

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF DECEMBER 5-11, 2022, AS “COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION WEEK” IN ALABAMA SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, Computer Science Education Week is an annual national call to action to inspire Alabama’s K-12 students to learn computer science, advocate for equity, and celebrate the contributions of students, teachers, and partners to the field that acknowledges computer science plays a vital role in transforming our society through enabling innovation, technological advances, and economic growth; and

WHEREAS, the field of computer science underpins the information technology sector and many science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) careers, making it a foundational science for the digital age and a significant contributor to Alabama’s economic output through the research and development of new innovations; and

WHEREAS, the outlook for computer science jobs is bright with more than 4,904 open computing positions across the state of Alabama with the current average salary for a computing occupation paying \$77,974, 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 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 up 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, the week of December 5-11, 2022, in honor of Grace Hopper's birthday, one of the first females in the field of computer science, engineered new programming languages and pioneered standards for computer systems which laid the foundation for many advancements in computer science 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 5-11, 2022, as “Computer Science Education Week” in the public schools of Alabama.

Done this 8th day of December 2022