

**HJR17 ENROLLED**



1 HJR17

2 2JU5LSS-2

3 By Representatives Blackshear, Reynolds, Garrett, Gray

4 RFD: Rules

5 First Read: 14-Jan-26



## HJR17 Enrolled

1     Enrolled, An Act,

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3     ESTABLISHING THE ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOOTBALL STUDY  
4     COMMISSION.

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6           WHEREAS, the Alabama Community College System (ACCS),  
7     through the Alabama Community College Conference (ACCC),  
8     currently supports more than 180 athletic teams across 22  
9     institutions, offering opportunities to more than 2,200  
10    student-athletes in sports such as baseball, basketball,  
11    cross country, golf, soccer, softball, tennis, track and  
12    field, volleyball, esports, and most recently, women's flag  
13    football; and

14           WHEREAS, Alabama has a rich tradition and cultural  
15    affinity for football, with the sport serving as a major  
16    driver of community engagement, school spirit, and economic  
17    activity across the state; and

18           WHEREAS, community college football programs once  
19    existed in Alabama but were discontinued due to financial,  
20    logistical, and administrative challenges, leaving a gap in  
21    athletic opportunities for students who may not have access  
22    to four-year institutions; and

23           WHEREAS, the recent success and expansion of women's  
24    flag football in the ACCC, supported by legislative  
25    appropriations, demonstrates the viability of introducing  
26    new sports programs at the community college level; and

27           WHEREAS, reinstating football programs at community  
28    colleges could provide additional pathways for



29 student-athletes to pursue higher education, develop  
30 leadership and teamwork skills, and potentially advance to  
31 four-year institutions or professional opportunities; and

32 WHEREAS, a comprehensive study is needed to evaluate  
33 the feasibility, costs, benefits, and potential models for  
34 reintroducing football programs in Alabama's community  
35 colleges; now therefore,

36 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
37 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is established the  
38 Alabama Community College Football Study Commission to study  
39 the feasibility of reinstating football programs at  
40 community colleges within the Alabama Community College  
41 System.

42 (a) The membership of the study commission shall  
43 consist of all of the following:

44 (1) One member of the Alabama House of  
45 Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
46 Representatives.

47 (2) One member of the Alabama Senate, appointed by  
48 the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

49 (3) The Chair of the House of Representatives Ways  
50 and Means Education Committee, or his or her designee.

51 (4) The Chair of the Senate Finance and Taxation  
52 Education Committee, or her or her designee.

53 (5) The Chancellor of the Alabama Community College  
54 System, or his or her designee.

55 (6) The Commissioner of the Alabama Community College  
56 Conference.



57 (7) Two presidents of community colleges with  
58 athletic programs, appointed by the Chancellor of the  
59 Alabama Community College System.

60 (8) Two community college athletic directors,  
61 appointed by the Commissioner of the Alabama Community  
62 College Conference.

63 (9) Two high school football coaches or athletic  
64 directors from high schools with a classification of 1A  
65 through 5A, appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
66 Representatives.

67 (10) Two high school football coaches or athletic  
68 directors from high schools with a classification of 6A or  
69 7A, appointed by the Senate President Pro Tempore.

83 (c) The study commission shall have the following  
84 duties:



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85 (1) Assess the current infrastructure, staffing, and  
86 financial capacity of the Alabama Community College  
87 Conference and the institutions of Alabama Community College  
88 System to implement football programs.

89 (2) Evaluate potential one-time and recurring funding  
90 sources for facilities and operational costs, including  
91 public-private partnerships and legislative appropriations.

92 (3) Consider models from other states with successful  
93 community college football programs.

94 (4) Solicit input from stakeholders including  
95 students, faculty, alumni, and local communities.

96 (5) Provide recommendations on timelines and  
97 legislative actions needed to implement football in the  
98 community college system.

104 (e) The Legislative Services Agency, the Clerk of the  
105 House of Representatives, the Secretary of the Senate, and  
106 the Alabama Community College System shall provide  
107 administrative and other assistance for the work of the  
108 study commission as necessary.

109 (f) (1) The legislative members of the study  
110 commission shall be entitled to their legislative  
111 compensation, per diem, and travel expenses for each day



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112 they attend a meeting of the study commission pursuant to  
113 Section 49 of the Constitution of Alabama 2022.

114 (2) The nonlegislative members of the study  
115 commission shall serve without compensation but may be  
116 reimbursed for necessary expenses in attending meetings of  
117 the study commission pursuant to the policies of their  
118 respective appointing authority.

119 (g) The study commission shall submit a final report  
120 of its findings, conclusions, and recommendations to the  
121 Governor, the Legislature, and the Chancellor of the Alabama  
122 Community College System no later than November 1, 2026.  
123 Upon filing its report with the Legislature, the study  
124 commission shall stand dissolved and discharged of any  
125 future duties and liabilities.

126 (h) Pursuant to Section 36-14-17.1, Code of Alabama  
127 1975, the study commission shall provide to the Secretary of  
128 State a notice of all meetings, the name of each member  
129 serving on the study commission, and a copy of the final  
130 report and other documents produced throughout the duration  
131 of the study commission.

132 (i) Each appointing authority named herein shall be  
133 provided a copy of this resolution upon its passage.



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144 Speaker of the House of Representatives

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149 President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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House of Representatives

154 I hereby certify that the within Act originated in  
155 and was passed by the House 22-Jan-26.

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John Treadwell  
Clerk

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164 Senate

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**10-Feb-26**

Adopted

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