

1       SJR118  
2       213767-2  
3       By Senator Scofield  
4       RFD:  
5       First Read: 29-APR-21

1 SJR118

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4 ENROLLED, SJR118,

5 RECOGNIZING THE ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION  
6 SYSTEM'S MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM.

7  
8 WHEREAS, the Alabama Cooperative Extension System's  
9 Master Gardener Program has provided volunteer service to the  
10 Extension System and service projects in communities  
11 throughout Alabama, creating beauty and enhancing health for  
12 the past 40 years; and

13 WHEREAS, the program was launched in 1981 by former  
14 Madison County Extension Agent, Gary Murray, after learning of  
15 the program from an Alabama transplant, Mary Lou McNabb, who  
16 participated in the Cornell University Master Gardener  
17 Program; and

18 WHEREAS, Dr. Dave Williams, former Extension  
19 Specialist and Auburn University Horticulture Professor,  
20 served as the first State Program Coordinator; and

21 WHEREAS, Tony Glover, former Extension Home Grounds  
22 Program Leader, created the first statewide Master Gardener  
23 curriculum, conference, and Extension Agent training program;  
24 and

1           WHEREAS, 45 Extension Agents serving 52 of Alabama's  
2 counties helped establish the Master Gardener Program in their  
3 regions; and

4           WHEREAS, Master Gardeners have provided service to  
5 the Alabama Cooperative Extension System and to their local  
6 communities, averaging 150,000 volunteer hours per year,  
7 valued at over \$2.8 million per year; and

8           WHEREAS, Master Gardeners volunteer to operate the  
9 Master Gardener Helpline, where they field calls from home  
10 gardeners on landscape and garden issues; and

11           WHEREAS, through their volunteer service, Master  
12 Gardeners have contributed to the development of greenspaces,  
13 streetscapes, and other municipal beautification projects  
14 throughout the state; and

15           WHEREAS, Master Gardeners have developed  
16 demonstration gardens for community education programs and  
17 food gardens that donate produce to foodbanks through the Grow  
18 More, Give More Program; and

19           WHEREAS, the Harvest for Health Program,  
20 multidisciplinary research between The University of Alabama  
21 at Birmingham and Auburn University, has paired Master  
22 Gardeners with cancer survivors to exemplify the health  
23 benefits of gardening; and

24           WHEREAS, the Master Gardeners are a constant force  
25 supporting a range of community programs and events, including

1 county fairs, through their service and philanthropy; now  
2 therefore,

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
4 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Alabama Cooperative  
5 Extension System's Master Gardener Program is commended for  
6 its contributions to the State of Alabama, and by copy of this  
7 resolution is recognized for its impact toward making our  
8 state more beautiful and its citizens more capable of  
9 environmentally safe and sound decisions for their home  
10 landscapes.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR118

Senate 29-APR-21

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

Patrick Harris,  
Secretary.

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House of Representatives  
Adopted: 06-MAY-21

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By: Senator Scofield