

1 SJR4  
2 171853-1  
3 By Senator McClendon  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 10-SEP-15

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7  
8 ENDORSING THE SELECTION OF HELEN KELLER FOR THE NEW  
9 \$10 BILL.

10  
11 WHEREAS, the United States Treasury has announced  
12 that the image of an American woman, whose legacy exhibits  
13 America's values and inclusive democracy, will be selected to  
14 adorn the new \$10 bill; and

15 WHEREAS, Treasury has invited immediate, limited  
16 duration public input to the selection process, via "Tweets"  
17 to "#TheNew10," or by submitting nominations to the website  
18 "thenew10/share-your-ideas/submit; and has indicated that the  
19 new bill will be the first paper currency with a tactile  
20 element recognizable by visually impaired persons; and

21 WHEREAS, Helen Keller was born in Tuscumbia,  
22 Alabama, on June 27, 1880; and

23 WHEREAS, as a blind and deaf seven-year-old child,  
24 Helen Keller became an international celebrity and the first  
25 person to escape the double dungeon of darkness and silence to

1 effectively communicate with a world she could not see or  
2 hear; and

3 WHEREAS, she was the first such disabled person to  
4 graduate from college; the first woman awarded a honorary  
5 doctorate degree from Harvard University; and she authored 13  
6 books and communicated in three languages; and

7 WHEREAS, Helen Keller became America's Goodwill  
8 Ambassador to the World, befriending every United States  
9 President during her adult lifetime, as well as world leaders,  
10 such as Winston Churchill, Prime Minister Nehru, and Emperor  
11 Hirohito, while visiting 37 countries; and

12 WHEREAS, she envisioned, and publicly demanded, that  
13 America become a truly inclusive democracy, long before it did  
14 so; and she effectively advocated for the rights of women,  
15 children, minorities, immigrants, and the disabled; and

16 WHEREAS, by her example and writings, she  
17 permanently brought discussion of disabilities into the  
18 mainstream, forever increasing the life potential of all  
19 disabled persons; and

20 WHEREAS, Helen Keller was awarded the Presidential  
21 Medal of Freedom, America's highest civilian honor, and was  
22 named by Time Magazine as one of the 100 most important people  
23 of the 20th century; and

24 WHEREAS, the world still needs Helen Keller's  
25 examples of character and values that continue to reflect

1 great credit upon her home State of Alabama and on America;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, the Helen Keller Foundation for Research  
4 and Education was established by her family and distinguished  
5 scientists and physicians in Birmingham, Alabama, to save  
6 sight, speech and hearing, and to teach character education to  
7 children and adults through Helen's example and writings; now  
8 therefore,

9 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
10 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we call upon Alabama citizens,  
11 and all interested persons and organizations everywhere, to  
12 view a summary of Helen Keller's lifetime accomplishments at  
13 the Youtube website and to promptly communicate to the U.S.  
14 Treasury their support of Helen Keller as the best choice to  
15 represent America to the world on the new \$10 bill.