

1 HB756
2 121143-2
3 By Representative Newton (C)
4 RFD: Tourism and Travel
5 First Read: 23-MAR-10

1 significant survey for road construction in land that would
2 later become Alabama. On July 11, 1811, Brigadier General Wade
3 Hampton was directed to immediately begin construction of
4 three wagon roads through the Creek Nation - the second of
5 these roads became known as the Federal Road.

6 (2) With construction at last beginning in 1811, the
7 "Old Federal Road" was built from west to east connecting Fort
8 Stoddert to Fort Wilkinson, located near Milledgeville,
9 Georgia.

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

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

1 continued out-distancing both Mississippi and Louisiana in
2 population growth through 1850.

3 (5) The Federal Road became a well traveled
4 stagecoach route for those going through Alabama. Nearly two
5 centuries later, remnants of the Federal Road remain visible.

6 Section 2. (a) The Old Federal Road Task Force is
7 created.

8 (b) The task force shall be composed of the
9 following persons:

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

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

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

17 (4) One member of the Alabama Senate appointed by
18 the Lieutenant Governor.

19 (5) Three members of the Alabama House of
20 Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House.

21 (6) The Director, or his or her designee, of the
22 ~~Bureau of Tourism and Travel~~ Alabama Tourism Department.

23 (7) One member from each of the congressional
24 districts in which the Federal Road was located appointed by
25 the Speaker of the House.

1 (8) The Director, or his or her designee, of the
2 Alabama Department of Transportation.

3 (c) In making the appointments, the appointing
4 authorities shall strive to ensure that the composition of the
5 task force shall be inclusive and reflect the racial, gender,
6 geographic, urban/rural, and economic diversity of the state.
7 The task force shall annually report to the Legislature by the
8 second legislative day of each regular session the extent to
9 which the task force has complied with the diversity
10 provisions provided for in this act.

11 (d) The chair and vice chair of the task force shall
12 be elected at the first meeting of the task force, which shall
13 be called for by the Speaker of the House no later than
14 September 1, 2010. The task force shall thereafter meet at the
15 call of the chair or on a motion of a majority of its members.

16 (e) The task force shall study all aspects of how
17 best to identify and promote the Old Federal Road in this
18 state. The task force shall present annual findings,
19 conclusions, and recommendations to the Legislature and the
20 Governor on or before than the tenth day of each regular
21 legislative session.

22 (f) No funds appropriated for the use of the
23 Legislature may be expended for the work of the task force.
24 Members shall serve without compensation, but may be
25 reimbursed as other state employees for per diem expenses as
26 allowed by law, and only to the extent that any funds are

1 available for reimbursement of per diem expenses of the
2 members.

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

8 Section 3. This act shall become effective on the
9 first day of the third month following its passage and
10 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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House of Representatives

Read for the first time and re-
ferred to the House of Representa-
tives committee on Tourism and
Travel 23-MAR-10

Read for the second time and placed
on the calendar with 1 substitute
and 01-APR-10

Read for the third time and passed
as amended 13-APR-10

Yeas 98, Nays 0, Abstains 1

Greg Pappas
Clerk