

1 HJR53
2 179615-1
3 By Representatives Patterson, Wingo and Mooney
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 24-AUG-16

8 URGING THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO ENFORCE THE LAWS
9 PROHIBITING THE OPERATION OF ELECTRONIC BINGO MACHINES.

10
11 WHEREAS, consistent enforcement of the laws of this
12 state is of paramount concern to its citizens and the
13 well-being of this state; and

14 WHEREAS, the Constitution of Alabama of 1901 does
15 not sanction or permit casino gambling; and

16 WHEREAS, establishments have attempted to circumvent
17 the Constitution by operating electronic bingo machines; and

18 WHEREAS, the Alabama Supreme Court issued an opinion
19 on March 31, 2016, ruling that these electronic bingo machines
20 are in violation of the Constitution and therefore illegal;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, the Supreme Court Justices stated that the
23 electronic devices, which resemble slot machines, were not
24 what was intended by state laws allowing card and paper type
25 bingo games; and

1 WHEREAS, the Alabama Supreme Court ordered that the
2 state can keep the seized bingo property, devices, records,
3 and cash it seized during a raid of a local establishment; and

4 WHEREAS, in response to the high court decision, the
5 Attorney General issued a press release stating that the
6 decision is "a resounding victory for the rule of law and the
7 definitive word that electronic bingo is illegal in Alabama";
8 now therefore,

9 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
10 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Attorney General is
11 strongly urged to exercise and perform the authority and duty
12 vested in him, as chief law enforcement officer of this state,
13 to enforce the Supreme Court ruling by preventing all
14 establishments from operating illegal electronic bingo
15 machines in this state.