

WASHINGTON- U.S. Rep. Spencer Bachus (R-AL) today announced the University of Alabama at Birmingham has been awarded a \$290,000 federal grant for mental health research.

The grant, awarded by the National Institute of Mental Health, is specifically for a project on studying AIDS dementia complex. According to the project director, Dr. Casey Morrow, "Often times AIDS patients come down with a form of dementia. These funds are to be used to investigate the mechanism by which AIDS patients suffer from this disorder." Researchers hope to discover what elements of the virus allow it to replicate in the brain.

"This is a horrible disease, and we need to do everything we can to help ease the suffering of those afflicted by it", said Congressman Bachus. He added, "I am proud to be associated with those who are leading the fight to conquer AIDS.