

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 259
By McNally

A RESOLUTION to express the support of the General Assembly for the construction of the National Spallation Neutron Source at Oak Ridge National Laboratories and the Joint Institute for Neutron Science to be constructed by ORNL and the University of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, neutrons play a vital role in many areas of science and technology and are widely used for everything from fundamental research in universities to new product development by industry; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Energy has worked closely with the scientific community since the early 1970 to provide a new neutron source for use by these entities; and

WHEREAS, in the Fiscal Year 1996 federal budget, the United States Congress appropriated \$8 million to begin work on this next-generation source called the National Spallation Neutron Source and DOE directed the funds to Oak Ridge National Laboratories to initiate research and development, and a conceptual design; and

WHEREAS, an additional \$8 million was included in the FY 1997 federal budget to complete the conceptual design for the NSNS, and on September 6, 1996, Vice President Al Gore announced that President Clinton would recommend \$23 million to Congress for FY 1998 to accelerate a decision on the construction of NSNS; and

WHEREAS, to accomplish this task, ORNL has organized a collaborative effort to design the NSNS involving ORNL, Argonne National Laboratory, Brookhaven National Laboratory,

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Ernest Orlando Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, and Los Alamos National Laboratory; and other United States industrial firms and universities will be involved as the project matures; and

WHEREAS, this collaborative approach was taken to access the best technical expertise available, to initiate a conceptual design process would make the most efficient use of DOE manpower and resources, to incorporate a number of previous feasibility studies by the collaborating laboratories, and to consolidate community consensus; and

WHEREAS, in addition, memoranda of understanding have been signed with the European Spallation Source and several European laboratories to access research results and technology developments that could further leverage the NSNS design effort; and

WHEREAS, the total cost of the NSNS will be about \$1.25 billion; it will be constructed at ORNL, and should be in operation by the year 2004; and

WHEREAS, its construction will bring over 2,000 primary and secondary jobs to Tennessee and approximately \$65 million in new sales tax revenues each year during construction and thereafter the annual operating costs will be about \$100 million per year; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that the NSNS will attract 1,000 to 2,000 scientists and engineers each year from universities, industries, government laboratories, and other nations, the State of Tennessee has committed \$8 million for ORNL and the University of Tennessee to construct a Joint Institute for Neutron Science (JINS); and

WHEREAS, this facility will enhance the utility of the NSNS by providing meeting facilities, offices, laboratories, a communications center, and housing for scientists and engineers from universities, industries, and the international community; and

WHEREAS, the JINS will also be a focus for expanding neutron science research and development with the University of Tennessee, other regional universities, and industrial collaborators; and it will serve as an interface and economic-development gateway to encourage user industries to locate in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, it behooves all Tennesseans to join in supporting the NSNS and the companion Joint Institute for Neutron Science; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That this General Assembly supports and endorses the National Spallation Neutron Source to be constructed at Oak Ridge National Laboratory and the Joint Institute for Neutron Science to be constructed by ORNL and the University of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be sent to each member of the Tennessee Congressional Delegation urging their strong support for the NSNS and JINS projects.