

**RESOLUTION #2026-138
OF THE
BALDWIN COUNTY COMMISSION**

AUTHORIZING A CONTRIBUTION OF TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) TO THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA TO SUPPORT THE CREATION OF THE BLANKENSHIP SCHOLARS PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA.

WHEREAS, the University of South Alabama is establishing the Blankenship Scholars Program to expand enrollment and programs to develop and encourage students to pursue careers in conservation enforcement through study in political science and criminal justice, as well as marine and environmental sciences; and

WHEREAS, the success of the University of South Alabama Blankenship Scholars Program within the Stokes School of Marine and Environmental Sciences will have a positive and profound impact on Baldwin County and coastal Alabama for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, the Commission believes that it is a good, proper, and justifiable use of public resources to enter into an agreement to contribute financial assistance to the University of South Alabama Blankenship Scholars Program within the Stokes School of Marine and Environmental Sciences in furtherance of the above purpose; and

WHEREAS, it is beneficial to Baldwin County and serves a public purpose to provide funding to the University of South Alabama Blankenship Scholars Program within the Stokes School of Marine and Environmental Sciences; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BALDWIN COUNTY COMMISSION, IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED, that the Baldwin County Commission finds and determines as follows:

Section 1. Authorization of Contribution. The Commission hereby finds that the contribution authorized herein serves a public purpose and, subject to applicable law and the availability of appropriated funds, authorizes a one-time contribution in the amount of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) to the University of South Alabama in support of the Blankenship Scholars Program within the Stokes School of Marine and Environmental Sciences.

Section 2. Funding Agreement. The Chairman of the Baldwin County Commission and the County Administrator are authorized to negotiate, enter into, execute, and deliver subject to Legal Counsel review, a Funding Agreement between Baldwin County and the University of South Alabama, and/or any other necessary related documents, to capture the terms and conditions of the contribution authorized by Section 1, subject to applicable law and the availability of appropriated funds.

Section 3. Further Actions. The officers and representatives of the Baldwin County Commission are authorized to take any and all actions necessary or desirable to accomplish the purposes of this Resolution.

DONE, under the Seal of Baldwin County, Alabama, as affixed on this the ____ day of _____ 2026.

Commissioner James E. Ball, Chairman

ATTEST:

Roger H. Rendleman, County Administrator