HR96

21113-1

By Representatives Collins, Drummond, Faulkner, Baker and Poole

RFD:

First Read: 04-MAR-21
HONORING THE EDUCATIONAL TECHNICAL PROFESSIONALS.

WHEREAS, in March of 2020, the Coronavirus pandemic required schools to close; and

WHEREAS, the pandemic's prolonged and unknown length created an urgent need for schools to develop and implement new remote classroom and work practices; and

WHEREAS, working and learning from home during the pandemic crisis relies almost entirely on technology; and

WHEREAS, we commend the educational technology staff members of our public schools who respond quickly and tirelessly in support of their school systems and their communities by procuring and installing over $10 million of Wi-Fi on school buses, enabling students without Internet access to participate in online classes and to communicate with their teachers; purchasing, configuring, and distributing over 350,000 new mobile devices, giving students of all ages access to their new online classes; assisting tens of thousands of rural Alabama families to connect to the Internet from their homes by using portable hotspots provided by the
Alabama Broadband Connectivity project, industry grants, and individual school systems; implementing virtual network connections for accounting, maintenance and operations, and other key staff so that they could access critical systems securely, ensuring that payroll and other key services continue uninterrupted while staff works from home; installing new digital content provided by the State Department of Education and local systems into online learning management systems and aligning the lessons of all K through 12 courses to ensure that teachers and students have the resources they need; training and supporting tens of thousands of teachers in adapting to the use of online learning management systems, digital content, and live video classes using applications such as Zoom, Google Meet, and Microsoft Teams; providing teachers with guidance on best practices for virtual instruction to help improve our students' experiences and learning outcomes; providing technical support lines specifically for students, parents, and grandparents; extending service to family members and childcare providers in nearly one million Alabama households; and establishing technical solutions that support hybrid learning so that classes can continue seamlessly with some students participating in the classroom and others attending from home; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the Educational Technical Professionals are highly honored, and we hereby dedicate this
resolution to them with utmost appreciation and admiration,
along with sincere best wishes for continued success in all
future endeavors.