

1 SJR129  
2 214008-1  
3 By Senators Singleton, McClendon and Waggoner  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 06-MAY-21

8 COMMENDING ALABAMA SCHOOL NURSES FOR EXEMPLARY  
9 SERVICE DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

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11 WHEREAS, highest commendation is herein proudly  
12 conveyed to Alabama school nurses who care for the health  
13 needs of children while they are in the school setting; and

14 WHEREAS, many children face complex and  
15 life-threatening health problems that require care in school;  
16 motivated by humanitarian instincts and guided by arduous  
17 training, school nurses advance well-being, academic success,  
18 lifelong achievement, and health by advocating for all  
19 students; and

20 WHEREAS, currently, there are less than 1,800  
21 part-time and full-time licensed nurses serving almost 750,000  
22 children in Alabama schools; the needs range from health care  
23 advice, routine medication administration, emergency  
24 interventions, mental health issues, food insecurity, and even  
25 child abuse; school nurses face these tribulations and a  
26 multitude of other public health problems with remarkable  
27 competence, dignity, and grace; and

1                   WHEREAS, because of their extensive experience of  
2 delivering care to so many, and often with limited resources,  
3 school nurses faced the profound challenge of ensuring both  
4 student and staff safety during the COVID-19 pandemic; as with  
5 all of their endeavors, school nurses handled the unknown with  
6 professionalism, having earned respect for their exceptional  
7 abilities and tireless dedication, and are truly deserving of  
8 special recognition for their steadfast commitment to  
9 protecting the health and safety of school children in  
10 Alabama; and

11                   WHEREAS, many local education authorities lack the  
12 tax base revenue to adequately fund school nurses and health  
13 rooms; and

14                   WHEREAS, superintendents and school boards are  
15 encouraged to utilize federal COVID-19 pandemic response and  
16 recovery dollars to fully implement preventative programs that  
17 address the needs of student health services, such as the  
18 safely opened school program that was developed by the Alabama  
19 Association of School Nurses and presented to the State Board  
20 of Education, as recommended by Governor Kay Ivey in 2020,  
21 that ensures that every school has a full-time nurse dedicated  
22 to its students; now therefore,

23                   BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
24 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That school nurses are most highly  
25 honored and commended for the health care services they  
26 provide for school children in Alabama, and it is directed  
27 that a copy of this resolution of tribute be provided to the

1                   Alabama Association of School Nurses as evidence of the esteem  
2                   in which they are held by the people of the State of Alabama.