

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

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

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

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

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