

1 SJR117
2 131039-2
3 By Senators Holtzclaw, Scofield, McGill, Orr and Sanford
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 05-MAY-11

1 SJR117

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4 ENROLLED, SJR117,

5 RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL SOLAR OBSERVATORY.
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7 WHEREAS, the National Solar Observatory is the
8 primary provider of key ground-based solar facilities in the
9 United States' solar community; and

10 WHEREAS, the National Solar Observatory's future
11 mission is to become a key provider for the data that will
12 improve the prediction of space weather; and

13 WHEREAS, the National Solar Observatory is managed
14 by the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy
15 under the direction of the National Science Foundation, which
16 is offering a significant federal budget commitment of \$20
17 million annually; and

18 WHEREAS, the National Solar Observatory will be
19 relocating its operational headquarters in 2014 and the likely
20 site for the location of the National Solar Observatory is a
21 university campus; and

22 WHEREAS, The University of Alabama in Huntsville has
23 joined forces with NASA/Marshall Space Flight Center, the Von
24 Braun Center for Science and Innovation, the United States
25 Army's Aviation and Missile Research Development and

1 Engineering Center, Alabama A and M University, and SciQuest
2 Hands-On Science Center to submit proposals to locate the
3 National Solar Observatory's headquarters at The University of
4 Alabama in Huntsville; and

5 WHEREAS, The University of Alabama in Huntsville was
6 among seven universities competing for the NSO headquarters,
7 but now is one of only two campuses, along with the University
8 of Colorado in Boulder, identified as the potential site for
9 the headquarters; and

10 WHEREAS, the headquarters of this national research
11 organization would have numerous benefits for Huntsville and
12 the State of Alabama, including improved infrastructure for
13 research and teaching both at the university level and in K-12
14 schools, in addition to support for the mission of
15 NASA/Marshall Space Flight Center and the United States Army
16 at Redstone Arsenal; and

17 WHEREAS, a successful effort by the Huntsville
18 community and the State of Alabama would result in the
19 relocation of 61 highly specialized and well-paid
20 professionals to Alabama, as well as enhance the workforce
21 development efforts of the state; and

22 WHEREAS, other benefits will accumulate from the
23 location of this headquarters, including increasing the
24 potential growth of future research dollars for Alabama's

1 universities, and research conducted at this facility will
2 bring international recognition to Alabama; now therefore,

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
4 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That this Legislature is committed
5 to working with the Governor and the university in the
6 implementation of a long-range plan to enhance and expand
7 solar physics instruction and research and, viewing favorably
8 the mission of the National Solar Observatory, we hereby urge
9 the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy to
10 relocate the headquarters of the National Solar Observatory to
11 the campus of The University of Alabama in Huntsville.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR117
Senate 25-MAY-11
I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution
originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

Patrick Harris
Secretary

House of Representatives
Adopted: 31-MAY-11

By: Senator Holtzclaw