

HJR54 INTRODUCED



1 SH9R78-1
2 By Representative Givan
3 RFD: RULES
4 First Read: 04-Apr-23
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4 HJR____ RECOGNIZING APRIL AS ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH.
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6 WHEREAS, since 1987, the National Council on
7 Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD) has annually
8 designated and sponsored April as Alcohol Awareness Month;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, according to the National Center for Drug
11 Abuse Statistics (NCDAS), there are more than 95,000
12 alcohol-related deaths every year from a combination of
13 drunk driving accidents, binge drinking, and long-term
14 health failure due to drinking; the NCDAS also reports that
15 in Alabama in 2019 there were 246 traffic-related deaths and
16 18 of those fatalities were under the age of 21; and

17 WHEREAS, Alcohol Awareness Month and NCADD aim to
18 foster responsible attitudes by designating a month of
19 candid discussions and information sharing through
20 community-sponsored activities and social media campaigns to
21 spread awareness; these campaigns are necessary to prevent
22 drunk driving, binge drinking, and underage drinking by
23 promoting responsible decision-making; and

24 WHEREAS, it is especially important to address
25 underage drinking with Alabama's youth before the risk for
26 alcohol dependence becomes too great; a study conducted
27 annually by the National Institutes of Health and the
28 University of Michigan, "Monitoring the Future: a Continuing



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29 Study of American Youth," reported that levels of adolescent
30 alcohol use significantly increased between 2021 and 2022;
31 they further report that the percentage of 12th grade
32 students who used alcohol within the last 12 months in 2022
33 increased by 47 percent and the trend for increase in
34 nationally-representative samples of 8th and 10th grade
35 students was similar; and

36 WHEREAS, research shows that a lifetime of
37 conversations between parents and their children about
38 alcohol, beginning at an early age, can help prevent
39 underage drinking and alcohol abuse; adults, also, need the
40 resources to make responsible decisions about alcohol; by
41 dedicating a month to alcohol awareness, Alabamians have the
42 opportunity to spotlight those valuable resources; now
43 therefore,

44 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
45 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That April 2023 is recognized as
46 Alcohol Awareness Month, and communities throughout the
47 state are encouraged to have conversations with other adults
48 and youth to spotlight the problems that surround excessive
49 alcohol use and the consequences of underage drinking,
50 driving under the influence, and long-term health effects
51 from continued alcohol use.