

1 SJR90
2 142331-1
3 By Senator Waggoner
4 RFD:
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8 EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR ALABAMA'S BIOTECHNOLOGY
9 INDUSTRY.

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11 WHEREAS, as a nation, we are on the cusp of an
12 explosion of new science that will create new opportunities in
13 health, agriculture, and energy; and

14 WHEREAS, biotechnology has historically been and
15 will continue to be a source of unparalleled societal
16 advancements in health and a proven generator of high-quality
17 jobs; and

18 WHEREAS, maximizing brain science breakthroughs and
19 bioscience applications can offer hope to millions of
20 Americans impacted by Alzheimer's, autism, Parkinson's, and
21 traumatic brain injuries; and

22 WHEREAS, although much progress has been made in its
23 treatment, Alzheimer's disease remains an unmet medical need
24 that is devastating to patients and their caregivers
25 accompanied with a huge financial burden associated with their
26 medical expenses, a breakthrough treatment that delays the age
27 of onset of Alzheimer's disease by five years would translate

1 to 1.6 million fewer Americans living with this disease with a
2 potential savings in medical costs of \$50 billion per year;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Alabama is home to a vibrant and growing
5 biotechnology industry that could serve as a strong catalyst
6 for our state's economy; and

7 WHEREAS, with more than 550 bioscience
8 establishments spanning subsectors of the biotechnology
9 industry including agriculture, drugs and pharmaceuticals,
10 medical devices and equipment, hospitals, and research testing
11 and medical laboratories, Alabama's biotechnology industry is
12 rising to the challenge of unmet medical needs; investment in
13 biotechnology innovation will successfully create health and
14 environmental security for the people of our state and across
15 the nation, add high-quality jobs, and reverse the
16 skyrocketing costs of health care; and

17 WHEREAS, each year, Alabama is among national
18 leaders in bioscience patents showcasing the state's dynamic
19 research and discovery engine; continued investment in these
20 innovations will create a path forward for commercialization
21 and thereby spur economic growth; and

22 WHEREAS, Alabama contributes worldwide to drug
23 development by consistently maintaining a top position in the
24 number of clinical trials conducted; this is attributed to our
25 top ranked hospitals, medical institutions, and medical
26 practitioners; and

1 WHEREAS, it is critical that Alabama realize and
2 harness its potential in biotechnology, raising the bar and
3 enhancing our competitiveness as a state by investing in
4 biotechnology innovation, the boost to the state's economy
5 will be monumental; moreover, the greatest return on
6 investment will be the impact that Alabama can achieve by
7 being able to address ways to improve our environment, meet
8 unmet medical needs, and improve the quality of life for our
9 society far into the future; now therefore,

10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
11 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, as follows:

12 We express our unreserved and enthusiastic support
13 for Alabama's bioscience industry and the efforts of
14 BioAlabama, the state affiliate of the Biotechnology Industry
15 Organization, and the Alabama Biotechnology Legislative
16 Caucus.

17 We applaud the dedicated professionals and support
18 staff of all of Alabama's bioscience companies and
19 establishments.

20 We encourage the continued development of public
21 policies that will create a business climate that facilitates
22 the commercialization of innovative science, better supports
23 existing companies, and attracts new organizations to Alabama.

24 We encourage public awareness of Alabama's
25 biotechnology industry and its impact on our quality of life
26 and our state's economy.