

1 SR64
2 167075-1
3 By Senators Whatley and Allen
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 12-MAY-15

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8 SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF THE YEAR 2015 AS THE
9 INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF SOILS AND SUPPORTING LOCALLY LED SOIL
10 CONSERVATION.

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12 WHEREAS, many of our international partners are
13 designating 2015 as the International Year of Soils; and

14 WHEREAS, soil is vitally important for food security
15 and essential ecosystem functions; and

16 WHEREAS, soil conservation efforts in the United
17 States are often locally led; and

18 WHEREAS, 2015 also marks the 80th anniversary of the
19 signing of the Soil Conservation Act on April 27, 1935; and

20 WHEREAS, soils, as the foundation for agricultural
21 production, essential ecosystem functions, and food security,
22 are key to sustaining life on Earth; and

23 WHEREAS, soils and the science of soils contribute
24 to improved water quality, food safety and security, healthy
25 ecosystems, and human health; and

26 WHEREAS, soil, plant, animal, and human health are
27 intricately linked; now therefore,

1 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE LEGISLATURE OF
2 ALABAMA, That we designate the year 2015 as the International
3 Year of Soils and we encourage the public to participate in
4 activities that celebrate the importance of soils to our
5 current and future well-being.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this body expressly
7 supports the conservation of the nation's soils, through
8 landowner participation in partnership with local soil and
9 water conservation districts in the Conservation Reserve
10 Program, the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, the
11 Conservation Stewardship Program, the Agricultural
12 Conservation Easement Program, and the Regional Conservation
13 Partnership Program as authorized by the Food Security Act of
14 1985, as amended, 16 U.S.C. Section 3801, et seq., and the
15 Small Watershed Rehabilitation Program as authorized by the
16 Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, as amended, 16
17 U.S.C. Section 1001, et seq.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this
19 resolution be made available for appropriate presentation.