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## **Attorney General Steve Marshall Applauds Senate and House Judiciary Committees' Decisive Action on Speedy Trial Act**

### *Legislation Aims to Expedite Justice for Victims and Reduce Court Backlogs*

(Montgomery, Ala) – Alabama Attorney General Steve Marshall is applauding the swift passage in committee of both the House and Senate versions of the Speedy Trial Act – legislation designed to expedite trials for violent criminal cases, reduce court backlogs, and ensure timely justice for victims. Sponsored by Senate Judiciary Chairman Will Barfoot (R-Pike Road) and House Judiciary Chairman Jim Hill (R-Moody), the measure is a strong step toward a safer, more efficient Alabama, where victims receive the justice they deserve, and violent criminals are swiftly held accountable.

“The overwhelming support for this legislation demonstrates Alabama’s commitment to prioritizing public safety and addressing the backlog of violent crime cases,” said Attorney General Marshall. “When violent criminals remain in our communities due to prolonged trial delays, the risk of reoffending rises. And the longer a case lingers, the harder it becomes to deliver justice. By ensuring violent offenders are held accountable without unnecessary delays, this legislation delivers justice, fairness, and efficiency in our courts.”

While current Alabama law allows the state Supreme Court to appoint special judges, Senate Bill 176 and House Bill 307 provide a mechanism for the prosecution to request additional judicial resources, offering a cost-effective solution to addressing the backlog of violent crime cases. The bills also establish the Speedy Trial Fund, ensuring dedicated financial resources are available to support special judges, court reporters, and additional juries, thus eliminating logistical barriers that often delay trials.

“The committees’ quick action and support reaffirms what I’ve been saying for months – Alabamians have no tolerance for violent crime,” Marshall added. “I appreciate Chairman Barfoot’s and Chairman Hill’s leadership in advancing this critical legislation and look forward to the bill’s quick passage on the House and Senate floors. These bills represent a major step forward in ensuring that justice is delivered efficiently and effectively for the people of Alabama.”

