

**SJR19 ENROLLED**



1 SJR19  
2 YMVPG2N-2  
3 By Senators Elliott, Albritton, Allen, Barfoot, Beasley, Bell,  
4 Butler, Carnley, Chambliss, Chesteen, Coleman,  
5 Coleman-Madison, Figures, Givhan, Gudger, Hatcher, Hovey,  
6 Jones, Kelley, Kitchens, Livingston, Melson, Orr, Price,  
7 Roberts, Sessions, Shelnutt, Singleton, Smitherman, Stewart,  
8 Stutts, Waggoner, Weaver, Williams, Woods  
9 RFD: Rules  
10 First Read: 21-Jan-26



1      Enrolled, An Act,

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4      SJR\_\_\_\_ HONORING THE LEGACY AND EXCEPTIONAL LIFE OF ANNA  
5      SMITH BEDSOLE HOLMES.

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7           WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that the  
8      Legislature of Alabama honor the life of The Honorable Anna  
9      "Ann" Smith Bedsole Holmes, a trailblazing public servant,  
10     conservationist, philanthropist, and champion for Alabama's  
11     children and communities, whose passing on December 1, 2025,  
12     marked the loss of one of the state's most influential  
13     leaders; and

14           WHEREAS, born in Selma and reared in Jackson,  
15      Alabama, Ann Bedsole Holmes was educated at The University  
16      of Alabama and the University of Denver; she devoted her  
17      life to public service, breaking historic barriers as the  
18      first Republican woman elected to the Alabama House of  
19      Representatives and the first woman elected to the Alabama  
20      Senate; and

21           WHEREAS, during her legislative career, she advanced  
22      transformative initiatives, including modernized inheritance  
23      rights for widows, the creation of Alabama's 911 emergency  
24      system, and major conservation efforts, later serving as  
25      founding president of the Alabama Forest Resources Center  
26      and preserving thousands of acres of green space across the  
27      state; and

28           WHEREAS, her passion for education led to the



29 founding of the Alabama School of Mathematics and Science in  
30 Mobile, the first fully public residential high school of  
31 its kind in Alabama, where the library proudly bears her  
32 name; it is now recognized as the state's top public high  
33 school and is listed among the top 20 public high schools in  
34 the nation; and

35 WHEREAS, deeply committed to the City of Mobile, Ann  
36 Bedsole Holmes enriched its civic, cultural, and historic  
37 life through leadership in historic preservation, the  
38 restoration of the Saenger Theatre, the founding of the  
39 Alabama Contemporary Arts Center, the creation of  
40 transitional housing for homeless women and children through  
41 the Sybil Smith Family Village, and service as chair of the  
42 Sybil and White Smith Foundation; and

43 WHEREAS, her extraordinary service was recognized  
44 through numerous honors, including induction into the  
45 Alabama Academy of Honor, Mobilian of the Year,  
46 Philanthropist of the Year, and honorary Doctor of Law  
47 degrees from multiple Alabama institutions; and

48 WHEREAS, remembered for her steely resolve, sharp  
49 wit, mischievous humor, and deep compassion, Ann Bedsole  
50 Holmes believed that one person, armed with conviction and  
51 courage, can create real, lasting change; now therefore,

52 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
53 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we honor and commemorate the  
54 remarkable life and legacy of The Honorable Anna Smith  
55 Bedsole Holmes and record her passing with deep respect and  
56 gratitude for her lifelong dedication to education, the City

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57 of Mobile, and the State of Alabama.

