214263-1 RFD:

By Senators Singleton, Hatcher, Coleman-Madison and Smitherman

First Read: 17-MAY-21

PROMOTING THE ENACTMENT OF LEGISLATION IMPLEMENTING A TAX CREDIT FOR NURSES TREATING COVID-19 PATIENTS.

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has been rightfully described as a "war" and a "battle" causing more than seven times the number of deaths that occurred at Pearl Harbor, 9/11, and the entire Vietnam War combined; and WHEREAS, in times of war all citizens are impacted, yet those individuals serving in combat theaters are arguably at higher risk and are justly compensated with "combat pay" or "hazard pay"; and

WHEREAS, nurses are the largest workforce in health care and have earned public admiration for their professionalism, courage, and provision of intercessory comfort for their COVID-19 patients when loved ones could not be physically present; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Alabama nurses faithfully
serve, often with inadequate personal protective equipment, at great personal risk of contracting the disease, transmitting
it to their own families, and potentially sacrificing their own lives; and

WHEREAS, it is medically accepted that individuals who suddenly experience severe trauma while engaged in combat, or who live or work in life-threatening environments for prolonged periods of time, often develop post-traumatic stress disorder, a biopsychosocial brain disease that can have debilitating health effects for decades; now therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we promote the enactment of legislation to implement a $\$ 1,000$ Alabama Income Tax Credit for licensed nurses who can attest to providing care and support of COVID-19 patients in any and all clinical environments for any period of time during the calendar year 2020, 2021, or both.

