

1 State of Arkansas  
2 81st General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 1997  
4 By: Senator Smith

S.C.R. 29

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE SENATE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOGETHER WITH THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON  
TAX AND ECONOMIC POLICY, TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE ROLE OF  
TECHNOLOGY IN ARKANSAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TO REPORT  
THEIR FINDINGS TO THE GOVERNOR, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THE  
ARKANSAS SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY, THE ARKANSAS  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, AND THE ARKANSAS  
DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY NO LATER THAN JULY 1, 1998.

### Subtitle

REQUESTING A STUDY OF THE ROLE OF  
TECHNOLOGY IN ARKANSAS ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, technology is the engine that drives economic growth; and  
WHEREAS, since 1957 the Arkansas General Assembly has recognized the  
value of state science and engineering research activities in attracting  
high-technology companies; and

WHEREAS, improvements in agriculture, medicine, and telecommunications  
are dependent on advanced technology; and

WHEREAS, knowledge-based industries develop high value-added products  
and provide high paying jobs that complement the traditional industries that  
have been the linchpins of Arkansas economy; and

WHEREAS, the practice of transferring technologies from our universities  
and federal laboratories to technology companies presents a new opportunity  
for economic growth; and

WHEREAS, increasing the numbers of knowledge-based companies will enable  
Arkansas to maintain a competitive advantage in a global marketplace where  
profitability depends on working smarter; and

1 WHEREAS, developing and promoting Arkansas technology resources as part  
2 of the states economic strategy will help stem the "brain drain" of Arkansas  
3 youth; and

4 WHEREAS, the Arkansas General Assembly has made great strides in  
5 improving the competitiveness of economic development programs with innovative  
6 business incentives and training programs; and

7 WHEREAS, the Arkansas Biotechnology Association, the Arkansas  
8 Association of Knowledge-Based Companies, and the Arkansas Chapter of the  
9 Technology Transfer Society have all been established to help build a critical  
10 mass of technology companies in Arkansas; and

11 WHEREAS, strategies to improve Arkansas economic profile must be  
12 developed to ensure a brighter future for our children;

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14 NOW THEREFORE,

15 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE  
16 OF ARKANSAS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

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18 THAT an interim study is requested of the Senate Interim Committee on  
19 Agriculture and Economic Development, and the Joint Committee on Economic and  
20 Tax Policy, to review economic development strategies and make recommendations  
21 for promoting technology development as a means of increasing the per capita  
22 income in Arkansas, increasing the skill levels of Arkansas citizens, and  
23 generating increased state revenues to benefit Arkansas programs and  
24 institutions.

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