

1 SJR86  
2 119276-1  
3 By Senators Waggoner and French  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 02-MAR-10

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8 CONGRATULATING THE KENT CORPORATION AND FOUNDER M.A.  
9 OZTEKIN ON THE OCCASION OF THE CORPORATION'S 52ND ANNIVERSARY.  
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11 WHEREAS, we note with great pride and appreciation  
12 that the Kent Corporation will observe its 52nd anniversary in  
13 2010; and

14 WHEREAS, founded by M.A. Oztekin, the Kent  
15 Corporation is the industry gold standard for manufacturing  
16 store fixtures; and

17 WHEREAS, a native of Istanbul, Turkey, Mr. Oztekin  
18 transferred from the University of Michigan to The University  
19 of Alabama on the invitation of his pen-pal and future wife,  
20 Sue; after graduating from The University and completing  
21 citizenship requirements in 1951, Mr. Oztekin took a position  
22 with a store fixture manufacturer in Detroit, where he learned  
23 the fundamentals of the industry; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Oztekin returned to Goodwater, Alabama,  
25 and founded Dixie Craft, where he manufactured shelving and  
26 belt-driven checkouts for retailers; in 1958, Mr. Oztekin

1       founded the Kent Corporation and quickly established himself  
2       as the preeminent mind in his field; in 1968, he was nominated  
3       for the Presidential "E" Award for his exporting efforts; and

4               WHEREAS, Mr. Oztekin holds 14 patents in the United  
5       States, France, England, and Germany; his record for  
6       innovation is beyond compare; and

7               WHEREAS, Mr. Oztekin created the Oztekin Family  
8       Endowed Scholarship to assist engineering students at The  
9       University of Alabama, where the College of Engineering named  
10      him a Fellow in 2006; in 2007, he was inducted into the  
11      Alabama Engineering Hall of Fame; and

12              WHEREAS, the contributions of Mr. Oztekin and the  
13      Kent Corporation to our state, the nation, and their industry  
14      are deserving of recognition; we are proud that Mr. Oztekin  
15      selected Alabama as his adopted home; now therefore,

16              BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
17      HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That with appreciation and  
18      gratitude we hereby congratulate the Kent Corporation and Mr.  
19      M.A. Oztekin on the occasion of the Corporation's 52nd  
20      anniversary and that, by copy of this resolution, we extend  
21      our warm best wishes for continued success.