

## **RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING ALABAMA'S "GROW OUR OWN" INITIATIVE AND "FUTURE TEACHERS OF ALABAMA" ORGANIZATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Alabama State Department of Education and the Alabama Education Association have formed a strategic partnership aimed at encouraging Alabama's students to pursue a career in the teaching profession; and

**WHEREAS**, research indicates a growing need for highly qualified teachers in the coming decade, making it critical to invest in the future of education; and

**WHEREAS**, the Future Teachers of Alabama organization and the TEACH Alabama program offer innovative solutions to attract talented students to careers in education, focusing on both recruitment and retention of future educators; and

**WHEREAS**, the Future Teachers of Alabama organization and the TEACH Alabama program are integral and forward-thinking components of Alabama's educational system, promoting excellence and growth within the profession; and

**WHEREAS**, these programs are dedicated to providing students with valuable, hands-on experiences such as internships, classroom observations, and project-based learning, preparing them to succeed in the classroom and beyond; and

**WHEREAS**, Future Teachers of Alabama and TEACH Alabama started the "Grow Our Own" initiative to provide Alabama's local school systems with additional opportunities to focus on activities that promote teaching as a career, highlight the importance of America's educators, and encourage students to strongly consider the field of education as a future career choice; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alabama State Department of Education and the Alabama Education Association are committed to honoring the service, dedication, and professionalism of Alabama's educators:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby recognizes and supports Alabama's "Grow Our Own" Initiative and the Future Teachers of Alabama Organization for their contributions to the future education in Alabama; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Alabama State Board of Education encourages local boards of education, as well as all educational organizations statewide, to actively support these programs through initiatives that emphasize the importance of the teaching profession and highlight the opportunities it offers for personal and professional growth.

Done this 8th day of May 2025