

## SJR24 ENROLLED



1     SJR24  
2     IDSLW6Z-3  
3     By Senator Livingston  
4     RFD: RULES  
5     First Read: 28-Feb-24



## SJR24 Enrolled

1 Enrolled, An Act,

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4 SJR24 ESTABLISHING THE ALABAMA-IRELAND TRADE COMMISSION.  
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6 WHEREAS, the contributions of Ireland to our  
7 civilization have been enormous: through her missionaries  
8 and scholars, her achievements in science, literature, the  
9 arts, entrepreneurship, and music, and not least in the  
10 back-breaking labor borne by her sons and daughters without  
11 number who helped build our nation, all of which are the  
12 achievements of a people who only officially joined the  
13 family of nations 100 years ago; and

14 WHEREAS, generations of Irish Alabamians and their  
15 descendants have left a lasting mark on our state and its  
16 heritage, such as pioneering educator Margaret Murray  
17 Washington, faithful witness Reverend James Coyle, and  
18 Heisman Trophy winner Pat Sullivan; and

19 WHEREAS, as our respective economies increasingly  
20 diversify in the global economy, both the State of Alabama  
21 and the Republic of Ireland now participate in the global  
22 economy, with the value of Alabama's exports to Ireland  
23 increasing nearly 75 percent in 2021-2022 alone, while Irish  
24 companies such as James Hardie and CHR are investing  
25 directly in Alabama and its workers, we believe that our  
26 economic and cultural relationship with Ireland should no  
27 longer be taken for granted; now therefore,



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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Alabama-Ireland Trade Commission is created to foster closer ties of friendship between the State of Alabama and the Republic of Ireland.

(a) The Alabama-Ireland Trade Commission shall be comprised of the following members:

(1) A majority member and a minority member of the Senate, to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, with preference to be given to any senator who is a member of the American Irish State Legislators Caucus or a sponsor of this resolution.

(2) A majority member and a minority member of the House of Representatives, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, with preference to be given to any representative who is a member of the American Irish State Legislators Caucus or a sponsor of this resolution.

(3) The Chair of the Senate Fiscal Responsibility and Economic Development Committee, or his or her designee.

(4) The Chair of the House of Representatives Economic Development and Tourism Committee, or his or her designee.

(5) The Commissioner of Agriculture and Industries, or his or her designee.

(6) The Secretary of Commerce, or his or her designee.

(7) The Director of the Alabama Port Authority, or his or her designee.



## **SJR24 Enrolled**

55           (8) An individual recognized for his or her private  
56   sector experience in international trade and exports to be  
57   appointed by the Governor.

58           (9) An individual who is active in Irish-American  
59   cultural and civic affairs, and who has a history of  
60   cooperation in the legislative process, to be appointed by  
61   the Lieutenant Governor.

62           (10) Two individuals from public higher education who  
63   have experience or professional or academic interest in  
64   Alabama-Ireland trade relations, to be appointed  
65   respectively by the Chancellor of The University of Alabama  
66   System and the President of Auburn University.

67           (11) The President of the Business Council of  
68   Alabama, or his or her designee.

69           (12) The Alabama State Director of the National  
70   Federation of Independent Business, or his or her designee.

71           (13) Up to 11 individuals active in international  
72   trade or business, economic development, and cultural  
73   exchange, to be appointed by the Government of Ireland.

74           (b) (1) The appointing authorities on behalf of the  
75   State of Alabama shall coordinate their appointments to  
76   assure the study commission membership is inclusive and  
77   reflects the racial, gender, geographic, urban, rural, and  
78   economic diversity of the state.

79           (2) The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall  
80   call the first meeting of the commission to be held at a  
81   date no later than September 20, 2024, at which the members  
82   shall elect a chair from among the legislative membership



## **SJR24 Enrolled**

83 and assign study and reporting responsibilities to the  
84 members.

85 (3) The legislative members of the commission shall  
86 be entitled to their legislative compensation, per diem, and  
87 travel expenses for each day they attend a meeting of the  
88 commission pursuant to Section 49 of the Constitution of  
89 Alabama of 2022.

90 (4) The non-legislative members of the commission  
91 from the State of Alabama shall serve without compensation  
92 but may be reimbursed for necessary expenses in attending  
93 commission meetings pursuant to the policies of the  
94 respective appointing authority.

95 (c) (1) The commission shall meet as necessary to  
96 conduct its business.

97 (2) A quorum for a meeting shall be 14 members.

98 (3) After the first meeting, the commission may meet  
99 by electronic means.

100 (d) The purpose of the commission shall be to  
101 accomplish the following:

102 (1) Advance bilateral trade and investment between  
103 the State of Alabama and the Republic of Ireland.

104 (2) Encourage mutual investment in the State of  
105 Alabama and the Republic of Ireland, especially in  
106 infrastructure and human capital.

107 (3) Promote sustained business, educational, and  
108 cultural exchanges, and policy issues of mutual benefit,  
109 between the State of Alabama and the Republic of Ireland.



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110           (e) The commission shall annually report to the  
111 Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the House of  
112 Representatives, and the Secretary of Commerce, no later  
113 than the third day of the Regular Session of the Legislature  
114 on the number of times it met during the preceding 12 months  
115 and shall include minutes of its meetings, with any interim  
116 recommendations or requests that may assist its work.

117           (f) Pursuant to Section 36-14-17.1, Code of Alabama  
118 1975, the commission shall provide to the Secretary of State  
119 a notice of all meetings, the name of each member serving on  
120 the commission, and a copy of all reports and written  
121 recommendations produced throughout the duration of the  
122 commission.

123           (g) The Senate and the Legislative Services Agency  
124 shall provide administrative and professional services as  
125 needed to the commission.

126           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon enactment of this  
127 resolution, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall  
128 transmit a copy of this resolution to Senator Mark Daly,  
129 Seanad Eireann; Ms. Caoimhe Ni Chonchuir, Consul General of  
130 Ireland in Atlanta; Mr. Leo Clancy, Chief Executive Officer  
131 of Enterprise Ireland; and Mr. Michael Lohan, Chief  
132 Executive Officer of IDA Ireland.



## SJR24 Enrolled

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR24

Senate 02-Apr-24

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and  
passed the Senate, as amended.

Patrick Harris,  
Secretary.

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House of Representatives  
Passed: 04-Apr-24

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By: Senator Livingston