Joint Interim Legislative Committee on the Recompilation of the Constitution

Minutes July 8, 2021

The inaugral meeting of the Joint Interim Legislative Committee on the Recompilation of the Constitution was held in Room 200 of the Alabama State House on July 8, 2021.

The meeting was convened by Othni Lathram, Director of the Legislative Services Agency, at 10:06 a.m.

After welcoming remarks, Mr. Lathram took the attendance roll call. Committee members present for the meeting were Representative Merika Coleman, Representative Danny Garrett, Senator Sam Givhan, Representative Ben Robbins, Ms. Anita Archie, Mr. Greg Butrus, Mr. Stan Gregory, and Mr. Al Vance. Senator Givhan participated telephonically. Committee members absent from the meeting were Senators Rodger Smitherman and Arthur Orr.

Representative Coleman was elected as chair and Senator Orr was elected as vice-chair of the committee.

Mr. Lathram provided members with copies of the Official Recompilation of the Constitution and other relevant materials. Mr. Lathram stated that all materials prepared by and for the committee will be available on the webpage of the Legislative Services Agency at http://lsa.state.al.us/.

Mr. Lathram presented on the history of the Alabama Constitutions and a discussion of recent attempts to recompile the constitution. He also discussed the purpose of the committee and its limitations. Mr. Lathram emphasized the importance of making the process open, inviting public input, and striving for general consensus among committee members. Legislative process for the adoption of a recompiled constitution during the 2022 Regular Session was discussed.

Future meeting dates and suggested topics of discussion were reviewed, with the goal of meeting one time each during the months of August, September, and October. The committee intends to hold a public hearing at the August meeting. Future dates will be set based on availability of members.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m.