RESOLUTION OF THE DYER COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION IN SUPPORT OF A BASIC EDUCATION PROGRAM HOLD HARMLESS LEGISLATION FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

WHEREAS, Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a global pandemic that can lead to serious illness or death and spreads through close contact among individuals; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 continues to spread at a rapid rate in Tennessee and has impacted school districts across the state; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee school districts will be implementing different plans for learning from county to county across the state for the 2020-2021, based upon the needs of their students and COVID-19 outbreaks in each county; and

WHEREAS, the Basic Education Program (BEP) is the funding formula through which state education dollars are generated and distributed to Tennessee schools; and

WHEREAS, Student enrollment (average daily membership) is the primary driver of funds generated by the BEP; and there are 47 BEP components, most of which are based on student enrollment; and the funds generated by the BEP are divided into state and local shares for each of the three major categories: instructional, classroom and non-classroom; and

WHEREAS, because of COVID-19, it is likely that many families across the state may remove their students from public schools during the 2020-2021 school year and choose other learning options; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee schools may see a decrease in attendance in the 2020-2021 school year as families take precautions to combat the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, there is a one-year lag in how enrollment affects BEP funding amounts; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved unanimously by all of the Board Members on this 13th day of October, 2020, that the Dyer County Board of Education:

Supports and respectfully requests that BEP funding will not decrease for the 2021-2022 school year. The Dyer County Board of Education requests the BEP allocation amounts provided to districts for the 2021-2022 school year be equal to or greater than the allocations for the 2020-2021 school year. The BEP allocations should not be negatively impacted based on student ADM of the 2020-2021 school year.

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Mr. Keith Anderson, Chairman

Ms. Cheryl Mathis, Director