

1 SJR123
2 187109-1
3 By Senator Whatley
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 17-MAY-17

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8 RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR ASPHALT
9 TECHNOLOGY AT AUBURN UNIVERSITY FOR ITS SERVICE TO THE STATE
10 OF ALABAMA.
11

12 WHEREAS, Auburn University has been providing
13 engineering education, research, and outreach that serves to
14 improve our state's transportation network for nearly 150
15 years through its programs in Civil Engineering; and

16 WHEREAS, Auburn University, in partnership with the
17 National Asphalt Pavement Association Research and Education
18 Foundation, created the National Center for Asphalt Technology
19 in 1986 to provide practical research and development to meet
20 the needs of maintaining America's highway infrastructure; and

21 WHEREAS, the National Center for Asphalt Technology
22 provides the most comprehensive asphalt pavement research
23 program in the United States that attracts several million
24 dollars in research funding each year from outside of the
25 State of Alabama and creates an economic development impact of
26 more than \$125 million to the State of Alabama each year; and

1 WHEREAS, the National Center for Asphalt Technology
2 operates the premier full-scale asphalt testing center in the
3 nation that has driven more than eight million miles of heavy
4 traffic on its 1.7 mile oval test track, which has led to
5 advancements in pavement design, construction, and maintenance
6 across the country; and

7 WHEREAS, the work of the National Center for Asphalt
8 Technology is supported by the Department of Transportation in
9 Alabama and other states, saving these organizations an
10 estimated \$160 million per year; and

11 WHEREAS, research at the National Center for Asphalt
12 Technology resulted in pavement designs for the Alabama
13 Department of Transportation that were 18 percent thinner,
14 saving the State of Alabama an estimated \$40 million per year;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, the National Center for Asphalt Technology
17 has been instrumental in the validation and adoption of new
18 and sustainable green pavement technologies; and

19 WHEREAS, the National Center for Asphalt Technology
20 has developed and sustained education and outreach programs to
21 improve highway transportation for the citizens of Alabama
22 through educating Auburn University students, state and
23 federal highway personnel, engineering consultants, and the
24 highway construction industry; and

25 WHEREAS, during the past 30 years, the National
26 Center for Asphalt Technology, working in concert with Auburn
27 University's land-grant mission, has established itself as the

1 foremost entity in the nation to provide engineering solutions
2 that advance safe, durable, and sustainable asphalt pavements
3 and overall transportation infrastructure; now therefore,

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
5 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the National Center for
6 Asphalt Technology at Auburn University is hereby recognized,
7 and we offer this resolution in the highest tribute to their
8 staff, researchers, and leaders, along with sincere best
9 wishes for continued success as they chart the pathway forward
10 for transportation infrastructure in the State of Alabama.