

1 SJR44
2 168154-2
3 By Senators Reed, Albritton, Allen, Beasley, Blackwell,
4 Brewbaker, Bussman, Chambliss, Coleman, Dial, Dunn, Figures,
5 Glover, Hightower, Holley, Holtzclaw, Livingston, Marsh,
6 McClendon, Melson, Orr, Pittman, Ross, Sanders, Sanford,
7 Scofield, Shelnutt, Singleton, Smith, Smitherman, Stutts,
8 Waggoner, Ward, Whatley and Williams
9 RFD: Rules
10 First Read: 28-APR-15

1 SJR44

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4 ENROLLED, SJR44,

5 RECOGNIZING APRIL AS NATIONAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
6 MONTH.

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8 WHEREAS, Alabama's public community college system
9 is the state's single largest system of public higher
10 education and is Alabama's most affordable and accessible
11 system of higher education; and

12 WHEREAS, the three foundational pillars of the
13 Alabama Community College System, academic transfer, workforce
14 development, and adult education, make a positive impact on
15 the more than 250,000 people served annually and the people of
16 our great state; and

17 WHEREAS, with our unified network of 25 community
18 and technical colleges, Marion Military Institute (one of only
19 three public military two-year colleges in the country), and
20 89 instructional sites, community and technical colleges are
21 firmly planted in every county and are within easy reach of
22 every community in this state; additionally, the Alabama
23 Technology Network provides innovative technical assistance to
24 hundreds of businesses each year; and

1 WHEREAS, forty-one percent of all Alabamians
2 enrolled in public higher education are enrolled at an ACCS
3 institution, and approximately 15,000 community college
4 students transfer annually to a public four-year institution;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, more than 254,000 students in Alabama's
7 community colleges have utilized the Statewide Articulation
8 and Transfer Reporting System to assure the transfer of their
9 academic work toward bachelor's degrees at four-year
10 institutions since the articulation agreement's inception in
11 1998; and

12 WHEREAS, the Alabama Community College System
13 enrolled more than 8,100 high school students in its dual
14 enrollment and early college programs in 2014, providing high
15 achieving students with rigorous courses beyond those offered
16 at the secondary level, increasing college access to those who
17 would not otherwise be college bound, and awarding 3,700
18 scholarships during the past academic year to students
19 enrolled in ACCS career technical education courses, preparing
20 them for high wage, high demand occupations; and

21 WHEREAS, the Alabama Technology Network has worked
22 with more than 3,500 Alabama companies over the past decade,
23 providing technical assistance that improved efficiency and
24 profitability; ATN's work is credited with saving or retaining
25 14,000 jobs during that period; Alabama businesses, with the

1 help of ATN, increased profits by more than \$129,000,000
2 during 2014; and

3 WHEREAS, more than 450,000 working-age adults have
4 neither a high school diploma nor a GED; the Alabama Community
5 College System awarded more than 4,900 GED Certificates and
6 served more than 29,000 individuals through its adult literacy
7 education programs and services in 2014; and

8 WHEREAS, the community college system remains
9 committed to its mission of educating and training the people
10 of Alabama, thus building stronger communities and a stronger
11 economy; now therefore,

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

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we recognize April as
22 National Community College Month in Alabama and urge all
23 Alabamians and business and industry leaders, who are
24 committed to developing Alabama's workforce for the 21st
25 century, to use and support their local community colleges.

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President and Presiding Officer of
the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representa-
tives

SJR44
Senate 30-APR-15
I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint
Resolution originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

Patrick Harris
Secretary

House of Representatives
Adopted: 14-MAY-15

By: Senator Reed