

1 HJR94
2 211135-1
3 By Representatives Collins, Drummond, Faulkner, Baker and
4 Poole
5 RFD: Rules
6 First Read: 04-MAR-21

HONORING THE EDUCATIONAL TECHNICAL PROFESSIONALS.

WHEREAS, in March of 2020, the Coronavirus pandemic required schools to close; and

WHEREAS, the pandemic's prolonged and unknown length created an urgent need for schools to develop and implement new remote classroom and work practices; and

WHEREAS, working and learning from home during the pandemic crisis relies almost entirely on technology; and

WHEREAS, we commend the educational technology staff members of our public schools who respond quickly and tirelessly in support of their school systems and their communities by procuring and installing over \$10 million of Wi-Fi on school buses, enabling students without Internet access to participate in online classes and to communicate with their teachers; purchasing, configuring, and distributing over 350,000 new mobile devices, giving students of all ages access to their new online classes; assisting tens of thousands of rural Alabama families to connect to the Internet from their homes by using portable hotspots provided by the

1 Alabama Broadband Connectivity project, industry grants, and
2 individual school systems; implementing virtual network
3 connections for accounting, maintenance and operations, and
4 other key staff so that they could access critical systems
5 securely, ensuring that payroll and other key services
6 continue uninterrupted while staff works from home; installing
7 new digital content provided by the State Department of
8 Education and local systems into online learning management
9 systems and aligning the lessons of all K through 12 courses
10 to ensure that teachers and students have the resources they
11 need; training and supporting tens of thousands of teachers in
12 adapting to the use of online learning management systems,
13 digital content, and live video classes using applications
14 such as Zoom, Google Meet, and Microsoft Teams; providing
15 teachers with guidance on best practices for virtual
16 instruction to help improve our students' experiences and
17 learning outcomes; providing technical support lines
18 specifically for students, parents, and grandparents;
19 extending service to family members and childcare providers in
20 nearly one million Alabama households; and establishing
21 technical solutions that support hybrid learning so that
22 classes can continue seamlessly with some students
23 participating in the classroom and others attending from home;
24 now therefore,

25 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
26 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Educational Technical
27 Professionals are highly honored, and we hereby dedicate this

1 resolution to them with utmost appreciation and admiration,
2 along with sincere best wishes for continued success in all
3 future endeavors.