

1 SJR89
2 159787-1
3 By Senator Ward
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 18-MAR-14

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8 URGING THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO
9 CONSIDER THE CONCEPT OF "COMPLETE STREETS" WHEN DESIGNING,
10 CONSTRUCTING, OPERATING, AND MAINTAINING THE STATE'S ROADWAYS.
11

12 WHEREAS, "Complete Streets" promotes streets that
13 are safe and convenient for all users, including pedestrians,
14 bicyclists, public transportation riders, and motor vehicle
15 drivers of all ages and abilities; and

16 WHEREAS, streets that support and invite multiple
17 uses, including safe, active, and ample space for pedestrians,
18 bicycles, and public transportation are more conducive to the
19 public life and efficient movement of people than streets
20 designed primarily to move automobiles and trucks; and

21 WHEREAS, promoting pedestrian, bicycle, and public
22 transportation travel as an alternative to automobiles reduces
23 negative environmental impacts, promotes healthy living, is
24 less costly to the commuter, and will increase the capacity
25 and efficiency of the road network; and

26 WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration has
27 confirmed that designing the street with pedestrians in mind

1 significantly reduces pedestrian risk. The development of a
2 more complete transportation network will eliminate hazards
3 and improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists, who now make
4 up more than 12 percent of all traffic fatalities nationwide;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, implementation of "Complete Streets"
7 policies can create immediate jobs through labor-intensive and
8 small scale projects, many of which can be accomplished
9 quickly; and

10 WHEREAS, "Complete Streets" projects not only aid
11 economic recovery by creating jobs, they can help create
12 complete transportation networks that provide citizens with
13 transportation choices that are easier on tight family
14 budgets; and

15 WHEREAS, "Complete Streets" are supported by the
16 Institute of Traffic Engineers, American Planning Association,
17 and many other transportation, planning, and public health
18 professionals; and

19 WHEREAS, "Complete Streets," as incorporated into
20 our current, fiscally responsible budget, are a wise
21 investment in our community and represent more efficient and
22 equitable spending of public dollars; now therefore,

23 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE LEGISLATURE OF
24 ALABAMA, That we endorse a "Complete Streets" approach for the
25 State of Alabama and urges the Alabama Department of
26 Transportation to adopt and implement "Complete Streets"
27 policies and practices that do all of the following:

1 (1) Serve as guiding principles to design,
2 construct, operate, and maintain the roadways to promote safe
3 and convenient access and travel for all users and people of
4 all abilities.

5 (2) Create a comprehensive and integrated
6 transportation network.

7 (3) Apply to both new and retrofit projects.

8 (4) Are incorporated except in unusual or
9 justifiable circumstances.

10 (5) Recognize the need for flexibility and identify
11 "Complete Streets" solutions that fit the context of the
12 community.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this
14 resolution be delivered to the Director of the Alabama
15 Department of Transportation.