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**CITIZENS FOR CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION LAUNCH
LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

Alabama Citizens for Constitutional Reform (ACCR) announces a joint Annual Meeting on Tuesday, October 25, 2005 from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. at The Harbert Center, 2019 4th Avenue North, Birmingham to celebrate its 5th Anniversary and to launch its educational and legislative plans for 2006. Legislators have been invited and will be honored for their past efforts, as well as participate in a discussion of past and future legislative initiatives.

The first call for reform of Alabama's 1901 Constitution began almost a century ago. The call continues today because Alabama's Constitution still prevents local citizens from local control of government, resulting today in almost 800 amendments; contains racist and discriminatory language and restrictions; enshrines an unfair tax system; and restricts economic development, among many other fundamental flaws.

Five years ago, citizens, led by the late Professor Bailey Thomson of the University of Alabama; Dr. Thomas Corts, President of Samford University; former Governor Albert Brewer and others, organized and birthed ACCR, a grassroots, non-partisan, non-profit effort to accomplish much needed constitutional reform in the 21st Century.

Currently, ACCR has two statewide organizations with local chapters of ACCR in Mobile, Birmingham, Tuscaloosa, Shoals, Huntsville, Auburn, Baldwin County, and Blount County as well as student chapters at the University of Alabama, Samford University, the University of Alabama in Birmingham, and the University of Alabama in Huntsville, just to name a few.

Most of the activity during the recent years has consisted of educational programs to inform citizens of the need for a new Constitution. But last October, initiated by volunteers in Huntsville, ACCR launched a petition drive to ask legislators to allow Alabama citizens to vote on the question of a constitutional convention. With over 50,000 signatures already, ACCR's goal is to bring all of the Petitions and signatures

to the Legislature in January 2006, and urge the passage of a bill in the 2006 Legislative Session to allow the people to vote for a constitutional convention.

“ACCR and many committed supporters and legislators have made giant strides in the last 5 years,” said State ACCR Co-Chair, Lenora Pate. “Legislators have supported resolutions and bills and held several public hearings to address many facets of constitutional reform during the last three years. In 2002, Legislators in the House sponsored HJR 152, and, in 2005, Senator Ted Little sponsored SB198 which was passed out of Committee in the Senate, calling for a constitutional convention. As a result, a poll by the Capital Survey Research Center recently revealed that two-thirds of those polled would vote for a constitutional convention if given the chance. Now is the time to give Alabamians that opportunity!”

Supporters of constitutional reform are invited to celebrate the past and to learn about ACCR’s plans for the future. Speakers at the Annual Meeting will include ACCR Co-Chair and Birmingham lawyer, Lenora Pate; ACCR Past Chair, Sid McAnnally; former legislator and judge, Hartwell Lutz of Huntsville; and Greater Birmingham Ministries Executive Director, Scott Douglas, as well as invited legislators and many

Please RSVP by sending an e-mail to: accr@constitutionalreform.org. For more information visit our website at www.constitutionalreform.org or call 205-540-7501.



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