

**HENRY COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
PROCLAMATION**

A RESOLUTION HONORING THE CLASS OF 2020 GRADUATING STUDENTS OF HENRY COUNTY SCHOOLS, AS A RESULT OF THE GLOBAL VIRAL PANDEMIC KNOWN AS COVID-19; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the President of the United States declared a National Public Health Emergency on March 13, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Georgia declared a Public Health State of Emergency by Executive Order on March 14, 2020, and urged “local officials to do what’s in the best interests of their communities to keep people safe and stop the spread of coronavirus” on March 19, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Georgia General Assembly adopted a joint resolution on March 16 concurring with the Governor’s Executive Order of March 14; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Georgia, by Executive Order on March 16, 2020, closed public elementary, secondary, and post-secondary schools in Georgia through March 31, 2020, and extended said order on March 26, 2020, through April 24, 2020, “with limited exception for meal preparation and distribution, continuity of distant learning opportunities and any other necessary functions as determined by the local school superintendent;” and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Georgia extended the March 14, 2020 Executive Order on April 30, 2020, renewing the declaration of the State of Emergency through June 12, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Georgia issued an executive order on March 27, 2020, which determined “temporary actions are necessary and appropriate to support Georgia’s schools, students, and educators in coping with effects of the spread of COVID-19”; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020 Henry County schools embarked on a student learning and remote working environment away from school buildings and facilities, with such student learning environment initially anticipated for a period of approximately two weeks yet extended under the above mentioned orders of the Governor, and now continues through the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year; and

WHEREAS, the Henry County Chamber of Commerce is an association of businesses that appreciates the paramount role education attainment means to the economic strength and vitality of our region;

THEREFORE, THE HENRY COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HEREBY RESOLVES,

The Chamber recognizes the exceptional resiliency of our Henry County Schools students who are part of each Senior Class of 2020 in Dutchtown High School, Eagle's Landing High School, EXCEL Academy, Hampton High School, Locust Grove High School, Luella High School, McDonough High School, Ola High School, Stockbridge High School, Union Grove High School, and Woodland High School; and

The Chamber recognizes the outstanding achievements of Henry County students who are part of each Senior Class of 2020 in ABC Montessori Academy for the Brilliant Child, ABLE Christian School, Eagle's Landing Christian Academy, Bible Baptist Christian School, Community Christian School, Creekside Christian Academy, Faith Academy, Heritage Baptist Christian School, New Creation Christian Academy, Peoples Baptist Academy, and Strong Rock Christian School; North Henry Academy; and

The Chamber recognizes the accomplishments of each graduate of the Class of 2020 from our post-secondary institutions including, but not limited to, Mercer University, Southern Crescent Technical College, Clayton State University, Gordon State College, Georgia Military College, and University of Georgia; and

The Chamber recognizes the sacrifice that parents, guardians, and families make to deliver graduates to this moment and join them in this colossal achievement; and

The Chamber recognizes the remarkable work of our teachers, administrators, and support staff to teach and support our students and prepare each graduate to be successful in school and in life; and

The Chamber recognizes that despite the unprecedented public health emergency upon us, graduation is the monumental and lifelong impact of a student's celebration as the culmination of all the distinctive educational moments combined, and a final recognition and celebration for both the students and their families as a highly anticipated achievement; and

THEREFORE, the Henry County Chamber of Commerce shall celebrate, honor, and recognize the graduates and families of the Class of 2020 by declaring a Henry County Schools Senior Day; and

THEREFORE, on this day, May 22, 2020 the Henry County Chamber of Commerce declares that May 22, 2020 shall be and is recognized and celebrated as

"Henry County Schools Class of 2020 Senior Day"

Approved by the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the Henry County Chamber of Commerce on this 21st day of May, 2020.