## RESOLUTION TO HONOR ALABAMA K-12 STUDENT CASPER CASEY SPARKMAN HIGH SCHOOL, MADISON COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM AS A 2021 NATIONAL CYBER SCHOLAR

- WHEREAS, outstanding technology practices are critical to Alabama's continued prosperity and future growth; and
- WHEREAS, current statistics show the United States will soon need more than three million Cybersecurity professionals to help defend and maintain the nation's infrastructure; and
- WHEREAS, America's cybersecurity efforts are also helping to protect our nation's vital data resources, governmental information, and citizens' private health data; and
- WHEREAS, Alabama K-12 student Casper Casey has officially been named a 2021 National Cyber Scholar; and
- WHEREAS, National Cyber Scholar Casper Casey is a top student at Sparkman High School, located in the Madison County School System; and
- WHEREAS, this initiative was created by the National Cyber Scholarship Foundation to inspire more young people to consider this exciting career path; and
  - WHEREAS, more than 30,000 students from across the country applied this year; and
- WHEREAS, only a total of 5,000 applicants advanced to the first national round—and of this top tier group, only 600 earned the National Cyber Scholars Award; and
- **WHEREAS**, this highly respected field helps to maintain our global data networks, while also defending our personal online data from cyber-related threats; and
- WHEREAS, it requires a thorough understanding of technology, science concepts, and mathematics theory; and
- WHEREAS, Alabama K-12 student Casper Casey earned the coveted title of "National Cyber Scholar" after successfully winning the rigorous 48-hour national technology competition designed to evaluate professional skills in combating cyber threats; and
  - WHEREAS, National Cyber Scholar Casper Casey also earned a \$2,500 scholarship; and
- WHEREAS, National Cyber Scholar Casper Casey also earned a special invitation to participate in the Cyber Foundations Academy, a national skill-building certification course; and
- WHEREAS, the Alabama State Board of Education is excited to congratulate National Cyber Scholar Casper Casey for earning this prestigious honor:
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby commend and congratulate Casper Casey upon the honor of being selected as one of America's outstanding students who displays excellence in Cybersecurity.

Done this 12th day of August 2021