

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 2025 AS ALABAMA CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION MONTH

WHEREAS, February 2025 has been designated National Career and Technical Education (CTE) month by the Association for Career and Technical Education; and

WHEREAS, Alabama's career and technical education programs have become a vital and rigorous component of the state's educational system, dedicated to providing students with the academic, career, and life skills necessary for success in today's competitive workforce; and

WHEREAS, Alabama's CTE programs foster strong connections between education and workforce development, driving economic growth and innovation at the local, regional, and state levels; and

WHEREAS, Alabama's CTE programs are partnering effectively with business and industry to ensure students gain the communication, leadership, and technical skills necessary for success in both college and career pathways; and

WHEREAS, Alabama's CTE programs provide valuable hands-on learning opportunities through apprenticeships, internships, and work-based learning experiences that prepare students for real-world challenges; and

WHEREAS, two out of every three high school students in Alabama currently participate in CTE programs, highlighting the broad reach and impact of these educational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) play a crucial role in developing leadership skills and promoting workforce readiness through a combination of technical training and leadership development; and

WHEREAS, 118,000 Alabama students were active members of CTOSs, including DECA, FBLA, FCCLA, FFA, HOSA, JAG, JROTC, SkillsUSA, and TSA last year, demonstrating the depth of student engagement and commitment to excellence; and

WHEREAS, in the past year, Alabama students earned 33,276 industry-recognized credentials, further demonstrating the effectiveness and value of the state's CTE programs in preparing students for successful careers; and

WHEREAS, Alabama's CTE programs prepare students for a lifetime of success by providing opportunities to earn industry-recognized credentials, gain workplace experience, and earn college credit while still in high school; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education recommends approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education does hereby proclaim February 2025 as Alabama Career and Technical Education Month and encourages local boards of education, schools, business professionals, and community organizations to participate in this celebration through activities that demonstrate the importance of Alabama's career and technical education programs and their positive impact on student achievement.

Done this 9th day of January 2025