

1 SJR28  
2 98441-2  
3 By Senators Benefield, Smith, Barron, Beason, Bedford, Bishop,  
4 Brooks, Butler, Coleman, Denton, Dixon, Erwin, Figures,  
5 French, Glover, Griffith, Holley, Lindsey, Little (T), Little  
6 (Z), Marsh, McClain, Means, Mitchell, Mitchem, Orr, Penn,  
7 Pittman, Poole, Preuitt, Ross, Sanders, Singleton, Smitherman,  
8 and Waggoner  
9 RFD:  
10 First Read: 19-FEB-08

1 SJR28

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4 ENROLLED, SJR28,

5 CREATING THE ALABAMA PERMANENT JOINT LEGISLATIVE  
6 COMMITTEE ON WATER POLICY AND MANAGEMENT.

7  
8 WHEREAS, the conservation and management of the  
9 state's water resources are absolutely necessary to preserve  
10 and protect our health, economic security, and recreational  
11 use; and

12 WHEREAS, a reliable and ample water supply is of  
13 great importance to all sectors of Alabama's economy; and

14 WHEREAS, long-term sustainability of the state's  
15 water supply and efficient and effective distribution of water  
16 resources are becoming increasingly important to sustain  
17 Alabama's population growth and economic expansion; and

18 WHEREAS, the future water needs of the state also  
19 present opportunities to plan regionally with other area water  
20 partners and to establish safe and effective intrastate and  
21 interstate water conservation strategies; and

22 WHEREAS, the use of existing technologies and the  
23 development of new technologies and strategies regarding water  
24 resource planning and coordination and strategies are  
25 essential to meeting our current and future water needs; and

1           WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that a  
2           comprehensive state policy and an integrated interstate policy  
3           are critical for planning and managing the water resources of  
4           the state; now therefore,

5           BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
6           HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Permanent Joint  
7           Legislative Committee on Water Policy and Management is  
8           created for the purpose of developing the Alabama Water  
9           Management Plan to recommend to the Governor and the  
10          Legislature courses of action to address the state's long-term  
11          and short-term water resource challenges.

12          The committee shall be composed of the following  
13          members: The Chair of the House Committee on Agriculture and  
14          Forestry; the Chair of the House Commerce Committee; the Chair  
15          of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation, and  
16          Forestry; the Chair of the Senate Committee on Commerce,  
17          Transportation, and Utilities; the Chair of the Senate  
18          Committee on Energy and Natural Resources; five members of the  
19          House appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
20          Representatives; two members of the Senate appointed by the  
21          Lieutenant Governor; and two members of the Senate appointed  
22          by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. Members of the  
23          committee and any members of any subcommittee created by the  
24          committee shall reflect the racial, ethnic, gender,  
25          geographic, urban/rural, and economic diversity of the state.

1           The Lieutenant Governor shall set the date of the  
2 first meeting of the committee, at which a chair and vice  
3 chair of the committee shall be elected by the members of the  
4 committee. The committee shall thereafter meet at the call of  
5 the chair or a majority of the members thereof, provided that  
6 the committee shall meet at least once each four months. The  
7 committee shall have a continuing existence and may meet, act,  
8 and conduct its business at any place within this state during  
9 the sessions of the Legislature, or any recess thereof, and in  
10 the interim period between sessions.

11           The committee shall make a continuous study of the  
12 state water supply and projected future needs and availability  
13 of the state water supply and make recommendations for  
14 legislation and initiatives that will create the necessary  
15 institutional and regulatory changes to accomplish the overall  
16 goals and objectives of the Alabama Water Management Plan in a  
17 manner that benefits the state's needs and protects the  
18 environment. The Alabama Water Management Plan shall be  
19 designed to achieve the following goals and objectives:

20           (1) The expansion of the availability of water  
21 needed to meet Alabama's current and future water needs  
22 through:

23           a. Seeking assistance from appropriate federal  
24 agencies in formulating strategies for water use and  
25 conservation.

1           b. Seeking input from private sector representatives  
2 regarding strategies for efficient water use management.

3           (2) The development of conservation programs  
4 through:

5           a. Identification and promotion of proven water use  
6 management and conservation technologies that improve water  
7 availability throughout the year.

8           b. Identification and promotion of business and  
9 residential water use reduction opportunities.

10          c. Increasing the usage of efficient water  
11 management products and sources through the state procurement  
12 process.

13          d. Incorporating water efficiency and conservation  
14 into the design and operation of state facilities.

15          (3) Encouraging water management technologies and  
16 producers of water-efficient products to locate their business  
17 operations in Alabama.

18          (4) Adopting incentives for the conservation of and  
19 prudent use of water resources in Alabama.

20          The Alabama Water Management Plan shall include the  
21 following for each goal and objective:

22          (1) An identification of actions already in process  
23 to effectively manage water usage in Alabama.

24          (2) A prioritized list of recommended administrative  
25 actions to further the purposes of effective water management.

1           (3) Recommended legislative proposals.

2           (4) An identification of areas in which further  
3 evaluation or research is recommended.

4           The committee shall submit its recommendations by  
5 the 15th legislative day of the 2009 Regular Session and by  
6 the fifth legislative day of each regular session thereafter.

7           The committee may create advisory subcommittees and  
8 appoint members to such subcommittees.

9           Persons appointed to subcommittees shall include  
10 members of the committee and representatives from governmental  
11 agencies and the private sector with interest and expertise in  
12 the objectives of the committee and any subcommittee formed by  
13 the committee. The committee shall strive to limit the number  
14 of subcommittees at any given time to three active  
15 subcommittees, but may create more than three if the  
16 circumstances require. The Commissioner of the Alabama  
17 Department of Agriculture and Industries, or his or her  
18 designee; the Commissioner of the Department of Conservation  
19 and Natural Resources, or his or her designee; the Division  
20 Chief of the Office of Water Resources of the Alabama  
21 Department of Economic and Community Affairs, or his or her  
22 designee; the State Geologist or his or her designee; and the  
23 Director of the Department of Environmental Management or his  
24 or her designee shall be members of any advisory subcommittees  
25 created. Each advisory subcommittee shall be co-chaired by a

1 member of the committee and a member of either the private  
2 sector or the public sector having knowledge and expertise in  
3 the area of study assigned to the subcommittee. Co-chairs of  
4 the subcommittees shall be appointed by the members of the  
5 committee.

6 The Secretary of the Senate, the Clerk of the House  
7 of Representatives, and the advisory subcommittees authorized  
8 herein shall provide any assistance as may be necessary at the  
9 committee's request. Each legislative member of the committee  
10 and each legislative member of any subcommittee created by the  
11 committee shall be entitled to his or her regular legislative  
12 compensation, his or her per diem, and travel expenses for  
13 each day he or she attends a meeting of the committee or a  
14 subcommittee, which shall be paid out of any funds  
15 appropriated for the use of the Legislature, upon warrants  
16 drawn by the state Comptroller, upon requisitions signed by  
17 the committee's chair; provided, however, members shall not  
18 receive additional legislative compensation or per diem for a  
19 regular or special session meeting day or committee meeting  
20 day, or if a member is being paid any other payments on the  
21 same dates for attendance on other state business.

22 Non-legislative members may be reimbursed for meetings of any  
23 subcommittee created pursuant to this act according to the  
24 policy and procedures of the respective employers or public

1        authorities of such members. Annual expenses and compensation  
2        of the committee shall not exceed the amount of \$10,000.



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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR28

Senate 19-FEB-08

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and adopted the Senate, as amended.

McDowell Lee  
Secretary

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House of Representatives  
Amended and adopted 03-APR-08

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Senate concurred in House amendment 10-APR-08

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By: Senator Benefield