

HJR163 INTRODUCED



1 HJR163
2 SLBIZ57-1
3 By Representatives , Robbins
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 20-Mar-25



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4 HJR___ CREATING THE JOINT INTERIM STUDY COMMISSION ON COURT
5 COSTS.

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7 WHEREAS, court costs are inconsistent throughout the
8 state; and

9 WHEREAS, a simple, standardized, and transparent set
10 of court costs would be beneficial for the state; now
11 therefore,

12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
13 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is created the Joint
14 Interim Study Commission on Court Costs to study court costs
15 and make recommendations to make court costs more uniform
16 throughout the state.

17 (a) The membership of the study commission shall
18 consist of all of the following:

19 (1) The Chairs of the House of Representatives Ways
20 and Means General Fund and Senate Finance and Taxation
21 General Fund Committees.

22 (2) The Chairs of the House of Representatives
23 Judiciary Committee and Senate Judiciary Committee.

24 (3) The ranking minority members of the House of
25 Representatives Judiciary Committee and Senate Judiciary
26 Committee.

27 (4) The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of
28 Alabama, or his or her designee.



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29 (5) Three circuit judges appointed by the President
30 of the Alabama Association of Circuit Court Judges.

31 (6) One district judge appointed by the President of
32 the Alabama Association of District Court Judges.

33 (7) One district attorney appointed by the President
34 of the Alabama District Attorneys Association.

35 (8) Three practicing attorneys appointed by the
36 President of the Alabama State Bar.

37 (9) One circuit clerk appointed by the President of
38 the Alabama Circuit Clerks Association.

39 (10) The Executive Director of the Association of
40 County Commissions of Alabama, or his or her designee.

41 (b) The appointing authorities shall coordinate their
42 appointments to assure study commission membership is
43 inclusive and reflects the racial, gender, geographic,
44 urban, rural, and economic diversity of the state.

45 (c) The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of
46 Alabama, or his or her designee, shall serve as the chair of
47 the study commission. The first meeting of the study
48 commission shall be held at the call of the chair no later
49 than 30 days after this resolution's passage. The task force
50 may then meet as necessary to conduct business.

51 (d) The House of Representatives and the Legislative
52 Services Agency shall provide administrative and other
53 assistance for the work of the study commission as
54 necessary.

55 (e) (1) The legislative members of the study
56 commission shall be entitled to their legislative



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57 compensation, per diem, and travel expenses for each day
58 they attend a meeting of the study commission in accordance
59 with Section 49 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022.

60 (2) The nonlegislative members of the study
61 commission shall serve without compensation but may be
62 reimbursed for necessary expenses in attending meetings of
63 the study commission according pursuant to the policies of
64 their respective appointing authorities.

65 (f) The study commission shall prepare a report of
66 its recommendations for proposed legislation to the
67 Legislature not later than the fifth legislative day of the
68 2026 Regular Session, at which point the study commission
69 shall stand dissolved and discharged of any future duties
70 and liabilities.

71 (g) Pursuant to Section 36-14-17.1, Code of Alabama
72 1975, the study commission shall provide a notice of all
73 meetings, the name of each member serving on the study
74 commission, and a copy of its final report and any other
75 documents produced by the study commission throughout its
76 duration to the Secretary of State.

77 (h) Each appointing authority named herein shall be
78 provided a copy of this resolution upon its passage.