

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## THE JASON FOUNDATION, ALONG WITH NICK SABAN AND SENATOR GERALD ALLEN, HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE TO ANNOUNCE LEGISLATION

The Jason Flatt Act to Help Prevent Youth Suicide in Alabama is Introduced to State Senate

(NASHVILLE, TN—March 10, 2016) The Jason Foundation held a press conference on March 8<sup>th</sup> to announce legislation that would require Alabama educators to receive youth suicide awareness and prevention training annually. Senate Bill 11, Sponsored by Senator Gerald Allen, was introduced to the Education and Youth Affairs Committee on the same day. The training would be vital in helping teachers recognize warning signs that are associated with suicidal ideation and assisting atrisk youth get the help they need.

Along with Senator Allen, Jason Foundation President Clark Flatt and American Football Coaches Association Ambassador Nick Saban spoke at the press conference in support of the legislation. Coach Saban has been a longtime supporter of The Jason Foundation, working with them since 2001.

The Jason Flatt Act has been passed in the following 16 states: Tennessee, Louisiana, Mississippi, Illinois, California, Arkansas, Alaska, West Virginia, Utah, South Carolina, Ohio, North Dakota, Wyoming, Georgia, Montana, and Texas.

There were many supportive organizations and individuals in attendance. Among the attendees were members of the Alabama Association of School Boards, the Alabama Education Association (AEA), School Superintendents of Alabama, the Council for Leaders in Alabama Schools (CLAS), Representative Chris England of the Alabama House of Representatives, Kyle South of the Alabama House of Representatives, and Senate Majority Leader Greg Reed.

## About the Organization:

The Jason Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to fighting "The Silent Epidemic" of youth suicide through educational programs for young people, educators, parents, and other community groups. JFI, headquartered in Hendersonville, TN, was founded in 1997 after the tragic death of Jason Flatt, the 16-year-old son of Clark Flatt.

For more information, please visit JFI's website, <a href="http://www.jasonfoundation.com">http://www.jasonfoundation.com</a> ###