

1 SJR53
2 158728-1
3 By Senator Ward
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 18-FEB-14

8 CREATING A JOINT LEGISLATIVE ORIENTATION COMMITTEE.
9

10 WHEREAS, the Alabama Constitution establishes the
11 Legislature as a separate department of the state government
12 vested with the legislative power of the State of Alabama; and

13 WHEREAS, the Alabama Constitution further enumerates
14 the duties and responsibilities of the Legislature; and

15 WHEREAS, the Legislative Council, in conjunction
16 with the Alabama Law Institute, has hosted a Legislative
17 Orientation Program prior to the beginning of each quadrennium
18 since 1974; and

19 WHEREAS, it is incumbent that each member of the
20 Legislature be provided with the necessary training to enable
21 each member to provide the best representation for the
22 citizenry of the State of Alabama; now therefore,

23 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
24 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is created the Joint
25 Legislative Orientation Committee.

26 (a) The committee shall be composed of the following
27 members:

- (1) The Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (2) The President Pro Tempore of the Senate.
- (3) The President of the Alabama Law Institute, who shall also serve as chair.
- (4) The Secretary of the Senate.
- (5) The Clerk of the House of Representatives.
- (b) The Legislative Reference Service, Legislative Fiscal Office, Examiners of Public Accounts, and the Alabama Law Institute shall serve as staff for the committee and assist with the implementation of the Orientation as directed by the committee.
- (c) A Legislative Orientation shall be held in the State House in Montgomery, Alabama, after the general election in November 2014, and prior to the second Tuesday in January 2015.
- (d) The goals of the Orientation are to:
 - (1) Provide training in the legislative process.
 - (2) Provide training in the bill drafting process.
 - (3) Provide training in parliamentary procedure.
 - (4) Provide current information on the economic status of the State of Alabama.
 - (5) Provide training in the State budgeting process.
 - (6) Provide training on the Alabama Constitution and the Code of Alabama.
 - (7) Provide information on significant issues as identified by the committee.

(e) The committee shall be charged with the following duties and responsibilities:

(1) Setting the date of the Orientation.

(2) Planning the agenda and selecting the speakers for the Orientation.

(3) Developing and overseeing the budget for the Orientation.

Each legislative member of the committee shall be entitled to his or her regular legislative compensation, per diem, and travel expenses for each day he or she attends a meeting of the committee in accordance with existing law through the 2014 General Election. Beginning with the terms of office commencing immediately after the 2014 General Election, each legislative member shall be entitled to the compensation and reimbursement provided pursuant to Amendment 871 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901. These payments shall be paid out of any funds appropriated to the use of the Legislature by means of warrants drawn by the state Comptroller on the State Treasury.