

# HJR285 INTRODUCED



1 HJR285  
2 KG3DUAU-1  
3 By Representative Lovvorn  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 08-May-24



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HJR\_\_\_ ESTABLISHING THE JOINT INTERIM STUDY COMMISSION ON  
LOCAL AND COUNTY VICTIM NOTIFICATION.

WHEREAS, victim notification is of utmost importance  
in the criminal justice system; victims of crimes are often  
uninformed of the status and movement of an offender's  
custody status leaving them worried and anxious; and

WHEREAS, being aware of an offender's custody status  
and movements throughout the criminal justice system gives  
victims life-saving information and peace of mind; and

WHEREAS, while there is a system in place to provide  
pardons, paroles, and prisoner notifications to victims and  
concerned citizens, the state lacks a comprehensive  
universal system to inform victims and concerned citizens of  
information regarding county and local offenders; and

WHEREAS, over 60 percent of county level offender  
notification has been accomplished using the VINE service,  
which has been provided for free and without a contract; and

WHEREAS, without state funding, the counties  
currently utilizing the service are at risk of losing the  
current service offered; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is created the Joint  
Interim Study Commission on Local and County Victim  
Notification to address the lack of funding for a statewide



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29 universal solution regarding county and local victim  
30 notification.

31 (a) The membership of the commission shall consist of  
32 all of the following:

33 (1) One member of a victim's advocacy group appointed  
34 by the Lieutenant Governor.

35 (2) The Speaker of the House of Representatives, or  
36 his or her designee.

37 (3) The President Pro Tempore of the Senate, or his  
38 or her designee.

39 (4) The Chair of the House of Representatives Ways  
40 and Means General Fund Committee, or his or her designee.

41 (5) The Chair of the Senate Finance and Taxation  
42 General Fund Committee, or his or her designee.

43 (6) The Minority Leader of the House of  
44 Representatives, or his or her designee.

45 (7) The Minority Leader of the Senate, or his or her  
46 designee.

47 (8) The Finance Director, or his or her designee.

48 (9) A member appointed by the Attorney General.

49 (10) A member appointed by the Alabama State Law  
50 Enforcement Agency.

51 (11) A member appointed by the District Attorneys  
52 Association.

53 (12) A member appointed by the Sheriffs Association.

54 (13) A member appointed by the Association of County  
55 Commissions of Alabama.



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56 (b) The appointing authorities shall coordinate their  
57 appointments to ensure the commission membership is  
58 inclusive and reflects the racial, gender, geographic,  
59 urban, rural, and economic diversity of the state.

60 (c) The commission shall study the county and local  
61 victim notification practices throughout the state.

62 (d) (1) The first meeting of the commission shall be  
63 held at the call of the Speaker of the House of  
64 Representatives, or his or her designee, no later than 60  
65 days after this resolution's passage, at which time the  
66 commission shall elect a chair and vice chair. The  
67 commission may then meet as necessary to conduct business.

68 (2) The Legislative Services Agency, the Clerk of the  
69 House of Representatives, and the Secretary of the Senate  
70 shall provide administrative and other assistance for the  
71 work of the commission as necessary.

72 (e) (1) The legislative members of the commission  
73 shall be entitled to their legislative compensation, per  
74 diem, and travel expenses for each day they attend a meeting  
75 of the commission pursuant to Section 49 of the Constitution  
76 of Alabama of 2022.

77 (2) The nonlegislative members of the commission  
78 shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for  
79 necessary expenses in attending meetings of the commission  
80 pursuant to the policies of their respective appointing  
81 authority.

82 (f) The commission shall prepare a report of its  
83 findings to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of



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84 Representatives, and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate  
85 not later than the third legislative day of the 2025 Regular  
86 Session, at which point the commission shall stand dissolved  
87 and discharged of any future duties and liabilities.

88 (g) Pursuant to Section 36-14-17.1, Code of Alabama  
89 1975, the commission shall provide a notice of all meetings  
90 and the name of each member serving on the commission  
91 throughout its duration to the Secretary of State.

92 (h) Each appointing authority named herein shall be  
93 provided a copy of this resolution upon its passage.