

1 SJR8
2 187998-2
3 By Senators Sanders and Orr
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 09-JAN-18

1 SJR8

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4 ENROLLED, SJR8,

5 JOINT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING CAHAWBA AS
6 THE FIRST PERMANENT CAPITAL OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA.

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8 WHEREAS, bound by rivers on three sides, the Town of
9 Cahawba, spelled "Cahaba" after 1850, boasts a long history of
10 settlement including Native Americans and French, British, and
11 Spanish colonist; and

12 WHEREAS, empowered by the state Legislature to
13 establish a permanent capital in Cahawba, William Wyatt Bibb,
14 Alabama's first Governor, patterned the town on Philadelphia
15 and secured the construction of a two-story statehouse; and

16 WHEREAS, Cahawba was the capital of Alabama from
17 1820 to 1826, through the state's first four governors, eleven
18 meetings of the state Supreme Court, and seven sessions of the
19 Legislature, including the state's first special session,
20 which dealt with reapportionment; and

21 WHEREAS, many of the laws and judicial rulings which
22 provided the foundation for the new state's government were
23 enacted at Cahawba; and

24 WHEREAS, during its service as the state's capital,
25 Cahawba grew into a town of more than 1,000 residents, a place

1 of commerce with two newspapers and numerous inns, stores, and
2 the first state bank, built in 1824; and

3 WHEREAS, on December 13, 1825, the state Legislature
4 voted to relocate the state capital to Tuscaloosa; and

5 WHEREAS, now a property of the Alabama Historical
6 Commission, the Old Cahawba Archeological Site continues to be
7 an important resource for understanding Alabama's early
8 history as a state; and

9 WHEREAS, Alabama is currently engaged in a
10 commemoration of the Bicentennial of Statehood, a three-year
11 celebration of the people, places, and events that form our
12 rich history; now therefore,

13 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
14 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we do hereby recognize Cahawba
15 as the first permanent capital of the State of Alabama.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR8
Senate 11-JAN-18
I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution
originated in and was adopted by the Senate.
Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

House of Representatives
Adopted: 16-JAN-18

By: Senator Sanders