

Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, Alabama school bus drivers travel over 450,000 miles each school day, navigating rural roads, neighborhood streets and multi-lane highways to deliver Alabama's students safely; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that the use of school buses saves over 48 million gallons of fuel in Alabama each year, compared to that required by individual family cars; and

WHEREAS, weather, road conditions, student passengers and other motorists can create special challenges to school bus drivers as they carry out their duties; and

WHEREAS, the role of school bus drivers is more evident than ever as districts work to recruit and retain these valuable professionals; and

WHEREAS, many school district bus shop employees including substitute drivers, bus mechanics, shop foremen, other staff and support specialists and management fill these driver shortages by driving morning and afternoon routes in addition to their regular shifts; and

WHEREAS, without school buses and school bus drivers, many public school students would not have reliable transportation to and from school; and

WHEREAS, our bus drivers and bus mechanics are often the very first and last school employee to support students, providing a positive impact to these children as they begin and end each day; and

WHEREAS, the state of Alabama salutes and appreciates school bus drivers and recognizes the invaluable contributions they make to public education, student safety and wellbeing. The state of Alabama encourages residents to recognize our state's school bus drivers;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim August 2025, as

School Bus Driver **Appreciation** Month



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 10th day of July 2025.