

## HJR99 INTRODUCED



1 HJR99  
2 I37DCZ6-1  
3 By Representatives Paschal, Wilcox, Crawford, Rigsby, Travis,  
4 Estes, McClammy, Brinyark, Hall, Holk-Jones, Oliver,  
5 Underwood, Rehm, Stadthagen, Fidler  
6 RFD: Rules  
7 First Read: 05-Feb-26



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4 HJR\_\_\_\_ RECOGNIZING THE 43RD ALABAMA STATE GAMES OPENING  
5 CEREMONY AS IT HONORS THE 250TH BIRTHDAY OF THE UNITED  
6 STATES OF AMERICA AND HONORS ALABAMA HEROES AND THEIR  
7 DESCENDANTS.  
8

9 WHEREAS, it is with the highest commendation and  
10 esteem that the Alabama Legislature recognizes the 43rd  
11 Alabama State Games Opening Ceremony as an America 250  
12 Alabama-certified event; and

13 WHEREAS, the Alabama State Games, originally known as  
14 the Alabama Sports Festival (ASF), operating as a 501(c)(3)  
15 nonprofit organization, was established at the request of  
16 the United States Olympic Committee and incorporated in  
17 1982; it is a member of the National Congress of State Games  
18 and the second-oldest State Games program in the United  
19 States; and

20 WHEREAS, the Alabama State Games touches the lives of  
21 thousands of Alabamians each year by creating an  
22 Olympic-style experience, encouraging academic achievement  
23 by awarding, to date, 660 academic scholarships totaling  
24 \$466,000 to participating athletes, and hosting additional  
25 programs to encourage academics, healthy lifestyles, and  
26 good citizenship; and

27 WHEREAS, 2026 is the Semiquincentennial Anniversary  
28 of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, a



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29 revolutionary statement of sovereignty for the 13 American  
30 colonies from the rule of England, which launched the United  
31 States as a new nation; and

32 WHEREAS, Alabama was admitted to the Union as the  
33 22nd state on December 14, 1819; and

34 WHEREAS, the ASF Foundation, in keeping with the  
35 teaching of positive values to the youth of Alabama, has  
36 chosen the Opening Ceremony of the 43rd Alabama State Games,  
37 to be held on Friday, June 12, 2026, inside Legacy Arena at  
38 the Birmingham-Jefferson Convention Center, as the platform  
39 to honor the 250th birthday of the United States of America  
40 with a patriotic ceremony directed by the staff of Troy  
41 University's John M. Long School of Music, featuring  
42 performances by musical artists Deborah Allen, Savanna Kirby  
43 and POPulus, Troy University's prestigious music ensemble,  
44 and televised statewide on Gray Media-owned television  
45 stations; and

46 WHEREAS, the ASF Foundation was created in 2001  
47 following the tragic September 11th attacks on New York and  
48 Washington, D.C., and its program, *Honoring Our Heroes*,  
49 recognizes individuals in our communities who sacrifice to  
50 keep our neighborhoods safe and healthy; and

51 WHEREAS, because we are celebrating 250 years of  
52 America and the peace, freedoms, and prosperity it has  
53 offered, the Alabama State Games finds it fitting and proper  
54 to recognize, with a commemorative medal, the immense  
55 historical significance and continued contributions  
56 individuals have made and continue to make to the security



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57 and prosperity of the State of Alabama and the nation as a  
58 whole; and

59 WHEREAS, on June 12, 2026, the ASF Foundation will  
60 add to the *Honoring Our Heroes* legacy by celebrating those  
61 Alabamians and their families who have positively  
62 contributed to the United States, including Native Americans  
63 and descendants of Native Americans; active-duty and retired  
64 military members and their descendants; descendants of  
65 individuals who have served in any military capacity since  
66 the American Revolutionary War; and descendants of  
67 individuals who have contributed to the socio-economic  
68 welfare of Alabama culturally and historically since its  
69 founding, including contributions in science, music,  
70 literature, civic service, business, finance, and sports;  
71 now therefore,

72 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
73 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That on behalf of the State of  
74 Alabama and the citizens thereof, we hereby recognize the  
75 efforts of the Alabama State Games and join together in  
76 united support in celebrating the 250th Birthday of the  
77 United States of America and in honoring all those who have  
78 directly or indirectly contributed to this great nation  
79 throughout its 250 years.

80 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Legislature of  
81 Alabama encourages city and county governments, Alabama  
82 veterans' and military organizations, individuals,  
83 companies, corporations, and community organizations to join  
84 with the Alabama State Games and the State of Alabama in



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85 honoring and giving special tribute to America's 250th  
86 birthday celebration and to all contributors in a manner  
87 that will be remembered for a lifetime.

88 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this  
89 resolution be distributed to the ASF Foundation, Home of the  
90 Alabama State Games.