RESOLUTION OF DISTINGUISHED RECOGNITION FOR MRS. SHELLEY KALER PELL CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM AS THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION COUNSELING AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

WHEREAS, an innovative and dedicated Alabama educator, who has made it her personal mission to incorporate strategies that make career development more engaging, accessible, and relevant for students, has earned the prestigious National Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) Counseling and Career Development Professional of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, the National ACTE Counseling and Career Development Professional of the Year Award represents the highest honor bestowed by the National Association for Career and Technical Education, recognizing excellence and outstanding contributions in the field of career and technical education; and

WHEREAS, this award honors counseling and career professionals who dedicate their careers to advocating for students, guiding them to achieve academic success, personal growth, and career readiness, while instilling the skills and confidence they need to thrive in school and throughout life; and

WHEREAS, Alabama's career coaches play a vital role in shaping the future of the state's workforce by providing students with invaluable hands-on learning experiences through programs such as career awareness initiatives, career fairs, job shadowing, mock interviews, and industry tours, which inspire students to explore and prepare for fulfilling careers; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Shelley Kaler, now in her 10th year as a career coach in the Pell City School System, has been instrumental in developing impactful programs, including a volunteer initiative for HOSA students at Enhabit Hospice, where she not only guides her students but also leads by example, volunteering her time on weekends to visit patients alongside her students, demonstrating the value of service and compassion; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Shelley Kaler innovative approach to career counseling and dedication to student success have left a lasting impact on her school, community, and the future of career and technical education in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Shelley Kaler's work exemplifies the highest standards of excellence, and her achievements reflect positively on the great state of Alabama, which is immensely proud to celebrate her as the National ACTE Counseling and Career Development Professional of the Year; and

WHEREAS, the State Superintendent of Education, recognizing her exceptional contributions and leadership, recommends approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alabama State Board of Education hereby extends its sincere appreciation and heartfelt congratulations to Mrs. Shelley Kaler for her remarkable achievements and her unwavering commitment to advancing career development and career and technical education and further commends her for earning the National ACTE Counseling and Career Development Professional of the Year Award.

Done this 13th day of March 2025