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**HR442**

By Representative Parker (T)

RFD Rules

Rd 1 27-APR-2000

**REQUESTING THE ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO CONSULT WITH HOBBY SCUBA DIVING ASSOCIATIONS BEFORE IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS PURSUANT TO THE ALABAMA UNDERWATER CULTURAL RESOURCES ACT.**

**WHEREAS, pursuant to Sections 41-9-290 to 41-9-299.2, inclusive, Code of Alabama 1975, the Alabama Underwater Cultural Resources Act (the act), the Alabama Historical Commission (the commission), acting as the custodian of state cultural resources, coordinates with the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (the department) to develop and implement a management plan for state cultural resources by the promulgation of rules and regulations; and**

**WHEREAS, the act broadly regulates the underwater exploration and collection of historical artifacts; and**

**WHEREAS, the act and administrative rules and regulations promulgated by the commission and department for the management plan for cultural resources could severely limit the recreational activities of the many SCUBA diving hobbyists and enthusiasts; and**

**WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of both the department and the recreational SCUBA divers that reasonable rules be implemented to preserve the underwater historical artifacts while allowing recreational divers the opportunity to freely enjoy SCUBA diving activities in the waters of the state; now therefore,**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we respectfully request the Alabama Historical Commission and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to seek the input and comment of SCUBA diving associations, including hobbyists and recreational divers, prior to promulgating rules and regulations that adversely impact on the diving activities of such groups.**

**Section 6. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be provided to the commission and to the department as an indication of our sentiments and expectations on this important issue.**

**Resolutions, Legislative**

**Historical Commission**