

1 SJR96  
2 142882-1  
3 By Senators Sanford, Bedford, Allen, Beasley, Beason,  
4 Blackwell, Brewbaker, Brooks, Bussman, Coleman, Dial, Dunn,  
5 Fielding, Figures, Glover, Holley, Holtzclaw, Irons, Keahey,  
6 Marsh, McGill, Orr, Pittman, Reed, Ross, Sanders, Scofield,  
7 Singleton, Smith, Smitherman, Taylor, Waggoner, Ward, Whatley,  
8 and Williams  
9 RFD:  
10 First Read: 08-MAY-12

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8 COMMENDING REBEKAH KEITH MCKINNEY.  
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10 WHEREAS, Rebekah Keith McKinney has the distinction  
11 of being the first female president of the Alabama Association  
12 for Justice, also known as the ALAJ; and

13 WHEREAS, while president, she has guided the  
14 association through a sometimes trying year with pride,  
15 sincerity, humble heart, joyful soul, quick smile, and firm  
16 handshake; and

17 WHEREAS, being the mother of three sons -- Sam,  
18 Griffin, and John -- gave her the patience often needed to  
19 oversee the association's male-majority membership; and

20 WHEREAS, during her tenure, she oversaw ALAJ's move  
21 into its first real home and became an expert on the  
22 Historical Society's rules, right down to specialty paint  
23 colors and window replacement; and

24 WHEREAS, as president, she guided ALAJ through  
25 tumultuous political waters at the State House, always an  
26 earnest and formidable champion of justice for all; and

1           WHEREAS, she served as an advocate for lawyers,  
2           reaching out to all ALAJ members to offer advice when needed,  
3           consultation when sought, and condolences when necessary; and

4           WHEREAS, she is a member of the Alabama Appleseed  
5           Center for Law and Justice, has served as Treasurer of the  
6           Huntsville-Madison County Bar Association, Secretary and Vice  
7           Chair of the Board of Directors for the Early Works Museum in  
8           Huntsville, as Finance Vice President and Treasurer of the  
9           Junior League of Huntsville, and as a member of the Board of  
10          Directors of the Alabama Constitution Village Foundation; and

11          WHEREAS, she has traveled hundreds of miles from her  
12          Huntsville home in the past year, is on a first-name basis  
13          with the staff at the Renaissance, and most bartenders and  
14          waiters around Montgomery have learned that she wants ice in  
15          her beverages, all of her beverages; and

16          WHEREAS, following in the footsteps of Buck Watson  
17          would be hard for anyone, but as president of the Alabama  
18          Association for Justice, Rebekah Keith McKinney has filled his  
19          size 13W shoes, has worn them with honor, and has used them to  
20          kick those who refused to get out of her way; and

21          WHEREAS, she has sent a loud, clear message to the  
22          female members of ALAJ and showed them that anything is  
23          possible through hard work, compassion, commitment, and a  
24          solid belief in what trial lawyers do for a living; now  
25          therefore,

26          BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
27          HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Rebekah Keith McKinney is most

1 highly honored and commended, and this resolution is offered  
2 in admiration and appreciation to her as the first female  
3 president of the Alabama Association for Justice, along with  
4 best wishes in all future endeavors.