



# Proclamation

## By the Governor of Alabama

*WHEREAS, with over 100 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) around the nation, HBCUs have had an invaluable impact to strengthen communities by serving as economic hubs in their respective regions, generating more than 130,000 jobs for their local and regional economies and producing more than 50,000 graduates each year; and*

*WHEREAS, with a total of 14 institutions, Alabama has the largest number of HBCUs in the nation that provide exceptional educational opportunities to improve the lives of Alabamians every year. Not only do HBCUs represent historical and economic significance in the state, but they also serve the unique purpose of providing access to top educational opportunities to a large number of African American students; and*

*WHEREAS, through the HBCU Initiative, the Alabama Office of Minority Affairs is focused on policies and programs to maximize the economic impact of these institutions to ensure the viability and sustainability of HBCUs in the state; and*

*WHEREAS, The Alabama HBCU Co-Op Program, created under the Alabama Office of Minority Affairs' HBCU initiative, was established under my administration's Strong Start, Strong Finish initiative to establish a pipeline of diverse talent to join Alabama's workforce; and*

*WHEREAS, HBCUs are well known for preparing the highest number of African-American students for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields, and many of Alabama's HBCUs have been recognized for their top performing STEM departments and programs; and*

*WHEREAS, HBCU Week promotes higher education through increased public awareness of the celebration of the tremendous economic, cultural and social impact of HBCUs in our state;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim October 2022, as*

# HBCU Month

*in the state of Alabama.*



*Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of September 2022.*

*Kay Ivey*

*Kay Ivey, Governor*