

1 HJR196
2 183921-1
3 By Representatives Poole, Scott, Chesteen, Garrett, Patterson,
4 Collins, Buskey, Baker, Lovvorn, Tuggle and Ford
5 RFD: Rules
6 First Read: 15-MAR-17

8 RECOGNIZING APRIL AS ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
9 MONTH.
10

11 WHEREAS, the Alabama Community College System is the
12 state's largest system of public higher education and is
13 Alabama's most affordable and accessible system of higher
14 education; and

15 WHEREAS, the three foundational pillars of the
16 Alabama Community College System, which are academic transfer,
17 workforce development, and adult education, make a positive
18 impact on the people of our great state; and

19 WHEREAS, with a unified network of 23 community and
20 technical colleges, Marion Military Institute, one of only
21 three public military two-year colleges in the country, and 73
22 instructional sites, the Alabama Community College System is
23 firmly planted in every county and is within easy reach of
24 every community in this state; additionally, the Alabama
25 Technology Network provides innovative technical assistance to
26 hundreds of businesses each year; and

1 WHEREAS, during the Summer 2015 through Spring 2016
2 semesters, 80,960 students were enrolled in an Alabama
3 community college and 17,082 degrees and certificates were
4 awarded; and

5 WHEREAS, the Alabama Community College System
6 awarded 7,647 career and technical education dual enrollment
7 scholarships to 5,294 students during the Summer 2015 through
8 Spring 2016 semesters in its dual enrollment and early college
9 programs, providing high achieving students with rigorous
10 courses beyond those offered at the secondary level,
11 increasing college access to those who would not otherwise be
12 college bound, preparing them for high-wage, high-demand
13 occupations; and

14 WHEREAS, since 1998, more than 1,209,055 students in
15 Alabama's community colleges have utilized the Statewide
16 Articulation and Transfer Reporting System to assure the
17 transfer of academic work toward bachelor's degrees at
18 four-year institutions; and

19 WHEREAS, the Alabama Technology Network has worked
20 with more than 3,500 Alabama companies over the past decade in
21 providing technical assistance that improved efficiency and
22 profitability; the Alabama Technology Network is credited with
23 saving or retaining 17,000 jobs during this period; Alabama
24 businesses, with the help of the Alabama Technology Network,
25 increased profits by more than \$123,000,000 during 2016; and

26 WHEREAS, more than 436,000 working-age adults in
27 Alabama have neither a high school diploma nor a GED; the

1 Alabama Community College System awarded more than 2,900 GED
2 diplomas, 5,000 National Career Readiness Certificates, and
3 served more than 27,000 participants through its adult basic
4 education programs in 2016; and

5 WHEREAS, the Alabama Community College System
6 remains committed to its mission of educating and training the
7 people of Alabama, thus building stronger communities, a
8 stronger workforce, and a stronger economy; and

9 WHEREAS, April is recognized nationally as Community
10 College Month; and

11 WHEREAS, the Chancellor of the Alabama Community
12 College System recommends this action; now therefore,

13 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
14 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we hereby recognize the
15 accomplishments of the Alabama Community College System as it
16 continues to fulfill its unique and distinctive mission of
17 providing a unified system of institutions delivering
18 accessible, affordable, and superior educational
19 opportunities, workforce development, and adult education
20 services to all of Alabama, yielding a well-educated,
21 productive citizenry and a better prepared workforce.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we hereby proclaim
23 April as Alabama Community College Month and urge all
24 Alabamians and business and industry leaders who are committed
25 to improving Alabama's academic transfer, workforce
26 development, and adult education for the 21st Century to use
27 and support local community colleges.

