Actions Beyond Alabama

Trace how two Alabama leaders shaped state and national history.

SS24.AS.20c "Research and report on significant political figures in Alabama history who have shaped the state and nation through their actions and initiatives."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one action by each politician and circle an effect of each action in Alabama. Number one wider national consequence for each figure, using 1 for Hill and 2 for Wallace.

Two Paths to National Impact

1. In 1946, Alabama senator Lister Hill helped pass the Hospital Survey and Construction Act, often called the Hill-Burton Act after its two Senate sponsors. The law offered federal funding to states for building and improving hospitals, with particular attention to places that lacked medical facilities. States had to plan where new facilities were most needed. In Alabama, as in other states, this approach helped bring hospital care closer to rural residents. Hill's initiative shows how an Alabama politician could use Congress to address a local need through a nationwide program, rather than a law written only for Alabama.

2. Alabama governor George Wallace took a different path. In June 1963, he stood at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa to oppose the enrollment of two Black students, Vivian Malone and James Hood. A federal court had ordered the university to admit them. President John F. Kennedy placed Alabama's National Guard under federal control, and the students enrolled that day. Wallace's stand did not stop integration, but television coverage carried the confrontation far beyond Alabama. It showed the nation a governor using state power to resist a federal court order and equal access to public education.

3. The two men's actions reached beyond their terms in office, but in sharply different ways. Hill's hospital legislation sent federal support to communities that needed facilities, although a construction program alone could not guarantee equal access to care. Wallace's resistance made Alabama a national focus of the civil rights struggle, while Malone and Hood's enrollment demonstrated that federal authority could overcome his obstruction. To report their significance, separate what each leader intended from what actually happened. Name a specific action, explain its effect in Alabama, and trace a wider consequence without claiming that one person caused every later change.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did Hill use a national law to address a need in Alabama?

2. What did Wallace do at the University of Alabama, and what happened despite his opposition?

3. How did the outcome of Wallace's stand differ from what he intended, and why did the event matter nationally?

4. Compare one way Hill and one way Wallace shaped events beyond Alabama. Use a specific action by each man.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Consult one historical source beyond this passage about Hill or Wallace. Write a 75 to 100 word report that explains the figure's impact in Alabama and beyond, includes one fact from the passage and one new fact from your source, names the source's title and creator, and explains how the new fact supports or complicates your claim.

ANSWER KEY

Actions Beyond Alabama

HIGH SCHOOL · SS24.AS.20c

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one action by each politician and circle an effect of each action in Alabama. Number one wider national consequence for each figure, using 1 for Hill and 2 for Wallace. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Hill use a national law to address a need in Alabama?	**Hill helped pass a law that funded hospital construction in states. In Alabama, the program helped bring hospital care closer to rural residents.**
2	What did Wallace do at the University of Alabama, and what happened despite his opposition?	**Wallace opposed the enrollment of Vivian Malone and James Hood. They enrolled after President Kennedy placed Alabama's National Guard under federal control.**
3	How did the outcome of Wallace's stand differ from what he intended, and why did the event matter nationally?	**Wallace tried to stop the students' enrollment, but they enrolled that day. Television coverage showed a national audience the conflict between a governor's resistance and federal enforcement of equal access.**
4	Compare one way Hill and one way Wallace shaped events beyond Alabama. Use a specific action by each man.	**Hill helped pass a nationwide hospital construction program. Wallace resisted a federal court order, and the televised confrontation drew national attention to the civil rights struggle.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

George Wallace used Alabama's governorship to fight school integration, but his stand at the University of Alabama failed: Vivian Malone and James Hood enrolled after President Kennedy placed the state's National Guard under federal control. Television coverage brought Alabama's resistance to a national audience. In his 1963 *Inaugural Address*, George C. Wallace declared, "segregation now, segregation tomorrow, segregation forever." This new evidence shows that his opposition was a public political commitment, not a sudden dispute over one university. National attention exposed the conflict between that commitment and federal enforcement of equal access.

For Part 3, accept either figure and a credible historical source beyond the passage. Check that the report identifies the source's title and creator, distinguishes its new fact from passage evidence, and connects the figure's actions to effects in Alabama and beyond.