SJR20

FM1YCC5-2

By Senators Reed, Albritton, Allen, Barfoot, Beasley, Bell, Butler, Carnley, Chambliss, Chesteen, Coleman, Coleman-Madison, Elliott, Figures, Givhan, Gudger, Hatcher, Hovey, Jones, Kelley, Kitchens, Livingston, Melson, Orr, Price, Roberts, Sessions, Shelnutt, Singleton, Smitherman, Stewart, Stutts, Waggoner, Weaver, Williams

RFD: RULES

First Read: 21-Feb-24

SJR___ RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2025.

WHEREAS, the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) was founded in 1975 and has evolved during the past half-century to become the premier organization solely dedicated to serving state and territorial legislators and legislative staff; and

WHEREAS, it was created from the merger of three organizations that served or represented state legislatures and that shared the belief that legislative service is one of democracy's worthiest pursuits; and

WHEREAS, NCSL is a bipartisan organization with three objectives: to advance the effectiveness, independence, and integrity of state legislatures; to foster interstate communication and cooperation; and to ensure states a strong, cohesive voice in the federal system; and

WHEREAS, our nation's state legislatures are America's laboratories of democracy and have continually shown that they are bodies that tackle emerging challenges, and state legislatures are where people from very different backgrounds, representing very different communities, can come together and find common ground; NCSL has facilitated the exchange of ideas, provided critical research and information, and encouraged a rigorous review of complex

issues confronting our communities, states, and nation; and NCSL strives to strengthen the bonds between America's state legislatures and the international community; and

WHEREAS, in 1974, the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries (ASLCS) joined with several state legislative groups to form the National Conference of State Legislatures; former Secretary of the Alabama Senate McDowell Lee served as President of the ASLCS from 1974-1975 before taking a leadership role with NCSL; Patrick Harris, current Secretary of the Alabama Senate, served as President of the ASLCS from 2018-2019 and is a past Chairman of the ASLCS American-Canadian Legislative Parliamentary Clerks Committee; in 1984, at the direction of NCSL, a Special Commission of ASLCS, the Mason's Manual Commission, was established; Former Secretary Lee was appointed to the Commission in 1991; over the past three decades, staff members of the Alabama Legislature have been appointed to serve on the Commission, including former Senate Administrative Assistant, Dave Avant; the current Clerk of the House of Representatives, John Treadwell, and Chief Clerk to the Alabama Senate, Joyce Wright, currently serve on the 2030 Commission; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama has been involved with NCSL since its beginning; McDowell Lee, in his capacity as Secretary of the Alabama Senate, was a founding member of the NCSL Executive Committee and served as an officer from 1975-1976, as Staff Vice President from 1976-1977, and again as an officer from 1977-1978; former Representative Michael

Box served at-large from 1991-1994, as an officer from 1994 to 1996, as President from 1996-1997, the only Alabamian to serve in that role, and continued on as an officer or ex officio member until 1998; other Alabamians who have served with NCSL include former Representative Randy Davis, 2010-2011; former Senator Joe Fine, 1976-1978; former Legislative Reference Services Director Louis Greene, 1979-1982; former Speaker of the House of Representatives Seth Hammett, 2003-2004 and 2008-2010; Legislative Services Agency Director Othni Lathram, 2018-2023; former Senator Ted Little, 1985-1986; Baldwin County Legislative Delegation Director of Constituent Services Cliff McCollum, 2023-2024; former Alabama Law Institute Director Bob McCurley, 1998-2001; Director of Senate Security Jimmetta Gourdine, 2011-2014; former Representative James Thomas, 1999-2002; and former Representative Greg Wren, 2012-2014; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the members of this Legislature recognize and commend the National Conference of State Legislatures for superb leadership and commitment to the legislative institution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR20
Senate 21-Feb-24
I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed the Senate.

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

House of Representatives
Passed: 27-Feb-24

By: Senator Reed