

1 SJR92
2 201934-1
3 By Senators Waggoner, Reed and Marsh
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 23-MAY-19

ESTABLISHING AN ADVANCED SMALL WIRELESS FACILITIES
DEPLOYMENT TASK FORCE.

WHEREAS, wireless and broadband services are a
significant and growing part of the state's economy; and

WHEREAS, encouraging the development of strong and
robust wireless and broadband communications networks through
the state will promote the state's economic competitiveness
and create new jobs; and

WHEREAS, small wireless facilities will play a
critical role in that development; and

WHEREAS, rapid deployment of small wireless
facilities will serve numerous important statewide goals,
including meeting growing consumer demand for wireless data,
increasing competitive options for communications services
available to the state's residents, promoting the ability of
the state's citizens to communicate with other citizens and
with their state and local governments, and promoting public
safety; and

1 WHEREAS, deployment of small wireless facilities
2 also will be critical to the development of 5G wireless
3 communications, which will drive investment, economic growth,
4 and innovation that will benefit consumers and businesses; and

5 WHEREAS, the state is at risk of losing out on
6 capital investment and economic opportunity that is going to
7 other states because we have yet to provide a statewide clear,
8 consistent, and fair path for all wireless providers to deploy
9 the equipment necessary to deliver the latest wireless
10 broadband technology; and

11 WHEREAS, Alabama's neighbors, Georgia, Tennessee,
12 Florida, Arkansas, and North Carolina have already passed
13 small wireless legislation; and

14 WHEREAS, twenty-five states have already passed
15 legislation facilitating the deployment of small wireless
16 facilities by, among other things, authorizing wireless
17 providers to install facilities in the public rights-of-way,
18 adopting streamlined permitting processes; and capping rates
19 and fees at reasonable levels to encourage investment while
20 enabling local governments to recoup their costs; now
21 therefore,

22 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
23 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Advanced Small Wireless
24 Facilities Deployment Task Force is hereby established and is
25 charged with reviewing and considering small wireless
26 legislation passed in other states, reviewing and considering
27 language from federal laws and regulations, including the

1 Federal Communications Commission's orders on small wireless
2 facilities, and drafting proposed legislation for
3 consideration by the Legislature in the 2020 Regular Session.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the task force shall be
5 composed of three members of the House of Representatives,
6 appointed by the Speaker of the House, and three senators,
7 appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and at
8 least one member of the minority party shall be included from
9 the House of Representatives and Senate.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the task force shall
11 seek and consider input from interested representatives from
12 the small wireless providers in the state, representatives
13 from the Association of County Commissions and the Alabama
14 League of Municipalities.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Secretary of the
16 Senate, the Clerk of the House, and the Legislative Services
17 Agency shall provide support to the task force as needed.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the task force shall
19 submit a report to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and
20 to the Speaker of the House not later than October 1, 2019,
21 including proposed small wireless facilities deployment
22 legislation that is consistent with the requirements of
23 federal and state laws, regulations, and rules.