

1 HJR129
2 199353-2
3 By Representative Sanderford
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 18-APR-19

1
2 ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,

3 COMMENDING DR. ROBERT A. ALTENKIRCH FOR HIS
4 OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN
5 HUNTSVILLE.

6
7 WHEREAS, The University of Alabama in Huntsville has
8 a long history of providing academic and research programs to
9 support Redstone Arsenal and Cummings Research Park, and the
10 university is crucial for the advanced workforce development
11 and research and development activities of the Greater
12 Huntsville area and the State of Alabama; and

13 WHEREAS, Dr. Robert A. Altenkirch continued to build
14 on that history through strategic growth while serving as
15 President of The University of Alabama in Huntsville from 2011
16 to 2019; and

17 WHEREAS, The University of Alabama in Huntsville has
18 experienced record enrollment growth for five consecutive
19 years, growing to more than 10,000 students in the fall of
20 2019; and

21 WHEREAS, the average ACT score of incoming freshmen
22 at The University of Alabama in Huntsville for the fall of
23 2018 was 28.5, establishing an all-time record for the
24 university, and is the highest among Alabama's public
25 universities; and

1 WHEREAS, from an academic standpoint, The University
2 of Alabama in Huntsville has created 28 new degree programs,
3 12 bachelors', 12 masters' and four Ph.D's, during Dr.
4 Altenkirch's presidency; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Altenkirch also initiated the formation
6 of several colleges: Honors College (2014); the College of
7 Education (2015); and the College of Professional and
8 Continuing Studies (2016); and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Altenkirch led the purchase of a
10 58-acre business park adjacent to the campus; his vision for
11 the property was campus expansion, a mixed-use development,
12 and the establishment of a "town center" for The University of
13 Alabama in Huntsville; and

14 WHEREAS, Dr. Altenkirch established the D.S.
15 Davidson Invention-to-Innovation business incubator, a
16 regional initiative that fosters, promotes, and accelerates
17 commercialization of technology-based ventures through
18 incubation, co-working, mentorship, funding, and strategic
19 support; and

20 WHEREAS, Dr. Altenkirch led efforts to begin and
21 complete several construction projects on campus during his
22 tenure which include a student services building, a student
23 union building, a 400-bed residence hall, a technology
24 business incubator, and expansion to Morton Hall and the
25 nursing building, and a sorority house; and

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Altenkirch led the effort to secure
2 conference affiliation for UAH'S NCAA Division I Men's Ice
3 Hockey Team in the Western Collegiate Hockey Association, thus
4 saving the UAH hockey program which had been destined to be
5 discontinued; he also initiated UAH'S NCAA Division II Men's
6 and Women's Lacrosse programs in spring 2016; now therefore,

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
8 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That highest commendation is
9 conveyed to Dr. Robert A. Altenkirch in recognition of his
10 outstanding leadership and helping shape a more prosperous
11 future for The University of Alabama in Huntsville, the State
12 of Alabama and its citizens, and this resolution is offered to
13 him with deepest appreciation along with best wishes in future
14 endeavors.

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in
and was adopted by the House 25-APR-19.

Jeff Woodard
Clerk

Senate 30-APR-19 Adopted