

1 SJR74
2 128657-1
3 By Senator Irons
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 07-APR-11

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8 HONORING THE PROGRESS OF THE LOVING THE SHOALS
9 MOVEMENT.

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11 WHEREAS, Loving the Shoals is a growing movement to
12 enhance the quality of life of residents throughout the area;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, the Loving the Shoals movement is
15 spearheaded by Jimmy Hayes, pastor of Christ Chapel in
16 Florence; Joe VanDyke, preacher at Magnolia Church of Christ
17 in Florence, and Mike Simon, a former minister who now owns
18 Simon Solutions, a software company; and

19 WHEREAS, a strategic plan has been finalized with
20 the assistance of Ed Castile, director of Alabama Industrial
21 Development Training; and

22 WHEREAS, a major challenge is to transform the
23 isolation and self-interest of individuals into working
24 relationships for shared goals; and

25 WHEREAS, the Loving the Shoals vision is to live in
26 a well-connected community where citizens are better informed
27 and actively engaged in making a difference together,

1 improving the quality of life and opportunities in the Shoals;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, the specific strategies and initiatives
4 include: providing utilities aid for low-income households;
5 assistance programs for senior citizens; creating or enhancing
6 career and technical programs at schools, as well as expanding
7 dropout prevention programs; and creating a grant-writing
8 committee to ensure that all possible funds are obtained for
9 the community; and

10 WHEREAS, achieving the Loving the Shoals vision
11 depends upon relationships across religious, racial, ethnic,
12 and socioeconomic lines to help all residents live healthier,
13 more prosperous, and meaningful lives; now therefore,

14 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
15 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the dedicated leaders of the
16 growing Loving the Shoals movement are honored and commended
17 and, by copy of this resolution for appropriate presentation,
18 we convey our highest esteem along with best wishes for
19 continuing success in all future endeavors.