

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 2026 AS MANUFACTURING MONTH

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Department of Education has proclaimed October 2026 as Manufacturing Month; and

WHEREAS, recognizing October 2026 as Manufacturing Month in Alabama is an effective way to raise awareness of modern manufacturing, inspire the next generation of workers, and promote educational pathways aligned with industry needs; and

WHEREAS, Alabama has prioritized bold initiatives to support and expand manufacturing through robust workforce development programs, strategic infrastructure investments, and a steadfast commitment to fostering a pro-growth business climate; and

WHEREAS, Alabama's manufacturing sector contributes approximately 16 percent of the state's gross domestic product, generating 50 billion dollars in annual economic output; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama stands tall among America's manufacturing leaders, ranking in the top five nationally for manufacturing job concentration and producing a diverse array of high-quality products ranging from automobiles and aerospace components to ships and advanced materials; and

WHEREAS, manufacturing companies directly employ more than 280,000 individuals in Alabama, which signifies 13 percent of the workforce; and

WHEREAS, these ongoing efforts have resulted in significant job creation, the recruitment of global industry leaders, and enhanced prosperity for Alabama families and communities; and

WHEREAS, manufacturing is a pathway to lifelong careers with advancement opportunities, and the continued growth of this sector depends on a skilled and educated workforce; and

WHEREAS, high schools and career technical centers across Alabama play a vital role in preparing students with the academic knowledge, technical skills, and career readiness necessary for success in manufacturing and related fields, with 103 local education agencies offering manufacturing-related programs that accounted for 13,931 students enrolled during the 2025-2026 school year, and 1,524 career readiness indicators were earned; and

WHEREAS, collaboration between high schools and career technical centers, local industries, and community partners strengthens career and technical education programs, apprenticeships, and work-based learning opportunities that connect students to real-world experience; and

WHEREAS, celebrating Manufacturing Month in Alabama's high schools and career technical centers will help students, families, and educators better understand the exciting opportunities available in the manufacturing sector; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education recommends approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby proclaim October 2026 as Manufacturing Month and encourages local boards of education, schools, business professionals, and local educational organizations to participate in this celebration through activities that demonstrate the importance of Alabama's education programs in preparing students for great career opportunities and academic excellence.

Done this 10th day of September 2026