

## SJR14 INTRODUCED



1 SJR14

2 6Y5AP31-1

3 By Senators , Albritton, Allen, Barfoot, Beasley, Bell,  
4 Butler, Carnley, Chesteen, Coleman, Coleman-Madison, Elliott,  
5 Figures, Givhan, Gudger, Hatcher, Hovey, Jones, Kelley,  
6 Kitchens, Livingston, Melson, Orr, Price, Roberts, Sessions,  
7 Shelnutt, Singleton, Smitherman, Stewart, Stutts, Waggoner,  
8 Weaver, Williams, Woods

9 RFD: Rules

10 First Read: 20-Jan-26



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3  
4 SJR\_\_\_ COMMENDING DREW AND LAUREN WENDLAND AS AMERICA'S TOP  
5 YOUNG FARM FAMILY.  
6

7 WHEREAS, commendations and congratulations are herein  
8 conveyed to Drew and Lauren Wendland on being named  
9 America's Top Young Farm Family at the American Farm Bureau  
10 Federation's (AFBF) Annual Convention on January 12th in  
11 Anaheim, California; and

12 WHEREAS, the accolade honors the Wendlands' impact at  
13 Autauga Farming Company (AFC) in Autaugaville, Alabama, Farm  
14 Bureau involvement, civic service, and agricultural  
15 advocacy; and

16 WHEREAS, The Wendland family farm includes row crops,  
17 cattle and hay, timber, a fertilizer business, and custom  
18 work for neighboring farms; Drew and Lauren's most precious  
19 crop, however, includes sons Mills, Smith, and Rhett; and

20 WHEREAS, the Achievement Award competitors are  
21 farmers between the ages of 18 and 35 and have received more  
22 than half of their income from production agriculture; The  
23 Wendlands qualified for the contest as winners of the  
24 Alabama Farmers Federation 2025 Outstanding Young Farm  
25 Family competition; and

26 WHEREAS, based on a thorough application, they were  
27 named Top 10 Achievement Award finalists during AFBF  
28 Convention; an interview with a panel of expert judges



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29 followed, ultimately leading to the Wendlands taking home  
30 the overall achievement as Top Young Farm Family; and

31 WHEREAS, as Achievement Award winners, the Wendlands  
32 receive \$35,000 toward a vehicle courtesy of Ford in  
33 addition to the \$80,000 prize package they received as  
34 winners of the state contest; and

35 WHEREAS, Drew is Autauga Farming Company's Crop  
36 Production Manager; he is known for shrewd decision-making  
37 that maximizes efficiency, profitability, and stewardship;  
38 Drew's father, Andy, and youngest brother, Dan, each  
39 contribute to the farm's operation in meaningful ways; in  
40 addition to support work on the farm, Lauren is a family  
41 nurse practitioner in Selma; and

42 WHEREAS, ties to the farm community tighten the  
43 thread of agriculture woven through the Wendlands' life;  
44 they serve within the Autauga County Farmers Federation and  
45 its Young Farmers program, plus national organizations and  
46 state entities, like the State Hay & Forage Committee; Drew  
47 is a graduate of the elite A.L.F.A. Leaders program Class V;  
48 and

49 WHEREAS, the Wendlands attend Church Street Methodist  
50 in Selma; they are exemplary representatives of what the  
51 Young Farmers program stands for, faith, family, and  
52 farming; as a fifth generation farming family they work  
53 together to honor the legacy of those who have come before  
54 them while also looking to the future; now therefore,

55 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
56 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Drew and Lauren Wendland are



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57 commended for their many positive contributions to  
58 agriculture in the State of Alabama and congratulated on  
59 being named America's Top Young Farm Family, and this  
60 resolution is offered in highest tribute to them along with  
61 best wishes for success in all future endeavors.