

1 SJR71
2 151276-1
3 By Senators Dial, Holtzclaw, Taylor, Whatley, Williams, Allen,
4 Beasley, Beason, Bedford, Blackwell, Brewbaker, Bussman,
5 Coleman, Dunn, Fielding, Figures, Glover, Hightower, Holley,
6 Irons, Keahey, Marsh, McGill, Orr, Pittman, Reed, Ross,
7 Sanders, Sanford, Scofield, Singleton, Smith, Smitherman,
8 Waggoner and Ward
9 RFD: Rules
10 First Read: 16-APR-13

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8 DESIGNATING ALABAMA AS ONE OF THE FIRST PURPLE HEART
9 STATES IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.
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11 WHEREAS, the Purple Heart is the oldest military
12 decoration in present use, dating to 1782, and the subsequent
13 formation in 1932 of the Military Order of the Purple Heart is
14 designed to foster an environment of goodwill among the
15 combat-wounded veteran members and their families, promote
16 patriotism, support legislative initiatives and, most
17 importantly, make sure the sacrifices of our nations's gallant
18 warriors are never forgotten; and

19 WHEREAS, the State of Alabama enjoys a rich history
20 of service to the United States Military; Alabama's sons and
21 daughters have served or fought in every significant armed
22 conflict against enemies of our nation with over 8,000
23 Alabamians being awarded the Purple Heart; and

24 WHEREAS, Alabama is known as the founding state for
25 Veterans Day observances and services, which publicly
26 underscores the commitment of this state to military veterans
27 and their dependents; and

1 WHEREAS, Alabama recognizes and honors Purple Heart
2 recipients in many ways such as the designated "Purple Heart
3 Highway," specialized license plates, and wavier of
4 undergraduate tuition; now therefore,

5 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
6 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we hereby designate the State
7 of Alabama, in conjunction with the Military Order of the
8 Purple Heart #2205, as a Purple Heart State, one of the first
9 in the United States of America.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our support
11 for and allegiance to those brave individuals who have earned
12 this distinguished honor and their families.