she became Director, the Alabama  
68 Mountain Lakes Association honored the AVMA with the 2009  
69 PEAK Award as Attraction of the Year for contributing to  
70 tourism in North Alabama; now therefore,

71 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
72 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we hereby most highly  
73 commend Sandra "Sandy" Thompson for her faithful devotion to  
74 her community and to honoring Alabama's veterans, and we  
75 extend to her our heartfelt gratitude and sincere best  
76 wishes for continued health, happiness, and fulfillment in  
77 her future endeavors.



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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 05-Feb-26.

John Treadwell  
Clerk

Senate

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**10-Feb-26**

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Adopted