- 1 HB154
- 2 136218-1
- By Representatives Williams (D), Wood, Bridges, Buttram,
- Boothe, McMillan, Treadaway, Farley, McClendon, Williams (J),
- 5 Greer, Millican, Long, Johnson (W), Roberts, Rich, McCutcheon,
- 6 Faust, Shiver, Nordgren, Fincher, Lee, Henry, Gaston, Moore
- 7 (B), Tuggle, Johnson (K), Collins, Baker, Weaver and Beckman
- 8 RFD: Economic Development and Tourism
- 9 First Read: 07-FEB-12
- 10 PFD: 02/03/2012

1	136218-1:n:02/03/2012:JMH*/tj LRS2012-702	
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8	SYNOPSIS:	This bill would extend the period of time
9		that granting authorities can abate certain ad
10		valorem taxes and construction related transaction
11		taxes for data processing centers and warehousing
12		and storage facilities located in the State of
13		Alabama in order to encourage data processing
14		centers to locate in the State of Alabama to up to
15		30 years. The bill would also include taxes paid on
16		computer software used in a data processing center
17		in the taxes that would be abated.
18		This bill would lower certain employment
19		thresholds so that more data processing centers may
20		qualify. This bill would expand the definition of
21		industrial or research enterprises to include
22		warehousing or research activity.
23		This bill would also provide that
24		industrial, warehousing, and research activities
25		are eligible for abatements and capital credits.
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27		A BILL

1	TO BE ENTITLED
2	AN ACT
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4	To amend Sections 40-9B-3, 40-9B-4, 40-18-190, and
5	40-18-193, Code of Alabama 1975, to allow the governing body
6	of a municipality, county, or a public industrial authority to
7	grant abatements of certain ad valorem taxes and construction
8	related transaction taxes to private users of data processing
9	centers for a period of up to thirty years and reduce the
10	corresponding employment thresholds, provided that certain
11	minimum capital investment requirements are met.
12	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:
13	Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited
14	as the Alabama Data Processing Center Economic Incentive
15	Enhancement Act of 2012.
16	Section 2. Sections 40-9B-3, 40-9B-4, 40-18-190, and
17	40-18-193, Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as
18	follows:
19	"§40-9B-3.
20	"(a) For purposes of this chapter, the following
21	words and phrases mean:
22	"(1) ABATE, ABATEMENT. A reduction or elimination of
23	a taxpayer's liability for tax or payments required to be made
24	in lieu thereof. An abatement of transaction taxes imposed
25	under Chapter 23 of this title, or payments required to be
26	made in lieu thereof, shall relieve the seller from the
27	obligation to collect and pay over the transaction tax as if

the sale were to a person exempt, to the extent of the abatement, from the transaction tax.

- 3 "(2) ALTERNATIVE ENERGY RESOURCES. The definition 4 given in Section 40-18-1.
 - "(3) CONSTRUCTION RELATED TRANSACTION TAXES. The transaction taxes imposed by Chapter 23 of this title, or payments required to be made in lieu thereof, on tangible personal property and taxable services incorporated into an industrial development property, and on computer software acquired for use in the operation of a data processing center, the cost of which may be added to capital account with respect to the property, determined without regard to any rule which permits expenditures properly chargeable to capital account to be treated as current expenses.
 - "(4) DATA PROCESSING CENTER. An establishment at which not less than fifty twenty new jobs are located, the average annual total compensation, including benefits, of such new jobs to be not less than forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) and which such establishment is engaged in the provision of complete processing and specialized reports from data, the provision of automated data processing and data entry services, the provision of an infrastructure for hosting or data processing services, the provision of specialized hosting activities, the provision of application service provisioning, the provision of general time-share mainframe facilities, or some combination of the foregoing, without regard to whether any other activities are conducted at the establishment.

"(5) EDUCATION TAXES. Ad valorem taxes, or payments required to be made in lieu thereof, that must, pursuant to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, legislative act, or the resolution or other action of the governing board authorizing the tax, be used for educational purposes or for capital improvements for education and local construction related transaction taxes levied for educational purposes or for capital improvements for education.

- "(6) HEADQUARTERS FACILITY. Any trade or business described in the 2007 North American Industry Classification System, promulgated by the Executive Office of the President of the United States, Office of Management and Budget, National Industry 551114, at which not less than fifty new jobs are located.
- "(7) HYDROPOWER PRODUCTION. The definition given in Section 40-18-1.
- "(8) INDUCEMENT. Refers to an agreement, or an "inducement agreement," entered into between a private user and a public authority or county or municipal government and/or a resolution or other official action, an "inducement resolution," "inducement letter," or "official action" adopted by a public authority or county or municipal government, in each case expressing, among other things, the present intent of such public authority or county or municipal government to issue bonds in connection with the private use property therein described.

"(9) INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT PROPERTY. Real and/or personal property acquired in connection with establishing or expanding an industrial or research enterprise in Alabama.

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"(10) INDUSTRIAL OR RESEARCH ENTERPRISE.

"a. Any trade or business described in the 2007 North American Industry Classification System, promulgated by the Executive Office of the President of the United States, Office of Management and Budget, Sectors 31 (other than National Industry 311811), 32, and 33; Subsectors 423, 424, 493, 511, and 927; Industry Groups 5417, 5415, and 5182 (without regard to the premise that data processing and related services be performed in conjunction with a third-party); Industries 11331 and 48691; and National Industries 115111, 517110, 541380, and 561422 (other than establishments that originate telephone calls) and includes such trades and businesses as may be hereafter added by an act of the Legislature, reclassified in any subsequent publication of the North American Industry Classification System or other industry classification system developed in conjunction with the United States Department of Commerce, or any process or treatment facility which recycles, reclaims, or converts any materials, which include solids, liquids, or gases, to a reusable product.

"b. With respect to abatements granted in accordance with Section 40-9B-9, and only with respect to such abatements, "industrial or research enterprise" means any trade or business described in the 2007 North American

1 Industry Classification System within Subsector 493 2 (Warehousing and Storage), Industry Number 488310 (Port and Harbor Operations), or Industry Number 488320 (Marine Cargo 3 Handling), when such trade or business is conducted on premises in which the Alabama State Port Authority has an 5 6 ownership, leasehold, or other possessory interest and such 7 premises are used as part of the operations of the Alabama State Port Authority.

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- "c. "Industrial or research enterprise" includes the above-described trades and business and any others as may hereafter be reclassified in any subsequent publication of the NAICS or similar industry classification system developed in conjunction with the United States Department of Commerce or Office of Management and Budget.
- "d. "Industrial or research enterprise" also includes any underground natural gas storage facility which is located in the Gulf Opportunity Zone, as that phrase is defined in the Gulf Opportunity Zone Act of 2005, developed from existing geologic reservoirs, including, without limitation, salt domes, and placed in service on or before December 31, 2013.
- "e. "Industrial or research enterprise" also includes any plant, property, or facility that meets both of the following:
 - "1. It produces electricity from:

- "(i) Alternative energy resources and has capital costs of at least one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000);

 or
- "(ii) Hydropower production and has capital costs of at least five million dollars (\$5,000,000).

- "2. All or a portion of the plant, property, or facility is owned by one or more of the following: A utility described in Section 37-4-1(7)a., an entity organized under the provisions of Chapter 6 of Title 37, or an authority both organized and existing pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 50A of Title 11 and subject to the payments required to be made in lieu of ad valorem, sales, use, license, and severance taxes imposed by Section 11-50A-7, or an entity in which one or more of the foregoing owns an interest.
- "f. "Industrial or research enterprise" also includes any headquarters facility.
 - "g. "Industrial or research enterprise" also includes any data processing center.
 - "h. "Industrial or research enterprise" also includes any research and development facility.
 - "i. "Industrial or research enterprise" also includes any renewable energy facility.
 - "(11) MAJOR ADDITION. Any addition to an existing industrial development property that equals the lesser of: 30 percent of the original cost of the industrial development property or two million dollars (\$2,000,000). For purposes of this subsection, the original cost of existing industrial

1 development property shall be the amount of industrial 2 development property with respect to which an abatement was granted under this chapter when the property was constructed, 3 or if the existing industrial development property was constructed before January 1, 1993, the maximum amount that 5 6 would have been allowed if the provisions of this chapter had 7 applied at the time it was constructed. Only property that constitutes industrial development property shall be taken 8 9 into account in making the determination in the previous sentence. Major addition shall include any addition costing at 10 least two million dollars (\$2,000,000) which constitutes an 11 12 industrial or research enterprise, regardless of whether added 13 to an existing industrial development property.

"(12) MAXIMUM EXEMPTION PERIOD. Except as provided in Section 40-9B-11, either

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"a. A α period equal to the shorter of:

"1.a. Ten years from and after: 1. (i) The date of initial issuance by a county, city, or public authority of bonds to finance any costs of a private use property, or 2. (ii) If no such bonds are ever issued, the later of: (i) A. The date on which title to the property was acquired by or vested in the county, city, or public authority, or (ii) B. The date on which the property is or becomes owned, for federal income tax purposes, by a private user; or

"2.b. The weighted average economic life of the assets comprising such property, determined consistently with

the provisions of 26 U.S.C. \$ 147(b) and measured from the date such property is placed in service—; or

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"b. Exclusively with respect to a private user of a data processing center, (i) a period of ten years from and after the date on which private use property is or becomes owned, for federal income tax purposes, by such private user, if the aggregate capital investment in the data processing center by the private user does not exceed \$100,000,000 within 10 years from the date on which the private user commences the acquisition, construction, and equipping of the data processing center, (ii) a period of twenty years from and after the date on which private use property is or becomes owned, for federal income tax purposes, by such private user, if the aggregate capital investment in the data processing center by the private user exceeds \$100,000,000 but is not greater than \$300,000,000 within 10 years from the date on which the private user commences the acquisition, construction, and equipping of the data processing center, or (iii) a period of thirty years from and after the date on which private use property is or becomes owned, for federal income tax purposes, by such private user, if the aggregate capital investment in the data processing center by the private user exceeds \$100,000,000 within 10 years from the date on which the private user commences the physical work of constructing and equipping the data processing center and exceeds \$300,000,000 within 20 years from the date on which the private user commences the acquisition, construction, and

equipping of the data processing center. For purposes of this paragraph b., a private user's aggregate capital investment in a data processing center shall include all real and personal property comprising a data processing center, the costs of which may be capitalized for federal income tax purposes. In no event shall abatements of construction related transaction taxes or noneducational ad valorem taxes granted for a data processing center apply beyond the expiration of the applicable maximum exemption period.

- "(13) MORTGAGE AND RECORDING TAXES. The taxes imposed by Chapter 22 of this title.
- "(14) NONEDUCATIONAL AD VALOREM TAXES. Ad valorem taxes, or payments required to be made in lieu thereof, imposed by the state, counties, municipalities, and other taxing jurisdictions of Alabama that are not required to be used for educational purposes or for capital improvements for education.
- "(15) PERSON. Includes any individual, partnership, trust, estate, or corporation.
- "(16) PRIVATE USER. Any individual, partnership, or corporation organized for profit that is or will be treated as the owner of private use property for federal income tax purposes, any entity organized under Chapter 6 of Title 37, and any authority both organized and existing pursuant to Chapter 50A of Title 11 and subject to the payments required to be made in lieu of ad valorem, sales, use, license, and severance taxes imposed by Section 11-50A-7.

- "(17) PRIVATE USE INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY. Private use property that also constitutes industrial development property.
- "(18) PRIVATE USE PROPERTY. Any real and/or personal property which is or will be treated as owned by a private 5 6 user for federal income tax purposes even though title may be 7 held by a public authority or municipal or county government; any real and/or personal property which is owned by any entity 8 organized under Chapter 6 of Title 37; and any real and/or 9 10 personal property which is owned by any authority both 11 organized and existing pursuant to Chapter 50A of Title 11, 12 and subject to the payments required to be made in lieu of ad 13 valorem, sales, use, license, and severance taxes imposed by Section 11-50A-7. 14

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- "(19) PUBLIC AUTHORITY. A corporation created for public purposes pursuant to a provision of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, or a general or local law that authorized it to issue bonds, the interest on which is exempt from the Alabama income tax, as in effect on May 21, 1992.
- "(20) PUBLIC INDUSTRIAL AUTHORITY. A public authority authorized to issue bonds to acquire, construct, equip, or finance industrial development property.
- "(21) RENEWABLE ENERGY FACILITY. Any plant, property, or facility that either:
- "a. Produces electricity or natural gas, in whole or in part, from biofuels as such term is defined in Section 2-2-90(c)(2) or from renewable energy resources as such term

is defined in Section 40-18-1(30) with the exception that

hydropower production shall be excluded from such definition;

or

"b. Produces biofuel as such term is defined in Section 2-2-90(c)(2).

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"(22) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FACILITY. An establishment engaged in conducting original investigations undertaken on a systematic basis to gain new knowledge or applying research findings or other scientific knowledge to create new or significantly improved products or processes, or both.

"(23) STATEMENT OF INTENT. A written statement of intent to claim an abatement provided in this chapter, or to petition for local tax abatement, relating to an industrial or research enterprise described in paragraph e. of subdivision (10) of this subsection that is filed with the Department of Revenue at any time prior to the date on which the industrial or research enterprise described in paragraph e. of subdivision (10) of this subsection is placed in service in accordance with such procedures and on such form or forms as may be prescribed by the Department of Revenue. Such statement of intent shall contain a description of the industrial or research enterprise described in paragraph e. of subdivision (10) of this subsection; the date on which the acquisition, construction, installation, or equipping of the industrial or research enterprise described in paragraph e. of subdivision (10) of this subsection was commenced or is expected to

commence; the actual or, if not known, the estimated capital costs of the industrial or research enterprise described in paragraph e. of subdivision (10) of this subsection; the number of new employees to be employed at the industrial or research enterprise described in paragraph e. of subdivision (10) of this subsection; and any other information required by the Department of Revenue.

"(b) The abatements of ad valorem taxes, and payments in lieu thereof, allowed by amendments to this section by Act 2008-275 shall become effective for projects for which statements of intent are filed after December 31, 2011. No ad valorem taxes, or payments in lieu thereof, shall be abated for periods prior to January 1, 2012. The other abatements allowed by amendments made to this section by Act 2008-275 shall become effective after December 31, 2011.

"\$40-9B-4.

"(a) Noneducational ad valorem taxes, construction related transaction taxes, except those local construction related transaction taxes levied for educational purposes or for capital improvements for education, and mortgage and recording taxes, or payments required to be made in lieu thereof, and in the case of a qualifying industrial or research enterprise described in Section 40-9B-3(a)(10)e. which is owned by an entity organized under Chapter 6 of Title 37, or by an authority both organized and existing pursuant to Chapter 50A of Title 11, and subject to the payments required to be made in lieu of ad valorem, sales, use, license, and

severance taxes imposed by Section 11-50A-7, in addition to the foregoing, all other ad valorem taxes, or payments required to be made in lieu thereof, imposed by the state, counties, municipalities, and other taxing jurisdictions of Alabama, may be abated with respect to private use industrial property and security documents and other recordable documents associated therewith as provided in this chapter.

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"(b) No abatement of noneducational ad valorem taxes, other ad valorem taxes, or payments required to be made in lieu of the foregoing, may exceed the maximum exemption period. No further abatement with respect to the same private use industrial property may be granted unless there is a major addition to the property, in which event abatement may be granted only with respect to the noneducational ad valorem taxes, and in the case of a qualifying industrial or research enterprise described in Section 40-9B-3(a)(10)e. which is owned by an entity organized under Chapter 6 of Title 37, or by an authority both organized and existing pursuant to Chapter 50A of Title 11, and subject to the payments required to be made in lieu of ad valorem, sales, use, license, and severance taxes imposed by Section 11-50A-7, in addition to the noneducational ad valorem taxes, with respect to all other ad valorem taxes, or payments required to be made in lieu thereof, imposed by the state, counties, municipalities, and other taxing jurisdictions of Alabama, on the major addition by complying with the procedures set forth in this chapter. Notwithstanding the immediately preceding sentence, with

respect to a data processing center, an abatement of noneducational ad valorem taxes, other ad valorem taxes, or payments required to be made in lieu thereof, shall apply to all real and personal property comprising a data processing center, the costs of which may be capitalized for federal income tax purposes, acquired at any time during the applicable maximum exemption period, including, but not limited to, computers, software, equipment supporting computing, networking, or data storage; cooling systems, cooling towers, and other temperature infrastructure; power infrastructure for transformation, distribution, or management of electricity used for the maintenance and operation of a data processing center, including, but not limited to, exterior dedicated business-owned substations, backup power generation systems, battery systems, and related infrastructure; and any other equipment necessary for the maintenance and operation of a data processing center.

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"(c) An abatement of construction related transaction taxes, or payments required to be made in lieu thereof, shall apply only to tangible personal property and taxable services incorporated into a private use industrial property, and on computer software acquired for use in the operation of a data processing center, the cost of which may be added to capital account with respect to the property, determined without regard to any rule which permits expenditures properly chargeable to capital account to be treated as current expenses. No abatement of construction

Τ	related transaction taxes, or payments required to be made in
2	lieu thereof, shall extend beyond the date the private use
3	industrial property is placed in service; provided, however,
4	that an abatement of construction related transaction taxes,
5	or payments required to be made in lieu thereof, for a data
6	processing center shall apply to all taxable services and
7	acquisitions of real and personal property comprising the data
8	processing center, the costs of which may be capitalized for
9	federal income tax purposes, occurring at any time during the
10	applicable maximum exemption period, including, but not
11	limited to, computers, software, equipment supporting
12	computing, networking, or data storage; cooling systems,
13	cooling towers, and other temperature infrastructure; power
14	infrastructure for transformation, distribution, or management
15	of electricity used for the maintenance and operation of a
16	data processing center, including, but not limited to,
17	exterior dedicated business-owned substations, backup power
18	generation systems, battery systems, and related
19	infrastructure; and any other equipment necessary for the
20	maintenance and operation of a data processing center. No
21	further abatement may be granted for construction related
22	transaction taxes, or payments required to be made in lieu
23	thereof, with respect to the private use industrial property
24	unless incurred in connection with a major addition, in which
25	event only construction related transaction taxes, or payments
26	required to be made in lieu thereof, that may be added to
27	capital account with respect to the major addition, determined

1 without regard to any rule which permits expenditures properly 2 chargeable to capital account to be treated as current 3 expenses, may be abated by complying with the procedures set forth in Act 92-599 as amended, and as amended by Act 2008-275. Except in the case of a qualifying industrial or research enterprise described in Section 40-9B-3(a)(10)e. 6 7 which is owned by an entity organized under Chapter 6 of Title 37, or by an authority both organized and existing pursuant to 8 Chapter 50A of Title 11, and subject to the payments required 9 10 to be made in lieu of ad valorem, sales, use, license, and severance taxes imposed by Section 11-50A-7, no local 11 construction related transaction taxes levied for educational 12 13 purposes or capital improvements for education, or payments 14 required to be made in lieu thereof, may be abated.

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"(d) Mortgage and recording taxes with respect to mortgages, deeds, and documents relating to issuing or securing obligations and conveying title into or out of the public authority or county or municipal government with respect to a private use industrial property may be abated by complying with the procedures set forth in this chapter.

"(e) An abatement under this section may be granted only with respect to private use industrial property that has not previously been placed in service by the private user who is applying for the abatement or by a person who is a related party, as defined in 26 U.S.C. §267, with respect to such private user.

"(f) (1) For a qualifying industrial or research enterprise described in Section 40-9B-3(a) (10)e., which is owned by a utility described in Section 37-4-1(7)a., and which is a coal gasification or liquefaction project or an advanced fossil-based generation project, as such terms are defined in Section 40-18-1, or which utilizes hydropower production, an abatement under this section shall be in an amount equal to 100 percent of the state noneducational ad valorem taxes owed for plant, property, and facilities for the maximum exemption period, and in an amount equal to 50 percent of the state construction related transaction taxes. The abatement shall not be subject to the procedures in Section 40-9B-5 or 40-9B-6.

"(2) For a qualifying industrial or research enterprise described in Section 40-9B-3(a)(10)e., which is owned by a utility described in Section 37-4-1(7)a., and which is a project using an alternative energy resource the abatements for which are not provided in subdivision (1), an abatement under this section shall be in an amount equal to 100 percent of the state noneducational ad valorem taxes owed for plant, property, and facilities for the maximum exemption period, and in an amount equal to 50 percent of the state construction related transaction taxes. The abatement shall not be subject to the procedures in Section 40-9B-5 or 40-9B-6.

"(3) For a qualifying industrial or research enterprise described in Section 40-9B-3(a)(10)e., which is

owned by an entity organized under Chapter 6 of Title 37, an abatement under this section shall be in an amount equal to 100 percent of the ad valorem taxes owed for plant, property, and facilities for the maximum exemption period, and in an amount equal to 100 percent of the construction related transaction taxes. An abatement of ad valorem taxes levied or imposed by counties or municipalities may be granted as provided in subsection (h). An abatement of the construction related transaction taxes imposed by the governing body of a county pursuant to authority conferred under Article 1 of Chapter 12 of Title 40, or any general, special, or local act of the Legislature, and such transaction taxes imposed by the governing body of a municipality pursuant to authority conferred under Article 3 of Chapter 51 of Title 11, or any general, special, or local act of the Legislature, and all transaction taxes imposed by any other local taxing jurisdiction of Alabama may be granted as provided in subsection (h). The abatement shall not be subject to the procedures in Section 40-9B-5 or 40-9B-6.

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"(4) For a qualifying industrial or research enterprise described in Section 40-9B-3(a)(10)e., which is owned by an authority both organized and existing pursuant to Chapter 50A of Title 11, and subject to the payments required to be made in lieu of ad valorem, sales, use, license, and severance taxes imposed by Section 11-50A-7, an abatement under this section against the payments required to be made in lieu of taxes imposed by Section 11-50A-7, shall be allowed in

an amount equal to 100 percent of the payments required to be made in lieu of ad valorem taxes owed for plant, property, and facilities for the maximum exemption period, and in an amount equal to 100 percent of the payments required to be made in lieu of the construction related transaction taxes, including, without limitation, payments required to be made in lieu of all transaction taxes imposed by the governing body of a county pursuant to authority conferred under Article 1 of Chapter 12 of this title, or any general, special, or local act of the Legislature, all transaction taxes imposed by the governing body of a municipality pursuant to authority conferred under Article 3 of Chapter 51 of Title 11, or any general, special, or local act of the Legislature, and payments required to be made in lieu of all transaction taxes imposed by any other taxing jurisdiction of Alabama. The abatement of such payments required to be made in lieu of local taxes may be granted as provided in subsection (h). The abatement shall not be subject to the procedures in Section 40-9B-5 or 40-9B-6.

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"(5) For a qualifying industrial or research enterprise described in Section 40-9B-3(a)(10)e., which is owned by a utility described in Section 37-4-1(7)a., the abatement for state noneducational ad valorem taxes provided in subdivision (1) or (2) of this subsection, shall be equal to 100 percent of the state noneducational ad valorem taxes owed for plant, property, and facilities for the maximum

1 exemption period if the industrial or research enterprise is 2 located in either of the following: "a. Any area designated or created as an enterprise 3 zone by law or that is governed by the Alabama Enterprise Zone Act. 5 6 "b. 1. Any Alabama county which is considered to be 7 less developed. A county is considered to be less developed if it has been found to be less developed by the Alabama 8 Department of Industrial Relations using the most current data 9 10 available from the United States Departments of Labor or Commerce, the United States Bureau of the Census, or any other 11 12 federal or state agency, and which finding shall be made not 13 later than January 1 of each year thereafter. 14 "2. A county shall be found to be less developed if it is ranked as the forty-fifth through sixty-seventh county, 15 inclusive, using the following factors: 16 17 "(i) Percent change in population over the most recent five-year period. 18 "(ii) Personal per capita income in the last 19 calendar year for which data are available. 20 21 "(iii) The average percent employed over the last 12 22 months for which data are available. 23 "3. The factors used in ranking counties shall be 24 weighted in the following manner: 25 "(i) Percent change in population (25 percent). "(ii) Personal per capita income (25 percent). 26

"(iii) Average percent employed (50 percent).

"(6) a. To the extent that a plant, property, or facility described in Section 40-9B-3(a)(10)e., is owned in whole or in part by one or more private users listed hereinafter in subparagraph c., including, but not limited to, ownership as tenants in common, joint tenants, or owners of an undivided interest, then each private user shall be entitled to the abatement allowed under this section with a percentage limitation equal to the ownership interest percentage of the private user multiplied by the percentage limitation found in this subsection applicable to the private user for the tax, or payment in lieu of tax, in question.

"b. To the extent that a plant, property, or facility described in Section 40-9B-3(a)(10)e. is owned by a private user which is itself owned in whole or in part by one or more of the entities listed hereinafter in subparagraph c., then the private user shall be entitled to the abatement allowed under this section with a percentage limitation equal to the sum, for all owners, of the ownership interest percentage of each owner multiplied by the percentage limitation found in this subsection applicable to the owner for the tax, or payment in lieu of tax, in question.

- "c. The entities listed in this subparagraph c. are:
- "1. A utility described in Section 37-4-1(7)a.
- "2. An entity organized under Chapter 6 of Title 37.
- "3. An authority both organized and existing pursuant to Chapter 50A of Title 11 and subject to the

payments required to be made in lieu of ad valorem, sales, use, license, and severance taxes imposed by Section 11-50A-7.

"(7) No abatement for mortgage and recording taxes, local noneducational ad valorem taxes, or local noneducational construction related transaction taxes shall be granted to a qualifying industrial or research enterprise described in Section 40-9B-3(a)(10)e., owned by a utility described in Section 37-4-1(7)a., except upon the approval of the abatement by the governing body of the county or municipality as provided in subsection (b) of Section 40-9B-5.

"(g) The abatements of ad valorem taxes and payments in lieu thereof allowed by amendments to this section by Act 2008-275 shall become effective for projects for which statements of intent are filed after December 31, 2011. No ad valorem taxes, or payments in lieu thereof, shall be abated for periods prior to January 1, 2012. The other abatements allowed by amendments made to this section by Act 2008-275 shall become effective after December 31, 2011.

"(h) For a qualifying industrial or research enterprise described in Section 40-9B-3(a)(10)e., the approval of the abatement of a specific ad valorem tax or construction related tax levied or imposed by a county or municipality, or payments required to be made in lieu thereof, shall take effect only upon adoption of a resolution by the governing body of that county or municipality approving such abatement or abatements.

"\$40-18-190.

"(a) The following terms shall have the following meanings, respectively, when used in this article unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

"(1) BASE WAGE REQUIREMENT.

"a. For qualifying projects in which an investing company files a written statement of intent (Form INT) with the department on or before May 21, 2009, "base wage requirement" means either an average hourly wage of not less than eight dollars (\$8) per hour or an average total compensation of not less than ten dollars (\$10) per hour, including benefits.

"b. For qualifying projects that are not located in a favored geographic area and for which an investing company files a written statement of intent (Form INT) with the department after May 21, 2009, "base wage requirement" means an average hourly wage, inclusive of all employees in Alabama, of not less than the lesser of fifteen dollars (\$15) per hour (indexed annually in accordance with the manner provided in Section 25-5-68) or the average hourly wage of the county where the qualifying project is located (as reported annually by the Department of Industrial Relations), both excluding benefits.

"c. For qualifying projects that are located in a favored geographic area and for which an investing company files a written statement of intent (Form INT) with the Department after May 21, 2009, "base wage requirement" means an average hourly wage, inclusive of all employees in Alabama,

of not less than the lesser of twelve dollars (\$12) per hour

(indexed annually in accordance with the manner provided in

Section 25-5-68) or the average hourly wage of the county

where the qualifying project is located (as reported annually

by the Department of Industrial Relations), both excluding

benefits.

"d. Notwithstanding the foregoing, wages of direct processors of agriculture food products shall be subject to the local labor market. In the event that reliable local labor market statistics are not available, the department shall, by regulation or ruling, establish a source of wage information that best represents the average hourly wage rate in Alabama for direct processors of agriculture food products.

"(2) CAPITAL COSTS. All costs and expenses incurred by one or more investing companies in connection with the acquisition, construction, installation and equipping of a qualifying project during the period commencing with the date on which such acquisition, construction, installation and equipping commences and ending on the date on which the qualifying project is placed in service, including, without limitation all of the following:

"a. The costs of acquiring, constructing, installing, equipping, and financing a qualifying project, including all obligations incurred for labor and to contractors, subcontractors, builders, and materialmen.

"b. The costs of acquiring land or rights in land and any cost incidental thereto, including recording fees.

"c. The costs of contract bonds and of insurance of all kinds that may be required or necessary during the acquisition, construction, or installation of a qualifying project.

"d. The costs of architectural and engineering services, including test borings, surveys, estimates, plans and specifications, preliminary investigations, environmental mitigation and supervision of construction, as well as for the performance of all the duties required by or consequent upon the acquisition, construction, and installation of a qualifying project.

"e. The costs associated with installation of fixtures and equipment; surveys, including archaeological and environmental surveys; site tests and inspections; subsurface site work; excavation; removal of structures, roadways, cemeteries, and other surface obstructions; filling, grading, paving and provisions for drainage, storm water retention, installation of utilities, including water, sewer, sewage treatment, gas, electricity, communications, and similar facilities; off-site construction of utility extensions to the boundaries of the property.

"f. All other costs of a nature comparable to those described, including, without limitation, all project costs which are required to be capitalized for federal income tax purposes pursuant to 26 U.S.C. § 263A.

"g. Costs otherwise defined as capital costs that are incurred by the investing company where the investing

company is the lessee under a lease that: (1) has a term of not less than five years, and (2) is characterized as a capital lease for federal income tax purposes; provided, that if the project is a headquarters facility, the lease may be characterized as an operating lease for federal income tax purposes in which event capital costs shall include the net present value of the payments made by the investing company under the lease computed using the applicable federal rate for the month in which the qualifying project is placed in service and for the term most closely approximating the term of the lease. Capital costs shall not include property owned or leased by the investing company or a related party before the commencement of the acquisition, construction, installation or equipping of the qualifying project unless such property was physically located outside the state for a period of at least one year prior to the date on which the qualifying project was placed in service.

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"h. Costs either paid or incurred by (i) a public industrial development board or authority, city, or county, or other public corporation or political subdivision (a "public entity") for the benefit of a qualifying project where such costs are treated as costs paid by an investing company with respect to the qualifying project for federal income tax purposes (such costs shall not include amounts contributed by a public entity to a qualifying project as a capital contribution or gift except to the extent that an investing company has cost basis in the contribution or gift for federal

income tax purposes); or (ii) a related party to an investing company to the extent such costs are included in or taken into account in determining the investing company's federal income tax basis in the qualifying project, whether or not incurred by an investing company.

- "(3) CAPITAL CREDIT. An annual amount equal to up to five percent of the capital costs of the qualifying project, such amount to be credited or allowed in accordance with Section 40-18-194 and Section 40-18-195 hereof and other provisions of law, against the state income tax or financial institution excise tax, as provided in Section 40-18-194, liability generated by or arising out of the qualifying project in each of the 20 years commencing with the year during which the qualifying project is placed in service and continuing for 19 consecutive years thereafter.
- "(4) DATA PROCESSING CENTER. An establishment engaged in the provision of complete processing and specialized reports from data, the provision of automated data processing and data entry services, the provision of an infrastructure for hosting or data processing services, the provision of specialized hosting activities, the provision of application service provisioning, the provision of general time-share mainframe facilities, or some combination of the foregoing, without regard to whether any other activities are conducted at the establishment.
 - "(5) DEPARTMENT. The Alabama Department of Revenue.

Τ	"(6) FAVORED GEOGRAPHIC AREA. Either of the
2	following:
3	"a. Any area designated or created as an enterprise
4	zone by law or that is governed by the Alabama Enterprise Zone
5	Act.
6	"b. 1. Any Alabama county which is considered to be
7	less developed. A county is considered to be less developed if
8	it has been found to be less developed by the Alabama
9	Department of Industrial Relations using the most current data
10	available from the United States Departments of Labor or
11	Commerce, the United States Bureau of the Census, or any other
12	federal or state agency, and which finding shall be made
13	immediately upon passage of Act 2001-965 and not later than
14	January 1 of each year thereafter.
15	"2. A county shall be found to be less developed if
16	it is ranked as the forty-fifth through sixty-seventh county,
17	inclusive, using the following factors:
18	"(i) Percent change in population over the most
19	recent five-year period.
20	"(ii) Personal per capita income in the last
21	calendar year for which data are available.
22	"(iii) The average percent employed over the last 12
23	months for which data are available.
24	"3. The factors used in ranking counties will be
25	weighted in the following manner:
26	"(i) Percent change in population (25 percent).
27	"(ii) Personal per capita income (25 percent).

- "(iii) Average percent employed (50 percent).
- 2 "(7) HEADQUARTERS FACILITIES.

- "a. For qualifying projects in which an investing company files a written statement of intent (Form INT) with the department on or before May 21, 2009, "headquarters facilities" means a facility which will serve as the national, regional or state headquarters for an investing company that conducts significant business operations outside the state and will serve as the principal office of the principal operating officer of the qualifying project. For purposes of this Article 7, the term "principal operating officer" is defined as the person with chief responsibility for the daily business operations of the qualifying project.
- "b. For qualifying projects in which an investing company files a written statement of intent (Form INT) with the department after May 21, 2009, "headquarters facilities" means any trade or business described in the 2007 North American Industry Classification System, promulgated by the Executive Office of the President of the United States, Office of Management and Budget, National Industry 551114.
- "(8) INDUSTRIAL, WAREHOUSING, OR RESEARCH ACTIVITY.

 Any trade or business described in the 2007 North American

 Industry Classification System, promulgated by the Executive

 Office of the President of the United States, Office of

 Management and Budget, Sectors 31 (other than National

 Industry 311811), 32, and 33; Subsectors 423, 424, 493, 511,

 and 927; Industry Groups 5417, 5415, and 5182 (without regard

to the premise that data processing and related services be performed in conjunction with a third-party); Industries 11331 and 48691; and National Industries 115111, 517110, 541380, and 561422 (other than establishments that originate telephone calls) and includes such trades and businesses as may be hereafter reclassified in any subsequent publication of the North American Industry Classification System or other industry classification system developed in conjunction with the United States Department of Commerce, or any process or treatment facility which recycles, reclaims, or converts materials, which include solids, liquids, or gases, to a reusable product.

"(9) INVESTING COMPANY. Any corporation, partnership, limited liability company, proprietorship, trust or other business entity, regardless of form, making a qualified investment.

- "(10) NEW EMPLOYEES. Those persons who have not been previously employed at the site on which the qualifying project is or will be located or by an investing company or companies in the state; will be employed full-time at the qualifying project; and will be subject to the personal income tax imposed by Section 40-18-2, upon commencement of employment at the qualifying project.
- "(11) PROJECT. Any land, building or other improvement, and all real and personal properties deemed necessary or useful in connection therewith, whether or not

previously in existence, located or to be located in the state.

- "(12) QUALIFYING INVESTMENT. The undertaking by one

 or more investing companies of a qualifying project.
 - "(13) QUALIFYING PROJECT. A project to be sponsored or undertaken by one or more investing companies meeting any one of the following requirements:
 - "a. A project the capital costs of which are not less than two million dollars (\$2,000,000), and at which the predominant trade or business activity conducted will constitute industrial, warehousing, or research activity.
 - "b. A small business addition the capital costs of which are not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000), and at which the predominant trade or business activity conducted will constitute industrial, warehousing, or research activity.
 - "c. A headquarters facility the capital costs of which are not less than two million dollars (\$2,000,000) at which the predominant trade or business activity conducted will not be the production of electricity.
 - "d. A project located in a favored geographic area the capital costs of which are not less than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000), and at which the predominant trade or business activity conducted will constitute industrial, warehousing, or research activity.
- 25 "e. A project owned by a utility described in 26 Section 37-4-1(7)a., or owned by an investing company which is

- 1 itself owned by a utility, the capital costs of which are not
- 2 less than the following:
- 3 "1. One hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000), if
- 4 the predominant trade or business activity conducted will be
- 5 the production of electricity from alternative energy
- 6 resources.
- 7 "2. Five million dollars (\$5,000,000), if the
- 8 predominant trade or business activity conducted will be the
- 9 production of electricity from hydropower production.
- "f. A data processing center the capital costs of
- which are not less than the following:
- 12 "1. Two million dollars (\$2,000,000), if the data
- processing center is not located in a favored geographic area.
- "2. Five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000), if the
- data processing center is located in a favored geographic
- 16 area.
- 17 "g. A research and development facility the capital
- 18 costs of which are not less than the following:
- 19 "1. Two million dollars (\$2,000,000), if the
- 20 research and development facility is not located in a favored
- 21 geographic area.
- 22 "2. Five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000), if the
- 23 research and development facility is located in a favored
- 24 geographic area.
- 25 "h. A renewable energy facility the capital costs of
- 26 which are not less than the following:

- "1. Two million dollars (\$2,000,000), if the renewable energy facility is not located in a favored geographic area.
- "2. Five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000), if the renewable energy facility is located in a favored geographic area.
- 7 "(14) RELATED PARTY. A person or entity that bears a
 8 relationship to an investing company described in Section
 9 267(b), (c), or (e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as
 10 amended.
- "(15) RENEWABLE ENERGY FACILITY. Any plant,
 property, or facility that either:

- "a. Produces electricity or natural gas, in whole or in part, from biofuels as such term is defined in Section 2-2-90(c)(2) or from renewable energy resources as such term is defined in Section 40-18-1(30) with the exception that hydropower production shall be excluded from such definition; or
 - "b. Produces biofuel as such term is defined in Section 2-2-90(c)(2).
 - "(16) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FACILITY. An establishment engaged in conducting original investigations undertaken on a systematic basis to gain new knowledge or applying research findings or other scientific knowledge to create new or significantly improved products or processes, or both.

- "(17) SMALL BUSINESS ADDITION. Any land, building or other improvement, and all real and personal properties deemed necessary or useful in connection therewith, whether or not previously in existence, to be used as a part of any existing facility of a business located in the state that, prior to the date on which the addition is placed in service, had 100 or fewer full-time employees.
- 8 "(18) TAX YEAR. The applicable taxable year as the 9 term is defined in Section 40-18-1(36).
 - "(19) 1993 ACT. Act No. 93-851, H. 27 and Act No. 93-852, H. 83 adopted at the 1993 First Special Session of the Legislature of Alabama, as amended by Act No. 94-370, S. 559 adopted at the 1994 Regular Session of the Legislature of Alabama.
 - "(b) The amendments made to this section by Act 2008-275 shall be effective for tax years and periods beginning after December 31, 2011.

18 "\$40-18-193.

- "(a) It shall be a condition to the receipt of a capital credit that:
- "(1) For a qualifying project described in Section 40-18-190(a)(13)c. or f., not less than 50 jobs for new employees at the qualifying project be provided commencing with the date which is not later than one year after the qualifying project is placed in service and that the average wages for all new employees at the qualifying project be not less than the base wage requirement by the date which is not

later than one year after the qualifying project is placed in service and during each year during which all or any part of the capital credit is available with respect to the qualifying project.

"(2) For any qualifying project other than a qualifying project described in Sections 40-18-190(a)(13)c. or f., either of the following occur:

"a. Not less than 20 jobs for new employees at a qualifying project except as otherwise provided in this subdivision and commencing with the date which is not later than one year after the qualifying project is placed in service and that the average wages for all new employees at the qualifying project be not less than the base wage requirement by the date which is not later than one year after the qualifying project is placed in service and during each year during which all or any part of the capital credit is available with respect to the qualifying project.

"b. Not less than 15 jobs for new employees at the qualifying project which is a small business addition be provided commencing with the date which is not later than one year after the qualifying project is placed in service and that the average wages for all new employees at the qualifying project be not less than the base wage requirement by the date which is not later than one year after the qualifying project is placed in service and during each year during which all or any part of the capital credit is available with respect to the qualifying project.

"c. Not less than five jobs for new employees at the qualifying project which is located in a favored geographic area and commencing with the date which is not later than one year after the qualifying project is placed in service and that the average wages for all new employees at the qualifying project be not less than the base wage, as defined in Section 40-18-190(a) (1), requirement by the date which is not later than one year after the qualifying project is placed in service and during each year during which all or part of the capital credit is available with respect to the qualifying project.

"If an investing company closes or reduces its level of employment at an existing facility in this state and within two years following the closing or reduction in its level of employment places a qualifying project in service, only the number of new employees in excess of the number of employees who worked at the existing facility at the time of the closure or prior to the reduction in employment shall be deemed to be new employees for purposes of this section.

"(b) The Legislature recognizes that one or more entities may enter into a joint venture in the form of a limited liability company, partnership, or other form of business entity in connection with a qualifying project. It is the intent of this article that the requirements of this article respecting minimum capital costs and employment be applied to the qualifying project and that the capital credit be available and granted to those entities liable for or

against which the state income tax is allocated or assessed with respect to the income generated by or arising out of the qualifying project. It shall not be a requirement of this article that the entity employing any new employees be the same entity entitled to receive the capital credit so long as the requirements of capital costs and new employees are implemented and maintained with respect to the qualifying project.

- "(c) A change of ownership or assignment of interest in any qualifying project shall not qualify the qualifying project or any taxpayer to receive any additional capital credits, and the purchaser, assignee, or successor of the qualifying project or interests therein shall be entitled to the capital credit upon the same conditions and for the same period as the investing company or companies originally entitled to the capital credit.
- "(d) The Legislature recognizes that while certain periods specified in this article with respect to the capital credit are measured by calendar years it will be necessary for the capital credit to be applied with respect to the tax years of the recipients of the capital credit. Accordingly, the department is hereby authorized to adopt regulations to provide that the capital credit may be allocated to the tax years of the recipient of the capital credit, including the method of determining the pro rata amount of capital credit, if any, available where the tax year of the recipient of the

capital credit will end subsequent to the end of any calendar year period specified in this article.

"(e) A company shall be considered to have met the employment and wage requirements for the portion of the year following the date upon which such requirements are first met and for each full year thereafter (such portion of a year and each full year thereafter during the 20 year credit period is hereinafter referred to as a "compliance year") if the employment requirement is satisfied for at least 11/12 of each compliance year and the wage requirement is met based on an average determined over each compliance year.

"(f) (1) Any investing company that meets the employment and wage requirements of this section by a date which is not later than one year after the date on which the qualifying project is placed in service, but fails to meet such requirements in any subsequent compliance year, may still claim the capital credit for each compliance year in which such investing company again meets the employment and wage requirements of this section. In no event, however, shall an investing company be able to claim a capital credit in a compliance year beginning: (i) after the third compliance year (whether or not consecutive) in which the investing company fails to meet the employment and wage requirements of this section; or (ii) more than nineteen (19) years after the year in which the qualifying project is first placed in service.

"(2) Any investing company that files a written statement of intent (Form INT) with the department after May

2 of this section by a date which is not later than one year after the date on which the qualifying project is placed in 3 service, but fails to meet such requirements in any subsequent compliance year, shall forfeit a percentage of the capital 5 6 credits claimed in the prior five years. The forfeiture shall 7 equal 100 percent of the capital credits claimed in the year immediately preceding the year in which the investing company 8 fails to maintain the employment and wage requirements of this 9 10 section. The forfeiture percentage shall be reduced by 20 percent for each successive prior year in the five year 11 12 forfeiture period. The forfeiture of capital credits shall be 13 treated in the same manner as the imposition of the tax 14 imposed by this chapter and shall be payable by the investing 15 company on the fifteenth day of the third month following the close of the year in which the investing company failed to 16 17 meet the employment and wage requirements of this section." Section 3. The provisions of this act are severable. 18 If any part of this act is declared invalid or 19 unconstitutional, that declaration shall not affect the part 20 21 which remains. 22 Section 4. This act shall become effective

21, 2009 and that meets the employment and wage requirements

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Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

immediately following its passage and approval by the