

1 HJR125  
2 167651-1  
3 By Representatives Sessions, Gaston, Standridge, Givan, Scott,  
4 Pringle, Ainsworth, Whorton (I), Daniels, Lee, Chesteen,  
5 Holmes (M), Brown, Wingo and Fincher  
6 RFD: Rules  
7 First Read: 16-APR-15

8 SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF THE YEAR 2015 AS THE  
9 INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF SOILS AND SUPPORTING LOCALLY LED SOIL  
10 CONSERVATION.

11  
12 WHEREAS, many of our international partners are  
13 designating 2015 as the International Year of Soils; and

14 WHEREAS, soil is vitally important for food security  
15 and essential ecosystem functions; and

16 WHEREAS, soil conservation efforts in the United  
17 States are often locally led; and

18 WHEREAS, 2015 also marks the 80th anniversary of the  
19 signing of the Soil Conservation Act on April 27, 1935; and

20 WHEREAS, soils, as the foundation for agricultural  
21 production, essential ecosystem functions, and food security,  
22 are key to sustaining life on Earth; and

23 WHEREAS, soils and the science of soils contribute  
24 to improved water quality, food safety and security, healthy  
25 ecosystems, and human health; and

26 WHEREAS, soil, plant, animal, and human health are  
27 intricately linked; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we designate the year 2015 as the International Year of Soils and we encourage the public to participate in activities that celebrate the importance of soils to our current and future well-being.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this body expressly supports the conservation of the nation's soils, through landowner participation in partnership with local soil and water conservation districts in the Conservation Reserve Program, the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, the Conservation Stewardship Program, the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program, and the Regional Conservation Partnership Program as authorized by the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended, 16 U.S.C. Section 3801, et seq., and the Small Watershed Rehabilitation Program as authorized by the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, as amended, 16 U.S.C. Section 1001, et seq.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be made available for appropriate presentation.