

1 SB171
2 204369-1
3 By Senators Gudger, Butler, Orr, Givhan and Jones
4 RFD: Governmental Affairs
5 First Read: 03-FEB-21

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8 SYNOPSIS: This bill would designate the sweet potato
9 as the official state vegetable of Alabama.

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11 A BILL
12 TO BE ENTITLED
13 AN ACT
14

15 To designate the sweet potato as the official state
16 vegetable of Alabama.

17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

18 Section 1. The Legislature hereby finds and declares
19 the following:

20 (1) With the passing of the Bicentennial Celebration
21 of Alabama, it has become known that Alabama lacks an official
22 state vegetable.

23 (2) In 2015, the Alabama Farmers Federation reported
24 that the great State of Alabama ranks sixth among the nation
25 in the production of sweet potatoes; the crop brings an
26 estimated \$9 million annually to the state, making it one of
27 Alabama's main crops.

1 (3) The sandy loam soil of the state allows sweet
2 potatoes to grow quickly and freely, enabling Alabama to
3 produce some of the largest and tastiest sweet potatoes in the
4 country.

5 (4) The sweet potato has long been an Alabama
6 staple; delicious sweet potato dishes have been listed in
7 prominent media outlets such as the Food Network as a "top
8 food to eat in Alabama" and in Southern Living Magazine as a
9 Southern holiday tradition.

10 (5) In light of the above, this body can conjure no
11 better vegetable to represent Alabama, its farmers, and its
12 culinary culture.

13 (6) This body thanks Kristin Smith of Harvest,
14 Alabama, and her homeschool class for their excellent proposal
15 on behalf of the sweet potato which led to this designation.

16 Section 2. The sweet potato is the official state
17 vegetable of Alabama.

18 Section 3. This act shall become effective
19 immediately following its passage and approval by the
20 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.