

## **RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF DECEMBER 7-13, 2020, AS “COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION WEEK” IN ALABAMA SCHOOLS**

**WHEREAS**, Computer Science Education Week highlights the crucial role that computer science plays in transforming our society and how computer science enables innovation and creates economic opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, computing technology is an integral part of modern culture and is transforming how people interact with each other and the world around them; and

**WHEREAS**, computer science is transforming industry, creating new fields of commerce, driving innovation in all fields of science, and bolstering productivity in established economic sectors; and

**WHEREAS**, the field of computer science underpins the information technology sector of our economy, which is a significant contributor to Alabama’s economic output; and

**WHEREAS**, the information technology sector is uniquely positioned to help with economic recovery through the research and development of new innovations; and

**WHEREAS**, the outlook for computer science jobs is bright with more than 3,200 open computing positions across the state of Alabama with the current average salary for a computing occupation paying \$86,870, which is significantly higher than the average salary in the state; and

**WHEREAS**, providing students the chance to participate in high-quality computer science courses and activities exposes them to the rich opportunities the field offers and provides critical-thinking and computational skills that will serve them throughout their lives; and

**WHEREAS**, all students in Alabama deserve a thorough preparation in computer science education, including access to the qualified teachers, technology, and age-appropriate curriculum needed to learn computer science at the elementary and secondary levels of education; and

**WHEREAS**, participating in an Hour of Code during Computer Science Education Week can serve to demystify the field of computer science and encourage more students to take further studies of computer science; and

**WHEREAS**, the field of computer science has significant equity barriers to address, including attracting more participation by females and underrepresented minorities to all levels; and

**WHEREAS**, Grace Murray Hopper, one of the first females in the field of computer science, engineered new programming languages and pioneered standards for computer systems that laid the foundation for many advancements in computer science; and

**WHEREAS**, the week of December 7-13, 2020, in honor of Grace Hopper's birthday, is designated as national Computer Science Education Week by Code.org, the Computer Science for All Initiative, the National Center for Women in Information Technology, and other nationally recognized entities:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby designate December 7-13, 2020, as “Computer Science Education Week” in the public schools of Alabama.

Done this 10th day of December 2020