

1 SB40
2 145936-4
3 By Senators Dial, Waggoner, Glover, Allen, Whatley, Holley,
4 McGill, Fielding, Brewbaker, Scofield, Williams, Reed, Marsh
5 and Pittman (Constitutional Amendment)
6 RFD: Constitution, Campaign Finance, Ethics, and Elections
7 First Read: 05-FEB-13
8 PFD: 01/09/2013

2
3
4 ENGROSSED

5
6
7 A BILL
8 TO BE ENTITLED
9 AN ACT

10
11 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of
12 Alabama of 1901, providing for certain religious rights and
13 liberties; authorizing the display of historically significant
14 documents on state property and property owned or
15 administered by a public school or public body; prohibiting
16 the expenditure of public funds in defense of the
17 constitutionality of this amendment; and specifying an
18 election date.

19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

20 Section 1. The following amendment to the
21 Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, is proposed and
22 shall become valid as a part thereof when approved by a
23 majority of the qualified electors voting thereon and in
24 accordance with Sections 284, 285, and 287 of the Constitution
25 of Alabama of 1901, as amended:

26 PROPOSED AMENDMENT

1 Every person shall be at liberty to worship God
2 according to the dictates of his or her own conscience. No
3 person shall be compelled to attend, or, against his or her
4 consent, to contribute to the erection or support of any place
5 of religious worship, or to pay tithes, taxes, or other rates
6 for the support of any minister of the gospel. Property
7 belonging to the state may be used for historically
8 significant displays which reflect the foundations of the rule
9 of law in America, notwithstanding that such displays may also
10 have religious significance, and the right of a public school
11 and public body to display such displays on property owned or
12 administered by a public school or public body in this state
13 is not restrained or abridged provided that the display is
14 consistent with a policy approved by the governing authority
15 of the public school or public body. The civil and political
16 rights, privileges, and capacities of no person shall be
17 diminished or enlarged on account of his or her religious
18 belief. No public funds may be expended in defense of the
19 constitutionality of this amendment.

20 Section 2. An election upon the proposed amendment
21 shall be held in accordance with Sections 284 and 285 of the
22 Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Sections 284
23 and 285 of the Official Recompilation of the Constitution of
24 Alabama of 1901, as amended, and the election laws of this
25 state.

26 Section 3. The appropriate election official shall
27 assign a ballot number for the proposed constitutional

1 amendment on the election ballot and shall set forth the
2 following description of the substance or subject matter of
3 the proposed constitutional amendment:

4 "Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of
5 Alabama of 1901, providing for certain religious rights and
6 liberties; authorizing the display of historically significant
7 documents on state property and property owned or
8 administered by a public school or public body; and
9 prohibiting the expenditure of public funds in defense of the
10 constitutionality of this amendment.

11 "Proposed by Act _____."

12 This description shall be followed by the following
13 language:

14 "Yes () No ()."

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11

12
13
14
15
16
17
18

Senate

Read for the first time and referred to the Senate
committee on Constitution, Campaign Finance, Eth-
ics, and Elections..... 05-FEB-13

Read for the second time and placed on the calen-
dar 1 amendment..... 14-FEB-13

Read for the third time and passed as amended 26-FEB-13

Yeas 23
Nays 1

Patrick Harris
Secretary