

**SJR71 INTRODUCED**



1 SJR71

2 841N7FF-1

3 By Senators Weaver, Albritton, Allen, Barfoot, Beasley, Bell,

4 Butler, Carnley, Chambliss, Chesteen, Coleman,

5 Coleman-Madison, Elliott, Figures, Givhan, Gudger, Hatcher,

6 Hovey, Jones, Kelley, Kitchens, Livingston, Melson, Orr,

7 Price, Roberts, Sessions, Shelnut, Singleton, Smitherman,

8 Stewart, Stutts, Waggoner, Williams, Woods

9 RFD:

10 First Read: 03-Mar-26



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SJR\_\_\_ COMMENDING PEGGY SELLERS BENSON ON THE OCCASION OF  
HER RETIREMENT AS EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE ALABAMA BOARD OF  
NURSING.

WHEREAS, Peggy Sellers Benson has announced her  
retirement as Executive Officer of the Alabama Board of  
Nursing, effective May 1, 2026; and

WHEREAS, a native of Dora in Walker County, Alabama,  
she entered Alabama's nursing workforce as a registered  
nurse in 1979 after earning an Associate Degree in Nursing  
from Jefferson State Community College; and

WHEREAS, she continued to pursue professional growth,  
earning a Bachelor of Science in Health Care Administration  
and a Certificate in the Health Care Administration  
Development Program from The University of Alabama at  
Birmingham; a Master of Science in Healthcare Administration  
from Kennedy-Western University; and both a Bachelor of  
Science and a Master of Science in Nursing from Jacksonville  
State University; and

WHEREAS, Peggy Benson resides in Clanton, Alabama,  
with her husband of more than 40 years, Harold Hall "Butch"  
Benson, Jr., and is the loving mother of four children and  
grandmother of three grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Benson has served with distinction as  
the Executive Officer of the Board of Nursing since April



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29 11, 2015; and

30 WHEREAS, she previously served the board as a member,  
31 Nursing Consultant, and Deputy Director during an  
32 association spanning nearly three decades; and

33 WHEREAS, Mrs. Benson and the Alabama Board of Nursing  
34 have played an integral role in Alabama's efforts to address  
35 the continuing national shortage of practicing nurses and to  
36 ensure access to care for all citizens; and

37 WHEREAS, under her leadership, the Alabama Board of  
38 Nursing made a decision to obtain legislative approval to  
39 join the national Nurse Licensure Compact, an action that  
40 has had lasting positive effects on nurses and patients  
41 throughout the state; and

42 WHEREAS, Mrs. Benson has continued to lead the board  
43 and the state in eliminating barriers to practice for  
44 Alabama nurses and in providing resources to ease the burden  
45 on nurses at the bedside; this leadership includes the  
46 statutory creation and implementation of three new  
47 classifications of health care workers in Alabama, Student  
48 Nurse Apprentices, Medication Assistants-Certified, and  
49 Nursing Support Technicians, each of which strengthens  
50 patient care while expanding and enhancing career pathways  
51 for aspiring health care professionals; and

52 WHEREAS, she is widely recognized as an expert and  
53 leader in nursing workforce development and has been invited  
54 to present her innovative solutions to organizations  
55 throughout Alabama and the United States, including the  
56 National Council of State Boards of Nursing and the National



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57 Governors Association; and

58 WHEREAS, Mrs. Benson has received numerous awards  
59 from state, national, and international health care,  
60 professional, and regulatory organizations, including the  
61 National Council of State Boards of Nursing; the Council on  
62 Licensure, Enforcement, and Regulation; the Alabama State  
63 Nurses Association; and the Nurse Practitioner Alliance of  
64 Alabama; and

65 WHEREAS, prior to becoming Executive Officer, she  
66 distinguished herself within Alabama's health care community  
67 as a bedside nurse, nurse manager, Chief Nursing Officer,  
68 nurse educator, and hospital administrator at facilities  
69 throughout the state; and

70 WHEREAS, Mrs. Benson's long and distinguished career  
71 reflects a deep commitment to patient care and to the  
72 competence and integrity of the nurses who provide such  
73 care; now therefore,

74 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
75 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Peggy Sellers Benson, MSN,  
76 RN, MSHA, NE-BC, is hereby congratulated on the occasion of  
77 her retirement as Executive Officer of the Alabama Board of  
78 Nursing, with sincere best wishes for continued health,  
79 happiness, and success in the years to come.