

RESOLUTION TO EMBED CAREER PREPARATION STANDARDS AND FINANCIAL LITERACY REQUIREMENTS INTO BUSINESS SOFTWARE APPLICATIONS I

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education is committed to ensuring that all students graduate from high school prepared for postsecondary education, gainful employment, and responsible citizenship; and

WHEREAS, career preparation is a required component for graduation in the State of Alabama, designed to equip students with essential employability skills, workplace readiness behaviors, and career preparation competencies; and

WHEREAS, on December 14, 2023, the Alabama State Board of Education amended *Alabama Administrative Code* Rule 290-3-1-.02 to align Alabama High School Graduation Requirements with *Act 2023-179*, enacted during the 2023 Alabama Legislative Session, which established required instruction and assessment in personal financial literacy and money management to ensure students develop essential financial decision-making skills; and

WHEREAS, the Business Software Applications I course provides an appropriate instructional setting for embedding career preparation standards and financial literacy competencies through applied learning and real-world business scenarios, and such embedding promotes instructional efficiency, reduces duplication across courses, and ensures equitable access to required competencies for all students across the State of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama State Department of Education, through its Office of Career and Technical Education and Workforce Development, has reviewed and determined that embedding these required competencies within Business Software Applications I aligns with state graduation requirements, workforce expectations, and statutory financial literacy mandates:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the revised Business Software Applications I standards shall clearly identify career preparation competencies and financial literacy requirements as integral components of the course framework:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That local education agencies are authorized to implement the revised Business Software Applications I standards beginning with the 2026–2027 school year, and that the Alabama State Department of Education shall provide technical assistance, professional learning, and instructional guidance to support educators and local education agencies in the effective implementation of the revised standards; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the full embedding of career preparation standards and required financial literacy instruction into the Business Software Applications I course standards is hereby approved by the Alabama State Board of Education on June 11, 2026.

Done this 11th day of June 2026