

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 18-24, 2026, AS FARM TO CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM (CACFP) WEEK IN ALABAMA

WHEREAS, the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) is a federally funded program that provides nutritious meals and snacks to children and adults in care settings, supporting healthy growth, development, and overall well-being; and

WHEREAS, Farm to CACFP Week, observed October 18-24, 2026, promotes connections between local agriculture and CACFP-participating organizations through the use of locally grown foods, nutrition education, gardening activities, and agricultural learning experiences; and

WHEREAS, Farm to CACFP initiatives help children and adults develop healthy eating habits, gain knowledge about agriculture and food systems, and increase access to fresh, locally sourced foods; and

WHEREAS, Farm to CACFP activities provide valuable educational opportunities that increase awareness of agriculture, nutrition, environmental stewardship, and healthy lifestyle choices among children and adults participating in care programs; and

WHEREAS, Alabama's farmers and agricultural producers play a vital role in supporting healthy communities by supplying nutritious foods that contribute to the success of Child and Adult Care Food Program participants throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, partnerships among CACFP operators, farmers, producers, educators, families, and community stakeholders support Alabama agriculture, strengthen local economies, and expand access to fresh, locally sourced foods; and

WHEREAS, participation in Farm to CACFP activities supports the Alabama State Department of Education's commitment to promoting wellness, nutrition education, and lifelong healthy lifestyles:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby recognizes October 18-24, 2026, as Farm to Child and Adult Care Food Program Week in Alabama and encourages all Child and Adult Care Food Program sponsors, centers, family day care homes, educators, families, and community partners to participate in activities that celebrate local agriculture, healthy eating, nutrition education, and community engagement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education commends the dedicated Child and Adult Care Food Program professionals, farmers, producers, educators, and community partners whose commitment advances nutrition education, wellness, and healthy communities throughout Alabama.

Done this 8th day of October 2026