

STATE OF ALABAMA
COLBERT COUNTY

RESOLUTION OF THE COLBERT COUNTY COMMISSION

WHEREAS, voters will soon consider Amendment 1, which will be on the ballot during the 2024 Primary Election held on March 5, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature regularly passes local laws and local constitutional amendments that impact the services provided to the county's residents, as well as the mechanisms for funding these services; and

WHEREAS, some of these taxpayer-funded services include law enforcement, education, fire protection, ambulance services, the regulation of alcoholic beverages, and economic development; and

WHEREAS, since 1984, the Alabama Constitution has required that no legislation be considered by the Legislature until both of the State's annual budgets are passed and delivered to the Governor; and

WHEREAS, there is an exception that allows the Legislature to consider other matters ahead of the budgets by adopting a "Budget Isolation Resolution" (BIR) by a vote "of not less than three-fifths of a quorum present"; and

WHEREAS, the language of this exception has been interpreted various ways since 1984 and has generated lawsuits in recent years over how many votes are needed to adopt a BIR; and

WHEREAS, if a court finds that a local law's BIR was adopted improperly, it could result in that local law being challenged on procedural grounds, even if the local law otherwise passed both chambers and became law; and

WHEREAS, Amendment 1 would allow local bills and local constitutional amendments to be considered by the Legislature without the adoption of a BIR, removing a procedural step from the legislative process; and

WHEREAS, the Association of County Commissions of Alabama has adopted a resolution encouraging Alabamians to vote yes to Amendment 1 on March 5, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COLBERT COUNTY COMMISSION that it encourages the citizens of the county to go to the polls on March 5, 2024, and make their voices heard on Amendment 1.

DONE this 6th day of February, 2024.