

SJR101 INTRODUCED



1 SJR101
2 ARKNY7Q-1
3 By Senator Givhan
4 RFD: RULES
5 First Read: 01-Apr-26



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SJR___ COMMENDING AUBURN UNIVERSITY'S SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE, PLANNING AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE.

WHEREAS, with sincere appreciation and utmost respect, we recognize the exemplary work of multiple faculty members and research assistants from the Auburn University School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape Architecture (APLA); the team has created and printed more than 150 miniature scale models of the new Alabama State House that will replace the 1963 building and complete the urban complex that includes the Alabama State Capitol Building; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, the Alabama Legislature commissioned New York-based Robert A.M. Stern Architects and local architecture and engineering firm Goodwyn Mills Cawood (GMC) to build the new State House, which is set to be completed this year and occupied before the 2027 Legislative Session; and

WHEREAS, to commemorate the new building, GMC partnered with APLA to 3D-print phases of the models; in the summer of 2025, Associate Professor Robert Sproull, Assistant Professors Frank Hu and Ernesto Bilbao, Engineering Tech Jon Byler, and a team of student research assistants printed the miniature models as tokens for legislators; the task was completed with the help of APLA's



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29 information technology department; and

30 WHEREAS, APLA Associate Professor of Environmental
31 Design Robert Sproull has more than 15 years of design,
32 construction, and engineering experience on a range of
33 award-winning projects; he holds a Master of Architecture
34 from Rice University and Bachelor's degrees in both
35 Architecture and Civil Engineering from Auburn University;
36 much of his professional focus has been on large-scale
37 cultural buildings and museums in cities including Atlanta,
38 New York, and Boston; and

39 WHEREAS, Frank Hu is an Assistant Professor of
40 Landscape Architecture for APLA; prior to joining Auburn, he
41 practiced for eight years at a St. Louis firm, focusing on
42 large-scale urban design and public greenways; his education
43 includes a Master in Landscape Architecture from Harvard
44 University and a Bachelor of Science in Architecture from
45 Washington University in St. Louis; he was also certified as
46 a Professional Landscape Architect in Missouri; Frank Hu's
47 research focuses primarily on the use of technology in
48 landscape design, employing Geographic Information Systems
49 (GIS), animation, virtual reality, and drones; and

50 WHEREAS, APLA Assistant Professor of Architecture
51 Ernesto Bilbao formerly operated his own architecture studio
52 in Quito, Ecuador, where his most important project featured
53 the transformation of Quito's old airport into a public
54 park; he holds a PhD in Architectural History from The
55 University of Texas at Austin, a Master of Architecture from
56 Rice University as a Fulbright Scholar, and a Bachelor of



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57 Architecture from Universidad San Francisco de Quito; and
58 WHEREAS, Jon Byler is an Engineering Tech for APLA;
59 he oversees the model shop and teaches students safe and
60 effective use of the shop equipment; his education includes
61 a Master of Fine Arts from the University of
62 Wisconsin-Madison and a Bachelor of Arts from Lewis & Clark
63 College; and

64 WHEREAS, APLA research assistants who were
65 instrumental to the State House and Capitol Complex project
66 include Nick Bowden, Sarah Edwards, Khrystyna Kryvenko,
67 Nathan Little, Tzu-Yu Lo, and Tiancheng Zhao; and

68 WHEREAS, the team also constructed two museum-quality
69 models; one is scaled 1 inch to 40 feet and comprises 12
70 city blocks, and the other sets the State House on a
71 three-foot by four-foot base; these 100-year models allow
72 the public to examine and understand what the State House
73 does for Montgomery, as the displays set the new building in
74 the larger urban Capitol complex; and

75 WHEREAS, the creation of these highly detailed and
76 accurate scale models of the Alabama State House required
77 exceptional skill, interdisciplinary collaboration, and a
78 deep understanding of architecture, engineering, history,
79 and public policy; now therefore,

80 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
81 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the aforementioned faculty
82 members and research assistants from the Auburn University
83 School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape Architecture
84 are highly commended and appreciated for their outstanding



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85 contributions to the creation of these historic replicas of
86 the new Alabama State House, and the dedication, precision,
87 and ingenuity they have demonstrated reflect the highest
88 standards of academic excellence and public service.