

Resolution # 4

Expressing Support and Ratification of the Constitutional Amendment measure on the November 6th ballot that the voters would tie legislative pay to median Alabama household income and would repeal the 2007 legislative pay raise.

Whereas, during the 2012 Legislative Session a constitutional amendment repealing the 61 percent pay raise legislators awarded themselves in 2007 and replacing it with a formula that bases pay on Alabama's median household income was passed overwhelmingly; and,

WHEREAS, State Executive Committee Member, State Rep. Mike Ball, of Madison, sponsored the bill in the House and If approved by voters in November, lawmakers' base pay would change from \$53,388 to \$40,474; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that the public trust in the legislative body is of paramount importance; and we further recognize that government transparency and accountability are vital to the preservation of the public trust; and,

WHEREAS, to that end, it is the purpose of this amendment to remove the power of determining legislative compensation or expenses from the hands of the Legislature itself, to validate the basis upon which legislative compensation and expenses are established in an objective manner based on measurable standards, and to allow the citizens of Alabama to vote on this issue; and

WHEREAS, as it was the will of the Legislature to resolve the issue of legislative compensation and expenses once and for all by providing for compensation and expenses for members of the Legislature and the President of the Senate and by providing for compensation to be paid at the same rate as the median household income in Alabama and expenses in the same amounts and manner as expenses are allowed under law for state employees generally; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ALABAMA REPUBLICAN PARTY, we do hereby support and encourage ratification of the constitutional amendment on November 6th that would repeal the 2007 pay raise and further would tie legislative pay to median household income, and repeals automatic cost-of-living adjustments passed in 2007, and would make it illegal for lawmakers to raise their own pay.

By Resolutions Committee Chair