

## **ABCR Legislative Update**

### **End of 2011 Regular Legislative Session**

The Alabama Legislature concluded the 2011 Regular Session at midnight on Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup>. The ABCR Housekeeping Legislation (HB 317) was introduced, passed the House, received a favorable report from the Senate Judiciary Committee, and received its 2<sup>nd</sup> reading in the Senate. However, the Bill did not receive its final 3<sup>rd</sup> reading in the Senate and ultimately failed. There was no opposition to the Bill; but in the final day of session, it was simply not a priority for the Senate leadership and was never approved for the special order calendar. The final day of session focused on finalizing the Republican agenda. Also, this session was cut short by a couple of weeks due to congressional redistricting hearings, and this time could have made all the difference in getting our legislation passed.

The good news is that in this first year of introducing our legislation, the “kinks” of the proposed language were worked out in committee through several cosmetic amendments. Several Legislators were extremely helpful to us and understand and appreciate our efforts to clean up our enabling statute. We owe a tremendous thank-you to all of our sponsors: Representatives Mac Buttram, Dr. Jim McClendon, and Howard Sanderford; and Senator Marc Keahey. Also, the Boards and Commissions Committee Members in the House and the Judiciary Committee Members in the Senate all voted to pass our legislation.

The Legislature will reconvene for the 2012 Regular Session on Tuesday, February 7, 2012. We will reintroduce by pre-filing the same housekeeping legislation at that time.