

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID MICHAEL MARTIN, JR.
VERBENA HIGH SCHOOL
CHILTON COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM
AS ALABAMA'S 2026 HISTORY TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

WHEREAS, David Michael Martin, Jr., a teacher at Verbena High School in the Chilton County School System, was selected as the Alabama recipient of the 2026 History Teacher of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, the nation's leading organization dedicated to K-12 American history education, sponsors the History Teacher of the Year Award to honor outstanding teachers of American history from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Department of Defense, and U.S. Territories; and

WHEREAS, David Michael Martin, Jr., was selected by the state selection committee based upon his outstanding leadership and teaching abilities in the field of American history, his creativity and passion for bringing history to life through reenactments and immersive learning experiences, and his exceptional ability to engage students through the effective use of primary sources, allowing students to develop a deeper understanding of the people, events, and ideas that shaped our nation while experiencing history in meaningful and memorable ways; and

WHEREAS, as Alabama's 2026 History Teacher of the Year, David Michael Martin, Jr., receives a certificate and \$1,000 from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, and Verbena High School receives an archive of primary historical materials; and

WHEREAS, David Michael Martin, Jr., will represent Alabama as the state finalist for the National History Teacher of the Year Award in a selection process to be held in New York City this fall:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate David Michael Martin, Jr., upon the honor of being selected as Alabama's 2026 History Teacher of the Year.

Done this 8th day of October 2026