

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas Helen Keller was born in Tuscumbia, Alabama on June 27, 1880, and at the age of 19 months lost her sight and hearing as a result of meningitis;

Whereas Helen was liberated from the “double dungeon of darkness and silence” by her teacher, Anne Sullivan, when she discovered language and communication at the water pump when she was 7 years old;

Whereas Helen enrolled in Radcliffe College in 1900 and graduated cum laude in 1904 to become the first deaf and blind college graduate;

Whereas Helen’s life served as a model for all people with disabilities in America and worldwide;

Whereas Helen became recognized as one of Alabama’s and America’s best known figures and became “America’s Goodwill Ambassador to the World”;

Whereas Helen pioneered the concept of “talking books” for the blind;

Whereas LIFE Magazine hailed Helen as “one of the 100 most important Americans of the 20th Century—a national treasure”; and

Whereas Helen’s presence in the Capitol will become an even greater inspiration for people with disabilities worldwide:
Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
2 *concurring), That—*

3 **SECTION 1. ACCEPTANCE OF HELEN KELLER, FROM THE**
4 **PEOPLE OF ALABAMA, FOR PLACEMENT IN**
5 **THE CAPITOL.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—The statue of Helen Keller, fur-
7 nished by the people of Alabama for placement in the Cap-
8 itol, in accordance with section 1814 of the Revised Stat-
9 utes of the United States (2 U.S.C. 2131), is accepted
10 in the name of the United States, and the thanks of Con-
11 gress are tendered to the people of Alabama for providing
12 this commemoration of one of Alabama’s most eminent
13 personages.

14 (b) PRESENTATION CEREMONY.—The State of Ala-
15 bama is authorized to use the Rotunda of the Capitol on
16 October 7, 2009, for a presentation ceremony for the stat-
17 ue. The Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police
18 Board shall take such action as may be necessary with
19 respect to physical preparations and security for the cere-
20 mony.

21 (c) DISPLAY IN ROTUNDA.—The Architect of the
22 Capitol shall provide for the display of the statue accepted
23 under this section in the Rotunda of the Capitol for a pe-
24 riod of not more than 6 months, after which period the
25 statue shall be displayed in the Capitol, in accordance with

1 the procedures described in section 311(e) of the Legisla-
2 tive Branch Appropriations Act, 2001 (2 U.S.C. 2132(e)).

3 **SEC. 2. TRANSMITTAL TO GOVERNOR OF ALABAMA.**

4 The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit an en-
5 rolled copy of this concurrent resolution to the Governor
6 of Alabama.

Passed the Senate October 1, 2009.

Attest:

Secretary.

11TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. CON. RES. 42

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Providing for the acceptance of a statue of Helen
Keller, presented by the people of Alabama.