

1 SJR32
2 210510-2
3 By Senators Livingston, Orr, Albritton, Allen, Barfoot,
4 Beasley, Butler, Chambliss, Chesteen, Coleman-Madison, Dunn,
5 Elliott, Figures, Givhan, Gudger, Holley, Jones, Marsh,
6 McClendon, Melson, Price, Reed, Roberts, Sanders-Fortier,
7 Scofield, Sessions, Shelnutt, Singleton, Smitherman, Stutts,
8 Waggoner, Whatley and Williams
9 RFD:
10 First Read: 23-FEB-21

1 SJR32

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4 ENROLLED, SJR32,

5 COMMENDING AND HONORING THE SCOTTSBORO BOYS MUSEUM
6 AND CULTURAL CENTER FOUNDER, SHEILA WASHINGTON.

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8 WHEREAS, it is a great privilege to extend highest
9 commendations and honor to the Founder of the Scottsboro Boys
10 Museum and Cultural Center, Sheila Washington; and

11 WHEREAS, the Scottsboro Boys Museum and Cultural
12 Center explores and pays tribute to the plight of nine
13 African-American males, ages 12-19, falsely accused of rape in
14 1931 in Alabama; it is with profound sorrow that we note the
15 death on January, 29, 2021, of the Founder and Executive
16 Director, Sheila Washington, at the age of 61; and

17 WHEREAS, her passing leaves a void in the lives of
18 her loving family, many friends, and the entire community,
19 where she was highly regarded; and

20 WHEREAS, she was the first African-American to work
21 at the Scottsboro City Hall; she served 18 years as a Public
22 Relations Manager and Office Manager for the City Mayor; after
23 leaving the mayor's office in 1996, Washington devoted her
24 time to founding the Scottsboro Boys Museum and Cultural
25 Center and eventually getting the nine boys fully exonerated;

1 she secured funding to completely modernize the museum and was
2 working on grants to finish the museum; and

3 WHEREAS, at 17 years old, Washington read a book
4 about the false accusations and trial of the Scottsboro Boys
5 and decided to lead efforts to definitively clear the names of
6 the Scottsboro Boys; she worked tirelessly, fought hard, and
7 faced much opposition to bring well-deserved recognition to
8 the Scottsboro Boys; after nearly two decades of work,
9 Washington opened the museum in 2010; the museum recreates the
10 courtroom where the Scottsboro Boys were put on trial and
11 wrongly accused; and

12 WHEREAS, we honor the focus of her humanitarianism
13 on the worthy goal of bringing honor, dignity, and exoneration
14 to the nine African-American Scottsboro Boys, and she is truly
15 deserving of this significant recognition bestowed upon her;
16 now therefore,

17 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
18 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Sheila Washington is highly
19 honored and commended, and this resolution is offered to her
20 family in deepest admiration and appreciation for her
21 dedicated leadership in founding and organizing the Scottsboro
22 Boys Museum and Cultural Center.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

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SJR32

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Senate 23-FEB-21

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I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

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Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

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House of Representatives

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Adopted: 25-FEB-21

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By: Senator Livingston