

1 HJR16  
2 188521-1  
3 By Representative Ball  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 09-JAN-18

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8 RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THAT PUBLIC UNIVERSITY  
9 BOARDS OF TRUSTEES OBSERVE VETERANS DAY AS AN OFFICIAL  
10 HOLIDAY.  
11

12 WHEREAS, on May 13, 1938, the United States Congress  
13 adopted an Act (52. Stat. 351; 5 U.S. Code, Sec. 87a)  
14 designating the 11th of November in each year as a federal  
15 holiday; this day was named "Armistice Day," and was set aside  
16 to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to honor  
17 American veterans of World War I, and the 11th of November was  
18 given this special designation due to the fact that November  
19 11, 1918, is regarded as the day upon which World War I ended;  
20 and

21 WHEREAS, in 1954, the United States Congress  
22 officially amended the Act of 1938 to replace the word  
23 "Armistice" with the word "Veterans," and redesignated  
24 November 11 as a special day to honor all United States  
25 veterans; and

26 WHEREAS, since its creation, Veterans Day has been  
27 observed as a federal holiday, and all non-essential federal

1 government offices are closed on this day; these government  
2 offices are closed in order to give federal employees and  
3 their families the opportunity to properly honor our veterans  
4 and reflect on the sacrifices they have made to preserve our  
5 freedoms; and

6 WHEREAS, there has been a gradual shift away from  
7 official observance of Veterans Day in our public  
8 universities; many state universities do not close in  
9 observance of Veterans Day and thus conduct normal business  
10 operations on that day; and

11 WHEREAS, reestablishing Veterans Day as an observed  
12 holiday in our public universities would convey a great honor  
13 to the memory of past veterans and to the appreciation of  
14 living veterans; now therefore,

15 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
16 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the boards of trustees of all  
17 Alabama public universities are respectfully requested to  
18 reinstate Veterans Day as an official holiday, and are further  
19 requested to cease operations on that day and to award its  
20 employees with a holiday on that day in order to properly  
21 honor our veterans.