

1 SJR9
2 181806-1
3 By Senators Dial and McClendon
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 07-FEB-17

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8 RECOGNIZING THE RURAL MEDICAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM ON
9 CELEBRATING ITS 20TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY.

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11 WHEREAS, it is a tremendous privilege to recognize
12 the Rural Medical Scholars Program at The University of
13 Alabama on the momentous occasion of its 20th Year
14 Anniversary; and

15 WHEREAS, the Rural Medical Scholars Program, offered
16 by The University of Alabama's College of Community Health
17 Sciences, recruits rural Alabama students for training as
18 primary care physicians to provide health care to residents of
19 rural and medically underserved Alabama counties; and

20 WHEREAS, through the years, the Rural Medical
21 Scholars Program have garnered prestigious honors from the
22 National Rural Health Association based on extraordinary
23 student leadership and achievement; graduates of the acclaimed
24 program have emerged as leaders within state medical
25 organizations including the Alabama Academy of Family
26 Physicians; and

1 WHEREAS, Rural Medical Scholars Program Director and
2 Founder Dr. John Wheat has set a high standard of excellence
3 for Alabama rural medical education; his example and
4 mentorship have emphasized the positive impact that a rural
5 physician can make on a small community; notably, Dr. Wheat
6 was named 2007 Distinguished Educator of the Year by the
7 National Rural Health Association and was a 2010 inductee to
8 the Alabama Health Care Hall of Fame; and

9 WHEREAS, ninety percent of all Rural Medical
10 Scholars Program graduates have entered practice in Alabama
11 improving countless lives and making gigantic leaps in the
12 rewarding field of rural medicine; now therefore,

13 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
14 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Rural Medical Scholars
15 Program is hereby recognized, and we offer this resolution in
16 highest tribute to Dr. John Wheat as well as the staff,
17 students, and graduates of the program, along with sincere
18 best wishes for continued success in all future endeavors.