

1 HR241  
2 219585-1  
3 By Representative Clouse  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 30-MAR-22

8 OPPOSING CHANGES IN ALABAMA ENVIRONMENTAL OR WATER  
9 LAWS, REGULATIONS, AND POLICIES THAT ARE NOT BASED ON  
10 SCIENTIFIC NEED.

11  
12 WHEREAS, the Great State of Alabama has been  
13 entrusted with stewardship over a wealth of natural resources,  
14 including over 14 percent of the nation's freshwater rivers  
15 and streams, as well as a plethora of unique species of flora  
16 and fauna; we are proud to call this resource-rich and  
17 biodiverse area "home"; and

18 WHEREAS, for example, the Cahaba River, famed for  
19 its beautiful Cahaba lilies and bountiful ecology, is among  
20 the most scenic and biologically diverse rivers in the United  
21 States; the Mobile River Basin, Mobile Bay, and Mobile-Tensaw  
22 Delta area possesses such biodiversity that it has been dubbed  
23 "America's Amazon"; and

24 WHEREAS, the splendor of this state is also shown  
25 through the majesty of the North Alabama mountains and its  
26 rivers; the Appalachian foothills in Northeastern Alabama tie  
27 the state into the oldest mountain range in North America; the

1           mighty Tennessee River flows through the counties of northern  
2           Alabama, bringing with it both beauty and prosperity; the Elk  
3           River, a tributary of the Tennessee River, and the Elk River  
4           Watershed are some of Alabama's treasures, wondrous places for  
5           outdoor recreation for humans, and a nurturing biome for  
6           nature; and

7           WHEREAS, regardless of intent, the enactment of  
8           environmental or water laws, regulations, and policies that  
9           are not based on clearly-demonstrated scientific need carries  
10           with it the risk of negatively affecting that which we seek to  
11           protect and preserve; and

12           WHEREAS, although the preservation and maintenance  
13           of our surrounding environment is a principle that most  
14           Alabamians can agree on, we should accept the aid of, and rely  
15           on, modern science in crafting environmental laws,  
16           regulations, and policies, so that we may better serve as  
17           stewards of that which has been entrusted to us during our  
18           time here on this Earth; now therefore,

19           BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, That  
20           this body hereby opposes changes in Alabama environmental or  
21           water laws, regulations, and policies that are not based on  
22           scientific need; this body also urges all authorities of the  
23           State of Alabama to do likewise, so that future Alabamians may  
24           fully benefit from the immense natural wealth offered by this  
25           great state.