

1 HR187
2 127513-1
3 By Representative Hall
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 24-MAR-11

RECOGNIZING PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN ALABAMA THAT WORK WITH
THE AIDS SERVICE ORGANIZATION NETWORK TO PROMOTE HIV
PREVENTION.

WHEREAS, Alabama state law does not require the
teaching of sexuality education; and

WHEREAS, a resolution adopted by the Board of
Education in 1987 requires that students in grades 5-12
receive instruction about AIDS through a health education
program; and

WHEREAS, should schools choose to offer additional
sexuality education, the Code of Alabama sets minimum
requirements for what must be taught, but specific content is
developed locally; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, 51 percent of female high school
students and 62 percent of male high school students in
Alabama reported being sexually active (defined as having had
sexual intercourse in the past three months) compared to 46
percent of female and 46 percent of male high school students
nationwide; and

1 WHEREAS, among those high school students who
2 reported being sexually active, 55 percent of females and 63
3 percent of males in Alabama reported having used condoms the
4 last time they engaged in sexual intercourse; and

5 WHEREAS, these statistics are troubling, as they
6 illustrate that a large percentage of Alabama's youth engage
7 in sex, many of them without utilizing proper means to protect
8 against pregnancy, STDs and HIV/AIDS; and

9 WHEREAS, Alabama's teen pregnancy rates for 2008
10 were higher than the national average; and

11 WHEREAS, in 2009, the state also reported some of
12 the highest rates of chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis in the
13 country; and

14 WHEREAS, the AIDS Service Organization Network of
15 Alabama is working diligently to prevent the spread of
16 HIV/AIDS in Alabama by providing targeted HIV prevention
17 programs; and

18 WHEREAS, the desired impact of this partnership is
19 to increase the understanding of the importance of sexual
20 health education so that sexually active teens will be
21 informed and capable of utilizing safer sex strategies, which
22 will lead to a reduction in the rates of HIV/AIDS, STDs, and
23 teen pregnancy in Alabama; now therefore,

24 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
25 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we honor and congratulate the
26 leadership of those public schools in Alabama that have
27 demonstrated a commitment to the health and welfare of

1 students and for the prevention of HIV, and we direct that a
2 copy of this resolution be provided to each of those schools
3 for appropriate presentation and display.