

1 HJR30  
2 116073-1  
3 By Representative Morrow  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 12-JAN-10

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8 REQUESTING THE ALABAMA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC  
9 ASSOCIATION TO CONSIDER AUTHORIZING FISHING AS A RECOGNIZED  
10 SCHOOL SPORT.  
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12 WHEREAS, thousands of Alabama students throughout  
13 the state enjoy and participate regularly in fishing; and

14 WHEREAS, competitive sport fishing is currently  
15 recognized for high school participation by the Illinois High  
16 School Athletic Association; about 2,500 male and female  
17 Illinois students participated in the first season in 2008,  
18 and officials in Illinois are anticipating that more than 300  
19 of the state's 785 schools will soon be involved in sport  
20 fishing; and

21 WHEREAS, professional fishing and outdoor  
22 organizations such as FLW Outdoors, Bassmaster, and other  
23 organizations have expressed their support for the growth of  
24 sport fishing at the college level and at the high school  
25 level; and

1           WHEREAS, recognizing sport fishing in Alabama would  
2 give thousands of boys and girls the opportunity to compete  
3 individually and in teams in sport fishing; and

4           WHEREAS, the sport would allow thousands of youth  
5 who are not interested in traditional sports the opportunity  
6 to enjoy and compete in outdoor sporting events; and

7           WHEREAS, if sport fishing were recognized in  
8 Alabama, local communities, both rural and urban, would  
9 experience more opportunities to attract tourism dollars from  
10 out-of-town visitors to local restaurants, motels, and  
11 shopping areas; and

12           WHEREAS, high school participation in sports fishing  
13 would also ensure a stable future for professional tournaments  
14 of FLW Outdoors, Bassmaster, and other tournaments, which  
15 currently contribute greatly to the tourism industry in this  
16 state; now therefore,

17           BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
18 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we hereby request, by copy of  
19 this resolution, the Alabama High School Athletic Association  
20 to consider authorizing high school sport fishing as a  
21 recognized school sport in Alabama schools.