

1 HB136
2 203754-2
3 By Representative Brown (C)
4 RFD: State Government
5 First Read: 02-FEB-21
6 PFD: 01/26/2021

SYNOPSIS: House Joint Resolution 239 of the 2019 Regular Session designated the Dauphin Island Sea Lab's Alabama Aquarium as the Official Aquarium of Alabama.

This bill would codify that designation in the Code of Alabama 1975.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to public aquariums; to designate the Dauphin Island Sea Lab's Alabama Aquarium as the official Aquarium of Alabama.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(1) The research and educational programs of the Dauphin Island Sea Lab, established by act of the Legislature in 1971 as the administrative home for the Alabama Marine

1 Environmental Sciences Consortium, serve the citizens of all
2 of Alabama's counties.

3 (2) The mission of the Dauphin Island Sea Lab is to
4 serve the general needs of these citizens, all levels of
5 government, and the academic community by improving ocean
6 literacy and providing the best available science for coastal
7 policy, including the production and dissemination of
8 knowledge regarding world oceans, coastal zones, and
9 watersheds; the training of future generations of oceanic and
10 coastal scientists; and the enhancement of public
11 understanding and stewardship of oceanic and coastal
12 resources.

13 (3) The Dauphin Island Sea Lab serves its mission,
14 in part, by providing an exciting and educational public
15 aquarium whose visual and virtual interactive exhibits, public
16 events, and public excursions highlighting the remarkable
17 diversity of life have been observed by over one million
18 students and other visitors since its opening in 1998.

19 (4) Designating the Dauphin Island Sea Lab's
20 "Alabama Aquarium" as the official Aquarium of Alabama is the
21 proper manner of recognizing the benefit and importance of the
22 education offered by the Sea Lab.

23 Section 2. The Dauphin Island Sea Lab's Alabama
24 Aquarium is designated the official Aquarium of Alabama.

25 Section 3. The appropriate officials shall place and
26 maintain signs or markers reflecting the designation provided
27 in this act.

1 Section 4. This act shall become effective on the
2 first day of the third month following its passage and
3 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.