

Washington, D. C. -- U.S. Representative Spencer Bachus is pleased to announce a new \$4 million dollar award to the University of Alabama at Birmingham to finance completion of a major research facility there. The \$4 million grant will be applied to the completion of a 34,000 square foot Research Support Building at UAB. This grant, matched with \$6.25 million from the University of Alabama at Birmingham itself, will outfit two of five floors in the Research Support Building.

"Many families are faced with having to cope with illness and medical conditions that today have no practical options other than optimism and prayer," notes Bachus. "Research, such as that being conducted daily in the labs at UAB offer us all real and justified confidence that those prayers and that optimism will be rewarded. We are encouraged when we see the efforts of UAB's research are recognized as they are in the provision of this \$4 million grant."

This facility, when completed, will provide infrastructure necessary to support the adjacent Richard and Annette Shelby Biomedical Research Building. The space will be used primarily by investigators in the UAB Immunology and Autoimmunity Program, a program with over \$75 million in active and pending federal funding. It also will house four core facilities that provide genetic, immunological, and infectious disease research services to many of UAB's researchers. The research support building is designed to provide these services in a manner that minimizes costs to investigators and research sponsors.

Bachus concludes, "This grant, symbolizing major recognition of UAB research, is far more than a matter of local pride — it symbolizes real hope for better health care in Alabama."