



ALABAMA STATE SENATE
ALABAMA STATE HOUSE
11 SOUTH UNION STREET, SUITE 727
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130-4600

GREG ALBRITTON
State Senator District 22
Telephone: (334) 261-0785
Email: greg.albritton@alsenate.gov

COMMITTEES:
Finance & Taxation General Fund, Chairman
County & Municipal Government
Finance & Taxation Education
Judiciary
State Governmental Affairs
Tourism
Transportation & Energy

January 10, 2025

Dear Commissioners,

I would like to express my strong support for the Baldwin County Historic Development Commission's (BCHDC) request for a \$25,000 allocation from the Historic Site Fund to complete the pavilion project at the Swift-Coles Historic Home in Bon Secour.

The Swift-Coles Historic Home, constructed in 1882, stands as Baldwin County's only publicly owned historic residence and serves as a significant cultural and historical asset to our community. The property is regularly open for tours and has become a popular venue for weddings and various gatherings, contributing to both the cultural enrichment and economic vitality of our region.

In August 2024, the BCHDC, in collaboration with the Friends of Swift-Coles, initiated a capital improvement project to construct an on-site event pavilion. This pavilion is designed to accommodate families, businesses, and public and private groups for special occasions throughout the year, thereby enhancing the site's service to the South Baldwin County community.

The requested \$25,000 from the Historic Site Fund is crucial to bringing this project to completion. The pavilion will not only preserve the historical integrity of the Swift-Coles Home but also expand its functionality as a community gathering space, thereby increasing its utilization and sustainability.

It is pertinent to note that the Historic Site Fund, supported by the county's lease/rental tax, was established to finance such preservation and development projects. The tax, authorized by the state legislature and adopted by the Baldwin County Commission, allocates a portion of its revenue specifically for capital outlay for historic sites within the county.

Allocating \$25,000 from the Historic Site Fund to the Swift-Coles Home pavilion project aligns perfectly with the fund's intended purpose and represents a prudent investment in preserving our county's rich history while promoting community engagement.

I respectfully urge the Baldwin County Commission to approve this funding request, thereby ensuring the successful completion of the pavilion project at the Swift-Coles Historic Home.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Albritton", written over a white background.

Senator Greg Albritton
District 22