

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF ELIZABETH RHONEMUS
HUNTSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL, HUNTSVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM,
AS A 2020 NATIONAL CENTER FOR WOMEN AND INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY (NCWIT) ASPIRATIONS, HONORABLE MENTION RECIPIENT**

WHEREAS, now that the highly-versatile and sought-after computer science skillset is essential in today's information economy, initiatives that promote computer science awareness and lead to increased college graduates with computing-related degrees are more important than ever; and

WHEREAS, the National Center for Women and Information Technology Aspirations for Computing Initiative, chartered in 2004 by the National Science Foundation, provides girls and young women with ongoing engagement, visibility, and encouragement for their computing-related interests and achievements in high school through college and into the workforce; and

WHEREAS, inspiring more girls and young women to choose careers in STEM is not about parity; but it is about a compelling issue of innovation, competitiveness, and workforce sustainability; including the ability to design technology that is as broad and creative as the people it serves; and

WHEREAS, nearly 8,000 applicants were submitted for the national Aspirations in Computing (AiC) awards program resulting in only 5% of applicants receiving recognition in the entire nation; and

WHEREAS, through the northern and southern regional affiliates, Alabama is honored to recognize seven 2020 NCWIT honorable mentions from among a number of young women who display aptitude and interest in computer science; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Rhonemus, Huntsville High School, Huntsville City School System, has demonstrated excellence in the computer science and information technology field in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Rhonemus was chosen as a 2020 National Honorable Mention to receive the award for displaying a high aptitude and aspirations in technology and computing, as demonstrated by computing experience, computing-related activities, leadership experience, tenacity in the face of barriers to access, and plans for postsecondary education:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Elizabeth Rhonemus upon the honor of being selected as one of Alabama's outstanding young women who display excellence in computer science.

Done this 14th day of July 2020