

1 SJR3
2 209089-1
3 By Senator Butler
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 02-FEB-21

ESTABLISHING THE PURPLE STAR SCHOOLS PROGRAM AND
COMMITTEE.

WHEREAS, the families of active duty military personnel are frequently required to uproot and move between schools with different cultures, curricula, standards, course offerings, schedules, and graduation requirements; and

WHEREAS, public K-12 schools which have committed to supporting the unique educational and social-emotional needs of the children of these active duty military families deserve special recognition; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is created the Purple Star Schools Program to recognize the efforts of those public K-12 and charter schools in the state that are especially committed to the successful transitioning of military students, and their families, to their new homes and schools and providing continuing support and resources for those students and families.

1 (a) The program shall be under the direction of a
2 Purple Star Schools Committee, which shall establish a process
3 and specific qualifications and criteria for designating
4 public K-12 schools in the state as Purple Star Schools. The
5 membership of the committee shall consist of the following:

6 (1) The Lieutenant Governor, or his or her designee.

7 (2) The Chair of the Senate Veterans and Military
8 Affairs Committee, or his or her designee.

9 (3) The Chair of the House Military and Veterans
10 Affairs Committee, or his or her designee.

11 (4) The Chair of the Senate Finance and Taxation
12 Education Committee, or his or her designee.

13 (5) The Chair of the House Ways and Means Education
14 Committee, or his or her designee.

15 (6) The State Superintendent of Education, or his or
16 her designee.

17 (7) The Commissioner of the Military Interstate
18 Children's Compact Commission, or his or her designee.

19 (8) The Commissioner of the Alabama Department of
20 Veterans Affairs, or his or her designee.

21 (9) The Adjutant General of the Alabama National
22 Guard, or his or her designee.

23 (10) The Executive Director of the Alabama Military
24 Stability Foundation, or his or her designee.

25 (11) Two representatives of public K-12 education,
26 appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.

1 (12) Two representatives of the Alabama Military
2 Stability Foundation, appointed by the executive director.

3 (b) All appointing authorities shall coordinate
4 their appointments so that diversity of gender, race, and
5 geographical areas is reflective of the makeup of this state.

6 (c) The initial meeting of the committee shall be
7 held no later than September 1, 2021. At the initial meeting,
8 and annually thereafter, the membership shall select a chair
9 and a vice chair. The committee shall meet as needed at the
10 call of the chair, or as otherwise provided by the committee.

11 (d) A vacancy in the membership shall be filled in
12 the same manner as the original appointment. An appointed
13 member shall serve at the pleasure of his or her appointing
14 authority.

15 (e) Members of the committee shall serve without
16 compensation but may be reimbursed for expenses as follows:

17 (1) The legislative members of the committee shall
18 be entitled to their legislative compensation, per diem, and
19 travel expenses for each day they attend a meeting of the
20 committee, in accordance with Amendment 871 of the
21 Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

22 (2) Other members of the committee may be reimbursed
23 for necessary expenses in attending meetings of the committee
24 according to policies and procedures of their respective
25 office or appointing authority.

1 (f) A majority of the members of the committee shall
2 constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business at a
3 regular or special meeting.