

1 HJR80  
2 181583-1  
3 By Representatives Farley, Pettus, Garrett, Rowe, Whorton (R),  
4 Fridy, Standridge, Treadaway, Sessions, Harper, Weaver, Henry  
5 and McCutcheon  
6 RFD: Rules  
7 First Read: 23-FEB-17

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8 ESTABLISHING A JOINT LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE ON  
9 HIGHWAY SAFETY.  
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11 WHEREAS, preventable highway accidents that involve  
12 injury and death in the State of Alabama are an issue that  
13 deserves significant attention and review; and

14 WHEREAS, the State of Alabama has a responsibility  
15 to make sure that highways across the state are as safe,  
16 secure, and protected as possible and that the drivers using  
17 the highways are alert, attentive, and driving with  
18 appropriate care and caution; and

19 WHEREAS, appropriate measures may exist that can  
20 reduce highway dangers relating to inattentive driving,  
21 distracted driving, speeding, aggressive driving,  
22 inexperienced youth drivers, elderly drivers, driving while  
23 under the influence of a legal or illegal substance, and other  
24 preventable causes; and

25 WHEREAS, a comprehensive study of the state's  
26 current highway safety laws, regulations, and policies will  
27 help the Legislature make equitable, meaningful, and effective

1 changes for the well-being of those persons travelling Alabama  
2 highways; now therefore,

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
4 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is created the Joint  
5 Legislative Task Force on Highway Safety.

6 (a) The membership of the Joint Legislative Task  
7 Force on Highway Safety shall be inclusive and reflect the  
8 racial, gender, geographic, urban, rural, and economic  
9 diversity of the state.

10 (b) The membership of the task force shall consist  
11 of the following:

12 (1) Two members appointed by the Speaker of the  
13 House of Representatives.

14 (2) Two members appointed by the President Pro  
15 Tempore of the Senate.

16 (3) One member appointed by the Alabama State Law  
17 Enforcement Agency.

18 (4) One member appointed by the Alabama Sheriff's  
19 Association.

20 (5) One member appointed by the Alabama Association  
21 of Police Chiefs.

22 (6) One member appointed by the Office of  
23 Prosecution Services.

24 (7) One member appointed by the Administrative  
25 Office of Courts.

26 (8) One member appointed by the State Superintendent  
27 of Education.

1                   (9) One member appointed by the Business Council of  
2 Alabama.

3                   (10) One member appointed by the Alabama Department  
4 of Transportation.

5                   (c) The task force shall have all of the following  
6 duties:

7                   (1) Perform a complete and comprehensive review and  
8 assessment of state laws and regulations regarding safety on  
9 Alabama highways to include consideration of the following:

10                  a. Impaired driving related to alcohol, substance  
11 abuse, drowsiness, and other causes.

12                  b. Speeding and aggressive driving.

13                  c. Distracted or inattentive driving related to  
14 activities within the vehicle such as texting or use of  
15 electronic devices.

16                  d. Road rage.

17                  e. Motorcycle traffic flow.

18                  f. Young, inexperienced drivers.

19                  g. Elderly drivers.

20                  (2) Identify safety issues, gaps in safety, and  
21 problem areas through systematic data collection and analysis.

22                  (3) Identify major strategies and science-based  
23 traffic safety countermeasures to address major highway safety  
24 problem areas.

25                  (4) Identify innovative programs and strategies in  
26 other states that have proven to be effective or have shown  
27 promise to enhance highway safety.

1           (5) Submit recommendations for immediate, achievable  
2 legislative actions to the Speaker of the House of  
3 Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and  
4 the appropriate legislative committees to ensure that highways  
5 across the State of Alabama are as safe, secure, and protected  
6 as possible.

7           (d)(1) Appointments to the task force shall be made  
8 within 30 days after the effective date of this act.

9           (2) The task force shall hold its first meeting no  
10 later than August 1, 2017, with the date, time, and location  
11 of the meeting designated by the Speaker of the House of  
12 Representatives.

13           (3) At the first meeting, the task force shall elect  
14 a chair, vice chair, and other officers as determined by the  
15 task force, and shall set dates, times, and locations of  
16 subsequent meetings.

17           (e) The House of Representatives and the Senate  
18 shall provide the necessary staff and support to the task  
19 force to perform its duties.

20           (f) Members of the task force shall serve without  
21 compensation but may be reimbursed for necessary expenses in  
22 attending meetings of the task force according to the policies  
23 and procedures of their respective appointing authority.

24           (f) The task force shall submit its findings and  
25 recommendations in writing to the Legislature no later than  
26 the fifth Legislative day of the 2018 Regular Session, at  
27 which time the task force shall be dissolved.

1                   (g) A copy of this resolution shall be sent to all  
2   appointing authorities of the task force.