

1 HJR38  
2 197497-1  
3 By Representatives Weaver and Fridy  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 20-MAR-19

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8 COMMENDING RICHARD D. CUMMINGS, PH.D., FOR  
9 OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT.

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11 WHEREAS, highest commendations are herein proudly  
12 presented to Dr. Richard D. Cummings for outstanding  
13 professional achievement.

14 WHEREAS, Dr. Cummings is a pioneer in the area of  
15 structure and recognition of glycoconjugates in biological  
16 processes and roles of glycoconjugates in disease; through his  
17 wide-ranging publications in glycosciences, review articles  
18 and books, and worldwide speeches and lectures to highlight  
19 glycosciences to diverse audiences, he has made a major impact  
20 on the elevation and recognition of the field; his research  
21 has been at the forefront of translational glycobiology and  
22 helped to develop worldwide appreciation for  
23 glycoscience-based drugs; and

24 WHEREAS, Dr. Cummings is the S. Daniel Abraham  
25 Endowed Professor of Surgery in Beth Israel Deaconess Medical  
26 Center (BIDMC) and Harvard Medical School; he is also the  
27 founder and Director of the Harvard Medical School Center for

1 Glycoscience, and Director of the National Center for  
2 Functional Glycomics; Dr. Cummings holds other leadership  
3 roles in the Department of Surgery and at BIDMC being  
4 Vice-Chair of Basic and Translational Research, Chair of the  
5 Research Council, Associate Director for Drug Discovery and  
6 Translational Research, and the Scientific Director of the  
7 Feihe Nutrition Laboratory at BIDMC; Dr. Cummings is also the  
8 Director of the Cancer Glycomics Program within the Cancer  
9 Research Institute at BIDMC; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Cummings received his Ph.D. from The  
11 Johns Hopkins University (1980) and completed his postdoctoral  
12 training in hematology and oncology with Dr. Stuart Kornfield  
13 at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis  
14 (1983); he began his academic career at the University of  
15 Georgia rising to Professor (1992), where he was an Associate  
16 Director of the Complex Carbohydrate Research Center, and then  
17 moved to the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in  
18 Oklahoma City as the Ed Miller Endowed Chair in Biochemistry  
19 and Molecular Biology; he subsequently moved in 2006 to Emory  
20 University School of Medicine where he was Chair of the  
21 Department of Biochemistry until 2015; at Oklahoma and Emory  
22 Dr. Cummings founded Glycomics Centers to foster the  
23 interactions of glycoscience with medicine; in 2015 Dr.  
24 Cummings moved to Harvard Medical School and the Department of  
25 Surgery at BIDMC, where he founded the Harvard Medical School  
26 Center for Glycoscience, that serves as the hub for a wide  
27 array of medically-related glycoscience studies in the Boston

1 area and beyond; since 1983 Dr. Cummings has trained over 30  
2 Ph.D and Master's Degree students in glycosciences, many of  
3 whom are leaders in academia and industry; he has trained over  
4 60 post-doctoral fellows in the field, along with dozens of  
5 undergraduate students and fellows; and

6 WHEREAS, his honors include election as a Fellow of  
7 the American Association for the Advancement of Science  
8 (2014), the Karl Meyer Award from the Society for Glycobiology  
9 (2006), election as Chair of the International Consortium for  
10 Functional Glycomics (2012-present), and election as President  
11 of the Society for Glycobiology (2001); Dr. Cummings has  
12 published over 300 peer-reviewed articles and has 30 patents,  
13 numerous books, including the textbook "Essentials of  
14 Glycobiology", now in its Third Edition; he is also the  
15 founder of several biotechnology companies; and in 2002 he  
16 co-founded Selexys Pharmaceuticals, Incorporated, which was  
17 purchased for \$665 million by Novartis in 2016, based on  
18 development of a new antibody to block P-selectin function to  
19 treat Sickle Cell Disease; now therefore,

20 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
21 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Dr. Richard D. Cummings is  
22 highly honored and commended and this resolution is offered to  
23 him in deepest admiration and appreciation for his  
24 immeasurable service, as well as with sincere best wishes for  
25 continued success in all future endeavors.