RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE 2023-2024 ALABAMA ALTERNATE TEACHER OF THE YEAR AND SECONDARY TEACHER OF THE YEAR MR. KEVIN JACOB PUGHSLEY, BERRY MIDDLE SCHOOL, HOOVER CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the Alabama Teacher of the Year Program, in conjunction with the National Teacher of the Year Program, is the most prestigious teacher appreciation program in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the attributes of a great teacher include setting high expectations and creating a sense of belongingness in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Jacob Pughsley, a teacher at Berry Middle School in the Hoover City School System, exhibits these qualities and more and has been described as one who provides an atmosphere that gives students the ability to grow their minds and develop a thirst for knowledge and encourages student feedback for his professional growth while establishing student connections; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Jacob Pughsley obtained a bachelor's degree in Elementary/Special Education, and a master's degree in education and is a top trainer for educators across the state of Alabama and uses Marzano's New Art of Teaching and Five Questions Every Teacher Should Ask to encourage other educators to consider student and parent feedback; and

WHEREAS, since 2017, Kevin Jacob Pughsley has been employed as a sixth grade Earth Science teacher at Berry Middle School where he engages all students in the lesson, "Journey to Rocketry," which defines him as an educator as the lesson teaches life skills and supports a growth mindset of learning through trial and error and the engineering and design process; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Jacob Pughsley ensures that his students are connected to the world around them through various lessons taught such as, trips to Cape Canaveral, Florida, where they visited Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge to learn about the human impact on the environment; the Kennedy Space Center where they met an astronaut and learned about their time in space; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Jacob Pughsley holds certifications in several areas including, but not limited to, A-Plus College Ready, National Mathematics and Science Initiative, Alabama Math, Science, and Technology Initiative; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Jacob Pughsley is the recipient of the Pat Clemo Memorial Scholarship; Teacher Ambassador for Alabama Educator Space Camp, Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science and other awards and recognition; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Jacob Pughsley enjoys encouraging educators to utilize the best practices, district-wide training, small group mentoring opportunities and is truly thankful for his family, colleagues, students, and local community for their great support:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education congratulates Kevin Jacob Pughsley for being selected the 2023-2024 Alabama Alternate Teacher of the Year and Secondary Teacher of the Year and expresses gratitude to him for his dedication to education, commitment to learning, and the inspiration that his career has brought to the teaching profession for the benefit of students and teachers in the state.

Done this 11th day of May 2023