

1 SJR79  
2 212213-1  
3 By Senators Roberts and Melson  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 01-APR-21

8 CREATING A JOINT LEGISLATIVE INTERIM STUDY  
9 COMMISSION ON COMMUNITY COLLEGE TENURE POLICIES.

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11 WHEREAS, employees of the public two-year community  
12 and technical colleges in Alabama are currently subject to the  
13 Students First Act of 2011 in relation to tenure, dismissal,  
14 and continuing service status; and

15 WHEREAS, the Students First Act was adopted prior to  
16 the creation of an independent Board of Trustees for the  
17 Alabama Community College System, and applies to both public  
18 K-12 schools and two-year colleges; and

19 WHEREAS, both the Alabama Community College System  
20 and the Alabama Education Association agree that the Students  
21 First Act was adopted largely with K-12 schools in mind and in  
22 many instances does not take into consideration the many  
23 administrative and organizational differences between K-12  
24 school districts and community colleges; and

25 WHEREAS, during the 2020 Regular Session the Senate  
26 unanimously passed legislation to replace the Students First  
27 Act with tenure and dismissal policies adopted by the ACCS

Board of Trustees pertaining to future community and technical college employees; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is created the Interim Study Commission on Community College Tenure Policies to research laws and policies of this state and other states, related to the tenure, dismissal, and continuing service status for community and technical college employees, to make recommendations on legislative action and Board of Trustees' policy that would create a model for the Students First Act more specifically oriented to four-year colleges, and to improve or replace the current system under the Students First Act as it relates to community and technical colleges.

(1) The commission shall be comprised of the following members:

a. The Chancellor of the Alabama Community College System, or his or her designee, who shall serve as chair.

b. The Legal Counsel of the Alabama Community College System as designated by the chancellor.

c. Two community college presidents appointed by the chancellor.

d. Two community college employees specializing in human resources, appointed by the chancellor.

e. The Executive Director of the Alabama Education Association, or his or her designee.

f. The Legal Counsel for the Alabama Education Association.

g. The postsecondary division chair for the Alabama Education Association.

h. Two community college employees in a faculty position, one from an academic program of study and one from a career tech program of study, appointed by the Executive Director of the Alabama Education Association.

- i. One community college employee in a support staff position appointed by the Executive Director of the Alabama Education Association.

(2) The appointing authorities shall coordinate their appointments so that diversity of gender, race, and geographical areas is reflective of the makeup of this state.

(3) The commission shall meet in person or by telephonic conference or video conference upon adjournment of the 2021 Regular Session as soon as practical as determined by the chair. A quorum shall be present in person or by telephonic or video conference in order to transact the business of the commission.

(4) Administrative support for the work of the commission shall be provided by the Alabama Community College System as determined by the chancellor.

(5) The members of the commission may be reimbursed for necessary expenses in attending meetings of the commission according to policies and procedures of their respective appointing authorities.

(6) The commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature, along with proposed

1 legislation and draft Board of Trustees' policies for  
2 consideration, not later than January 1, 2022, at which time  
3 the commission shall stand dissolved.