## PRESS RELEASE

## House Bill 581 – Opt-Out Statement

The Randolph County Board of Education intends to opt out of the statewide adjusted base year ad valorem homestead exemption created by House Bill 581. This action will not affect any current homestead exemptions. The Randolph County Board of Education has carefully considered the matter of whether to opt out of the new system enacted under the new law. The decision to opt out will give the Board of Education the ability to more effectively maintain local control of its millage rate.

The Board scheduled three public hearings, as required under the new law, so that the public may meet to provide input and opinions regarding whether to opt out or not. Those three hearings are already scheduled as follows: January 13, 2025 at 2:00pm, January 23, 2025 at 6:00 pm, and January 30, 2025 at 10:00am. Due to the inclement weather on January 30<sup>th</sup>, the board opted to schedule another meeting for February 11 at 5:15pm.

All Randolph County citizens who have questions or concerns about this matter are invited to these public hearings to be held at the Randolph County Board of Education, James B Smith Complex 98 School Drive, Cuthbert GA.