



**Unanimously Adopted on September 25, 2017**

Resolution sponsored by: Governor Henry McMaster, South Carolina\*  
Representative William E. Sandifer, III, South Carolina  
Representative Gary Staples, Mississippi

**6.2017 | Encouraging Completion of a Fuel Fabrication Facility in South Carolina**

**WHEREAS**, at the end of the Cold War, the United States and the former Soviet Union began dismantling thousands of nuclear weapons which resulted in large reserves of excess uranium and plutonium which neither country wanted to be used for the development of additional nuclear armaments; and

**WHEREAS**, both the United States and Russia entered into an agreement in 2000 committing each to dispose of 34 metric tons of surplus plutonium, sufficient for approximately 8,500 nuclear weapons per country; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2002, the United States Department of Energy proposed a plan to irradiate the plutonium and combine it with uranium to make mixed oxide fuel to power existing U.S. commercial nuclear reactors because burning mixed oxide fuel in a reactor makes it difficult to use the plutonium for any other purpose and, once taken out of a reactor, the mixed oxide fuel would not be reprocessed or reused; and

**WHEREAS**, mixed oxide fuel has been fabricated for many decades in Europe for use in commercial mixed oxide fueled light water reactors and could be used similarly in the United States to help fuel nuclear power plants while fulfilling America's commitment to the aforementioned landmark nuclear nonproliferation agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, the existing fleet of 43 nuclear reactors throughout the Southern States Energy Board (SSEB) region demonstrate the role of nuclear energy and nuclear technology as key components of our Nation's diverse energy portfolio and technology goals;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Southern States Energy Board endorses the continued design, construction and operation of a mixed oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility at the Savannah River Site in Aiken, South Carolina; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that SSEB supports ongoing bipartisan efforts in Congress to enact legislation to provide authorized funding for the completion of a mixed oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility at the Savannah River Site in Aiken, South Carolina; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that SSEB requests that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the President of the United States, the Southern Congressional Delegation, the chairs and ranking members of the U.S. Senate Committees on Environment & Public Works and Energy & Natural Resources, the chairs and ranking members of the U.S. House of Representatives Committees on Energy & Commerce and Science, Space & Technology, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Energy and the Chairman of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.