

**RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF DR. TOMMIE T. STEWART,  
ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
STATE SCHOOL BOARD  
DISTRICT FIVE**

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Tommie T. Stewart, a native of Greenwood, Mississippi, and international-acclaimed actress and artist educator has resided in Montgomery, Alabama, since 1990 and dedicated her life to developing the gifts and talents of youth and adults in her work as an educator, administrator, performing artist, and leader of arts camps for Grades K-12 and college students; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Tommie T. Stewart received a Bachelor's degree from Jackson State University; a Master of Arts from the University of California in Santa Barbara; a Doctorate from Florida State University (FSU), where she was the first African-American female to receive a doctorate from the FSU School of Theatre; and the first McKnight Doctoral Fellow in Theatre Arts; and

**WHEREAS**, January 7, 2020, Governor Kay Ivey appointed Dr. Tommie T. Stewart to serve as State School Board Member for School Board District Five to complete the term of the late Mrs. Ella B. Bell, whose term on the Board would have ended January 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Tommie T. Stewart whose passion for education honors the legacy of the late Mrs. Ella B. Bell stated, "Education is the pathway for our children's future. It is our charge to motivate, validate, and create a positive environment for teaching the youth and supporting the employees our children encounter"; and

**WHEREAS**, in her service on the Alabama State Board of Education, Dr. Tommie T. Stewart supported significant education policies including, but not limited to, the *Alabama Literacy Act* Regarding Educator Assessment Requirements; and Alabama's Microsoft Imagine Academy, which empowered students to earn more than 100,000 professional certifications; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to her appointment to the Board and role as Dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts at Alabama State University (ASU), Dr. Tommie T. Stewart served as chair and professor in ASU's Department of Theater Arts in addition to holding other leadership positions; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Tommie T. Stewart is not only an outstanding educator and leader but also an accomplished actress having performed in various roles including, *A Time to Kill*, which earned her a National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Image Award Nomination and *Rosa Parks Story*; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Tommie T. Stewart is a member of the Order of the Golden Circle, a life member of NAACP, Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., and a dedicated member of Hutchinson Missionary Baptist Church:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education and Alabama State Department of Education are most appreciative of the commitment of Dr. Tommie T. Stewart and the indelible impact that her presence and support have had on students, educators, and staff in schools across the state of Alabama.

Done this 14th day of January 2021