

1 SJR71  
2 200615-1  
3 By Senator Waggoner  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 15-MAY-19

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8 ESTABLISHING THE ALABAMA COMMISSION ON ARTIFICIAL  
9 INTELLIGENCE AND ASSOCIATED TECHNOLOGIES.  
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11 WHEREAS, technology and artificial intelligence have  
12 the capacity to improve the lives of the citizens of this  
13 state; and

14 WHEREAS, the resources that are invested into  
15 Alabama's technology industry and artificial intelligence are  
16 critical to creating the industries of the future, including  
17 autonomous cars, industrial robots, and algorithms for disease  
18 diagnosis; and

19 WHEREAS, maintaining the nation's global leadership  
20 helps insure that technology is developed in a manner that is  
21 consistent with the nation's values, policies, and priorities;  
22 and it is important to have skilled workers and businesses in  
23 Alabama who are on the forefront in leading the country's  
24 development of technology and artificial intelligence; and

25 WHEREAS, as technological innovations take place,  
26 the quality of life improves; and

1           WHEREAS, in 2018, net technology related employment  
2 in Alabama increased by nearly 1,900 new workers, a 1.3  
3 percent increase over 2017; since 2010, net technology  
4 employment has grown by over 10,000 new jobs with more than  
5 147,000 workers; technology jobs account for approximately 7.1  
6 percent of Alabama's workforce; and the technology sector had  
7 an estimated direct economic impact of \$13.4 billion, which is  
8 about 6.8 percent of Alabama's total economy; and

9           WHEREAS, tens of thousands of people rely on  
10 technology in the Alabama workplace; and the broad-based  
11 impact of the technology industry touches every community,  
12 company, and industry across Alabama; and

13           WHEREAS, Alabama has seen a 57 percent increase in  
14 the number of job postings related to emerging technologies,  
15 smart cities, drones, artificial intelligence, virtual and  
16 augmented reality, and blockchain; and

17           WHEREAS, by the year 2026, net technology  
18 employment is projected to grow by 6.8 percent in Alabama; and

19           WHEREAS, multiple technology occupations in Alabama  
20 have experienced yearly growth, including over 3.7 percent for  
21 software and web developers, over 3.1 percent for computer  
22 support specialists, and over one percent for network  
23 architects, administrators, and support specialists; and

24           WHEREAS, Alabama's technology industry, including  
25 artificial intelligence, has a positive impact on the state's  
26 workforce and economy now and in the future; and

1           WHEREAS, our nation urgently needs workers and  
2 businesses skilled in artificial intelligence and capable of  
3 leading our country's development and application of  
4 artificial intelligence into the future; and

5           WHEREAS, it is imperative that artificial  
6 intelligence be developed in a way that does not compromise  
7 our American values, civil liberties, and freedoms; and

8           WHEREAS, understanding and preparing for ongoing  
9 development of artificial intelligence and the development of  
10 a well-educated workforce in these technologies are critical  
11 to the economic prosperity of Alabama and the nation; now  
12 therefore,

13           BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
14 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is established the  
15 Alabama Commission on Artificial Intelligence.

16           (a) The commission shall review and advise the  
17 Governor and the Legislature on all aspects of the growth of  
18 artificial intelligence and associated technology in the state  
19 and the use of artificial intelligence in governance, health  
20 care, education, environment, transportation, and industries  
21 of the future such as autonomous cars, industrial robots,  
22 algorithms for disease diagnosis, manufacturing, and other  
23 rapid technological innovations and their effect on society  
24 and the quality of life in a manner consistent with our  
25 American values and for the benefit of Alabama citizens. The  
26 commission shall consider whether the Legislature should  
27 establish a permanent commission on artificial intelligence.

1 (b) The commission shall be composed of the  
2 following members:

3 (1) Ten members appointed by the Governor.

4 (2) The Secretary of Commerce, or his or her  
5 designee.

6 (3) The Secretary of Information Technology, or his  
7 or her designee.

8 (4) Two members appointed by the Lieutenant  
9 Governor, at least one of whom shall be an employee, board  
10 member, or trustee of an Alabama public community college or a  
11 four-year public institution of higher education.

12 (5) Two members of the Alabama House of  
13 Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House.

14 (6) Two members of the Alabama Senate appointed by  
15 the Senate President Pro Tempore.

16 (c) All persons appointed to the commission other  
17 than legislators shall have one or more of the following  
18 qualifications: Expertise in matters relating to artificial  
19 intelligence, workforce development, technology, ethics,  
20 privacy, or computer science.

21 (d) The first meeting of the commission shall be  
22 called by the Governor or his or her designee and the  
23 commission members shall elect a chair and vice chair.

24 (e) The appointing authorities shall coordinate  
25 their appointments to assure that commission membership is  
26 inclusive and reflects the racial, gender, geographic, urban,  
27 rural, and economic diversity of the state.

1           (f) Upon request of the chair of the commission, the  
2 Secretary of the Senate and Clerk of the House of  
3 Representatives shall provide necessary clerical assistance  
4 for the work of the commission. Each legislative member of the  
5 commission shall be entitled to his or her regular legislative  
6 compensation, per diem, and travel expenses for each day he or  
7 she attends a meeting of the commission in accordance with  
8 Amendment 871 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now  
9 appearing as Section 49.01 of the Official Recompilation of  
10 the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended. These  
11 payments shall be paid out of any funds appropriated to the  
12 use of the Legislature by means or warrants drawn by the state  
13 Comptroller on the State Treasury.

14           (g) Not later than May 1, 2020, the commission shall  
15 submit to the Governor and Legislature a report on the  
16 findings of the commission and recommendations as the  
17 commission may have for administrative or policy action  
18 relating to artificial intelligence. The report shall be  
19 available electronically and posted on the website of the  
20 office of the Governor.