




KAY IVEY
GOVERNOR

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STATE OF ALABAMA

TO: Alabama State Agencies; Mobile County Commission; Mobile Mayor
FROM: Governor Kay Ivey 
DATE: Thursday, December 4, 2025
RE: Flags Lowered for Former State Senator Ann Bedsole

I hereby authorize flags be flown at half-staff on the grounds of the Alabama State Capitol Complex in Montgomery, and throughout the City of Mobile and Mobile County on **Friday, December 5, 2025**, to honor the service of former **Alabama State Senator Ann Bedsole**, who passed away on Monday, December 1, 2025, at the age of 95.

Described as a trailblazer, a pioneer and a groundbreaker, Ann Bedsole's remarkable legacy in public service and philanthropy is founded upon an indefatigable determination to right society's shortcomings. After studying at The University of Alabama and the University of Denver, she married and settled down in Mobile. Beginning as a local and state Republican Party official, she soon felt it was time to lead the charge. I lived and worked in Mobile at the time and supported her during her first political campaign. In that campaign, she won an open state house seat, switching it to Republican hands. But even as Alabama's first female Republican State Representative, she had more in mind than garnering political milestones. She pressed for advances in education and quality of life issues. After one term in the House, she ran for and won an open seat in the upper chamber. It was here, as Alabama's first female State Senator, that Ann Bedsole hit her stride. During her three terms in office, she was a champion for public education, farmers and the environment. One of her crowning achievements was the establishment of the Alabama School of Math and Science in Mobile which still stands today is one of the country's best public high-tech high schools. After public service, she focused her boundless energy on shepherding myriad Mobile area causes, including the Sybil H. Smith Charitable Trust. An inductee into the Alabama Academy of Honor and a former "Mobilian of the Year," Ann Bedsole's devotion to Alabama was without equal. She was also a good friend who will be greatly missed. No doubt, she inspired us all.

The flags on the grounds of the State Capitol Complex in Montgomery and throughout the City of Mobile and Mobile County may be flown at half-staff from sunrise until sunset on **Friday, December 5, 2025**, the date of former State Senator Ann Bedsole's interment.

KI/ml