

SJR89 ENROLLED



1 49QYRR-2
2 By Senators Allen, Smitherman
3 RFD: RULES
4 First Read: 25-May-23
5 2023 Regular Session



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1 Enrolled, An Act,

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4 SJR___ EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF
5 INFRASTRUCTURE FOR TRUCK PARKING.

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7 WHEREAS, the purpose of this resolution is to
8 strongly urge the Governor of the State of Alabama, the
9 Alabama Department of Transportation, and the Alabama
10 Legislature to consider the critical lack of adequate truck
11 parking in the State of Alabama and support policies to
12 invest in the long-term viability of truck parking; and

13 WHEREAS, trucking is critical to the overall economy
14 of the State of Alabama; trucking employs more than 125,000
15 working Alabamians; 32,000 trucking companies call Alabama
16 home; trucking moves 81 percent of all manufactured tonnage
17 in Alabama; and 86 percent of Alabama communities are fully
18 reliant on trucks to deliver their goods; and

19 WHEREAS, the scarcity of truck parking has dire
20 safety implications for both truck drivers and the motoring
21 public, resulting in far too many truck drivers parking in
22 unsafe and unsanctioned places out of necessity; and

23 WHEREAS, the lack of safe parking areas makes it
24 challenging for drivers to comply with the Federal Motor
25 Carrier Safety Administration Hours of Service (HOS) rules,
26 drivers are often faced with an untenable choice of either
27 parking in undesignated and unsafe areas or violating their
28 Hours of Service, which also creates a dilemma for law



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29 enforcement who can either force truck drivers to relocate,
30 placing them in violation of HOS rules and taking a risk
31 that the drivers may be too fatigued to drive safely, or
32 they can allow the drivers to remain parked illegally; and

33 WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Transportation has
34 determined that every U.S. state currently has a truck
35 parking shortage and 98 percent of truck drivers regularly
36 experience difficulties finding safe parking; and

37 WHEREAS, according to the American Transportation
38 Research Institute, drivers surveyed across the nation year
39 after year have listed truck parking among their top
40 challenges; and

41 WHEREAS, the lack of available safe parking for
42 drivers has created a chilling effect on the recruitment and
43 retention of drivers, especially female drivers, in the
44 trucking industry, exacerbating the significant driver
45 shortage; and

46 WHEREAS, with the passing of the Infrastructure
47 Investment & Jobs Act resources have become available to
48 state and local governments to expand truck parking
49 capacity; and

50 WHEREAS, in its 2022 Alabama Freight Plan, the
51 Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) identified
52 several highway segments where truck parking capacity is
53 inadequate; ALDOT projected that if no additional truck
54 parking capacity is added by 2025, demand will increase by
55 at least 55 percent, with some segments experiencing a
56 doubling in demand; now therefore,



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57 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
58 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we, the members of the
59 Alabama Legislature, acknowledge professional truck drivers
60 are essential to the daily lives of Alabamians, delivering
61 the goods that we often take for granted, from fresh water
62 to fuel to the physical roofs over our heads, and we
63 acknowledge the inadequate availability of truck parking in
64 the State of Alabama has a detrimental impact on the
65 trucking profession and overall supply chain efficiency; and
66 we will support policies that will result in the betterment
67 of the overall quality, quantity, and availability of truck
68 parking in Alabama in order to support the main mode of
69 freight transportation that is essential to the lives of all
70 Alabamians; we urge ALDOT to invest available state and
71 federal resources to expand truck parking capacity at the
72 locations where the department has identified current and
73 future shortages.

74 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State
75 send duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the
76 Governor of the State of Alabama, Director of the Alabama
77 Department of Transportation, the United States Secretary of
78 Transportation, and the Alabama Congressional Delegation.



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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

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Senate 25-May-23

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed the Senate.

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

House of Representatives

Passed: 31-May-23

By: Senator Allen