

HJR285 ENROLLED



1 HJR285
2 KG3DUAU-2
3 By Representative Lovvorn
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 08-May-24



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1 Enrolled, An Act,

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3 ESTABLISHING THE JOINT INTERIM STUDY COMMISSION ON
4 LOCAL AND COUNTY VICTIM NOTIFICATION.

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6 WHEREAS, victim notification is of utmost importance
7 in the criminal justice system; victims of crimes are often
8 uninformed of the status and movement of an offender's
9 custody status leaving them worried and anxious; and

10 WHEREAS, being aware of an offender's custody status
11 and movements throughout the criminal justice system gives
12 victims life-saving information and peace of mind; and

13 WHEREAS, while there is a system in place to provide
14 pardons, paroles, and prisoner notifications to victims and
15 concerned citizens, the state lacks a comprehensive
16 universal system to inform victims and concerned citizens of
17 information regarding county and local offenders; and

18 WHEREAS, over 60 percent of county level offender
19 notification has been accomplished using the VINE service,
20 which has been provided for free and without a contract; and

21 WHEREAS, without state funding, the counties
22 currently utilizing the service are at risk of losing the
23 current service offered; now therefore,

24 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
25 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is created the Joint
26 Interim Study Commission on Local and County Victim
27 Notification to address the lack of funding for a statewide



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28 universal solution regarding county and local victim
29 notification.

30 (a) The membership of the commission shall consist of
31 all of the following:

32 (1) One member of a victim's advocacy group appointed
33 by the Lieutenant Governor.

34 (2) The Speaker of the House of Representatives, or
35 his or her designee.

36 (3) The President Pro Tempore of the Senate, or his
37 or her designee.

38 (4) The Chair of the House of Representatives Ways
39 and Means General Fund Committee, or his or her designee.

40 (5) The Chair of the Senate Finance and Taxation
41 General Fund Committee, or his or her designee.

42 (6) The Minority Leader of the House of
43 Representatives, or his or her designee.

44 (7) The Minority Leader of the Senate, or his or her
45 designee.

46 (8) The Finance Director, or his or her designee.

47 (9) A member appointed by the Attorney General.

48 (10) A member appointed by the Alabama State Law
49 Enforcement Agency.

50 (11) A member appointed by the District Attorneys
51 Association.

52 (12) A member appointed by the Sheriffs Association.

53 (13) A member appointed by the Association of County
54 Commissions of Alabama.



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55 (b) The appointing authorities shall coordinate their
56 appointments to ensure the commission membership is
57 inclusive and reflects the racial, gender, geographic,
58 urban, rural, and economic diversity of the state.

59 (c) The commission shall study the county and local
60 victim notification practices throughout the state.

61 (d) (1) The first meeting of the commission shall be
62 held at the call of the Speaker of the House of
63 Representatives, or his or her designee, no later than 60
64 days after this resolution's passage, at which time the
65 commission shall elect a chair and vice chair. The
66 commission may then meet as necessary to conduct business.

67 (2) The Legislative Services Agency, the Clerk of the
68 House of Representatives, and the Secretary of the Senate
69 shall provide administrative and other assistance for the
70 work of the commission as necessary.

71 (e) (1) The legislative members of the commission
72 shall be entitled to their legislative compensation, per
73 diem, and travel expenses for each day they attend a meeting
74 of the commission pursuant to Section 49 of the Constitution
75 of Alabama of 2022.

76 (2) The nonlegislative members of the commission
77 shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for
78 necessary expenses in attending meetings of the commission
79 pursuant to the policies of their respective appointing
80 authority.

81 (f) The commission shall prepare a report of its
82 findings to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of



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83 Representatives, and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate
84 not later than the third legislative day of the 2025 Regular
85 Session, at which point the commission shall stand dissolved
86 and discharged of any future duties and liabilities.

87 (g) Pursuant to Section 36-14-17.1, Code of Alabama
88 1975, the commission shall provide a notice of all meetings
89 and the name of each member serving on the commission
90 throughout its duration to the Secretary of State.

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



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Speaker of the House of Representatives

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in
and was passed by the House 08-May-24.

John Treadwell
Clerk

Senate

08-May-24

Adopted