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SYNOPSIS:

This bill would authorize the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs to distribute funds appropriated for that purpose to any government or private entity to accomplish the design, construction, and installation of a replica of the Saturn 1B Rocket or similar structure at the northernmost Interstate 65 rest stop in the state, if the original rocket located at the Interstate 65 Ardmore Welcome Center in Elkmont, Alabama is beyond restoration or repair.

This bill would also provide for the allocation of funds under the department's Planning Program.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs; to authorize the department to distribute funds appropriated for that purpose to any government or private entity to accomplish the design, construction, and installation of a replica of the Saturn 1B Rocket or similar structure at the northernmost Interstate 65 rest stop in the state, if the original rocket located at the Interstate 65



29 Ardmore Welcome Center in Elkmont, Alabama is beyond
30 restoration or repair; and to allocate funding under the
31 department's Planning Program.

32 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

33 Section 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares that
34 the original Saturn 1B Rocket is on loan from the National
35 Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to the Alabama
36 Space Science Exhibit Commission and, since 1979, has stood
37 off of Interstate 65 at the Ardmore Welcome Center in Elkmont,
38 Alabama.

39 (b) The Alabama Department of Economic and Community
40 Affairs may distribute funds appropriated for the repair or
41 replacement of the Saturn 1B rocket based on an approved plan
42 for expenditure to any government or private entity to
43 accomplish the design, construction, and installation of a
44 replica of the Saturn 1B Rocket or similar structure at the
45 northernmost Interstate 65 Welcome Center in Elkmont, Alabama.

46 Section 2. The Alabama Department of Economic and
47 Community Affairs shall ensure that funds allocated to the
48 department for the Planning Program for the fiscal year ending
49 September 30, 2024 are used as follows:

50 (1) Five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) to West
51 Alabama Utilities.

52 (2) Five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) to Bay
53 Minette Utilities.

54 (3) Five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) to
55 Washington County for economic development.

56 Section 3. This act shall become effective on the first



57 day of the third month following its passage and approval by
58 the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.