

1 SJR6
2 147796-1
3 By Senators Brewbaker, Reed, McGill, Fielding, Waggoner,
4 Scofield, Williams, Keahey, Figures, Coleman, Irons, Beasley,
5 Dunn, Sanders, Bedford, Holtzclaw, Ross, Allen, and Ward
6 RFD:
7 First Read: 06-FEB-13

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8 ENCOURAGING GOVERNOR BENTLEY TO END THE FREEZE ON
9 STATE EMPLOYEE MERIT RAISES.

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11 WHEREAS, state employee merit raises have been
12 frozen since December 15, 2008; and

13 WHEREAS, since 2008, the amount state employees
14 contribute toward their retirement has increased by 50
15 percent; and

16 WHEREAS, since 2008, the cost of state employee
17 health insurance has increased by no less than one hundred
18 eighty dollars (\$180) a year; and

19 WHEREAS, since 2008, the Consumer Price Index rate
20 of inflation has increased by nine percent; and

21 WHEREAS, the Social Security payroll tax holiday
22 ended January 1, 2013, causing employees to lose an additional
23 two percent of their pay; and

24 WHEREAS, merit raises are earned by state employees
25 based on annual performance appraisals as promised by the
26 State of Alabama pursuant to the state's approved pay plan and
27 have been frozen since December 15, 2008; and

1 WHEREAS, state employees eligible for merit raises
2 since the freeze began in 2008 have permanently lost up to 20
3 percent in earned merit pay increases; and

4 WHEREAS, employees have lost 13 1/2 percent in pay
5 or purchasing power since October 1, 2008; and

6 WHEREAS, the worst situated employees have suffered
7 more than 33 percent in lost earned merit raises, pay, and
8 purchasing power since 2008; and

9 WHEREAS, the freeze on merit raises and loss of pay
10 and purchasing power has severely damaged the morale of the
11 state workforce; now therefore,

12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
13 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That by copy of this resolution
14 provided to the Governor, we hereby encourage Governor Bentley
15 to take all steps necessary to immediately end the freeze on
16 state employee merit raises.