

1 HJR72  
2 210303-1  
3 By Representatives Collins, Baker, Meadows, Daniels, Chestnut,  
4 Scott, Holmes, Sanderford, Ledbetter, Wilcox, Oliver, Whitt,  
5 Crawford, Stringer, Isbell, Estes, Wadsworth, Ingram,  
6 Reynolds, Brown (K), Brown (C), Wingo, McMillan, Wood (D),  
7 Carns, Kiel, Nordgren, Smith, Gaston, Treadaway, Hurst,  
8 McCutcheon, Farley, Clarke, Warren, Forte, Drummond, Boyd,  
9 Fincher, Coleman and Ball  
10 RFD: Rules  
11 First Read: 25-FEB-21

COMMENDING PUBLIC K-12 EDUCATORS AND ENCOURAGING THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO TAKE CERTAIN ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

WHEREAS, the continuing coronavirus pandemic has presented challenges to every individual, and unique challenges to those who are charged with educating our young; and

WHEREAS, Alabama educators are worthy of our praise for their valiant efforts in continuing to provide instruction to our children during the most challenging of circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Comprehensive Assessment Program (ACAP), a new statewide assessment for all students in 2nd through 8th grades, originally planned to be administered in spring of 2020, and now planned to be administered in-person in March 2021, is a necessary tool for assessing current student learning and the impact of the pandemic on students and schools; and

1           WHEREAS, it is predicted that the current uncertain  
2 climate in the state may have greatly affected the performance  
3 of students, resulting in the consideration of skewed,  
4 unreasonable, or biased results by state programs that  
5 recognize high performing schools and penalize low performing  
6 schools with letter grades and failing labels; now therefore,

7           BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
8 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we hereby commend and applaud  
9 all public school educators in the state for bravely  
10 continuing to instruct their students during the current  
11 pandemic.

12           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the State Department of  
13 Education is encouraged to administer, and all school systems  
14 and students in the state encouraged to participate in-person  
15 in the taking of, the ACAP so that a baseline for the  
16 assessment may be accurately established in the state and any  
17 learning gaps may be effectively addressed through equitable  
18 funding as the state moves forward.

19           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the State Department of  
20 Education is also encouraged to take any steps necessary to  
21 waive all accountability indicators for the year 2021,  
22 including, but not limited to, the Legislative School  
23 Performance Recognition Program, the school grading system,  
24 the designation of schools as failing schools, and the levy of  
25 any penalties against school systems, schools, educators, or  
26 students, with the goal of promoting the administration and

1 use of ACAP data to best address instructional needs and move  
2 Alabama K-12 students forward toward excellence.