

1 HJR318  
2 184927-1  
3 By Representatives South, Weaver, Rowe, Wingo, Clouse and Lee  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 18-APR-17

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8 ESTABLISHING A STUDY COMMISSION ON THE OPERATION AND  
9 FUNDING OF THE SURFACE MINING COMMISSION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF  
10 LABOR, ABANDONED MINE PROGRAM.  
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12 WHEREAS, a comprehensive study of the operation and  
13 funding of the Surface Mining Commission and the Department of  
14 Labor, Abandoned Mine Program would assist the Legislature in  
15 making equitable, meaningful, and effective policy changes for  
16 the enhancement of the industry and the economy of this state;  
17 now therefore,

18 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
19 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is created the Study  
20 Commission on the Operation and Funding of the Surface Mining  
21 Commission and the Department of Labor, Abandoned Mine  
22 Program.

23 (a) The membership of the commission shall consist  
24 of the following:

25 (1) Two members of the House of Representatives  
26 appointed by the Speaker.

1           (2) Two members of the Senate appointed by the  
2 President Pro Tempore.

3           (3) One representative of the coal industry  
4 appointed by the member appointed by the Speaker of the House  
5 of Representatives.

6           (4) One representative of the coal industry  
7 appointed by the member appointed by the President Pro Tempore  
8 of the Senate.

9           (5) One representative of the Department of Labor.

10          (6) One representative of the Surface Mining  
11 Commission.

12          (b) The appointing authorities shall coordinate  
13 their appointments to assure that the membership of the Study  
14 Commission on the Operation and Funding of the Surface Mining  
15 Commission and the Department of Labor, Abandoned Mine Program  
16 is inclusive and reflects the racial, gender, geographic,  
17 urban, rural, and economic diversity of the state.

18          (c) The commission shall have all of the following  
19 duties:

20           (1) Perform a complete and comprehensive review and  
21 assessment of state laws and regulations regarding the  
22 operation and funding of the Surface Mining Commission and the  
23 Department of Labor, Abandoned Mine Program, including any  
24 statistical data available.

25           (2) Identify issues in the law or administrative  
26 rules that open gaps or create problems regarding the  
27 operation and funding process.

1           (3) Identify problem areas, programs, and cost  
2           efficiencies through systematic data collection and analysis.

3           (4) Identify innovative programs and strategies used  
4           in other states that have proven to be effective or have shown  
5           promise to improve the operation and funding process in this  
6           industry.

7           (5) Submit recommendations for legislative actions  
8           to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the  
9           President Pro Tempore of the Senate during the first week of  
10          the 2018 Regular Session at which time the commission shall be  
11          dissolved.

12          (d)(1) Appointments to the commission shall be made  
13          within 30 days after the effective date of this act.

14          (2) The commission shall hold its first meeting no  
15          later than August 1, 2017, with the date, time, and location  
16          of the meeting designated by the Speaker of the House of  
17          Representatives.

18          (3) At the first meeting, the commission shall elect  
19          a chair, vice chair, and other officers as determined by the  
20          commission, and shall set dates, times, and locations of  
21          subsequent meetings.

22          (e) The House of Representatives and the Senate  
23          shall provide the necessary staff and support to the  
24          commission to perform its duties.

25          (f) Members of the commission shall serve without  
26          compensation but may be reimbursed for necessary expenses in

1 attending meetings of the commission according to the policies  
2 and procedures of their respective appointing authority.

3 (g) Legislative members of the commission shall be  
4 entitled to their legislative compensation, per diem, and  
5 travel expenses for each day they attend a meeting of the  
6 commission in accordance with Amendment 871 of the  
7 Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

8 (h) A copy of this resolution shall be provided to  
9 all appointing authorities of the commission.