

1 HJR181
2 127451-1
3 By Representatives Davis, Newton (C) and McClammy
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 22-MAR-11

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8 TO AMEND AND REENACT ACT 2007-414, HJR27, 2007
9 REGULAR SESSION (ACTS 2007, P. 844), TO CONTINUE THE OLD
10 FEDERAL ROAD TASK FORCE TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE OLD FEDERAL
11 ROAD SHOULD BE PROMOTED AS A HISTORICAL TRAIL AND DESIGNATING
12 CERTAIN STATE AND COUNTY ROADS BY NUMBER AS TRANSITIONAL
13 TRAILS UNTIL THE OLD FEDERAL ROAD ROUTE IS DESIGNATED AND
14 DEVELOPED.

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16 WHEREAS, in 1806 when the United States was still
17 young and rapidly growing westward, a horse path for postal
18 riders was opened through the Creek Nation stretching from
19 middle Georgia to costal Alabama. As the likelihood of another
20 battle with Britain increased, the crucial need to quickly
21 move troops to protect the American Gulf Coast was becoming
22 more evident. In June 1810, Colonel Richard Sparks, the
23 commanding officer of Fort Stoddert located in Mobile County,
24 Alabama, was ordered by U.S. Secretary of War William Eustis
25 to inspect and document these horse paths in order to mark a
26 military road so that troops and supplies could be sent to
27 defend the Gulf Coast. A second scouting party from Fort

1 Stoddert was led by 1st Lieutenant John Roger Nelson Lockett
2 who made the first significant survey for road construction in
3 land that would later become Alabama. On July 11, 1811,
4 Brigadier General Wade Hampton was directed to immediately
5 begin construction of three wagon roads through the Creek
6 Nation - the second of these roads became known as the Federal
7 Road; and

8 WHEREAS, with construction at last beginning in
9 1811, the "Old Federal Road" was built from west to east
10 connecting Fort Stoddert to Fort Wilkinson, located near
11 Milledgeville, Georgia; and

12 WHEREAS, the Old Federal Road successfully connected
13 Fort Stoddert to the Chattahoochee River. At that point, the
14 Federal Road merged with the earlier postal riders' horse path
15 that linked Athens, Georgia, to New Orleans, Louisiana. This
16 path quickly became a major travel route for pioneers to the
17 area once known as the Old Southwest; and

18 WHEREAS, from its start as a narrow horse path used
19 to carry the mails, the Old Federal Road underwent great
20 development and became a major military road connecting early
21 American forts in the Creek Lands and the Mississippi
22 Territory. Acting as the interstate highway of its day, when
23 "Alabama Fever" raged through the Carolinas and Georgia, the
24 Old Federal Road carried thousands of pioneers to the Old
25 Southwest. As such, the Federal Road directly contributed to
26 the dramatic increase in Alabama's population between 1810 and
27 1820 with Alabama's population growing faster than that of

1 either Mississippi or Louisiana during this time. Alabama
2 continued out-distancing both Mississippi and Louisiana in
3 population growth through 1850; and

4 WHEREAS, the Federal Road became a well-traveled
5 stagecoach route for those going through Alabama. Nearly two
6 centuries later, remnants of the Federal Road remain visible;
7 now therefore,

8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
9 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Act 2007-414, HJR27 of the
10 2007 Regular Session (Acts 2007, p. 844), relating to the Old
11 Federal Road Task Force, is amended and reenacted as follows:

12 The Old Federal Road Task Force as created pursuant
13 to Act 2007-414 is created and continued.

14 (a) The task force shall be composed of the
15 following persons:

16 (1) The Director of the Alabama Historical
17 Commission, or his or her designee.

18 (2) The Director of the Alabama Department of
19 Archives and History, or his or her designee.

20 (3) The president of any four-year public college or
21 university, or his or her designee, that is located within the
22 geographic area of the Old Federal Road.

23 (4) One member of the Senate appointed by the
24 Lieutenant Governor.

25 (5) Three members of the House of Representatives
26 appointed by the Speaker of the House.

1 (6) The Director of the Tourism Department, or his
2 or her designee.

3 (7) One member from each of the congressional
4 districts in which the Federal Road was located appointed by
5 the Speaker of the House.

6 (8) The Director of the Department of
7 Transportation, or his or her designee.

8 (b) (1) The chair and vice chair of the task force
9 shall be elected at the first meeting of the task force, after
10 the passage of this amended act which shall be called for by
11 the Speaker of the House no later than September 1, 2011. The
12 task force shall thereafter meet at the call of the chair or
13 on a motion of a majority of its members.

14 (2) The task force shall study all aspects of how
15 best to identify and promote the Old Federal Road in this
16 state. The task force shall present annual findings,
17 conclusions, and recommendations to the Legislature, the
18 Governor, and the Attorney General on or before the tenth
19 legislative day of each regular legislative session beginning
20 in 2012 with a final report due on or before the tenth day of
21 the 2016 Regular Session of the Legislature, at which time the
22 task force shall stand dissolved and discharged of further
23 duties and liabilities.

24 (3) No funds appropriated for the use of the
25 Legislature may be expended for the work of the task force.
26 Members shall serve without compensation, but may be
27 reimbursed as other state employees for per diem expenses as

1 allowed by law, and only to the extent that any funds are
2 available for reimbursement of per diem expenses of the
3 members.

4 (4) Notwithstanding the foregoing, no legislative
5 member may receive state per diem for a meeting of the task
6 force when the Legislature is in session or if a legislative
7 member is being paid any other payments on the same dates for
8 attendance of other state business.

9 (c) The transitional route of the Old Federal Road
10 as determined by the Alabama Department of Transportation
11 consists of all the following:

12 (1) Russell County: Begin at Fort Mitchell, head
13 north on AL-165, turn left onto South Seale Road and head
14 southwest, turn left onto US-431/AL-1 and head southwest, turn
15 left onto County Road 61 and head southeast, turn right onto
16 County Road 137 and head southwest, turn left onto US-431/AL-1
17 and head southwest, turn right onto Indian Trail Road and head
18 northwest, turn left onto County Road 137 and head southwest,
19 turn right onto US-431/AL-1 and head southwest, turn left onto
20 County Road 137 and head southwest, turn right onto County
21 Road 138 and head northwest to junction of AL-169 and
22 US-431/AL-1, follow AL-169 to County Road 22, turn left onto
23 County Road 22 and head west, turn left onto AL-51 and head
24 south, turn right onto Boromville Road and head west crossing
25 into Macon County.

26 (2) Macon County: Continue to follow Boromville
27 Road, turn right onto County Road 10 and head west/northwest

1 to US-29/AL-15, turn right onto US-29/AL-15 and head northwest
2 to Tuskegee, turn left onto US-80/AL-8 and head west crossing
3 into Montgomery County.

4 (3) Montgomery County: Continue to follow US-80/AL-8
5 to junction with AL-126, turn left onto AL-126 and head west,
6 turn left onto AL-110 in Montgomery and head southeast, turn
7 right onto Ryan Road and head south, turn right onto Vaughn
8 Road and head west, turn right onto US-231/AL-53 (Eastern
9 Bypass) and head north to junction with Atlanta Highway, turn
10 left onto Atlanta Highway and head west to junction of Madison
11 Avenue and Mt. Meigs Road, continue west on Madison Avenue,
12 turn left onto Decatur Street (one way) and head south to
13 junction of Union Street and Norman Bridge Road (head north
14 from this point to Madison Avenue for northbound segment),
15 continue on Norman Bridge Road, turn right onto
16 US-80/AL-8-US-82/AL-6 (Southern Bypass), head west to junction
17 of I-65 - Exit 168, turn left on US-80/AL-8 - I-65 and head
18 south to I-65 - Exit 167, turn right onto US-80/AL-8 and head
19 west to junction of US-31/AL-3, turn left onto US-31/AL-3 and
20 head south to junction of County Road 24, turn right onto
21 County Road 24 and head west, turn left onto County Road 055
22 (Federal Road) and head southwest, turn left onto County Road
23 053 (Tabernacle Road) and head south, turn left onto County
24 Road 054 (Tabernacle Road) and head east/southeast, turn right
25 onto US-31/AL-3 and head south crossing into Lowndes County.

26 (4) Lowndes County: Continue to follow US-31/AL-3
27 and head southwest, turn right onto AL-185 and head west

1 through Fort Deposit; then south on AL-185 crossing into
2 Butler County.

3 (5) Butler County: Continue to follow AL-185
4 southwest, turn right onto County Road 44 and head
5 west/southwest, turn left onto County Road 54 and head south,
6 turn right onto County Road 46 and head west/northwest, turn
7 left onto County Road 38 and head south/southwest crossing
8 into Conecuh County.

9 (6) Conecuh County: Continue to follow that route
10 which becomes Owens Road to County Road 16, then head
11 southwest on Old Federal Road to County Road 29, turn right
12 onto County Road 29 and head southwest, then north to County
13 Road 79, turn left onto County Road 79 and head south to
14 County Road 106, turn right onto County Road 106 and head
15 west, turn left onto AL-83 and head south, turn right onto
16 County Road 1 and head southwest, turn right onto County Road
17 5 and head south/southwest to US-84/AL-12, turn right onto
18 US-84/AL-12 and head west, turn left onto County Road 5 and
19 head southwest crossing into Escambia County.

20 (7) Escambia County: Continue to follow that route
21 which becomes County Road 45 south, turn right onto County
22 Road 30 (Pleasant Grove Road) and head west, crossing AL-21,
23 head west/southwest, turn left at McCullough onto Washington
24 Avenue and head east, turn right onto Garden Street and head
25 south (Garden Street turns into Bell Creek Road), continue
26 south on Bell Creek Road, turn right onto County Road 14 and

1 head west/northwest, turn right onto County Road 1 and head
2 north, turn left onto County Road 47 and head west.

3 (8) Baldwin County: Continue to follow that route
4 which becomes Redtown Road, turn right onto County Road 61 and
5 head north/northwest, turn left onto AL-59 and head south,
6 turn right onto AL-225 and continue south, turn right onto
7 US-31/AL-3 and head west to junction of US-90/AL-16, turn
8 right and continue west on US-90/AL-16 crossing into Mobile
9 County.

10 (9) Mobile County: Continue to follow route
11 US-90/AL-16 through Mobile County to the Mississippi state
12 line.