

YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE

YOUTH GOVERNOR



SARAH DEWEES
LIEUTENANT GOV.



CAMILA LOPEZ
GOVERNOR



RYLEN DEMPSEY
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE



KATELYN MORGAN
SENATE PRO-TEMP



RHEA RASTOGI
CHIEF JUSTICE



ANNA HUFFSTETLER
HOUSE PRO-TEMP



WILLIAM NEUMANN
SENATE FLOOR LEADER



HUDSON CAMPBELL
HOUSE FLOOR LEADER



ANNA BETH FRAZIER
FIRST YEAR PO



ABBY GARMANY
FIRST YEAR
FLOOR

74TH ANNUAL SESSION
FEBRUARY 24-26, 2023

ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE

YOUTH GOVERNOR CAMILA LOPEZ

SENATE

Lt. Governor — Sarah Dewees
Pro-Temp — Katelyn Morgan
Floor Leader — William Neumann
Asst. Floor Leader — Ian Lynch
Secretary — Elaine Vo
Asst. Secretary — Malaki Sipsey
Chaplain — Kallie Miller
SGT. At Arms — Christian Glenos
Advisor: Timothy Sinnott



HOUSE

Speaker — Rylen Dempsey
Pro-Temp — Anna Huffstetler
Floor Leader — Hudson Campbell
Asst. Floor Leader — Jackson Short
Clerk — Abigail Laseter
Asst. Clerk — Raphael Young
Chaplain — Dominick Clausen
SGT. At Arms — Austin OH
Advisor: Forrest McConnell & Charlotte Coffee



FIRST YEAR

Presiding Officer — Anna Beth Frazier
Pro-Temp — Abby Garmany
Floor Leader — Bethany Yin
Asst. Floor Leader — Jeremiah Treece
Clerk — Graham Foster
SGT. At Arms — Sam Eagan
Advisor: Blaine Wheeler, Alison Chandler



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YOUTH GOVERNOR

CAMILA LOPEZ

SUPREME COURT

Chief Justice – Rhea Rastogi

Justice– Danielle Chbeir

Justice – Suhani Joshi

Justice – Paul Murray

Justice –Sarah Kate Ingram

Justice – Ava Donaldson

Justice – Adam Kavlick

Justice– Blessings Kibet

Justice–Lydia Doster

Justice– Cole Robertson

Attorney General — Mary Sullivan

Advisors: Kristy Kirkland, Clayton Lawing



SECRETARY OF STATE

Isabella Ritchey

LOBBYISTS

Caley Record – Head Lobbyist

Olivia Landess

Avery Belew

Jeremiah Walker

Wells Finch

Kaitlin Davis

Patton Hahn

Eric Herbert

Advisor: Natasha Foster



YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE

YOUTH GOVERNOR

CAMILA LOPEZ

MEDIA PUBLIC RELATIONS

Ja' Mez Williams

Jayden King

Jordan Graves

Precious Clanton

Aubrey Sipsey

Advisors: Alice Novak, Nancy Dennis, Christian Hardy



2022 Best Bills

House Best Bill

H005 Mental Health Resources for Students K-12 Act Hannah Mills, Vestavia Hills

Senate Best Bill

SB001 Ban the Box Act

Elanor Kinderman, Mountain Brook

First Year Best Bill

FY009 Alabama Safe Start Child Abuse Program

Palmer Cerniglia, Hoover

OFFICE OF THE YMCA YOUTH GOVERNOR

Camila Lopez
GOVERNOR



STATE OFFICE
PO BOX 2336
MONTGOMERY, AL 36102
(334) 229-0037

STATE OF ALABAMA

February 23, 2023

Hello Delegates,

It is my honor to welcome you to the 75th annual YMCA Youth Legislature. I am so thankful you have decided to join us this weekend in Montgomery to be a part of the ALYIG family. This year has brought over 300 passionate leaders from all 5 districts. This conference is one of the biggest we have had in the state since we have returned in person, and has truly been from the hard work of our advisors, teachers, officers, Y staff, and most importantly you. By attending these weekends, you are allowing the growth of this conference to reach more youth and give them the opportunity to not only learn about civic education but about themselves as well.

When I first stepped into the halls of the Marriott lobby, I was an unaware, anxious, and overwhelmed freshman. I could not fathom how to properly state my intentions in the chamber or go up to meet a new delegate. I was oblivious to the fact that by just sitting in the first-year room I was a part of something bigger than myself. As the days went by, however, I learned that no matter how many times I stuttered, how many times I pressed the wrong level on the elevator, or how many times I brought up my culture, I was never shot down by my peers. Instead, I was brought to a room with encouraging words and warm faces having all of them become my best friends that I have the pleasure to be with this final year. The ALYIG program was created to bring the youth together into cultivating a passion for change and action. It has and continues to be a space that brings along all characters, all backgrounds, and all stories to learn and grow with each other into the voices of the future.

Throughout my years in this program, I have seen myself become enamored with not only the people alongside me but with my own self and progress. You will find yourself amazed by your achievements through these years and know that the people around you are incredibly proud of the voice you have and use through this program.

So, for the 5 delegates reading this, I'll ask one thing of you: Be open to this experience. Be open to meeting new friends, Be open to hearing new stories, Be open to expressing yourself in debate, and Be open to trying this program. If you allow yourself to lean in, the Y will lift you up. And if you need an extra push, come, and find me. I will give you both my hands and a big smile.

Best,

Camila Lopez
Alabama Youth Governor

OFFICE OF THE YMCA YOUTH GOVERNOR

Camila Lopez
GOVERNOR



STATE OFFICE
PO BOX 2336
MONTGOMERY, AL 36102
(334) 229-00037

STATE OF ALABAMA

2023 GOVERNOR'S CABINET AND STAFF

Roselyn Olvera, Spain Park - Chief of Staff

Hannah Broders, Davidson Legal Advisor

McKenzie Blackledge - Director of Minority Affairs

Kareena Singh, Montgomery Academy – Finance Director & Senior Advisor

Preston Phillips, St. James - Corrections Commissioner

Jordan Belser, Parker High – Superintendent of the Banking Department

Carys Collins, Spain Park- Commission Department of Conservations and Natural Resources

Sharia Canady, Parker High – Commissioner of Department of Human Resources

Catherine Sizemore, Spain Park- Secretary of Early Childhood Education

Daniella Nkoudou, Hoover High – Secretary of Commerce

Carlyle Chandler, Montgomery Academy- Director of Department of Transportation

Luke Pappalardo, Vestavia Hills – Revenue Commissioner

Eli MCcay, Spain Park – Secretary of Information Technology

Abigail Linderman, Spain Park- Department of Pardons and Paroles

Kendall Craft, Davidson – ABC Board Administrator

Eleanor Kinderman, Mountain Brook – Director Economic and Community Affairs

Noah Rushing, Northside Methodist -Secretary of Law Enforcement

Sophia Li, Mountain Brook- Commissioner of Mental Health

Anna Dickey, St. James – Secretary of Labor

Brooke Bender, St. James - Commissioner of Senior Services

Dori Hantoosh, Hoover High –Tourism and Travel Director

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

KAY IVEY
GOVERNOR



STATE CAPITOL
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130

(334) 242-7100
FAX: (334) 242-3282

STATE OF ALABAMA

February 24, 2023

Greetings:

On behalf of the State of Alabama, I would like to welcome you to the 74th Session of the Alabama YMCA Youth Legislature.

I commend the students who are participating in this year's session of the Alabama YMCA Youth Legislature. You represent the best and brightest young minds in our State. I encourage you to develop your leadership skills as you learn more about Alabama State Government. I also encourage you to consider what it means to be a leader and a good citizen.

During this week-long session, you will learn how State Representatives and Senators conduct business in the Alabama State Legislature. You have made the decision to better yourself and serve as role models for your peers by participating in the Alabama YMCA Youth Legislature.

I am honored to serve as Governor of the great State of Alabama and I wish you much success in the years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kay Ivey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kay Ivey
Governor

KI/pb/dr





OFFICE OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

ALABAMA STATE HOUSE
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130

WILL AINSWORTH
11 SOUTH UNION STREET
SUITE 725
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130
PHONE: (334)261-9590

Dear Future Leader:

I want to personally welcome you to the 74th Session of the Alabama YMCA Youth Legislature.

State government has a tremendous impact on the daily lives of each and every one of us. I commend you for your interest in learning more about the legislative process. I also want to thank you for being a leader in your respective school and community.

The next few days you will spend time sitting in the chairs of the men and women who lead our state. I encourage you to consider what it means to be a leader and the importance of being involved in every level of government.

It is my hope that you have an educational experience and gain some valuable insight into the legislative process during your time serving in this Legislature.

I am proud to serve as your Lieutenant Governor and wish you well during your time in our state capital.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Will Ainsworth", written in a cursive style.

Will Ainsworth
Lieutenant Governor



STATE OF ALABAMA

NATHANIEL LEDBETTER
SPEAKER of the HOUSE

ALABAMA STATE HOUSE
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130

February 2, 2023

Dear Youth Legislature Members:

Congratulations on your selection to participate in the 74th session of the Alabama YMCA Youth Legislature! What an honor it is to have you here in Montgomery to learn about the political and legislative process.

The participants of your class are the next generation of leaders who will someday operate our state's government. For this reason, it is highly critical that you learn as much as you can now so that you can take that knowledge and create a brighter future for your fellow Alabamians.

While you are here in our state's capital city, be sure to take every advantage of this time to form friendships with your fellow youth legislators, listen carefully during each informational session and continue to hone your leadership abilities.

Your selection for this great occasion is proof that you already have what it takes to be true public servants. I am honored to know that the future of the great state of Alabama rests in your hands.

Best of luck with your endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nathaniel Ledbetter", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Speaker Nathaniel Ledbetter
Alabama House of Representatives

ALABAMA STATE CAPITOL
600 DEXTER AVENUE
SUITE S-105
MONTGOMERY, AL 36130



(334) 242-7200
WWW.SOS.ALABAMA.GOV
WES.ALLEN@SOS.ALABAMA.GOV

WES ALLEN
SECRETARY OF STATE

Dear YMCA Youth Legislature Participant:

As Alabama's Secretary of State, it is my honor and privilege to welcome you to the annual session of the Alabama Youth Legislature, and our historic Capital City. Throughout your time at this event, I encourage you to listen well, be engaged, get out of your comfort zone, and most importantly, learn. Let your experience in the Alabama State House and your time on Goat Hill, the hub of our state Government, motivate you to serve the state of Alabama and your nation, maybe even as an elected official. Build relationships with the people you meet at the Alabama Youth Legislature, as those that are with you in this program are likely to cross paths with you again throughout your life.

As you participate in your legislative exercises, I hope you approach it with the level of seriousness, honesty, and work ethic that such a process warrants. The chamber in which you will serve as Youth Legislators is the same chamber in which men and women from across the State of Alabama come together to debate proposed legislation and to vote on bills that impact the lives of each and every Alabama citizen. History has been shaped at the podiums from which you will speak and at the desks at which you will sit. Do not let that fact slip by you unnoticed.

I hope you use this opportunity to work hard, champion policies that protect and defend the constitutional rights of your fellow citizens. These are all things that I strive to do each day as I serve the people of Alabama as the state's 54th Secretary of State.

On behalf of everyone who serves you and all of the people of Alabama in the Office of the Alabama Secretary of State, I wish the best as you embark on your 2023 Youth Legislative experience and in all your future endeavors. I feel certain that your experience will be a valuable and inspiring one. My staff and I are ready and willing to serve you in any way that may be helpful.

Sincerely,

Wes Allen
Secretary of State



STATE OF ALABAMA
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

STEVE MARSHALL
ATTORNEY GENERAL

501 WASHINGTON AVENUE
MONTGOMERY, AL 36130
(334) 242-7300
ALABAMAAG.GOV

February 1, 2023

Dear Youth Legislators:

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the 74th session of the Alabama Youth Legislature. I commend you for your willingness to spend your time learning how state government operates, as well as the concerted effort you will put into drafting legislation during this session.

There is no higher honor than public service. As you enter the Alabama State House, remember the many that have come before you to make our state and country a better place. It is vital to the future of our democracy for you to be engaged and actively involved in the political process. By experiencing the legislative process and gaining a better understanding of parliamentary procedure you can better serve your state no matter what vocation you may enter as an adult. The more citizens understand how our government works the more we can hold our elected officials to a higher standard.

As your Attorney General, I provide legal representation for the State of Alabama, its officers, departments, and agencies. It is also my duty to enforce the laws passed by the state legislature, as well as to initiate both civil and criminal court action in order to protect the state's interests. It is truly an honor to serve as Attorney General for the great State of Alabama.

Again, I commend you for your involvement in The Alabama Youth Legislature and your passion for public service. It is my hope that your education is enriched by your experience in Montgomery.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve Marshall".

Steve Marshall
Attorney General

FORMER YOUTH GOVERNORS & LT. GOVERNORS

Youth Governors

1950	Jack Noble	Montgomery
1951	Allen Mikul	Birmingham
1952	Elliott Wilder	Birmingham
1953	John Ingle	Montgomery
1954	Knowling Keener	Birmingham
1955	Larry Seal	Bessemer
1956	Rick Callahan	Tuscaloosa
1957	Gerald Dagenhardt	Anniston
1958	John Davies	Montgomery
1959	Ham Newson	Montgomery
1960	Bob Hill	Montgomery
1961	David Lull	Selma
1962	John McKinney	Talladega
1963	Bill Shamblin	Tuscaloosa
1964	Steve Walker	Montgomery
1965	Neal Conner	Decatur
1966	Ron Davenport	Montgomery
1967	Bill Dixon	Fairfax
1968	Roger Lee	Anniston
1969	Jack Carr	Anniston
1970	Clinton Smith	Montgomery
1971	Robert Downing	Anniston
1972	Bill Donaldson	Montgomery
1973	Van Hart	Montgomery
1974	Vaughn Stewart	Anniston
1975	Andy Bolt	Anniston
1976	Sharwon Bowen	Prattville
1977	Fred Lybrand	Anniston
1978	Gene Henderson	Opelika
1979	David Christian	Anniston
1980	Joey James	Florence
1981	Gary Mclean	Huntsville
1982	Candice Hemphill	Huntsville
1983	Rad Cox	Florence
1984	Jody Boyd	Huntsville
1985	Todd Burdine	Florence
1986	Roger Spain	Montgomery
1987	Stacey Whitestone	Dothan
1988	Coke Williams, Jr.	Anniston
1989	Jason Godin	Montgomery
1990	Allison Inscoe	Montgomery
1991	Ellery Cook	Montgomery
1992	Nathan Ballard	Auburn
1993	Drew Wyatt	Ozark
1994	Blake Hale	Wetumpka
1995	Turner Inscoe	Montgomery
1996	Annie Nguyen	Mobile
1997	Allison Gwin	Montgomery

Lt. Governors

Roy Palmer	Tuscaloosa
Charles Hill	Huntsville
Otis Coston	Bessemer
Edward Shope	Columbus
Charles Kelso	Montgomery
Jerry Rogers	Tuscaloosa
Roy Nolen	Montgomery
Julian Butler	Birmingham
Ernest Potter	Anniston
Merral Curtis	Pensacola
Erwin Lischike	Montgomery
John Lampkin	Birmingham
Mike Nipper	Gadsden
Bob Watson	Montgomery
Wilson Windham	Montgomery
Lloyd Wagner	Tuscaloosa
Mike Copeland	Anniston
John Gyler	Anniston
Marion Walker	Tuscaloosa
Marty Shamblin	Tuscaloosa
Larry Childs	Tuscaloosa
Julian Hart	Montgomery
Pam Goodson	Tuscaloosa
Steve Lybrand	Anniston
Margie Northington	Prattville
Louis Colley	Prattville
John Swindle	Prattville
Lamar Higgins	Prattville
Chip Wampold	Montgomery
John Graham	Florence
Sam Downing	Anniston
James Busby	Birmingham
Jay Stern	Opelika
John James	Anniston
Tracy Beaver	Florence
Frances Lewis	Montgomery
David Allen	Anniston
Brooke Thorington	Montgomery
Jimmy Hall	Montgomery
Porter Bannister	Anniston
Courtney Ellis	Auburn
Sam Reaves	Gadsden
Bo Harmon	Anniston
Carmen Norris	Auburn
Teford Taylor	Prattville
Greg Renden	Mobile
Jimmy D'Andrea	Auburn
Nancy Boyd	Montgomery

FORMER YOUTH GOVERNORS & LT. GOVERNORS

Youth Governors			Lt. Governors	
1998	Lu Han	Auburn	John David Rauch	Anniston
1999	Jim Crook	Montgomery	Michael Park	Auburn
2000	Kenya Lee	Auburn	Meredith May	Pike County
2001	Kimmie Lipscomb	Auburn	Mary Hunter Rouse	Mobile
2002	Emily Aviki	Auburn	Lee Johnsey	Birmingham
2003	Kasdin Miller	Montgomery	Mark Stern	Montgomery
2004	Richard Friedman	Mobile	Kyle Shirley	Prattville
2005	William Bloom	Montgomery	Torrie Miller	Montgomery
2006	Forrest McConnell	Montgomery	Matthew May	Birmingham
2007	Charlie Strickland	Enterprise	Shannon McNeal	Montgomery
2008	Lillian Wilson	Montgomery	Katie Bell	Montgomery
2009	Roscoe Anderson	Montgomery	Bo Morris	Anniston
2010	Jonathan Quisenberry	Enterprise	D'Jara Britton	Montgomery
2011	Brannen McMahan	Montgomery	Logan Powell	Montgomery
2012	Jackson Britton	Montgomery	Vince Mitchell	Mobile
2013	Chad DuBois	Montgomery	Zijie Yin	Mountain Brook
2014	Noah Crawford	Birmingham	Hannah Mouyal	Mountain Brook
2015	Cassie Sadie	Montgomery	Emily Stone	Montgomery
2016	Noah McNelley	Montgomery	William S. Chandler	Montgomery
2017	Ford Cleveland	Montgomery	Ellen Park	Montgomery
2018	Claudia Hubbard	Montgomery	Anne Mitchell Welch	Mountain Brook
2019	Jared Schaffer	Hoover	Carter Chandler	Montgomery
2020	Pavel Shirley	Mountain Brook	Ben Harris	Mountain Brook
2020	Ryan Barranco	Montgomery	Josh Phillips	Hoover
2022	Nathaniel Bass	Birmingham	Grace Norman	Birmingham

FORMER SPEAKERS OF THE HOUSE

Year	Name	City	Year	Name	City
1949	Bill Bell	Selma	1999	Cory Sellers	Auburn
1950	Donald Bearden	Birmingham	2000	Charlotte Sann	Auburn
1951	Fletcher Stuart	Montgomery	2001	Christopher Friedman	Mobile
1952	Robert Earl Ellis	Tuscaloosa	2002	Judith Ann Montiel	Montgomery
1953	Charles Kelso	Montgomery	2003	Hunter Gilpin	Montgomery
1954	Quinsby McCaskill	Birmingham	2004	R.B. Walker	Montgomery
1955	David Ellwanger	Selma	2005	Jay Owen	Montgomery
1956	Wayne Laudermitch	Anniston	2006	Pep Pfluke	Enterprise
1957	Julie Griffen	Columbus	2007	Melinda Gooch	Enterprise
1958	Richard Gill	Montgomery	2008	Thompson Foy	Enterprise
1959	Wayne Duren	Birmingham	2009	Andrew McConnell	Montgomery
1960	Hank Black	Tuscaloosa	2010	Amanda Pfluke	Enterprise
1961	Mike Oliver	Selma	2011	Whitney Lott	Montgomery
1962	George Gibbons	Anniston	2012	David Kinstley	Birmingham
1963	Chuck Muckenfu	Montgomery	2013	Jeff Rogers	Birmingham
1964	Holly Pittman	Montgomery	2014	Amelia Putnam	Birmingham
1965	Fred Suggs	Montgomery	2015	Matt Tindal	Birmingham
1966	Vance Davidson	Decatur	2016	Henry Hamlett	Montgomery
1967	Tom Downing	Anniston	2017	Emma Taylor	Birmingham
1968	Tommy Wells	Gadsden	2018	Lockett Robinson	Mobile
1969	Tom Parker	Montgomery	2019	Hannah Hale	Montgomery
1970	Tommy Barnett	Tuscaloosa	2020	Lindsey Tadlock	Hoover
1971	Tim Thompson	Montgomery	2020	Chloe Kinderman	Birmingham
1972	Wayne Chambers	Anniston	2022	Selma Maric	Birmingham
1973	Paul Hinton	Gadsden			
1974	Beegee Brown	Montgomery			
1975	Gail Campbell	Montgomery			
1976	Gibson Coleman	Anniston			
1977	Ken Mullinax	Anniston			
1978	Anna Castro	Montgomery			
1979	Cassandra Dorsey	Opelika			
1980	Teresa Cox	Killen			
1981	Traci Taylor	Florence			
1982	Mary Ellen Coughlin	Montgomery			
1983	Chrissie Brantley	Montgomery			
1984	Jessica Harris	Anniston			
1985	Carolyn Phillips	Montgomery			
1986	Caroline McDonald	Montgomery			
1987	Judith Fulcher	Huntsville			
1988	Gordon Bailey	Anniston			
1989	Lyn Grant	Montgomery			
1990	Clark Bailey	Anniston			
1991	Katherine Pike	Dothan			
1992	Winston Tucker	Elmore			
1993	Katie Strong	Montgomery			
1994	Melissa Jakeman	Auburn			
1995	Kevin Cumbus	Montgomery			
1996	Sequon Herring	Montgomery			
1997	Moses Kim	Enterprise			
1998	Tripp Quina	Mobile			

FORMER PRESIDING OFFICERS & OUTSTANDING PARTICIPANTS

First Year Program

Presiding Officers			Outstanding	Participants
Year	Name	City	Name	City
1987	Jason Saliba	Dothan	Stephanie Brunnell Jennifer Beckman Will McQueen Peter Vannice	Huntsville Huntsville Montgomery Montgomery
1988	Clark Bailey	Anniston	Ginger Shaw Laurie Head	Millbrook Millbrook
1989	Don Hinton	Dothan	Suzanne Rosen Mary Pat Lawrence	Anniston
1990	Marvin King	Birmingham	Rebecca Schmidt Amy Wilson	Auburn
1991	Drew Wyatt	Ozark	Christy Cobb Carrie Alexander	Huntsville Huntsville
1992	Emily Hawk	Gadsden	Elizabeth Hlels	Mobile
1993	Tanisha Corino	Auburn	Stella McGehee	Anniston
1994	Mike Addison	Wetumpka	William Gwinn	Auburn
1995	Andy Head	Montgomery	Jason McDonnell Holly Heibolt	Enterprise Ozark
1997	Emi Patterson	Auburn	Mary Hunter Rouse Pettus Randall	Mobile Tuscaloosa
1998	Meryl Jones	Ozark	Sarah Martino	Mobile
1999	Asim Ali	Auburn	John Hyrhorchuk	Montgomery
2000	Todd Ledet	Montgomery	Kasdin Miller	Montgomery
2001	Mark Stern	Montgomery	Tyler Dliard	Dothan
2002	Frazier Montiel	Montgomery	Steve Reneau	Montgomery
2003	ShivanI Nadarajah	Auburn	Ben Harmon	Birmingham
2004	Leah Blake	Auburn	Vaughn Stewart	Calhoun County
2005	Charlie Strickland	Enterprise	Angel King	Montgomery
2006	Melinda Gooch	Enterprise	Paul Allen	Montgomery
2007	Paul Allen	Montgomery	Sam Hobbs	Montgomery
2008	Jonathan Quisenberry	Enterprise	Daniel Connors	Enterprise
2009	Sarah Strickland	Enterprise	Tyler Brady	Anniston
2010	Whitney Lott	Montgomery	Zijie Yin	Mountain Brook
2011	Chad DuBois	Montgomery	Judd Powell	Montgomery
2012	Jeff Rogers	Birmingham	Bea Tisher	Mobile
2013	Amelia Putnam	Birmingham	Ty Deemer	Montgomery
2014	Noah McNelley	Montgomery	Cameron Giordano	Birmingham
2015	Brian Anderson	Montgomery	Addison Smith	Mobile
2016	Claudia Hubbard	Montgomery	Carter Chandler	Montgomery
2017	Katie McIntyre	Montgomery	Chloe Kinderman	Mountain Brook
2018	Hannah Hale	Montgomery	Ryan Barranco	Montgomery
2019	Perry Courtney	Mobile	Austin King	Smiths Station
2020	Jeffrey Ford	Montgomery	Jackson Perkins	Mountain Brook
2022	Kareena Singh	Montgomery	Velinda Dioncio Perez	Huntsville

FORMER JERE HARDY AWARD WINNERS

For Outstanding Statesmanship

1949	George Irons	Birmingham	Marilyn Brittain	Anniston
1950	Robert Clayton	Birmingham	Hal Weatherby	Montgomery
1951	George Randle	Birmingham	Wright Moulton	Pensacola
1952	Allen Gunn	Montgomery	Ann Richardson	Tuscaloosa
1953	Bryant Maulk	Montgomery	Billy Jordan	Columbus
1954	Steve Moreno	Birmingham	Ricki Ferrari	Mobile
1955	Bobby Wood	Tuscaloosa	Jimbo Rogers	Selma
1956	Gerald Dagenhardt	Anniston	Bernard Harwood	Montgomery
1957	Gene Rutledge	Anniston	Bob Hart	Pensacola
1958	Dee Merrill	Anniston	Jimmy Vickery	Montgomery
1959	John Lampkin	Birmingham	Jack Wilson	Birmingham
1960	Robert Roberts	Holt	Wesley Brock	Gadsden
1961	Johnny McKinney	Talladega	Earl Campbell	Montgomery
1962	Lonnie Schultz	Birmingham	Glen Seaberry	Montgomery
1963	Kirk Folio	Gadsden	Marbury Rainer	Selma
1964	Joe Williams	Selma	Jack Burwell	Huntsville
1965	Diana Hicks	Montgomery	David Ellis	Huntsville
1966	Grady Zeanah	Tuscaloosa	Vaughn Russell	Selma
1967	Tom Downing	Anniston	Larry Childs	Tuscaloosa
1968	Joe Perkins	Tuscaloosa	Barry Mullins	Tuscaloosa
1969	Lynn Utley	Tuscaloosa	Kin Hodge	Tuscaloosa
1970	Sam Floyd	Alex City	Preston Bolt	Anniston
1971	Mark Perkins	Tuscaloosa	Marjorie Roberts	Florence
1972	Mike Robinson	Gadsden	Robbins Taylor	Montgomery
1973	Heidi Barnetler	Montgomery	Sharon Bowen	Prattville
1974	Andy Bolt	Anniston	Jim Priester	Florence
1975	Stephanie Wolfe	Montgomery	Steve Christian	Anniston
1976	Nancy Mims	Prattville	Becky Butler	NW Florida
1977	Gene Henderson	Opelika	Kurt Garrett	Ozark
1978	Margaret Purcell	Prattville	Gary Mclean	Huntsville
1979	Susan Kirkpatrick	Montgomery	James Busby	Birmingham
1980	Margaret Purcell	Marbury	Linda Lott	Florence
1981	Candice Hemphill	Huntsville	Darron Mayo	Gadsden
1982	Alan Parker	Ozark	Todd Burdine	Florence
1983	Todd Burdine	Florence	John Augstine	Florence
1984	Brandon James	Auburn	Coke Williams, Jr.	Anniston
1985	Gordan Bailey, III	Anniston	Web Drake	Dothan
1986	Gordan Bailey, III	Anniston	Traci Vaughn	Montgomery
1987	Todd Barksdale	Anniston	Will McQueen	Montgomery
1988	Valerie Young	Huntsville	Courtney Ellis	Auburn
1989	Bradley Burns	Ozark	Bo Harmon	Anniston
1990	Jessica Burney	Auburn	Amy Russell	Montgomery
1991	Leah Tesney	Mobile	Sarah Martin	Montgomery
1992	Josh Warren	Gadsden	Jacob Piggot	Tuscaloosa
1993	Robert F. Cook	Birmingham-Berry	Kevin Cumbus	Montgomery
1994	Alida Hines	Mobile	Lu Han	Auburn
1995	Al Bennett	Auburn	Juli Verma	Auburn
1996	Homer Carlisle	Auburn	Mary Kristin Galanos	Mobile
1997	Amanda Jarrell	Pike County	Shannon Simpson	Mobile
1998	Kelli Burns	Montgomery	Shiva Sankar	Auburn
1999	Cory Sellers	Auburn		
2000	Krysha Gregorowicz	Montgomery		

FORMER JERE HARDY AWARD WINNERS **For Outstanding Statesmanship**

House of Representatives

2001	Judith Ann Montiel	Montgomery
2002	Sarah Bell	Montgomery
2003	Peter Susman	Mobile-St. Paul's
2004	Peter Susman	Mobile-St. Paul's
2005	Ashton Seip	Montgomery
2006	Beth Brantley	Montgomery
2007	Cynthia Weber	Montgomery
2008	Roscoe Anderson	Montgomery
2009	Austin Barranco	Montgomery
2010	Will Clayton	Birmingham
2011	Pranav Bethala	UMS Wright
2012	Zijie Yin	Birmingham
2013	Lewis Fitzpatrick	Birmingham
2014	Christina McLaughlin	Birmingham
2015	Michelle Newman	Birmingham
2016	Joey Compton	Birmingham
2017	Emma Taylor	Birmingham
2018	Pavel Shirley	Birmingham
2019	Daniel Carmichael	Birmingham
2020	Rylen Dempsey	Birmingham
2022	Kylan Benson	Birmingham

Senate

Chris Prices	Pelham
Buddy Handey	Montgomery
Mark Stern	Montgomery
Erica Newland	Auburn
James Randolph	Anniston Area
Angel King	Montgomery
Marisa Younanian	Enterprise
Chase Childs	Enterprise
Amelia Brock	Auburn
Partrick Donnan	Auburn
Bejamin Hubbard	Huntsville
Peirce Goodwin	Montgomery
Mary Catherine Connors	Enterprise
Scheherbano Rafay	Auburn
Christina McLaughlin	Hoover
Steven Higgins	Montgomery
Grace Freidmen	Hoover
Olivia Pride	Hoover
Bett Bonikowski	Montgomery
Rhea Rastogi	Montgomery

FORMER BETTY (ARR AWARD WINNERS

1976	Marti Pearson	Huntsville
1978	Dodie Coleman	Anniston
1979	Brad Trammell	Opelika
1980	Anne Mims	Prattville
1981	Anne Mims	Prattville
1982	Peter Crofton	Opelika
1983	Jessica Harris	Anniston
1984	Carolyn Phillips	Montgomery
1985	Greg Mays	Florence
1986	Coke Williams, Jr.	Anniston
1987	Brooke Thorington	Montgomery
1988	Martha Albritton	Florence
1989	Charlotte Weatherly	Anniston
1990	Jay Price	Huntsville
1991	Clint Hyde	Evergreen
1992	Emily Hawk	Gadsden
1993	Suzanne Rosen	Anniston
	Jason Hall	Mobile
1994	Kelly Smith	Mobile
1996	Stella McGehee	Anniston
1997	Moses Kim	Auburn
1998	Beth Lundell	Auburn
1999	Kelli Carpenter	Anniston
1995	Jaynie Randall	Tuscaloosa
2000	Rebecca Beers	Selma
2001	Matt Deavers	Enterprise
2002	Cedrick Andrews	Enterprise
2003	Hunter Gilpin	Montgomery
2004	Dan Ventress	Enterprise
	Byron Strickland	Enterprise
2005	Adam Carlisle	Birmingham
2006	James Randolph	Anniston
2007	Cynthia Weber	Montgomery
2008	Bo Morris	Anniston
2009	Kendall Watson	Montgomery
2010	D'Jara Britton	Montgomery
2011	Brett Johnshon	Gadsden
2012	Dakin Hill	Montgomery
2013	Justin Gallagher	Montgomery
	Zijle Yin	Birmingham
2014	Ben Jackson	Birmingham
2015	Bea Tisher	Mobile
2016	Bennett McGehee	Mobile
2017	Lydia Page Moffett	Mobile
2018	Addison Smith	Mobile
2019	Trinity Hunter	Montgomery
2020	Margaret Chandler	Montgomery
2022	Selma Maric	Hoover

FORMER BILL BARRINGER SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

1987	Judith Fulcher	Huntsville
1988	Martha Albritton	Florence
1989	Missy Alford	Montgomery
1990	Jay Price	Huntsville
1991	Terri Nevitt	Birmingham
1992	Winston Tucker	Elmore
1993	Carmen Norris	Auburn
1994	Elizabeth Perry	Auburn
1995	Sammy Adams	Troy
1996	Jimmy D'Andrea	Auburn
1997	Nancy Boyd	Montgomery
1998	Meryl Jones	Ozark
1999	Kelli Carpenter	Anniston
2000	Elizabeth Layton	Mobile
2001	Chris Friedman	Mobile
2002	Alan Kirk	Birmingham
2003	Andrew Brashler	Pelham
2004	Timothy Sinnott	Auburn
2005	Torrie Miller	Montgomery
2006	Ben Burch	Birmingham
2007	Corey Decker	Dothan
2008	Faith Dorn	Anniston
2009	Daniel Connors	Enterprise
2010	Chris Stokes	Birmingham
2011	Amber Voss	Edgewood
2012	Taylor Lollar	Montgomery
2013	Mary Catherine Connors	Enterprise
2014	Jacob Kimes	Birmingham
2015	Cassie Sadie	Montgomery
2016	Steven Higgins	Montgomery
2017	Justala Simpson	Montgomery
2018	Katherine Voorhees	Hoover
2019	Will Hamlet	Montgomery
2020	Anna Sadie	Montgomery
2022	Zach Izner	Montgomery

FORMER BEST BILL AWARD WINNERS

House of Representatives

Year	Name	City
1950	Jimmie Price	Tuscaloosa
1951	Douglas Barry	Birmingham
1952	Bryant Maulk	Montgomery
1953	Nedra Stringer	Tuscaloosa
1954	Terry White	Montgomery
1955	George Conner	Montgomery
1956	Martha Richard	Anniston
1957	Janice Newell	Anniston
1958	Jean Harrison	Selma
1959	Judy Kay Day	Gadsden
	Nancy Godfrey	
1960	Ned Saunders	Tuscaloosa
1961	Annie Carroll	Tuscaloosa
1962	Roger Williams	Tuscaloosa
1963	Warren Cornelius	Gadsden
1964	Dianna Hicks	Montgomery
1965	Betsy lance	Montgomery
	lance Griffin	Montgomery
1966	Michael Hart	Montgomery
	Patty Young	Montgomery
	Charlton Garner	Montgomery
1967	Arnold Mooney	Montgomery
	Bob Harris	Montgomery
1968	Debby Johnson	Anniston
	Patsy Moore	Anniston
1969	Donnie Robinson	Montgomery
	Stokes Richie	Montgomery
1970	Terry Carlton	Tuscaloosa
1971	Judy Hammond	Anniston
1972	Iewis Murray	Anniston
1973	Nancy Watson	Montgomery
	Dan Arighi	
1974	Don West	Tuscaloosa
1975	Stephanie Wolfe	Montgomery
	Dave Schmertz	Montgomery
1976	Christy Cameron	Tuscaloosa
1977	Barbara Johnson	Gadsden

Senate

Name	City
Bill Brewbaker	Montgomery
Carole Waterman	Montgomery
Mary Dowe	Montgomery
Bobby Wood	Tuscaloosa
John Helms	Montgomery
Charlotte Hallman	Tuscaloosa
David Crossland	Montgomery
Julian Butler	Birmingham
Bernard Harwood	Montgomery
Joyce Channell	Tuscaloosa
Letitia Davis	Montgomery
Warren Hudson	Montgomery
Clare Brumfield	Montgomery
Nadia Brooks	Montgomery
Steve Walker	Montgomery
Pat White	Anniston
David Morton	Valley
Billie NeSmith	Blountsville
Raymond Reynolds	Montgomery
Ron Bird	Montgomery
Diana Speer	Selma
Linda Deason	Selma
Ronnie Wells	Selma
Tommy Wright	Huntsville
Billy Russell	
Sylvia Sizemore	Enterprise
Larry Childs	Tuscaloosa
Johnny Maxwell	Tuscaloosa
David Springer	Anniston
David Smith	Anniston
Teresa Easter	Montgomery
Mike Reed	Montgomery
Shawn Kelly	Anniston
Dottie Northington	Prattville
Jimmy Dennis	Prattville
Louis Colley	Prattville
Ken Mullinax	Anniston
Ann Klinefelter	Anniston

FORMER BEST BILL AWARD WINNERS

House of Representatives			Senate	
Year	Name	City	Name	City
1978	Alan Kendrick	Montgomery	Catherine Barry	Montgomery
			Eric Crum	Montgomery
1979	Dick Brewbaker	Montgomery	Jeff McLaughlin	
1980	Melissa Massengil	Huntsville	Mike Speakman	Auburn
1981	Hal Ward	Huntsville	Allen Newton	Auburn
			David Wadsworth	Tuscaloosa
1982	Richard Parker	Anniston	Nu Nu Leisy	Montgomery
1983	Elizabeth Woodall	Huntsville	Jody Boyd	Huntsville
	Ellen Pond	Huntsville		
1984	Virginia Nisbett	Anniston	Edmond Redd	Florence
	Molly Williams	Anniston		
1985	Kim Hedges	Montgomery	Kenny Kirkpatrick	Montgomery
	Allison Barrow	Montgomery		
	Natalie Threet	Florence		
1986	Thomas Harris	Anniston	Anna Merrill	Montgomery
	Eric Mudd	Anniston		
	Ray Chapman	Anniston		
	Suzanne Gonce	Florence		
	Buffy Gonce	Florence		
	Walton Cherney	Florence		
1987	Brandon Crawford	Anniston	Anna Merrill	Montgomery
			Dan Swartz	Minn, MN
1988	Beth Beshear	Montgomery	Chris Mcinnish	Montgomery
	Kristin Hatcher	Montgomery		
1989	Kim Reeves	Auburn	Mary Catherine Saidla	Auburn
1990	Ravi Howard	Montgomery	Norman Stockman	Mobile
1991	Leah Tesney	Mobile	David Heilman	Auburn
1992	Kristen McKean	Montgomery	Rebecca Schmidt	Auburn
1993	Katie Strong	Montgomery	Carmen Norris	Auburn
	Heather Rosenblatt	Auburn	Jennifer Channis	Mobile
	Tiffanie Starr	Auburn	Sarah Martin	Montgomery
	Robert Cook	Birmingham		
1995	Wesley Markham	Mobile		
	Spencer Merriweather	Mobile		
1996	Trista Lee	Pike County		
	Willie Davis	Pike County		
1997	Kathryn Marsh	Montgomery	Jay Mehta	Mobile
			Thad Inge	
			Ginny Vance	Mobile
1998	Mitchell Dubina	Montgomery		Mobile
	Marsten Maddox	Montgomery	Jay Mehta	Mobile
			Rodney Flowers	Pike County
			Trista Lee	Pike County
1999	Rebecca Beers	Selma	Ben Chastain	Auburn

FORMER BEST BILL AWARD WINNERS

House of Representatives

Senate

Year	Name	City	Name	City
2000	Laura Wiggins	Opelika	Shiva Sankar	Auburn
	Brooke Reynolds	Opelika	James Shambley	Auburn
2001	Jeremy West	Dothan	Buddy Handey	Montgomery
	Eric Crawford	Dothan	Michael Correll	Montgomery
2002	Sarah Bell	Montgomery	Karoline Richardson	Montgomery
2003	Lauren Wybenga	Prattville	Erica Newland	Auburn
	Heather Mickle	Prattville	Meghan Stringer	Montgomery
2004	Peter Susman	Mobile	Dan Ventress	Enterprise
	Alex Pappas	Mobile		
2005	Annika Nordlund	Birmingham	Chris North	Montgomery
	Leanne Cronic	Birmingham		
	Leah Sanders	Birmingham		
2006	Lauren Houston	Montgomery	Caitlin Turecek	Anniston Area
	Matt Visco	Montgomery		
2007	Brittney Hollis	Anniston	Nathan Dow	Enterprise
2008	Amber Voss	Edgewood Acad.	Kayla Kelley	Birmingham
	Taylor Ivins	Edgewood Acad.	Laura Goss	Birmingham
2009	Sarah Strickland	Enterprise	Julia Maloney	Anniston
2010	Aaron OePiano	Birmingham	Sheldon Martin	Montgomery
			Allison Riley	Montgomery
2011	Allie Pfeiffer	Birmingham	Robert Lee	Montgomery
2012	Bryant Williams	Birmingham	Ashley Ann Adams	Montgomery
2013	Wayne Ingram	Birmingham	Natalie Jones	Birmingham
2014	Amelia Putnam	Birmingham	Ben Jackson	Birmingham
2015	Win Woodson	Montgomery	Christina McLaughlin	Hoover
2016	Sean Shelley-Tremblay	Mobile	Justin Clay	Hoover
2017	Justin Clay	Hoover	Bailey Hope	Montgomery
			James Courtney	Mobile
2018	Amanda Jones	Birmingham	Katherine Voorhees	Hoover
2019	Brody Ratliff	Montgomery	Regan Chavers	Spain park
2020	Hudson Wang	Birmingham	Luke Hillegass	Birmingham
2022	Hannah Mills	Birmingham	Elanor	Kinderman

Former Media Award Winners

Year	Name	City	Year	Name	City
1950	Illie Parson	Anniston	1984	Joe Maroney	Huntsville/Madison
1951	Sallie McDade	Montgomery	1988	Jennifer Chappell	Montgomery
1952	Patricia Martin	Anniston	1989	Jennifer Chappell	Montgomery
1953	Mary Frances Wilson	Anniston	1990	Jennifer Chappell	Montgomery
1954	Anne Hollingsworth	Anniston	1991	Patricia Davis	Montgomery
1955	Shirley Hickman	Anniston	1992	Angela Cogburn	Wetumpka
1956	Anita Moses	Anniston	1993	Mary Pat Lawrence	Anniston
1957	Carole Dow	Anniston	1994	Annie Nguyen	Mobile
1958	Jane Woodham	Anniston	1995	Alina Stefanescu	Tuscaloosa
1959	Deck West	Anniston	1996	Allison Head	Montgomery
1960	Janie Anderson	Anniston	1997	Ida Crawford	Montgomery
1961	Janie Anderson	Anniston	1998	Jennifer Bowman	Montgomery
1962	Carol Pamell	Anniston	1999	Sarah Curry	Pike County
1963	Bob Clem	Anniston	2000	Ashley Miles	Pike County
1964	Jack Sellers	Anniston	2001	Hank Johnson	Montgomery
1965	Bill McGuff	Anniston	2002	Brooke Nicholls	Anniston
1966	Keith Jones	Holt	2003	Brooke Nicholls	Anniston
1967	Lilburn Tipton	Anniston	2004	Katy Wise	Birmingham
1968	Frank Bailey	Anniston	2005	Lauren Gilpin	Montgomery
1969	Carol Cameron	Gadsden	2006	Alison Goodwyn	Montgomery
1970	Donna Judge	Anniston	2006	Annie Taliaferro	Dothan
1971	Sidney Odom	Tuscaloosa	2007	Annie Taliaferro	Dothan
1972	Vickie Sears	Anniston	2008	Nicole Geier	Anniston
1973	Randy Dinkens	Dothan	2009	Ashley Johnson	Montgomery
1974	Lu Willis	Anniston	2010	Danielle Carter	Wetumpka
1975	Harlan James	Anniston	2011	Nancy Ann Turner	Wetumpka
1976	Teresa Fuller	Prattville	2012	Kristian Duraski	Montgomery
1979	Denise Bruton	Birmingham	2013	Quanisha Blackmon	Tuskegee
1980	Kevin Ray	Opelika	2014	Amy Dennis	Montgomery
1981	Chuck Wilkenson	Gadsden	2015	Anna Claire Bullard	Montgomery
1982	Linda Garcia	Birmingham	2016	Meagan Holloway-Ragland	Montgomery
1983	Randall Smith	Anniston	2017	Trinity Hunter	Montgomery
			2018	Ashleigh Long	Birmingham
			2019	Julia Stuckey	Vestavia Hills
			2020	Mary Virginia	Montgomery
			2022	Laura Stanton Strickler	Montgomery

74th Alabama YMCA Youth Legislature

Schedule of Events

Thursday, February 23, 2023

12 Noon Governor's Cabinet Luncheon..... Capital City Club
 7:00 p.m. Youth Legislature Officers Meeting Embassy Suites Hotel: Capitol I & II

Friday, February 24, 2023

8:00 – 9:30 a.m. Delegation Check in..... Embassy Suites/ Registration
 9:00 Officer's Meeting..... Embassy Suites Hotel: Capitol I & II
 9:00 Supreme Court Meeting Hotel: Commerce Board Room
 9:15 Committee Chair Meeting Hotel: Salon A
 10:00 Opening Session..... Embassy Suites Ballroom

Senate	House	First Year
10:30 – Bus to Statehouse 11:00 – Committees (Statehouse) 12:15 – Lunch (RSA Plaza) 12:15 – Rules Committee* (Statehouse Rm. 322) 1:15 – Convene – Senate Chamber	10:30 – Committees (Statehouse) 11:00 – Committees 11:45 – Lunch (RSA Plaza) 11:45 – Rules Committee* (Statehouse Rm. 617) 12:30 – Convene – House Chamber	10:30 – Convene (Embassy Ballroom) 11:00 – Bus to Lunch 11:15 – Lunch (RSA Plaza) 11:15 – Rules Committee* (Statehouse Rm. 206) 12:15 – Convene – Statehouse Rm. 200 12:30 – Committees (Statehouse)
Media	Lobbyists	Supreme Court
10:00 – Opening (Embassy Ballroom) 10:30 – Meeting (Hotel: Commerce Board Room) 12:15 – Bus to Lunch 12:30 – Lunch (RSA Plaza)	9:30 – Meeting – Hotel: Capital III 10:00 – Opening (Embassy Ballroom) 10:45 – Bus to Statehouse 12:00 – Lunch 1:30 – Meeting – Statehouse 322	9:00 – Meeting – Hotel: Salon B 10:00 – Opening (Embassy Ballroom) 10:30 – Bus to Judicial Building 12:30 – Lunch – RSA Plaza 6 th Floor 2:00 PM – In Session State House 8th Fl. Joint Briefing Rm.

*Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs will meet for rules committee; lunch will be available.

2:00 p.m. Supreme Court in Session to hear Constitutional Challenges..... State House: 8th Fl. Joint Briefing Rm.
 2:30 Governor's News Conference State House Rm# 310
 4:30 Adult Meeting State House Rm# 617
 5:00 First Year Recesses to Dinner..... RSA Plaza
 5:45 Senate Recesses to Dinner..... RSA Plaza
 6:15 House Adjourns to Dinner..... RSA Plaza
6:15 – 7:30 First Year Reconvenes State House Room 200
6:15 – 7:30 Senate Reconvenes Senate Chamber 7th floor.
7:00 House busses to hotel
7:00 – 8:00 Buses Operate from State House to Hotel
 9:00 Supreme Court Public Hearing – All Delegates..... Embassy Suites: Ballroom
 9:30 Officer Speeches Embassy Suites: Ballroom
 10:30 Devotional [Led by Senate Chaplain and College Staff] Embassy Suites: Ballroom
 10:40 Officer's Meeting & Rules Committees..... Embassy Suites: Capitol I & II
 11:00 Curfew – In your own room

Saturday, February 25, 2023

6:30 – 8:30 a.m. Complimentary Breakfast..... Embassy Suites Hotel
8:30-9:30 Buses operate to State House Meet in Lobby
 9:30 Sessions Reconvene State House
 11:00 First Year Recesses to Lunch..... RSA Plaza
 11:30 Senate Recesses to Lunch..... RSA Plaza
 12:15 House Recesses to Lunch..... RSA Plaza
 [All Chambers reconvene 45 minutes after Recess]
 3:00 All Chambers adjourn Sine Die
 3:15-4:00 Joint Session – Governor's Debate..... House Chamber 5th floor
4:00 Buses operate from State House to Hotel.....

Voting stations open at hotel – **WEAR YOUR NAMETAG** Hotel Salon ABC

Voting Times by District: [Dist. 1 – 4:30] [Dist. 2 – 4:45] [Dist. 3 – 5:00] [Dist. 4 – 5:15] [Closed – 5:45 p.m.]

6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Dinner Embassy Salon ABC
 8:00 – 8:45 Runoff Election (if needed) Hotel Reg Booth
 8:45 Lead out followed by Governor's Ball Embassy Suites: Ballroom
 9:00 – 10:30 Photo booth & Games Embassy Suites: Salon ABC
 10:30 Devotional [Led by House Chaplain and College Staff] Embassy Suites: Ballroom
 11:00 Curfew – In your own room.

Sunday, February 26, 2023

7:00 – 9:00 a.m. Complimentary Breakfast..... Embassy Suites Hotel
 9:30 a.m. Awards Ceremony Embassy Suites: Ballroom
 10:45 a.m. Adjourn **(Sleeping rooms must be vacated by 11:00 AM)**

74th Alabama YMCA Youth Legislature

Schedule of Events

Meal Schedule

Friday Lunch RSA Plaza

11:15 First Year & Media
11:45 House
12:15 Senate
12:30 Media & Supreme Court

[Each chamber will reconvene 45 minutes after recessing for lunch]

Saturday Lunch RSA Plaza

11:00 First Year & Media
11:30 Senate, Lobbyist, Supreme Court
12:15 House

Friday Supper RSA Plaza

5:00 First Year
 [First Year will Reconvene at 6:15 p.m. in the House Chamber (5th floor)]
5:45 Senate, Lobbyists
 [Senate will Reconvene at 6:15 pm]
6:15 House, Media & Supreme Court
 [House members will load bus after meal for travel to hotel]

Saturday Dinner Embassy

6:00 All Groups

Directions to the RSA Plaza

✦ From the State House: Take Elevator to 2nd Floor. Take a Left to exit outside doors. Cross Street - RSA Plaza faces Washington Ave. Enter front door and follow signs.

State House Directory

2nd Floor	Ground Level (Main Lobby) First Year Chamber (Rm#200)
3rd Floor	Select Committee Rooms Youth Governor's Office (Rm #304)
5th Floor	House Chamber
6th Floor	House Gallery Info Station Lobbyist HQ
7th Floor	Senate Chamber
8th Floor	(Access by stairs only) Senate Gallery Supreme Court (Joint Briefing Room)

Embassy Suites Hotel

300 Tallapoosa Street
Montgomery, AL 36104
(334) 269-5055

Conference Office:

Registration Booth 1st Floor

Staybridge Suites Montgomery- Downtown

275 Lee Street
Montgomery, AL 36104
(334) 532-0700

SpringHill Suites- Downtown

152 Coosa St
Montgomery, AL 36104
(334) 245 -2088

DoubleTree

120 Madison Ave
Montgomery, AL 36104
(334)245-2320

Conference Hotline:
334-220-YMCA
(9622)

Alabama Youth Legislature

Session Guidelines

Committee

You are assigned a Committee based on the content of your bill. Authors of more than one bill must arrange with the chairperson of the Committee where their bill is assigned, in order to make an appearance before each relevant Committee.

Special Order Calendar

The Governor and his Cabinet have selected 3 bills in each chamber that they wish to see considered immediately on the floor of each chamber. These bills will be the first 3 bills heard in each chamber.

Floor Debate

When addressing the chamber, be sure to say "Madame/ Mister Speaker" (House and First Year) or "Madame / Mister President" (Senate). You will then give your name and delegation and inform them of your action (i.e. Address the chamber, ask the patron a series of questions, yield, etc...)

Resource Advisors

Each chamber will have College Staff members dedicated to providing research to delegates concerning other delegate's bills (research on delegate's own bills should have been completed prior to the conference.) Research request forms will be found in the back of each chamber at the Research Request Station. Completed research requests will be returned in a timely manner to the Research Request Station.

Pages

Pages are to carry only messages pertaining to the debate on the floor. Non-relevant messages will be destroyed.

Supreme Court

Any legislator (House, Senate or First Year) may challenge the constitutionality of *any* bill regardless of its status. Delegates wishing to challenge a bill's constitutionality must go to *8th Floor - Joint Briefing Room* and officially challenge the bill. If the Supreme Court accepts the case, you will be summoned alongside the bill's author to debate the constitutionality of the bill in front of the Supreme Court. The Attorney General will be available to assist delegates in preparing to challenge the constitutionality of a bill. *It is important to know that the decision of the Supreme Court is an opinion and has no official bearing on the passage of a bill, its place on a docket, or the Governor's signing decision. The Supreme Court's decision can be used in the course of debate on a bill.*

Electronic Devices

No electronic devices are permitted on the floor of any chamber. This includes cell phones and laptops. Any member found to be in possession of an electronic device on the floor of a chamber will be escorted from that chamber.

Other Requests:

- Please do not use the vending machines in the Statehouse
- Please respect the property of our Senators and Representatives by not touching anything on their desks, opening the drawers, or adjusting the microphones.
- If you have any questions, please ask your advisor for help.
- Stay on floors 5 - 8 of the Statehouse during sessions. Do not explore other areas of the Statehouse as they are off limits.
- Food, drink, or chewing gum is NOT allowed in the Statehouse or Capitol.

Proposal to Challenge Bill Constitutionality

Before the

Alabama Youth Supreme Court

Regarding

(Circle One)

House

Senate

First Year

Bill No.

Author: _____

In the space below, briefly summarize the proposal of the bill you would like to challenge:

In the space below, briefly state your argument(s) *against* the bill's constitutionality.

Your Name: _____

Delegation: _____

Chamber: _____

The Bill of Rights

Amendment I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Amendment II

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

Amendment III

No Soldier shall, In time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but In a manner to be prescribed by law.

Amendment IV

The right of the people to be secure In their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Amendment V

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service In time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled In any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Amendment VI

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses In his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defence.

Amendment VII

In Suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

Amendment VIII

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

Amendment IX

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Amendment X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

SENATE BILLS

SPECIAL ORDER CALENDAR

These bills have been selected by the leadership to skip the Committee Process and be debated first in their Chamber. Debate will begin on these bills when Chambers convene on Friday. They are not assigned to a Committee. The patrons should report to Committee 1.

S001 Educational Refuge for Alabama's Refugees
S003 The Healthy Food Access for All Alabamians Act
S021 Repeal of Money Bail

Hannah Broders
Luke Pappalardo
Connor Jenkins

Davidson
Birmingham- Vestavia Hills
Birmingham- Mountain Brook

The Regular Calendar will be distributed as soon as possible after Rules Committee and will be available from the Clerk/Secretary in each chamber.

SENATE COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE 1 EDUCATION AND PUBLIC SAFETY

CHAIRPERSON BROOKE BENDER CO-CHAIRPERSON KATELYN MORGAN

LOCATION: STATE HOUSE ROOM 418

COMMITTEE 2 COMMERCE AND TRANSPORTATION

CHAIRPERSON CARLYLE CHANDLER CO-CHAIRPERSON ELANOR KINDERMAN

LOCATION: STATE HOUSE ROOM 320

COMMITTEE 3 JUDICIAL AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

CHAIRPERSON ABIGAIL LINDERMAN CO-CHAIRPERSON WILLIAM NEUMANN

LOCATION: STATE HOUSE ROOM 316

COMMITTEE 4 HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

CHAIRPERSON ELAIN VO CO-CHAIRPERSON IAN LYNCH

LOCATION: STATE HOUSE ROOM 825



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #SB1

Committee: 1- Education

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Catey Rose Callahan

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Sex Education Standard Act

Abstinence Only- Abstinence-only sex education is a form of sex education that teaches not having sex outside of marriage.

Abstinence-Plus- Abstinence-plus sex education stresses abstinence as the best way to prevent pregnancy and STDs, but also includes information on contraception and condoms.

Comprehensive sex ed - Comprehensive sex ed includes information on a variety of topics related to sex and sexuality, exploring values, and beliefs about those topics, and gaining skills that are needed to navigate relationships and manage one's own sexual health.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill; #SB2

Committee: 2- Commerce

Chamber: Legislature

Delegation: Jefferson Davis High School

Author(s): Elise Barr

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: The Minorities Check Act

Author: Elise Barr

Title: Checking Accounts for Minors Act

Section 1: Definitions

Bank: Any institution or business regulated under Title 5 of the Code of Alabama

Minor: Someone who is under the age of 18

Section 2: Bank Accounts

1. Banks shall provide to a minor, upon application, a debit or checking account, provided that the minor is at least 14 years old.
2. Upon said application, banks shall notify the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of a minor making application that said minor has made said application.
3. Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, if a minor making application for an account fails to provide the bank(s) to which application is made with correct current contact information for the minor's parent(s) or legal guardian(s), the bank may refuse to open an account for the minor.
4. The bank shall, upon request of the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of a minor who has applied for an account, provide the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) informational access to the minor's account.
5. Informational access under subsection (d) of this section shall not entitle the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) granted such access the powers or rights associated with joint accounts.

Section 3:

A bank shall open an account for a minor under **Section 2** of this Act, provided the minor has the following:

1. A valid Social Security number;
2. A valid, government-issued photo ID like a driver's license, passport or state or military ID;
3. A birth certificate; and
4. A minimum opening deposit of \$25.

Section 4:

All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section 5:

This act shall become effective April 29, 2023.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #SB4

Committee: 2- Transportation

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Emarie Price

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Can't Drive a Car, Can't Drive a Boat

boater safety certification - boating license obtained by passing the boater safety examination or taking a boating course

vessels and personal watercrafts - watercrafts that exceed 15 horsepower



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #SB5

Committee: 3- Judicial

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Connor Jenkins

Chamber: *Special Order*

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Repeal of Money Bail

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Connor Jenkins

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Repeal of Money Bail

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

Bail: the temporary release of an accused person awaiting trial, sometimes on condition that a sum of money be lodged to guarantee their appearance in court.

Bail bondsman: a private salesman who posts bail on behalf of a defendant in return for a percent interest return.

Section II: Background

Under current Alabama law, all accused parties are subject to "be bailable by sufficient sureties" based on the severity and context of the offense. Many defendants, especially in the state of Alabama, are unable to afford to make bail, requiring them to rely on bail bonds to get out of jail or simply waiting their time in jail until their court dates.

62% of or approximately 526,000 individuals currently held in the US incarceration system have not been convicted of a crime and are awaiting trial. The average time from arraignment to the trial date is around 30 to 60 days.

In 2019, approximately 16% or 22,927 out of 140,206 crimes committed were violent crimes such as murder, assault, and rape; the rest, are mostly composed of property crimes and drug charges.

Section III: Proposition

This bill seeks to completely repeal the use of cash bail in the Alabama justice system. In the position of cash bail, a supervised release program would be implemented. Supervised release involves a system where government or nonprofit organization social workers make regular visits to defendants homes to remind them of court dates and relevant trial information. In addition to human interaction, two-way text messaging platforms such as nonprofit organization Uptrust would be put in place to connect public defenders to their clients about upcoming court dates. For more severe, violent crimes, judges will make the decision whether or not to detain or release individuals.

Section IV: Justification

The current system of cash bail in the United States is inherently flawed and unjust. By creating bail based on a singular factor such as the severity of a crime, low-income individuals are much more unlikely to be able to afford their bail payment than their wealthier counterparts, even if they are both



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charged for the same crime. This causes many defendants to seek out bail bonds in order to pay, demanding a 10-15% down payment on the amount of their bail at the expense of the defendant, which is still a substantial amount of money for many defendants.

Additionally, detaining unconvicted individuals perpetuates the current problems in the Alabama justice system. A case study in Houston found that pretrial detaining gave a 30% increase in felonies and 20% increase in misdemeanors within 18 months of the initial bail hearing. Nationally, 82% of all in-jail suicides occur among people in the unconvicted status. And by detaining unconvicted individuals, they are now unable to work a job and therefore now won't be able to provide for their families or make recurring payments, further increasing the amount of property crimes committed in the future.

The introduction of supervised release has practically no negative effect on the percentage of defendants appearing in court, with a 91% appearance rate for scheduled court dates. In addition, it actually saves the state money because Alabama wouldn't have to fit the bill for the unconvicted inmates in the already overcrowded prison system. Similarly, it would prop up the economy, reduce unemployment, and decrease poverty because individuals who would have been detained beforehand now can work their regular jobs and be active members of the economy.

This bill is not created to have any effect on the amount of individuals convicted or decrease the amount of crime committed in between trial periods, but it simply makes it so the American ideal of "innocent until proven guilty" applies to all citizens equally, regardless of income because incarcerating people on the basis of their poverty seemingly equates guilt to poverty.

Section V: Implementation

The implementation of this bill will require the installation of government run or government-sponsored nonprofit organizations under the Alabama Department of Justice that hire social workers to make the regularly scheduled visits. The frequency of these visits would be on a scale from 1 to 5 based on the severity of the crime and likelihood of flight risk, with 1 being the least severe (about once a month) to 5 being the most severe (a few times a week). The messaging platform would need to be installed on both the public defender's and client's mobile phone or home phone, assuming they have some form of long distance contact. For the defendants accused of violent crimes and for those with an extensive track record of failure to appear in court, judges may decide whether or not to hold defendants based on case facts brought by the state during pretrial arraignment.

Section VI: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment Clause

This act is to become effective on January 1st, 2024 upon approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #SB6

Committee: 3- Government Operations

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Clara White

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Recognizing Election Day as a Federal Holiday Bill

Duty refers to a moral or legal responsibility.

Rights in this context are moral or legal entitlements to have something or do certain things.

Awareness in terms of holidays is the knowledge of that day, the situation it revolves around, and the importance of that situation.

Impact is what individuals have the chance to make when they exercise their rights, whether that be the right to vote, the right to protect, or any of their other protected rights.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #SB7

Committee: 2- Transportation

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: Indian Springs

Author(s): Ann Charles Sutton

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: An Act to Minimize Distracted Driving: The Prohibition of Handheld Cell Phone Usage While Operating a Motor Vehicle

House Bill:

Author: Ann Charles Sutton

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: An Act to Minimize Distracted Driving: The Prohibition of Handheld Cell Phone Usage While Operating a Motor Vehicle

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section 1: Definitions

Motor vehicle: A self-propelled road vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine or other motor

Manual distraction: A distraction that results in the driver's eyes are averted from the road

Cognitive distraction: A distraction that results in the driver's attention or concentration is hindered

Visual distraction: A distraction that results in the driver's hands not being placed on the steering wheel.

In the case of a visual distraction, the driver's chance of getting into an accident increases by four hundred percent.

Section II: Proposal

Handheld cell phone usage while driving a motor vehicle will be prohibited, unless it is applicable to contact emergency services, the vehicle has been lawfully pulled over on the shoulder of the road, or the vehicle is legally parked.

Section III: Purpose

In the State of Alabama, despite the life-threatening consequences, it is currently legal for drivers over the age of eighteen to engage in handheld phone usage while driving. It is reported by the National Safety Council that over 1.6 million car crashes are caused by cell phone usage alone every year. In addition, fourteen percent of all fatal crashes are attributed to cell phone usage. Phone usage while driving results in visual distractions, manual distractions, and cognitive distractions, therefore resulting in dangerous driving.

Section IV: Consequences

Prohibiting the usage of handheld cell phone usage while driving will limit distracted driving in the state of Alabama, therefore decreasing the amount of car crashes and fatality due to car crashes.

Section V: Enforcement

Drivers are fined the same for the offense handheld cell phone usage as they are for texting while driving; they will be required to pay twenty-five dollars on their first offense, fifty dollars on their second offense, and seventy-five dollars on each offense after. Each offense gets two points on the driver's



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license. A driver will get their license suspended if they grow twelve points on their license over a two year period.

Section VI: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #SB8

Committee: 3- Judicial

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Christian Glenos

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: The Private Prison Expansion Act of 2024

Name: Christian Glenos

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: The Private Prison Expansion Act of 2024

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

Private Prison- a place where people are imprisoned by a third party that is contracted by a government agency.

Recidivism- the tendency of a convicted criminal to reoffend

Section II: Background

Prison overcrowding is a growing problem within the state of Alabama that can no longer go unnoticed. In addition, Alabama's 15 (private and local) prisons grow increasingly understaffed. Within the state of Alabama there are currently 32,300 inmates imprisoned in state and federal prisons. As it stands now, These facilities are at 155% capacity, meaning that for every 100 adequately sustained resources there are an extra 55. This draws resources from all inmates, lowering quality of life, safety, and access to educational programs. Currently, the recidivism rate in the state of Alabama is 28.7%, putting the state at 9th highest across the country. These statistics reflect the current failure of the Alabama Justice System, and therefore reform is in order.

Section III: Proposition

I propose the state of Alabama expand its use of private prisons in order to accommodate the growing number of incarcerated persons in a cost effective, just, and effective manner. Thereafter, may the savings accumulated as a result be reinvested back into the maintenance and living conditions within current prisons. The expansion would mandate hiring/commissioning current contractors to develop the facilities necessary to properly accommodate the current number of inmates.

Section IV: Justification

The expansion of private prisons would alleviate the current strain on the Alabama Department of Justice. By expanding the number of prisons, the state could effectively accommodate the number of prisoners. In doing so, the government would save approximately \$10,000 per inmate. This money could then be reinvested back into the prison system for the betterment of living conditions and upkeep of current prisons. Not only would this meet the need for more space, it would also free up funds for the growth of justice in the state of Alabama. This would do more to solve for the rampant overcrowding, violence, lack of resources, recidivism, and overall injustice within today's prisons.

Section V: Implementation



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The Department of Justice will oversee the implementation of this bill. In order to do so, we will apply for the necessary funds from Congress and delegate the remaining sum if need be from the current gross spending budget.

Section VI: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment Clause

Upon passing, may this bill be enacted into law on January 1, 2024.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #SB10

Committee: 1- Public Safety

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: Saint James School

Author(s): Brooke Bender

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Lions Don't Belong in Alabama

Section 1: Definitions

Zoo- a facility with usually indoor and outdoor settings where living, typically wild animals are kept especially for public exhibition

Wildlife Reservation- an area set aside for the preservation of undomesticated animals and birds in their native habitat

Safari Park- an area of parkland where wild animals are kept in the open and may be observed by visitors driving through

Section 2: Proposition

The purpose of this bill is to ban the possession of wildlife in captivity for public exhibition purposes specifically zoos.

Section 3: Justification

This will effectively shut down preexisting zoos and while also preventing future establishments. This will protect wildlife from mistreatment and mental distress which is commonly found in zoos. The Commissioner of Conservation and Natural Resources and its already appointed committee shall be responsible for helping these zoos and habitats find new homes in animal sanctuaries and reserves in Alabama and outside of it.

Section 4: Funding

Any funding needed for advertising this new law and carrying it out to the fullest will be provided by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed

Section 6: This act shall become effective January 1, 2028 after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #SB13

Committee: 2- Commerce

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Elanor Kinderman

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Net Metering Act

Section I: Definitions

Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs- This department works to positively impact Alabama communities through partnerships, grant programs, and services to spur community and economic development and enhance quality of life.

Section II: Background

While the rest of the Southeast is leading the charge in the solar industry, Alabama is noticeably lagging behind. One major reason is the numerous obstacles in the way of residential solar panels, including additional fees for those who want to remain hooked up to the grid for emergencies. When a solar user does not produce enough power for themselves, they must pay extra to draw from the electricity grid. Almost every other state has some kind of net metering law in place. Net metering gives solar users a credit for putting the excess power they produce back into the grid, which they can use in situations where they need electricity. Through net metering, Alabama could start catching up when it comes to solar.

Section III: Proposition

This bill will establish a mandatory net metering policy in Alabama, which would allow customers who generate their own energy from solar power to receive a credit for the electricity they contribute to the grid.

Section IV: Justification

As of now, only three states offer no form of net metering or compensation for energy added to the grid, and Alabama is one of them. By allowing a credit for the excess energy created during the day, Alabamians will be able to use solar power more efficiently, drawing on their credit during the night or other times they cannot produce enough power. This policy will incentivize more people to use solar power, which will help make Alabama more environmentally friendly, while also providing jobs and economic growth through the solar industry. Overall, utility companies will also benefit, as net metering reduces the strain on distribution systems and reduces over consumption of electricity.

Section V: Implementation

The implementation of this bill will be overseen by the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs.

Section VI: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment Clause



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This act is to become effective upon passage and approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #SB16

Committee: 4- Environment

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Libby Turner

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Subsidized Septic Tanks

Section I: Definitions

Septic tanks - underground chambers used for wastewater treatment

Vapor product - a non-combustible product containing nicotine that employs a mechanical heating element, battery, or circuit, regardless of shape or size, that can be used to heat a nicotine solution

The Alabama Onsite Wastewater Board - a board that examines, licenses and regulates persons engaged in manufacture, installation or servicing of onsite wastewater systems in Alabama

Section II: Background

In Alabama, many counties along the Black Belt struggle with accessing reliable water and sanitation. When heavy rainfall comes in these rural areas, sewage water can easily overflow from where it is stored and pool in yards.

Section III: Proposition

Alabamians who do not have an existing septic tank or private waste management system, or who are not connected to the municipal sewer system will be provided with a septic tank. People who wish to have a new septic tank will need to submit a form with the size of their lot, their income, and where they live. Participants in the program will be chosen based on these criteria.

Section IV: Justification

Alabama needs free septic tanks to ensure the health and safety of its citizens. Poor wastewater management greatly affects impoverished communities and leaves them without safe drinking water as well as damages the surrounding environment and harms wildlife. Existing wastewater management systems involve dumping sewage into pools that lead to dangerous bacteria. Voting yes for this bill will not only address the sewage problems Alabama is facing, but also address the addiction problems that are terrorizing Alabama communities.

Section V: Implementation

The Alabama Onsite Wastewater Board will oversee this new program. Septic tanks cost anywhere from \$10,000 to \$30,000 for the tank and full installation. To fund the new program we will raise taxes on tobacco products and vapor products containing nicotine. Alabama taxes tobacco products based on ounces. The tax rate for snuff/moist snuff/snus will raise from \$.01 per ounce to \$.50 per ounce for ½ ounces or less and from \$.12 per ounce to \$1.50 per ounce for containers over 6 ounces. Chewing tobacco will be raised from \$.015 per ounce to \$1.00 per ounce. The rate per cigarette stick will rise from \$0.03375 per stick to \$.10 per stick. This will make the tax on a package of 20 cigarettes be \$2.00 and the tax on a package of 25 cigarettes be \$2.50. Cigarettes and tobacco and use the money to buy, install, manage, and repair the septic tanks. Alabama also will enact a tax of \$.50/ml for vapor products



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containing nicotine. For the tobacco tax, only the money raised through the difference of the two tax prices will go to buying, installing, and managing the new septic tanks. For example, The existing tax on a single cigarette was \$.03375 per stick, but the new tax will be \$.10 per stick. The difference between these two values is \$.06625 and \$.06625 of the money earned per stick will go to the new program. All money raised through the tax of vapor products containing nicotine will go to the new program.

Section VI: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment Clause

This bill will become effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #SB25

Committee: 2- Commerce

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: Vestavia Hills High School

Author(s): Graysen Jones

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Legalizing Sports Betting in Alabama

Title-

Legalizing Sports Betting in Alabama

Section I-

Definitions-

- Forbes defines sports betting as the act of "two or more individuals wager money on the outcome of a sporting event"
- Investopedia defines sportsbook as "a company or individual that accepts bets from individual sports bettors"
- Murphy v. NCAA was a 2018 Supreme Court case that ruled the Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act of 1992 violated the anti-commandeering rule, thus allowed state legislatures to decide whether or not to legalize sports betting
- Oxford Dictionary defines a VPN as "an arrangement whereby a secure, apparently private network is achieved using encryption over a public network, typically the internet"

Section II-

1. Legalization of sports betting is the acceptance of wagers on sporting events or portions of sports events, the individual performance statistics of athletes in a sporting event, or a combination of any of the same.
2. The implementation of a fifteen percent tax rate on net gaming revenue meaning the total amount of money or value in any form received by a licensed operator and/or winner with respect to sports betting, excluding free bets and promotional credits, including the cash equivalent of any merchandise or thing of value awarded as a prize.
3. The state will issue licenses to owners of an authorized Internet sports betting platform or licensed location, or a wholly owned subsidiary entity of the owner of a licensed location.

Section III-

The justification for this bill is simple: legalizing sports betting will bring tremendous profit to the state's tax revenue and Alabama businesses.

The significant advantage of legalizing sports betting is the increase in tax revenue. According to the Colorado General Assembly, Colorado has received over one hundred million dollars from sports betting tax revenue with only a ten percent tax rate. Other states like New York, with a fifty-one percent tax rate, added over five hundred million dollars to their tax revenue, and Pennsylvania, with a thirty-six percent tax rate, added over eighteen million dollars to their tax revenue. Although both are extreme examples, according to Bloomberg, the national average tax rate on sports betting is between ten and



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fifteen percent. Alabama should implement a fifteen percent tax rate on all sports betting. Legalizing sports betting will cost Alabama nothing but bring in millions of dollars. Those millions of dollars can be used on many social programs throughout Alabama, like education, emergency response agencies, infrastructure, and healthcare.

The second reason to legalize sports betting is that people already place sports bets in Alabama. Since Alabama has yet to legalize sports betting, sportsbooks are forced to implement GPS trackers to prevent people in Alabama from placing bets. However, people can easily use a VPN to get around the trackers. Also, VPNs are relatively easy to download and use. Many VPNs are even free. Anyone can change their location and start betting with just a few clicks. The biggest issue is that since the sportsbook believes the person is in another state, the tax revenue does not go to Alabama. Why should Alabama continue to ignore the potential for millions of dollars if people are already placing bets?

The third reason to legalize sports betting is the added revenue from tourism. Sports become more interesting when people have money on the line. With the massive popularity of college sports in the South, many people from nearby states like Mississippi, Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina, will come to Alabama to watch college sports and place bets. Whenever a visiting university comes to one of Alabama's many Universities, people will likely place a bet on the sports event because their state has not legalized sports betting. If more people are coming to Alabama's universities that will bring more economic growth to the specific region.

Section IV-

This bill will not require any funding because sportsbooks already have the technology and are merely blocking citizens from Alabama from placing bets.

Section V-

All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section VI-

This act shall become effective at the beginning of the state's fiscal year, after its passage and approval by the Governor, or otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #SB26

Committee: 1-Education

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: Vestavia Hills High School

Author(s): Mary-Addison Wolfe

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: GRIEF Act

Title: Grief Response in Educational Facilities Act of 2023 (GRIEF Act)

Section I:

High School- A public school that carries grades 9 through 12.

Suicide- injuring oneself to the extent of death.

Alabama Health Education Program- A program set in play to prevent disease and injury while improving the wellbeing of the youth.

CEU- Continuing Education unit. This is a course that all teachers must complete sixteen hours of instruction over the two year licensure period.

Section II:

(1) All high schools in the state of Alabama must discuss and teach grief and coping with loss or trauma during their required half a year health credit.

(2) This section will be added to the state's Alabama Health Education program.

(3) During the 18 week course a four week period should be allotted to grief and should follow Alabama Course of Study.. The teacher in charge should cover topics such as how to recognize poor emotional and physical reactions, what to do in an abusive situation, resources where students can seek mental health help, and be taught how to return to a normal life after a traumatic event.

(4) The state would develop and sponsor CEUs to train and teach any teacher who had an interest in learning about mental health or helping students cope with grief.

Section III:

Suicide is third leading cause of death in Alabama amongst kids with ages ranging between 12-18.

In an Alabama Survey conducted in 2015 by the CDC, 1 out of every 6 students admitted to considering suicide in the past twelve month. Using these numbers, this is just shy of 139,000 Alabama teenagers who will consider suicide in the next twelve months if changes are not made. Additionally, in Alabama, 11.2% of students (or 1 out of every 9) have admitted to attempting suicide in the past 12 months. This is compared to a national average of 7.3%. There are 833,000 school age kids in the state of Alabama as of 2021. This means 93,321 students per year who are likely to attempt suicide. If nothing changes, 256 children will attempt suicide every day in the state of Alabama alone.

Section IV:

There will be one time funding to develop the curriculum from the Department of Education Unit. No additional funding is necessary, as it would be taught in existing classes by existing teachers.

Section V:

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section VI:

This bill will be enacted after being signed into law and at the start of the next school year.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #SB27

Committee: 3- Judicial

Delegation: Catholic

Author(s): Ian Marcell

Chamber: Supreme Court

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Chemical castration

Title: Chemical castration

Be It Enacted By the Youth Legislature of Alabama

Section 1: Terms

Chemical Castration: The use of chemicals or drugs to halt the sex hormone production

Rape: Unlawful and forced sexual intercourse

Recidivism: the tendency of a convicted criminal to reoffend

FDA: Federal Drug Administration

Section 2: Purpose

A bill to offer a new treatment option/punishment in the reformation for recidivist rapists with FDA monitorization and approval.

Section 3: Justification

A harsher treatment for recidivist rapists is severely needed. As of 2020, the rape rate in America is the second highest it has ever been in recorded U.S. history, with forty percent of convicted rapists in the U.S. reoffending. Furthermore, more than seventy percent of all rape cases in the U.S. pertaining to victims who are children 17 years of age and under, with 1 in 4 girls, and 1 in 13 boys. These statistics clearly show an unchecked and rampant problem of rape in America, which leads to this new option in rehabilitation. Similarly to Canada's law that was passed in 2006, ultimately bringing Canada's rape rate down 10.6 percent in just a year, this bill proposes the chemical castration of recidivist rapists in the U.S.. After a rapist reoffends and shows no sign of rehabilitation, there would be an option put into place that they be chemically castrated, ultimately removing the ability to rape. While there is already a similar bill in place, Alabama's law HB 379's implementation of chemical castration is not monitored by the FDA, where this bill would be. Ensuring the safety of anyone undergoing this process, while maintaining its effectiveness and ensuring the safety of potential rape victims, is a priority.

Section 4: Funding and Oversight

The Alabama department of corrections will fund the implementation of this bill. Due to this bill, there will be fewer rapists in prisons, allowing the money that would be used on them to be applied to the implementation of this bill.

Section 5: Any and all laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section 6: This act shall become effective January 1, 2024 after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB28

Committee: 3- Judicial

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Abigail Linderman

Chamber: Senate

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Prisons to Polls

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Installment Payments: payment of costs, fine, and/or restitution in specified installments.
- Contingent Voter License: A license granting a person the right to vote. The rights granted by this certificate are contingent on the person following their installment payment plan and/or terms of their parole or probation and can be revoked if the person fails to pay two consecutive installments or violates parole/probation guidelines.

Section II: Proposal

Upon signing, felons who have committed crimes that do not disqualify them from voting and are eligible to vote will have their right to vote immediately restored upon release. Those serving out the remainder of their sentence on parole or probation may be issued a contingent voter license which may be revoked by their parole/probation officer if and only if they violate parole/probation guidelines. Those in the process of paying fines, costs, and/or restitutions may also be issued a contingent voter license upon payment of their first two installments or completion of their installment payments. Any person who has fails to pay two consecutive installment payments will have their contingent voter license revoked and will need to pay their costs, fine, and/or restitution in full in order to have their right to vote restored.

Section III: Justification

The right to vote is one of the most important rights we have as citizens of the United States, yet one in every 13 adults in Alabama cannot vote because of a felony conviction. Currently, you must pay all fines in full before regaining your right to vote. Those who have already served time are often financially unstable when they are released, making fines and restitutions extremely difficult to pay up front. Installment payment plans make paying off these fines more attainable, but they also often extend the amount of time a person is disenfranchised. Allowing people to vote while paying off a fine or restitution removes the financial barrier between the people and the poll. Rather than the wealthy buying their vote back upon release, and the poor remaining disenfranchised, all citizens will receive the same rights upon release regardless of income. Allowing those on parole or probation to vote works as an incentive not to violate the terms of their parole/probation and allows those who have served their time and want to become a valuable member of society to participate in the democratic process.

Section IV: Consequences

This bill will re-enfranchise thousands of people who have already paid their debt to society

Section V: Enforcement

This bill will be enforced by the Alabama Department of Pardons and Paroles.

Section VI: Payment

This bill requires no monetary funding

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB30

Committee: 2- Commerce

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Jack Hagglund

Chamber: Senate

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Separate Church and State

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Deviate - Depart from an established course.
- Tax - A compulsory contribution to state revenue, levied by the government on workers' income and business profits, or added to the cost of some goods, services, and transactions.
- Religious Institution - Any church, synagogue, mosque, temple, or building which is used primarily for religious worship and related religious activities.

Section II: Proposal

This is a two part proposal. First, a gradual property tax would be set on all religious institutions (scaling on how much property is owned by the institute). Second, a compulsory "church" tax for all persons attached to a religious institution. In order for one to participate in said tax, they must register with their place of worship. Once registered, it is up to the institution to properly file with the state to receive the proceeds.

Section III: Justification

Under **Section 3** of the state of Alabama's constitution, "that no one shall be compelled by law to attend any place of worship; nor to pay any tithes, taxes, or other rate for building or repairing any place of worship." As of right now the religious institutions are openly receiving state and federal funding in the form of taxpayer dollars and faith-based grants. Obviously, this violates Alabama's constitution.

Instead of repealing governmental funding for religious institutions and depriving smaller congregations from necessary aid, this bill deviates from normalcy within the United States. Typically, states either operate like Alabama or they give no funding. Instead, this bill aims to alleviate Alabama's reliance on the federal government, ensure the continuation and freedom of religion, and keep balance between church and state.

Section IV: Consequences

Most consequences of the bill would actually be mitigated by the bill itself. No groups would be represented less than others. This bill may disincentive donations. However, most congregations will receive more money annually through this system.

Section V: Enforcement

The same enforcement laws would be followed that enforce property tax and income tax now. If an institution were to not pay their taxes, the probate court of the county the institution is located may order the sale of the property.

Section VI: Payment

100% of the compulsory tax on individuals income would go back to the institution they are registered with. The only money the state would receive is from the property tax on this bill. This money would go towards affordable housing.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #SB30

Committee: 1- Education

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Sage Kaz

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Electives?

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section 1: Definitions

Electives - an optional course of study.

School - a public

Section 2: Proposal

My bill proposes that electives should be optional to take. My bill will let people be able to leave school early if they don't want to take electives. They may also leave school early if they want to take less than three electives. This lets people spend their time more efficiently than spending it in a class that they are not trying in. This bill will be for all grades in high school.

Section 3: Justification

My bill should be enacted because it will let children spend more time doing activities that they like, getting a job and earning money, etc. Kids are wasting time in classes that are not beneficial to them and could be improving themselves or working on a class that is more beneficial for their time.

Section 4: Consequences

If my bill is passed then children will be happier because they will get more time to themselves. Teachers will also not have to deal with irritating students that do not want to be in their class and are completely unmotivated. Unmotivated kids are a nuisance to teachers especially when the student knows the class will not be beneficial to them and the teacher can not do anything to motivate them.

Section 5: Enforcement

This will be enforced by the Alabama Board of Education. They will make it optional for all schools in Alabama to let students have electives.

Section 6: Payment

There will be no necessary payment for this bill.

Section 7: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section 8: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or it's otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #SB31
Committee: 4- Health
Delegation: Spain Park
Author(s): Micah Breland

Chamber: Senate

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: S.U.G.A.R. - Securing Unlimited Glucose Analysis for Review

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- CONTINUOUS GLUCOSE MONITOR or "CGM" - An instrument or device, including repair and replacement parts, which meets all of the following requirements: a) Is designed and offered for the purposes of aiding an individual with diabetes. b) Measures glucose levels at set intervals by means of a small electrode placed under the skin and held in place by an adhesive.
- HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN - Any group insurance plan, individual health insurance policy or other policy, or contract for health care services that covers hospital, medical, or surgical expenses, health maintenance organizations, preferred provider organizations, medical service organizations, physician-hospital organizations, or any other person, firm, corporation, joint venture, or other similar business entity that pays for, purchases, or furnishes group health care services to patients, insureds, or beneficiaries in this state. For the purposes of this act, a health benefit plan located or domiciled outside of the State of Alabama is deemed to be subject to this **Section** If the plan, policy, or contract is issued or delivered in the State of Alabama.

Section II: Proposal

This bill requires all health benefit plans to offer coverage for continuous glucose monitors to patients with diabetes, regardless of the patient's age, health status, pre-existing conditions, or health premiums/deductibles. Any other coverage offered by the health benefit plan will not be affected by the coverage of a continuous glucose monitor, or lack thereof.

This bill would also allow any patient with diabetes on Alabama Medicaid to receive a CGM regardless of the patient's individual plan, or the age of the patient.

Section III: Justification

Patients with diabetes face the challenge of regulating their blood glucose levels to maintain a healthy level of sugar in their blood. Continuous glucose monitors, or CGMs, allow patients to constantly monitor blood glucose levels. CGMs also allow patients to see trends in blood glucose levels and allow them to adjust accordingly.

Currently, some health benefit plans refuse to cover CGMs, and others require patients to show consistent blood glucose levels that are too high or too low. This restricts the number of diabetic patients that can receive access to helpful, sometimes lifesaving tools.

Section IV: Consequences

After this bill is passed, more individuals with diabetes will have access to Continuous Glucose Monitors. Insurance companies may have a slight loss in revenue, but their immense profit margins will more than make up the difference. The state of Alabama may have to pay slightly more in Medicaid for people that claim access to a CGM, but this will not be a major expense.

Section V: Enforcement

The Alabama Department of Insurance will be in charge of enforcing this law. Any insurance company that refuses to provide coverage for a CGM to an individual with diabetes after this law takes effect must pay 5% of their profits from the previous quarter, and each quarter thereafter until they begin following this law.

The Alabama Department of Medicaid will be in charge of enforcing this law for patients on Medicaid.

Section VI: Payment

Any revenue generated by fines will go towards expanding Medicaid. Any additional costs from Medicaid will be covered by federal funds from the Affordable Care Act.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB32

Committee: 4- Health

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Annabelle King

Chamber: Senate

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Mental Health Matters

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- **ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder):** A chronic condition including attention difficulty, hyperactivity, and impulsiveness.
- **Anxiety:** a feeling of worry, nervousness, or unease, typically about an imminent event or something with an uncertain outcome.
- **ADD (attention deficit disorder):** A chronic condition including attention difficulty, and impulsiveness.
- **OCD (obsessive compulsive disorder):** obsessive-compulsive disorder is characterized by unreasonable thoughts and fears (obsessions) that lead to compulsive behaviors.
- **Depression:** A group of conditions associated with the elevation or lowering of a person's mood, such as depression or bipolar disorder.
- **Distractions:** a thing that prevents someone from giving full attention to something else.
- **Attention:** notice taken of someone or something; the regarding of someone or something as interesting or important.
- **Hyperfocus:** a phenomenon that reflects one's complete absorption in a task, to a point where a person appears to completely ignore or 'tune out' everything else.
- **Chronic:** (of an illness) persisting for a long time or constantly recurring.
- **Assessments:** the evaluation or estimation of the nature, quality, or ability of someone or something.
- **Mental Disorder:** A wide range of conditions that affect mood, thinking, and behavior.
- **Disturbance:** the interruption of a settled and peaceful condition.
- **Education:** the process of receiving or giving systematic instruction, especially at a school or university.
- **Educator:** a person who provides instruction or education; a teacher.
- **Mandate:** an official order or commission to do something.
- **Classes:** a set or category of things having some property or attribute in common and differentiated from others by kind, type, or quality.
- **Evaluation:** the making of a judgment about the amount, number, or value of something; assessment.
- **Mental Health:** a person's condition with regard to their psychological and emotional well-being.
- **Mandatory:** required by law or rules; compulsory.
- **PRAXIS Test:** one of a series of American teacher certification exams written and administered by the Educational Testing Service.

- **LSATS:** The Law School Admission Test is a standardized test administered by the Law School Admission Council (LSAC) for prospective law school candidates.
- **BOARDS:** The United States Medical Licensing Examination is a three-step examination program for medical licensure in the United States sponsored by the Federation of State Medical Boards and the National Board of Medical Examiners.
- **BAR:** A bar examination is an examination administered by the bar association of a jurisdiction that a lawyer must pass in order to be admitted to the bar of that jurisdiction.
- **PFT:** Physical Fitness Test (PFT) to ensure you will be able to safely and successfully complete training at the FBI Academy and effectively respond to situations on the job.
- **TSA:** A 45 minute long self-administered test given to those who are applying for city and rural mail carrier positions.

Section II: Proposal

All educators in the state of AL, are required to take a course on understanding and handling student mental health. At the end of the course ALL educators MUST get an 80% or higher on the final exam to be able to teach in the state of Alabama. The test will be created by a board of certified mental health specialists which will consist of topics covering mental health in minors and how to understand and handle specific situations. Once instated, every 5 years educators must retake the test to continue teaching and every 2 years educators will be evaluated.

Section III: Justification

The protection of the mental health of minors is vital. During the years of adolescence (10-19 years of age), the mental health of minors is more likely to be influenced by outside forces. Since minors are required to be in school, teachers should be required to know the proper ways to handle and understand their mental health. This bill would create a test similar to the required PRAXIS test. This would also instate a mandatory class to prepare for the test. This test would be called the MHMUHISS (Mental Health of Minors: Understand and Handling Individual Students' Situations).

This course would cover all relevant mental health studies within the scope of the minor age group. This would highlight common mental health disorders such as: ADHD, OCD, ADD, Anxiety, Depression, etc. With this class, participants in the course will be instructed on how to understand mental health in minors, the importance of mental health in minors, and how to handle situations within a classroom including the mental health of minors.

Today, educators are not properly informed on how detrimental certain actions can be to a student's mental health. There are many reports of teachers purposely distract students whilst they take assessments. There are roughly 12.1% percent of minors (ages 3-17) that are diagnosed with ADHD. It is extremely common for students with ADHD to engage in a type of hyperfocus while working. If distracted during an assessment this can completely redirect one's hyperfocus which can prevent them from being able to work efficiently on the rest of their assessment. This instance happens with many different mental disorders. It can be even worse when an issue is chronic, disturbances can be much more severe.

With educators having such a large presence within minors' lives, they should be well-prepared to handle and understand their students. With other professions that are important to society, many are required to take assessments to have the ability to be instated in their profession. Examples would include: Doctors (Boards), Attorneys (LSAT and BAR), FBI (PFT), Mail Carriers (TSA), Educators (PRAXIS), etc. These professions all play vital roles in society, educators have the responsibility of helping the youth rise up.

With educators coming in contact with minor's majority of the year, there should be a responsibility to protect the minds of the youth. This class and test would not only help educate our educators but also help prevent teen crisis' and help lower teen suicide rates (in AL 18.8% of high school students seriously considered

attempting suicide and 8.9% actually attempted suicide). Mental health is extremely important, those who are employed to teach the youth of America should also be required to protect them as well.

Section IV: Consequences

Consequences of this bill may include a decrease in educators due to requirements not being met. As well as more of a cost to be able to instate the course and test.

Section V: Enforcement

This will be enforced by the Alabama Department of Education.

Section VI: Payment

The funds for this bill will be derived from the Alabama division of the military. As well as money being taken from taxes.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB33

Committee: 3- Judicial

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Andrew Groce

Chamber: Senate

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Preventing Child Murder

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Minor- is a person under a certain age, usually the age of majority, which legally demarcates childhood from adulthood.
- Adult- a person who has attained the age of majority, usually above the age of 18
- Prison: A building in which people are legally held as a punishment for a crime they have committed or while awaiting trial.
- Juvenile detention center- A prison for people under the age of 19
- **Section 12-15-203:** Alabama code that allows the case of a child, at least 14 years old and accused of any criminal offense, to be transferred for criminal prosecution. A child who is transferred for criminal prosecution is tried as an adult for the offense charged and for any lesser included offense.

Section II: Proposal

My bill proposed that **Section 12-15-203** of Alabama's code be repealed. Upon passing minors will no longer be charged as adults. If charges are proved in juvenile court, a judicial finding is held. Juveniles are still subjected to the court's control and jurisdiction. The power of the court can include: returning the minor home, imposing probation, placement with foster care, enrollment in a school for juvenile offenders or to Alabama's juvenile detention center.

Section III: Justification

The contradicting laws within the juvenile court system bring shame upon this state and nation. Children are given the bare minimum rights until they commit a crime. Children cannot participate in the consumption or production of alcohol, they cannot vote, they cannot join the military and they cannot enter into any type of legal contracts. But as soon as they commit a crime the law can recognize their actions and punish their actions as if they were an adult. Despite whether or not you believe the statements above are justifiable, any law that disproportionately discriminates against one group of people, should not be permitted.

Alabama "is the national leader in racially disproportionate sentencing of children to life in prison." The national average of children sentenced to life without parole is 56%. Alabama leads the nation with 84% of African American children serving life sentences. In Alabama, the ratio is 4.6 to 1 for black to white children in prison/jail. Keep in mind, the estimated population of white youth is around 307k and for black youth it is around

151k- that means black youth only make up 15% of the state’s population. Black youth are overrepresented in our juvenile justice system, from arrest to court referral to solitary confinement.

Section IV: Consequences

The focus of convicted juveniles will be rehabilitation. Their future will no longer be tarnished as the possibility of them being charged as an adult no longer stands. The Juvenile Detention Center will prepare them for the successful future that everyone should have the opportunity to pursue.

Section V: Enforcement

The enforcement of this bill will be carried out by the Alabama Department of Correction. They will transfer all youth in prison/jail to the nearest Juvenile Detention Center. After transference they will undergo a retrial. During the retrial, the court will give a proper jurisdiction that considers the minors mental and physical state.

Section VI: Payment

It costs \$15,000 a year to keep a person in prison. In the case of juveniles, we would be paying that for decades. The money that is spent to keep a juvenile in jail will go to support Juvenile Detention Centers. If any more money is necessary then the state’s general fund as well as the department of education will set aside 1% of their funds for the next 10 year

How much will be set aside

General fund- 356 million	\$3,650,000 million
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Department of education- \$6.63 billion	\$66,300,000 million
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Donation services- donations will only be made if the Juvenile Detention Center sees it fit.

Currently there are 28 juvenile detention centers. Each center will receive roughly \$2,498,214.286 The money will go to expand the centers and fund medical and psychological services. The goal is to reach an adult to child ratio of 5 to 1.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This act will become effective upon passage and approval of the governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB34
Committee: 4- Health
Delegation: Spain Park
Author(s): Adie Carter

Chamber: Senate

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: IOU an IUD

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- IUD: Intrauterine Device; a form of birth control that is fixed inside the uterus and physically prevents the implantation of fertilized ova (eggs).
- Intracervical Local Anesthesia: This is the typical anesthesia that can be used during IUD insertion; the patient remains conscious when this type of anesthesia is in use.
- Lidocaine/Prilocaine Cream: This cream can be applied to the cervix in order to produce numbing.
- Cervical Biopsy: A cervical procedure in which a special set of forceps is used to remove a portion of the cervix tissue for examination.
- LEEP: Loop Electrosurgical Excision Procedure; a procedure in which a small electrical wired loop scrapes abnormal cells from the cervix.

Section II: Proposal

This bill will require doctors in the state of Alabama to inform women receiving an IUD insertion of all of their options for pain prevention prior to the procedure. This would include but is not limited to intracervical local anesthesia, pre-procedural sedation, lidocaine/prilocaine cream, and peri-procedural pain and anxiety control.

Section III: Justification

An IUD is an intrauterine device that is a form of birth control. An IUD is inserted by an OB/GYN. The procedure consists of the OB/GYN using a tenaculum (a special type of scissors with sharp-pointed hooks at the end) to pierce the cervix tissue and move it into the correct position for insertion. Then, the OB/GYN would measure the inside of the uterus and proceed to insert the IUD into the uterus. The T-shaped IUD is left in the uterus, leaving 2 small strings outside the cervix for removal.

Before this procedure takes place, most women are told to take a painkiller and expect a slight pinch. Despite the belittling word, most women experience severe pain while getting this procedure and can experience cramping for weeks afterward. While later side effects are harder to prevent, the initial procedure does not need to be as painful as it is.

Unless specific medical conditions prohibit it, intracervical local anesthesia is allowed prior to the procedure of inserting an IUD. However, most women are not informed of their option to choose it. Intracervical local anesthesia is a sedative, therefore meaning it does not render the patient unconscious, only assists in

blocking pain. Lidocaine/Prilocaine Cream is another valuable pain-blocker, as well as pre-procedural sedation, which could include a small dose of morphine accompanied by a specific quantity of benzo. Peri-procedural pain and anxiety control could be another useful alternative.

This bill's purpose is not to force women to receive anesthesia when getting an IUD, but rather to ensure that doctors inform their patients of the kind of pain they will feel and the measures they can take to reduce that pain. And while this bill only applies to IUDs specifically, in the future this may ensure the same treatment of other surgeries that don't offer anesthesia, such as a cervical biopsy or a LEEP.

Section IV: Consequences

Women are already being asked to endure unnecessary pain when it comes to IUDs, and without the aid of this bill, it will only continue to happen. Women need to be informed of their pain-prevention options in order to promote internal comfort and emotional security.

Section V: Enforcement

The Alabama Department of Public Health will enforce this bill.

Section VI: Payment

There is no payment required for this bill.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB35

Committee: 2- Transportation

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Sara Quiceno

Chamber: Senate

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Extending the Opportunity to Drive

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- U.S Citizenship: "All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction."
- Immigrant: A person who comes to live permanently in a foreign country.
- Unauthorized immigrants: Anyone residing in any given country without legal documentation. It includes people who entered the U.S. without inspection and proper permission from the government, and those who entered with a legal visa that is no longer valid.

Section II: Proposal

Individuals over the age of sixteen without a United States I.D, meaning a non-citizen or an unauthorized immigrant, are to be able to present the drivers license test, and if they pass, they will be able to obtain a state issued driver's license. These are the requirements for them to present the test: foreign birth certificate, foreign passport, or consular card and evidence of current residency in the state. Individuals would still be required to follow the corresponding steps to getting the driver's license.

Section III: Justification

The majority of immigrants drive without a driver's license in Alabama, simply because of the lack of a U.S. I.D. or because they have an undefined citizenship status. Eighteen other states and the District of Columbia -- California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, Virginia and Washington--issue a license if an applicant provides certain documentation, such as a foreign birth certificate, foreign passport, or consular card and evidence of current residency in the state.

Furthermore, undocumented immigrants live with the constant fear of driving or getting pulled over by a cop because they don't have a driver's license. Driving is a necessity in this state because public transportation is not easily accessible and the long distances make it impossible to walk anywhere. With the increasing immigrant population, it is indispensable that everyone be given the opportunity to at least present the test, so they can learn the rules and know they are capable of driving, which will ultimately create safer roads.

Section IV: Consequences

Individuals who are non-citizens of the United States will be able to drive without the fear of getting pulled over. Roads will be much safer knowing that everyone is allowed to take a test and actually learn the

rules to follow. Allowing individuals without a United States I.D to get the opportunity to drive legally will not only benefit them, but also the state. This will cause people to want to live in Alabama (or even come just for the driver's license), increasing tax money and the economy of the state.

Section V: Enforcement

The bill is going to be enforced by ALEA Alabama Law Enforcement Agency and the Alabama Department of Motor Vehicles (AL) - DMV.

Section VI: Payment

There would not be any extra cost needed in order for this law to come into practice because the same personnel/workers would give the test. However, it will bring the state of Alabama economic benefits because it will create an incentive for more individuals to move to the state. Since there would be more people presenting the test, more money would come into the state. People without a U.S identification should pay the same amount for the driver's license as U.S citizens. The fee would be \$36.25.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB37

Committee: 2-Commerce

Delegation: SPHS

Author(s): Canon Shaw

Chamber: Senate

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Just A Bit Better

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

Cryptocurrency - a virtual currency based off of cryptography for security, not dependent on a central bank or government

Bitcoin - a common, profitable, and reputable form of cryptocurrency

State House - the building as defined by the Alabama State Constitution that houses the state legislature

Mold - a fungal growth that forms in moist conditions that can cause adverse health effects such as difficulty breathing and coughing

Section II: Proposal

This bill, once passed, would create a 9 person commission who will be charged with the construction of a new Alabama State House with a given budget of 500 million dollars. This commission would be dedicated to planning many aspects of the new State House with the following requirements: gold sidewalks on the perimeter of the building providing walkable access to the entrance, a Bitcoin mining farm to provide revenue for the state and for the construction itself, and that it be started by April 2024 and completed by December of 2028. Funding will be reimbursed by the mining of Bitcoin using solar panels, via a partnership with a utility company or companies, who will be selected by bid.

Section III: Justification

The current Alabama State House was intended to be temporary, intended to be utilized while a refurbishing of the original State House was completed. When the refurbishing was discontinued, the temporary State House became permanent. The State Legislature has now been using a temporary state house since 1985.

The current State House is too small for legislation. State Legislatures are left with a 10 foot by 10 foot cubicle for their office. This is due to the fact that the building was built in 1963 and was originally used as the office building for the Department of Transportation. This building was never intended to be used long term as a State House.

Due to its age, and unintended usage, the State House is filled with health hazards. People inside the building have to work in conditions featuring mold and mildew, which is not only unsightly, but it also makes it difficult to breathe. The State House also has constant leaks causing a continuous expense to fix them and contributing to the previously mentioned mold and mildew issue.

It is not right for the people inside the State House, be it visitors or employees, to be subject to these conditions. The construction of a new State House would finally provide an intended place for legislation to happen, thus increasing health, well being, and productivity of those inside.

Section IV: Consequences

The construction of a new State House will provide a place that is more efficient and more productive for the people's government. This building, unlike the current one, will be intended for legislative purposes. It will have adequate space for the public to participate. Due to the nature of the State House being new, any health hazards that are present in the current building will not be present, making it safe and healthy for government employees and visitors. The grandiose building, when completed, will be a source of pride for the people of Alabama.

Section V: Enforcement

The construction of the new State House will be enforced and overseen by the Alabama Department of Finance. The regulation of Bitcoin sales will be overseen by the Alabama Securities Commission.

Section VI: Payment

The funds for this project will be allocated from the issuing of general obligation bonds. The financing will be reimbursed in whole or in part by the aforementioned Bitcoin mining operation within the building. The sale of cryptocurrency will be monitored by the Alabama Securities Commission.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB38

Committee: 3- Judicial

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Morgan Williams

Chamber: Senate

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Uno-Reverse the War on Drugs

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

All the important vocabulary that should be properly defined in a bulleted list

school to prison pipeline - essentially pushing kids out of school by involving them with law enforcement. So like if you get in trouble in school, like a fight, and instead of sending you to ISS or Crossroads they call law enforcement.

at-risk youth - A child who is less likely to transition into adulthood

mandatory minimum sentences - A sentence created by congress or state legislature that the court has to give a person that commits a certain crime no matter the unique circumstances.

specialty courts - More specific and in-depth than normal courts. For example, drug courts, vet courts, mental health courts

graduated intermediate sanctions - Different accountability programs as opposed to incarceration. Like electronic monitors, rehabilitation

Section II: Proposal

First Prison Population by
eliminating minimum sentences

Creation or expansion of specialty courts and/or other alternatives to incarceration

changing the way we deal with "at-risk youth" to stop the "school to prison pipeline"

Implementation of graduated intermediate sanctions for non-criminal violations

Centralized reentry planning, trained specialists, and a goal of release at the first opportunity in order to increase release rates

Connecticut, Michigan, Mississippi, Rhode Island, and South Carolina have all implemented policies like these in order to lower their prison rates

Section III: Justification

The War on Drugs was started by Nixon in '71 and continued by Reagan. It criminalized addiction and blamed drugs for the bad in society. It caused a massive spike in the prison population. There were mandatory life sentences given for dealers and users even if the sales were low level. There were also mandatory minimum sentences implemented.

The war on drugs was racially motivated. Despite the whites using and selling crack more black people were convicted for it. The population became disproportionately filled with blacks and Latinos. We went from a 200k prison population to a 20 million population.

Although the crack epidemic is over, in 2014 there were over 1.5 million drug arrests, 80% was for possession, and half of that was for weed. Although there are finally rehab programs for drug abusers, there is still not any sympathy for the dealers serving unjust sentences. (Even though weed is now legal and being dealt in many states)

Section IV: Consequences

There might be more government aid needed due to the lack of support systems when the people get released from prison.

Section V: Enforcement

The bill will be enforced by the Department of Justice and maybe even the Alabama Supreme Court. If the proposal isn't followed the prison would shut down/ lose funding.

Section VI: Payment

The new courts could come from the same funding used for the prisoners. Like the money that would've been spent on food, bed, clothes, etc could be used for the new courts.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB39

Committee: 2-Commerce

Delegation: LAMP High School

Author(s): Cleo Washington

Chamber: Senate

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Legalization of Sports Betting in the State of Alabama

Section I: Definitions

- "Sports betting" is defined as the wagering of a stake of monetary value in-person at retail locations or online in the expectation of a prize of monetary value, subject to a future occurrence related to a sports competition.
- "Retail locations" shall be defined as racino casinos (Victoryland Casino) or tribal casinos (Wind Creek Casino & Hotel in Atmore, Montgomery, and Wetumpka).
- "Online sports betting" is defined as placing a bet on the outcome of a future sports occurrence through any of the various sportsbook websites available in the U.S.
- "Professional sports" are sports in which participants receive payment for their performance.
- "Amateur sports" are sports in which participants do not receive payment for their performance.

Section II: Proposal

- Sports betting via retail locations and online platforms shall be legalized for all professional and amateur sports in the state of Alabama.

Section III: Justification

- The state of Alabama has a rich sports history, as it has produced some of the greatest athletes of all time in their respective sports, and Alabama-based teams have won half of the last fourteen NCAA Division I championships. However, current Alabamians can only show emotional attachment to their favorite teams and players, and do not have the option to monetarily exercise their passion.
- In 2018, the Supreme Court of the United States struck down the Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act (PASPA), a law that banned state-authorized sports



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

betting, ushering in a wave of legalization across the country. As of 2023, sports betting is legal in 36 states and Washington D.C, but not in Alabama.

- Sports betting should be legal in our state to help boost our economy. Our neighbors in Mississippi legalized this form of betting for casinos in 2018, and has since generated over \$166 million in revenue. Furthermore, legalizing sports betting for Connecticut included retail and online locations (as this bill proposes), and they saw a gain in revenue of \$40.9 million over the course of four months.

Section IV: Consequences

- If this bill becomes law, the use of illegal third-party resources to wager, such as through bookies or offshore betting sites will be reduced, leading to Alabamaiaans having legalized fun.

Section V: Enforcement

- The Alabama Department of Revenue and the Alabama Department of Public Health shall jointly oversee the implementation of this legislation.

Section VI: Funding

- The state will impose a 10% tax on racino casinos and online betting sites, and at least half of these funds will be granted to the Alabama Council on Compulsive Gambling, in order to aid in the recovery process for addicts, with any potential excess taxation being allocated as the state sees fit.

Section VII: Severance

- All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section VIII: Enactment

- This bill will take effect on January 1, 2024



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB40

Committee: 1 - Public Safety

Delegation: Jefferson Davis

Author(s): Zaire Ondaan

Chamber: Senate

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Animal Cruelty Rights

Section 1:

Animal Cruelty Laws state that A person commits the crime of aggravated cruelty to animals if the person intentionally or knowingly violates **Section 13A-11-14**, and the act of cruelty or neglect involved the infliction of torture to the animal.

Section 2:

It Shall be aggravated animal cruelty to keep more than two household pets, subject to exceptions and regulations provided herein.

Section 3:

Notwithstanding **Section 2** with this act Those whom are financially stable and are deemed by a judge eligible are able to keep their pets. By Limiting the Number of Pets owned in a Household, I am attempting to control the rate under which animal abuse can increase making it more likely for animals in a packed household to be neglected.

Section 4:

If more than set Animals are owned within a Household then any harm done to said pet can be fined or set for a possible court date. Once that Court Date is Granted, You Shall Be Deemed by a Judge Eligible or Non Eligible to keep your pets. If you are Deemed Ineligible to keep said pets you will have your legal owner rights revoked from said pets. Those who already have a previous record or been to court regarding animal abuse within the last year will apply to **Section 3**

Section 5:

In Order to Regain His/Her Pets you will have a 60 Day Notice to Gain stability and a decent financial state. After those 60 days are up They Shall be sent a Letter stating if you would like set up a possible Court Date to Regain Pets and your rights to those pets.



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Section 6:

Immediately After the Court Date is Granted and you are deemed eligible to Regain legal rights to your pets. They shall be returned into the Care Holders Custody and given a 90-Day Notice stating at the Near end of every month there will be an Unannounced Visit by Court Marshalls for a Home Check.

This Bill shall Enact as of January 18, 2024.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB41

Committee: 1-Education

Delegation: Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Bella Gentry

Chamber: Senate

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Protecting Children by Outlawing Corporal and Exercise Punishment in Public Schools

Section I: Definitions

Corporal punishment: Any form of punishment involving the use of physical force, such as spanking, paddling, or pinching.

Exercise punishment: Any form of punishment involving physical activity, such as burpees or running laps.

Child abuse: An act or failure to act of a parent or caretaker that results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse, or exploitation, or one that presents an imminent risk

of serious harm (42 U.S.C.A. § 5106g)

Assault: An intentional act that incites fear of imminent physical harm within an individual.

Battery: Unlawfully applying force directly or indirectly to another person or their belongings, which results in bodily harm.

Section II: Proposal

(1) Ban the use of corporal punishment and exercise punishment in all public schools in the state of Alabama. This includes their use in school-sponsored sports teams and athletic organizations.

(2) Punishment for teachers, coaches, and all other public school staff who inflict corporal punishment will vary on a case-by-case basis but may result in charges of child abuse, assault, or battery.

Section III: Justification

(1) Alabama is one of 19 states to still allow the use of corporal punishment in public schools, thus making it one of the few to still be ignoring its negative effects on students. According to the Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama, "9,168 students in Alabama K-12 public schools received corporal punishment in the 2017-2018 school year."

(2) The American Psychological Association (APA) has conducted extensive research on



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the impacts of corporal punishment on children. This research has found that the use of corporal punishment by parents increases aggressiveness and is largely ineffective in correcting behaviors

in the long term. In fact, APA openly opposes the use of corporal punishment in all institutions "where children are cared for or educated." Furthermore, the Harvard Graduate School of Education has reported findings that spanking can increase a child's risk of anxiety and depression and introduce challenges for "engaging positively in schools."

(3) The use of strenuous physical activity as punishment can lead to children developing a poor relationship with exercise, causing many health concerns for the future. The National Association for Sport and Physical Education asserts that "administering or withholding physical activity as a form of punishment and/or behavior management is an inappropriate practice."

Section IV: Severance

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

Section V: Effective Date

This act to become effective upon passage and approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law



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YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB42

Committee: 1-Education

Delegation: Davidson

Author(s): Hannah Broders

Chamber: *Special Order*

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Educational Refuge for Alabama's Refugees

Preamble

"Mobile is the only city in Alabama where refugees resettle. They often arrive with a single bag each. They might know just a few phrases in English. At best, they may have a few neighbors or acquaintances from their home country but are otherwise alone as they adapt to a new culture."

- Quoted on the website of DWELL Mobile

Because numbers of refugees coming into the United States has almost halted in the past 4 years, the resettlement programs in the city have almost dissolved. Regardless, the refugee population remains, and it is expected that refugees will hopefully be coming into the city again within the next year with the aid of DWELL. Educational opportunities are often a significant challenge facing incoming refugees—American schools simply do not have the proper resources to provide the type of education necessary to assist refugee children in succeeding in the future.

Section I: Definitions

Refugee- a person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution, or natural disaster

Resettlement- the act or process of helping someone move to another place to live, or the act of moving to another place to live

Charter school- a publicly funded independent school established by teachers, parents, or community groups under the terms of a charter with a local or national authority

DWELL- A non-profit organization based in Mobile, Alabama, that provides post post-resettlement acclimation services and support to refugee families who have relocated to the city

Section II: Propositions



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This bill hereby authorizes the formation of a charter school for ages Kindergarten to 8th grade within Mobile specifically designated for refugee and immigrant students resettled in the city under the establishment and organization of DWELL Mobile.

DWELL will have authorization to obtain funding, staff, educators, and the other necessary resources in order to form a school by August 2024 that follows all state regulations, rules, and requirements established by the State of Alabama and its Department of Education.

Section III: Justification

Education in the United States is valuable: valuable to employers, higher education, and the futures of our generations. American citizens are profoundly lucky in this regard: we have access to education all around us. Refugee children coming into the American school system are at a disadvantage because they often lack the educational background due to displacement and poverty in addition to a language barrier. Refugee students often falter when faced with the American school system due to the lack of resources for a different way of education. Education is most essential in the formative years as well. Kindergarten to third grade are the years that the Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education considers essential to reading and writing skill development. Then, moving forward, students are challenged to build upon the foundation of these skills. Refugee children require another level of support to establish English based reading and writing skills at a young age. A charter school specifically teaching refugees has a different aim than American schools as it can focus on general challenges that many of these students may face. DWELL Mobile is the organizing group of the charter school because of the established relationship the program has with the refugee community in the city of Mobile. The organization spends numerous hours tutoring refugee students: they have a first-hand look at the struggles these students face in American-centric educational systems. DWELL is aware of the necessary steps for a charter school to be formed. In addition, DWELL is actively working to build their outreach within Mobile, and the creation of a charter school is by far a manageable task for the organization.

Section IV: Enforcement/Funding

Funding will come from Inspiritus—a refugee nonprofit with federal funding that aims to fund refugee resettlement resources. This is the current funding that the state is using in partnership with DWELL Mobile for resettling new refugees. The request for funds from Inspiritus would simply increase. The formation of the charter school will be primarily under the jurisdiction of DWELL Mobile. The organization is responsible for ensuring all requirements of the school are met. Additionally, the Alabama Department of Education will have oversight powers to ensure that proper care is being taken with the formation and running of the school.

Section V: Severability Clause

Any laws or parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section VI: Enactment Clause

This bill will come into effect immediately upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law



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YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB43
Committee: 1- Education
Delegation: Jefferson Davis
Author(s): Damari Bowers

Chamber: Senate

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Critical race theory should be taught In School

Section I: Definitions

Critical Race theory: a set of ideas holding that racial bias is inherent in many parts of western society, especially in its legal and social institutions, on the basis of their having been primarily designed for and implemented by white people.

Section II: Proposition

The purpose of this bill is to advocate for the teaching of Critical Race Theory, CRT, in schools. Instandered with this bill all schools within the state of Alabama will be required to teach a minimum of ninety minutes worth of CRT as either an extension of US history or as a separate class on its own.

Section III: Justification

The reason this bill should be at least considered is because discrimination is a heavy piece of our society that has been constantly overlooked or put aside as a mediocre problem that is to be solved "later". When is it later? This bill will allow racial discrimination to be discussed in a professional classroom setting which will help teach the younger generations what CRT or racial discrimination is and how it can be prevented and overcome in the future.

Section IV: Enactment

This bill will go into effect August, 24 2023 after gaining approval from the Governor of Alabama.



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YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB44

Committee: 2-Transportation

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: Montgomery Academy

Author(s): Carlyle Chandler

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Boating Rentals Regulation

Section I:

DEFINITIONS

Driver's License: A license issued by the state that allows one to drive a car on their own legally. It can be issued as early as age 16.

Vessel License: A license distributed by the state allowing one to legally drive a water vessel. It can be issued as early as age 14.

Boat Rental: The temporary ownership of a power-driven vessel for recreation.

Section II:

PROPOSAL

This bill proposes increased regulations for organizations that advertise boating rentals in the state of Alabama. This will require all people to have a valid vessel license in order to rent any power-driven vessel

Section III:

JUSTIFICATION:

In 2021, the United States reported 658 deaths and 2,641 injuries from boating accidents alone. While these numbers are a steady decline from where they were just a few years ago, the number is still too high. In 2018, the state of Alabama reported 75 boating crashes and 17 boating deaths. The number of deaths reached 25 in August of 2019, the highest the statistic had ever gotten. While these numbers may seem small and insignificant, they still bring to light the issue of boater safety.

Along the Alabama coast, many companies offer boating rentals for tourists and residents. A main issue with these companies is the lack of regulations. The state of Alabama requires that anyone who operates a power-driven vessel to have a valid vessel license. The boating rental companies only require a valid driver's license. Along with their driver's license, the driver must watch a short safety video on the rules of the water. This is simply not enough for



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the safety of people on the water

While spending lots of time at the beach over the years, I have been witness to the lack of concern and the recklessness of these boaters in high-traffic and low-traffic areas. They will constantly cut people off and even pull tubes in the middle of the intercoastal waterway. This recklessness needs to be stopped. This bill will require anyone who wishes to rent a boat to have a valid vessel license which requires the completion of a boaters safety course which can be completed online or in person. If the person does not have a vessel license, they will not be allowed to rent a boat. This law will also apply to jetski rentals as well.

Section IV:

SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

Any laws or parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section V:

ENACTMENT CLAUSE:

This Bill will become effective upon its enactment and approval by the Governor or otherwise becoming a law



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB45

Committee: 1- Public Safety

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Elizabeth Moore

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: DUI Child Support Act

Section I: Definitions

DUI - the act or crime of driving a vehicle while impaired by alcohol or drugs

Vehicular Manslaughter - a crime that involves the death of a person other than the driver as a result of

either criminally negligent or murderous operation of a motor vehicle.

Child Support - court-ordered payments, typically made by a noncustodial divorced parent, to support

one's minor child or children.

Bereavement - the condition of being deprived of a close relation through their death

Section II: Proposal

This bill requires individuals who commit vehicular manslaughter of any parent or guardian of a minor

(aged 18 years or under) while under the influence of alcohol to pay child support until the minor is a

legal adult (aged 19 years).

(1) If a person is convicted of DUI or vehicular manslaughter, and said offense results in the death of the parent of a minor child, the court shall order the defendant to pay child support.

(2) The court shall determine the appropriate amount considering factors including the following:

(a) The financial needs of the minor child;

(b) The financial needs of the surviving parent or appointed guardian;

(c) The standard of living to which the minor child is accustomed;

(d) The physical and emotional needs of the child;

(e) The child's physical and legal custody arrangements; and

(f) Childcare expenses of the surviving parent or appointed guardian.

(3) The defendant shall make the ordered payments until the minor child reaches the age of



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19 years or the amount is paid in full.

(4) If the minor becomes a legal adult before the full amount of their child support has been paid, the payments will continue until the full amount owed is reached.

(5) If the convicted person is incarcerated and unable to pay, the State will cover the cost of child support for the defendant, but will require the defendant to pay back a 0% interest loan on the State-covered child support.

(6) If, before or after the sentencing of the defendant, the surviving parent or appointed guardian obtains a judgment against the defendant in a civil action arising out of the death of the deceased parent, the court shall reduce the total amount of child support payments imposed pursuant to this section by the amount of such civil judgment.

Section III: Justification

(1) DUI fatalities account for more than 10,000 deaths each year nationally - around 30 people per day.

(2) In 2019, a Safewise study showed that Alabama had the seventh-highest number of DUI fatalities in the country. The national average of DUI fatalities is 3.3 deaths per 100,000 people. In Alabama, the average is 5.03 deaths per 100,000 people.

(3) As of 2020, almost 44,000 children in Alabama had lost one or both parents, making Alabama the state with the fourth highest rate of child bereavement. A significant number of these bereavements are a result of drunk driving accidents.

(4) Less than 20% of child support cases are supported by public assistance programs. Increasing the collection of child support funds will contribute to a reduction in the number of families depending on public assistance programs in this State.

(5) This bill intends to alleviate the financial burden placed upon the families of victims of drunk driving accidents, who have already suffered greatly.

Section IV: Severance

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section V: Enactment

This bill will be enacted upon being signed into law, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB46

Committee: 4-Environment

Delegation: UMS-Wright

Author(s): Ian Lynch

Chamber: Senate

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Energy Evolution Act

Section I: Definitions

NRC-Nuclear Regulatory Commission

PWR-Pressurized Water Reactor

BWR-Boiling Water Reactor NEI-

Nuclear Energy Institute

Fast Spectrum Reactor-Nuclear reactor that uses high energy neutrons to facilitate fission.

Breeder- Process in which nuclear fuel is produced through reactor operation, neutron capture reaction, etc.

Section II: Proposal

If carried out as intended, the Energy Evolution Act will promote innovations in the sector of clean, renewable nuclear energy through the streamlining of the reactor licensing process in Alabama.

Section III: Justification

Given the United State's shift towards emission eradication, intending to reach 100% carbon pollution-free electricity by 2035, nuclear energy has become a clear path to reliable, carbon-free energy. Within Alabama, nuclear energy makes up 78% of carbon-free energy while powering 3.4 million homes through the BWRS and PWRS located at the Browns Ferry and Farley sites. However, in the context of rising geopolitical tensions involving nations such as Russia, access to nuclear fuel in the form of uranium has been restricted, bringing attention to the need for greater fuel independence, as in 2020, the United States imported 41.3 million pounds of uranium oxide from foreign sources. One of the most feasible long-term solutions to this issue comes in the form of more experimental reactor designs, such as fast-spectrum reactors capable of breeding their own fuel. However, the restrictive licensing process for reactors like the one previously mentioned renders practical implementation impossible,



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as license approval can take as long as nine years and cost upwards of \$1 million to companies involved, discouraging innovation and technological evolution.

Section IV: Consequences

This bill will create the Alabama Reactor Design Commission (ARDC) for the expedited licensing of fuel-efficient and experimental reactors. The commission will:

1. Be comprised of Alabama residents qualified in the field of nuclear science/engineering/physics to be elected and evaluated by the NRC and NEI.
2. Take on STRICTLY generation III and IV reactor licensing issues to separate experimental and cutting-edge designs from standard conventional designs, thus expediting the process.
3. Be directly regulated by the NRC, following all existing safety guidelines and measures.

After this bill is passed, Alabama power and reactor design companies pursuing generation III and IV construction may appeal the licensing process to the ADRC. Furthermore, the Energy Evolution Act will raise the coal tax in Alabama from 4.4% to 10%.

Section V: Enforcement

Technological innovation through reactor design will be encouraged using the already existing tax credits allocated to nuclear power by the inflation reduction act and the expedited licensing process introduced by the ARDC. However, with safety in mind, any violation of ARDC policy will result in the immediate denial of any licensing requests, along with fines of varying magnitude.

Section VI: Payment

The DOE will facilitate ADRC funding in accordance with the evaluation of the necessary budget by the NEI and the increased tax money exacted from coal.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB47

Committee: 3-Judicial

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: UMS-Wright

Author(s): William Neumann

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Democratic Felony Voting Act

Section I: Definitions

Felony - a crime, typically one involving violence, regarded as more serious than a misdemeanor, and usually punishable by imprisonment for more than one year or by death.

AL SOS Office - The Office of Secretary of State in the state of Alabama

C.E.R.V. - Certificate of Eligibility to Register to Vote

V.R.A. - Voting Rights Act of 1965 - This act was signed into law on August 6, 1965, by President Lyndon Johnson. It outlawed the discriminatory voting practices adopted in many southern states after the Civil War as a prerequisite to voting.

Section II: Proposal

This Act will first do away with all felony disenfranchisement related to crimes of "moral turpitude" after an individual has served their given sentence and provide funding for AL SOS Office, along with probate courts throughout the state, to compensate for the influx of voters. Furthermore, after an individual has completed his or her sentence, they will automatically receive a C.E.R.V. from the AL SOS Office and immediately begin voting, if they register, in the next election.

Section III: Justification

As of now, Alabama is one of seven states that permanently strips a person of his or her right to vote indefinitely if he or she is convicted of committing certain felonies. Though these crimes have been more strictly interpreted after 2017 when it was no longer left up to individual registrars, crimes that involved "moral turpitude," as stated in the Constitution (1902), would allow for the permanent disenfranchisement of thousands of convicts in the state after they had served their sentences. Cases like Thompson v.



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Alabama (2017) paved the way for the state to more narrowly define this clause in the Constitution that organizations like the CLC argue violates the V.R.A. and United States Constitution. Today, however, any convict that has not been convicted of impeachment, murder, sexual abuse, sexual crimes against children, treason, sodomy, or rape can apply for a C.E.R.V. through the AL SOS Office. However, a C.E.R.V. is not simple to acquire for a recently released felon, as he or she must not have any more felony convictions pending and must have paid all legal fines or fees, as well as any victim restitution ordered by the court that sentenced you. The current laws in Alabama that facilitate unnecessary permanent felony disenfranchisement are, according to CampaignLegal.org (an accredited firm), responsible for the disenfranchisement of 286,000 Alabamians - 7.6% of the state's voting-age population and 15% of the Black male voting population.

Section IV: Consequences

After this bill is passed, any Alabamian who has been convicted of a felon will be automatically given a C.E.R.V. with the only stipulation being that he or she must have served their prison sentence (acknowledging pardons, probation, and parole). If this bill does what it is intended, the budget of the AL SOS Office will only need to increase by \$1.5 million to compensate for this new influx of voters to a total of around \$15,000,000.

Section V: Enforcement

The AL SOS Office will enforce this bill and be responsible for allocating the funds (\$1.5 million) to voting districts based on need (i.e. population of now-voting felons) to pay for the election administration of an increased population. The AL SOS Office will also be responsible for automatically administering the C.E.R.V. (s) to felons once they have completed their sentences. There will be a new team of state government workers in the AL SOS Office to work with this project/issue along with a website that will allow easy access/communication for newly-released felons to quickly register to vote.

Section VI: Payment

The General Fund (\$2.8 billion) will provide this \$1.5 million increase to the budget of the AL SOS Office for the influx of voters in the election administration process and automatic provision of C.E.R.V. (s). Therefore, this bill should not result in a tax raise but just reallocate funds already raised by the State of Alabama.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB48

Committee: 4- Health

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Rebecca Berry

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Medicaid Expansion Amendment

Section I: Definitions

- a. ACA: Affordable Care Act
- b. 2022 Federal Poverty Line for One-Person Household: \$13,590
- c. 138% of Federal Poverty Line for One-Person Household: \$19,251

Section II: Proposal

An amendment will be added to the Alabama State Constitution that signs Alabama onto the ACA's optional Medicaid expansion plan that went into effect in participating states on January 1, 2014. This plan expanded Medicaid to cover all individuals who earn up to 138% of the federal poverty line.

Section III: Justification

As of now, approximately 127,000 people in Alabama have no realistic access to healthcare. With this expansion, the Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama estimates more than 283,000 people would become eligible for Medicaid. The uninsured rate in Alabama would drop by 43%. The Alabama Hospitals Association supports this Medicaid expansion and notes that it would help keep hospitals afloat that are in danger of closing, especially in rural areas. This expansion is manageable because the federal government would cover 90% of the cost while the state would cover the other 10%. Alabama is one of only 12 states who have not signed onto this expansion.

Section IV: Funding

This implementation would cost approximately \$222,000,000, which would be covered by the general fund. This is feasible because states that expanded their Medicaid coverage saw no significant increases in spending on Medicaid from state funds and no significant reduction in state spending on education or other state programs as a result of the expansion. This is because the increased spending on the expansion population is completely or largely offset by savings in other areas within the health sector, as states spend less on programs for behavioral



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health, corrections, public health, and uncompensated care.

Section V: Severance

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section VI: Enactment

These provisions will go into effect eight months after being voted in by the general population in the next election cycle.



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YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB49

Committee: Environment

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Mena Monroe

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Combatting Shark Overfishing Act of 2023

Section 1: Definitions

Chumming: the throwing of fish parts or bait in the water to attract fish

Blood baiting: the practice of using synthetic or chemical attractants, blood, fish parts or any other animal parts to attract fish or sharks

Surf Fishing: land-based game fishing while wading into a surf zone or standing on the shore

Ecotourism: tourism directed to often threatened, diverse, and exotic environments to observe wildlife and support conservation efforts

Section 2: Proposal

(1) Currently Alabama Code r. 220-3-.77 has outlawed shark-targeted chumming, blood baiting, and surf fishing 300 feet from the coastline. This code should be updated to banning these commonly used shark fishing methods 1000 feet from the coastline.

(2) Alabama marine patrol officers will monitor for violations. Similar to other codes when killing nongame species, the offender will receive a fine of \$250 per shark they have killed. When violating proper fishing methods they will receive a fine of \$100. To help monitor this new area, 15 new marine patrol officers will be hired.

Section 3: Justification

(1) Sharks have been in the ocean for over 450 million years and removing them would set off a chain reaction of irreversible effects on the world's ecosystem. Since they are apex predators, sharks ensure a diverse ocean. Coral reefs would be overgrown with algae without sharks because the species that maintain them would be overeaten. Additionally, sharks aid sea



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meadows because without a predator, sea turtles would overgraze. This process of maintaining the oceans allows for less greenhouse gasses to be released into the air, reducing the amount of carbon in the atmosphere.

(2) This diversity is not just important to the ocean but also to businesses near the coastline or any restaurant serving seafood. Without an adequate amount of sharks there would be a shortage of popular seafood, leaving businesses with no choice but to close. This has been seen before with scallops and rays. Areas with low shark populations had an issue with cownose rays overfeeding on scallops, leaving local restaurants along the East Coast bankrupt.

(3) While there are economies in shark products such as shark meat and shark oil, a single reef shark can produce \$250,000 through ecotourism, which outweighs products that result in shark deaths. Economies that have been built through ecotourism are dependent on shark populations.

(4) Acknowledging Alabama's part of the declining shark population could set off a positive chain reaction of other states furthering their shark restrictions. Fin soup is often regarded as the only issue affecting sharks, but that is false. Shark populations have decreased by 70%, and 70% of those deaths are by major fishing companies. Sharks are facing extinction because 6-7% of the population is being killed off every year. Setting an example and showing that every state has their part to play can help better restore the number of sharks in the ocean.

Section 4: Funding

(1) This bill would be funded by the money Governor Kay Ivey allocated to Alabama Coastal Adaptive Management on November 17, 2022.

Section 5: Severance

(1) All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section 6: Enactment

(1) This bill will be enacted upon being signed into law.



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YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB50

Committee: 4 - Environment

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Anna-Sophia Le

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Fighting Alabama Pollution Through Economic Incentives and Innovation Act of 2023

Section 1: Definitions

Pollution qualifies specifically as air particle pollution (soot) or ozone pollution

Incentive- encouragement for companies to correctly participate in the proposed clean air act; this could be accomplished through various tax benefits and positive corporate reputation

Innovation refers to new methods of making new ways to fix rise in pollution

AQI- stands for Air Quality Index and measures the changes in amount of air pollutants in the air

Section 2: Proposal-What is this legislation doing?

(1) All manufacturing companies in the State of Alabama that are currently emitting any type of air pollutants of 51 AQI or more should immediately replace old Air Quality Indexes with new ones in their factories.

(2) These companies should lower their amount of then measured pollutants to under 50 AQI of their previous output in 3 years, and if unattainable in the given time, companies will be taxed an additional 0.5% revenue.

(3) Companies with large reductions in pollution will be rewarded with tax incentives; depending on the reduction amount. Benefits will vary.

Section 3: Justification

(1) Air pollution regulation in Alabama received an "F" grade for ozone pollution.

According to the American Lung Association's 2022 pollution reports, a total population of 4,921,532 people were at risk due to pollution.

(2) The American Lung Association's 2022 pollution reports also inform that 56,551 total pregnancies were at risk by the State of Alabama's air pollution, as well as a total of 3,064 cases of lung cancer, 143,489 cases of Pediatric asthma, 346,449 cases of adult asthma, and hundreds of thousands of other at-risk groups medically and racially.



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(3) It is the government's responsibility to ensure that the state of Alabama's air quality is at a clean and non-dangering level. This is because companies' action is guided by profit differentiating with the government that is guided by the will of the people. Private companies taking the lead on combating air pollution could conflict with citizens on motive; companies also might not be completely honest or fully compliant. Government taking the lead in this act is important, and guaranteed constitutional.

Section 4: Funding

(1) To fund this act, the Alabama state government, through the EPA, can partner with nonprofit organizations like the Sierra Club, Greenpeace, and the Earth Island Institute to acquire financing.

(2) Companies that do not adequately lower their output of pollution in the allotted time will have 0.5% revenue sent to environmentalists for research regarding stated environmental issues.

Section 5: Severance

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section 6: Enactment

Provided that this bill is enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives, after being signed into law the bill will become effective immediately.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB51

Committee: 2 - Transportation

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: LAMP

Author(s): Ruel Lee

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Restricting Cell Phone Usage for Operators of Motor Vehicles

SECTION I: Definitions

As used in this article, the following words shall have the following meanings:

- (1) **WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEVICE.** A handheld cellular telephone, text-messaging device, personal digital assistant, standalone computer, or any other similar wireless device that is readily removable from a vehicle and is used for wireless communication with another person. This term does not include radios or any variation of its functional equivalent, subscription-based emergency communication devices, prescribed medical devices, or in-vehicle security, navigation, or remote diagnostic systems as well as any voice-operated devices that allow the user to wirelessly communicate without the use of either hand except to activate or deactivate a function.
- (2) **WIRELESS COMMUNICATION THROUGH TEXT OR DATA.** Usage of a wireless telecommunications device for text-based communication with another person, including but not limited to text messages, instant messages, and electronic mail. This term does not include reading, selecting, or entering a telephone number or name in a cell or wireless telephone or communication device for the purpose of making a hands-free telephone call.
- (3) **UTILITY SERVICES.** Electric, natural gas, water, wastewater, cable, telephone, or telecommunications services or the repair, location, relocation, improvement, or maintenance of utility poles, transmission structures, pipes, wires, fibers, cables, easements, rights-of-way, or associated infrastructures.

SECTION II: Proposal

- (1) A person may not operate a motor vehicle on a public road, street, or highway while using a wireless telecommunications device to engage in wireless communication through text or data or manual, voice-based communication requiring the use of either hand, including but not limited to the recording, sending and receiving of voice notes.
- (2) Exceptions to this article are the following:
 - (a) Using a wireless telecommunications device to obtain emergency services,



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including making an emergency call to a law enforcement agency, health care provider, fire department, or other agency of emergency services

- (b) Using a wireless telecommunications device while the motor vehicle is parked on the shoulder of the highway, road, or street
 - (c) Using an earpiece, headphone device, steering wheel controls, speaker phone or other voice-activated technology, or other device worn on the person or mounted onto the dashboard, center console, windshield, or other part of the vehicle to conduct hands-free voice-based wireless communications
 - (d) For an employee or contractor of a utility services provider within the scope of his or her employment, using a wireless telecommunications device while responding to a utility emergency or performing other critical utility services
 - (e) For law enforcement officers, emergency medical services personnel, ambulance operators, firefighters, volunteer firefighters, or other public safety first responders during the performance of his or her official duties, using a wireless telecommunications device
- (3) A law enforcement officer enforcing this article may treat a violation of this article as the primary or sole reason for issuing a citation to the operator of a motor vehicle.
- (a) A first or second conviction of this article shall be entered on the driving record of any individual charged under this article as a two-point violation.
 - (b) A third or subsequent conviction of this article shall be entered on the driving record of the individual charged as a three-point violation.
- (4) A law enforcement officer enforcing this article may not search a motor vehicle or the operator or passenger of the motor vehicle solely because of a violation of this article.
- (5) An individual who violates this article is guilty of a traffic infraction and is subject to the following fines:
- (a) For a first violation, a fine of one hundred dollars (\$100).
 - (b) For a second violation, a fine of two hundred dollars (\$200).
 - (c) For a third or subsequent violation, a fine of three hundred dollars (\$300).
 - (d) No court costs may be imposed solely in connection with the prosecution of a violation of this article.

SECTION III: Enforcement and Consequences

The Alabama Department of Public Safety of the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency will oversee the implementation of this legislation.

- (1) In any case brought by a law enforcement officer employed by the Department of Public Safety Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency, all fines shall be allocated to the State General Fund. This bill may increase receipts to the State General Fund from fines by an undetermined amount dependent upon the number of citations issued and fines collected pursuant to this bill.



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(2) This bill could increase the obligations of state and local law enforcement agencies by a small undetermined amount related to the additional record keeping and reporting of traffic stops made under the provisions of this bill. This bill would also increase obligations of the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency by an undetermined amount for programming its information systems to enter violations of this bill on the offender's driver's record. Neither of these are expected to outweigh the statistical decrease in traffic incidents as a result of distracted driving, and specifically, manual cell phone usage.

(3) Each state, county, and municipal law enforcement agency shall maintain statistical information on all traffic stops made pursuant to this article, including traffic stops made on minority groups, and shall report that information on a monthly basis to the Department of Public Safety of the Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency.

SECTION IV: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

SECTION V: Enactment Clause

This act to become effective on the first day of the second month following its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB52

Committee: 2-Commerce

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Sims McElroy

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title R-Value Tax Cut

Section I: Definitions

R-Value: The capacity of an insulating material to resist heat flow. The higher the R-value, the greater the insulating power.

Heat Loss: The intentional or unintentional movement of heat from one material to another. In this case from within homes to open air.

Section II: Background

Up to 45% of heat loss in a home occurs through solid walls. This massively inefficient number puts a large burden on energy companies to sustain their residents. In turn, more resources are consumed to fuel these homes, and in the process, the environment becomes the victim. According to data from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Alabama Power's James H. Miller Jr. Electric Generating Plant in Jefferson County emitted more greenhouse gasses than any other power plant, oil and gas refinery or factory in the country in 2021.

Section III: Proposition

Tax Incentives based off of the average r-value of the walls within the owner's home. A bracketed system starting at R-0 to R-32 separated every four values. Ex. A home with an R-value from 0-4 will receive no tax incentives while a home with an R-value between 28-32 will receive the highest value of tax write offs up to 10 percent. This will be taken from the yearly property tax on the home.

Section IV: Justification

By increasing the R-value in homes, energy companies will not have to run at such an outrageous capacity to supply the state. The average Alabama citizen does not concern themselves with the daily harm of themselves on the environment, and has no reason to change. With the incentive of a tax deduction they are more likely to help the environment by decreasing the heat loss of their homes. Further, this holistic approach to environment



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betterment is much more efficient and effective than targeting any one facet.

Section V: Implementation

The Department of Revenue will be in charge of overseeing the implementation of this act. They currently handle property tax throughout the state, so this will not be overly cumbersome to them. Citizens will produce an estimate of their R-value with their property tax filings in order to qualify for the deductions.

Section VI: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment Clause

This act is to become effective upon the passage and approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB53

Committee: 3-Judicial

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: Parker High School

Author(s): Shiloh Britt

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Rights of Protection from Aggression Act

Section I:

The intent of this Legislation is to ammend Alabama Codes 1975, § 13A-3-23A as itrelates to Self-Defense.

Section II:

All of these words are record from Alabama Code 13A-3-23(Kidnapping in any (b) Assault in the first or second degree; (c) Burglary in any degree; (d) Robbery in any degree; (e) Forcible rape; (OR) (f) Forcible sodomy).

Section 3:

The main purpose of this Legislation is to give the people of Alabama a fair opportunity to protect their property, family and themselves against attackers in various dangerous situations without apprehension of criminal repercussions.

This Legistion addresses the reasoning of there being multiple attackers or a physically superior attacker, which is not specifically referenced in Alabama Code13A-3-23A.

Section 4:

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or any provisions of it are hereby repealed.

Section 5:

This act shall become effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



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YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB54

Committee: 1 - Education

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Sophia Li

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Student Mental Health Days

Section I: Definitions

Mental Health - Emotional, psychological, and social well-being

Section II: Background

Mental health has long been a stigmatized topic. However, after COVID-19, it is crucial as a society to recognize the importance of mental health -- especially after seeing how the pandemic exacerbated its effects. In fact, the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services issued an advisory noting the "alarming number" of youths struggling with feeling a sense of helplessness and declaring the mental health problem for children a crisis.

Section III: Proposal

The school board of each school district shall grant students, kindergarten through 12th grade, four mental health days as excused absences each school year. The student is not required to provide any documentation for the mental health day. Each school may approach grading policies in accordance with the guidelines for excused absences in the same respective category. There shall not be a reduction of a student's grade as a result of their absence.

Section IV: Justification

Just simply expanding the reasons for excused absences in schools to include mental health could produce a large impact on the well-being of its students. In turn, the students are able to retain school information better because, rather than constantly being in survival mode, they will be more relaxed and receptive to listening to new concepts. Moreover, by including mental health in the category of excused absences, schools are destigmatizing the connotation behind the idea. Doing so allows the schools to express that mental health is a priority and should be cared for just as much as physical health. It is the small things like allowing a student to recharge for a day that can make the biggest difference.

Section V: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VI: Enactment Clause

This act is to become effective upon passage and approval of the Governor or it's otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB55

Committee: 4- Health

Chamber: *Special Order*

Delegation: Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Luke Pappalardo

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title The Healthy Food Access For All Alabamians Act

Section I: Definitions

Food Insecurity - A lack of consistent access to enough food for every person in a household to live an active, healthy life.

Food Desert - A geographic area where residents' access to affordable, healthy food options (especially fresh fruits and vegetables) is restricted or nonexistent due to the absence of grocery stores within convenient traveling distance.

Tangible Personal Property - Material items such as machinery and equipment, tools, furniture and fixtures, and other items used in a business activity. Tangible personal property is currently taxed at 20% of market value.

Section II: Exigence

Across the United States, 23.5 million people live in Food Deserts with almost a tenth (two million people) living in the State of Alabama. Because of inadequate access to healthy foods provided at grocery stores, Alabama has the nation's third highest rate of adult obesity—39.9% of all Alabamians but higher in low-income residents of Food Deserts. If a grocery store were to open in a Food Desert, it is true that they would face little economic competition, but as it stands, their potential for profit would be crushed by high payments for delivery to these regions for various reasons, eliminating the incentive to open new stores in the areas that need them most.

Section III: Proposal

The Department of Agriculture will determine the regions in the State of Alabama that can be defined as Food Deserts. The Department of Revenue will authorize a 15% tax credit for new grocery store construction in the aforementioned regions defined as Food Deserts. Additionally,



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the Department of Revenue will lower the Tangible Personal Property Tax of grocery stores located in regions deemed Food Deserts by the Department of Agriculture from 20% of market value to 15% of market value. The Department of Revenue will reinstate the 20% Personal Property Tax on these grocery stores once the area is no longer recognized as a Food Desert by the Department of Agriculture.

Section IV: Departments Involved

1. The Department of Revenue will authorize the 15% tax credit for new grocery store construction and the new 15% Tangible Personal Property Tax for the grocers discussed in **Section III**.
2. The Department of Agriculture will determine the areas in the State of Alabama that can be defined as Food Deserts following guidelines by the USDA. This will be done through an examination of food security across the State of Alabama every five years which will be run by the Alabama Department of Agriculture, beginning in January.

Section V: Repealing Clause

All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section VI: Enactment Clause

This bill will go into effect on January 1 of the year following its passage and approval by the Governor, or it is otherwise becoming a law.
repealed.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB56

Committee: 4- Environment

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Libby Tunnell

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Landfill Gas Monitoring and Contingency Plan of 2023

Section 1: Definitions

- Landfill Sites: an area to dispose of refuse and other waste materials by burying and covering over with soil, especially as a method of filling in or extending usable land.
- Landfill gas (LFG): a natural byproduct of the decomposition of organic material in landfills, composed of roughly 50% methane.
- Methane Gas: an odorless, colorless, flammable gas primarily used as fuel to make heat and light.
- Gas Wells: a series of wells drilled into landfills and connected by plastic piping to extract landfill gasses.
- Underground Fires: the underground combustion of methane gas and other computational materials at Landfill Sites.
- Site Owner: the record owner of at least the majority ownership interest in a legally created Landfill Site. If no single person or eternity owns a single majority interest, then all record owners of an interest in such a Landfill Site.
- Best Available Means Technology: a technology recognized by the industrial regulators, and stakeholders which, in the exercise of reasonable judgment in light of facts known at the time the decision is made, could be expected to achieve the desired result.
- SnifferDRONE: an unmanned aerial system providing landfills as an alternative to the archaic and manual method for detecting methane levels. These drones include technology that can determine specific leak locations,

Section 2: Proposal

- (1) The Site Owner is required to install a gas monitoring program at the landfill in accordance with the following requirements:
- The monitoring network shall be designed to ensure detection of the presence of decomposition gas migrating beyond the landfill facility boundary.
 - The monitoring network shall be designed to account for the specific site characteristics and potential environmental barriers, including, but not limited to:



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- Local soil and rock conditions; hydrogeological and hydraulic conditions surrounding the landfill; locations of building and structures relative to the landfill; and man made pathways, such as underground construction.
 - At a minimum, the gas monitoring frequency shall be quarterly.
 - The monitoring devices shall constitute a Best Available Means Technology - at the time this statute is enacted, such technology shall constitute the SnifferDRONE approved by the Environmental Protection Agency December 2022. Subsequently, such technology shall not constitute a less efficacious technology alternative than the SnifferDRONE.
- (2) The Site Owner is required to complete the following actions if the gas monitoring results indicate concentrations of methane in excess of the action levels, 25% of the lower explosive limit (LEL) for methane in landfill structures:
- Determine nearby structures on the facility and off-site that are affected.
 - Contact the Owner Fire Department. Coordinate evaluation of potentially affected off-site structures with the Fire Departments.
 - Notify the Alabama Department of Environmental Management within 48 hours.
 - Investigate and identify the potential source(s) and condition(s) for landfill gas migration that may have caused the high concentrations.
 - As appropriate, begin corrective action.
- (3) Recordkeeping: The Site Owner is required to keep a record of the results of gas monitoring and any gas remediation issues throughout the active life of the landfill. The records shall include:
- The concentrations of the methane as measured at each probe and within each onsite structure; the documentation of date, time, barometric pressure, atmospheric temperatures, general weather conditions, and probe pressures; and the names of sampling personnel.
- (4) If the Site Owner fails to meet any of the requirements, the Site Owner shall pay the Alabama Department of Environmental Management to resolve environmental damages produced by the site which the payment shall cost a minimum of \$5,000.

Section 3: Justification

(1) In the United States more than 8,300 landfill fires occur each year, costing \$8 million annually in property damages in addition to environmental damages and injuries to firefighters and civilians. However, landfill fires are unique because they typically occur in the working face of the landfill resulting in underground fires. Underground fires occur during the anaerobic decomposition of organic waste methane gas and heat. As soon as the methane gas comes in contact with oxygen the combustible materials at the landfill site catch fire easily. These fires are difficult and time consuming to put out because methane gas only needs a spark of oxygen to ignite and then it can burn itself. As a result, firefighters cannot simply cut off the fire's supply of oxygen. Additionally, because the fires are underground, thermal insulation fuels the fires. Lastly, because the fires are underground, firefighters cannot effectively supply water to



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the entirety of the fire.

(2) Detection devices, like the SnifferDRONE, are required to be implemented at landfill sites allowing for more accurate readings of methane levels. Because these innovations are able to read methane levels and methane leakages, they protect against possible underground fires and the mission of gasses into the atmosphere. Additionally, by paying close attention to these levels, landfill companies are protecting themselves against the loss of revenue because these gasses could otherwise be used to produce energy.

(3) In the case of high methane levels, a contingency plan is required to prevent the destruction of land, possible injuries, and the emission of gasses into the atmosphere. By contacting the fire department underground fires can be stopped before they begin. Additionally, by finding the source of the leakage or area of high methane levels, which can be easily identified through the detection devices, the levels of methane can be corrected. Lastly, by contacting the Alabama Department of Management, the communities in which the landfills are in close proximity to can be notified of possible health concerns and plans of action.

(4) A recordkeeping process is required to be completed to ensure that these companies are collecting methane data and taking the necessary precautions. If these precautions are not taken, then the fine will be implemented as a future incentive for landfill companies.

Section 4: Funding

The funding required for these regulations will be at the expense of each Site Owner. The method of

acquiring these funds will not be regulated, as long as these requirements have been met.

Section 5: Releasing clauses

All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section 6: Enactment clause

This bill will go into effect upon passage and signage by its Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB57

Committee: 1- Education

Delegation: LAMP

Author(s): Ethan Farrior

Chamber: Senate

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Updated Standards for Teachers and Education Materials

Section I: Definitions

- Uncertified Teacher is defined as any classroom instructor who do not have the credentialing requirements set by a state
- Public School is defined as any school supported mainly through the use of public funds

Section II: Proposal

A 2.5% tax will be imposed upon corporations in Alabama, strictly for the purpose of the public school system.

The State of Alabama Government will use the revenue from the tax money to supply all classrooms with up-to-date textbooks in all subjects annually and to provide new teacher training programs for the updated material.

Section III: Justification

As more companies move toward automation and away from human labor, Alabama students are at a disadvantage due to the state ranking 47th in the nation. By updating the material taught in all Alabama Public Schools, Alabama students will have the opportunity to earn better jobs than they may have otherwise. In addition to the students this law would directly affect, it provides more incentive for students that go to college elsewhere to come back for when they start families of their own. Currently, a tax upon households would provide the necessary revenue for the state to offer training programs.

Section IV: Consequences

If this bill becomes law, then Alabama students will become some of the best educated in the nation. They will be trained in the skills needed in the emerging technological workforce, unemployment in the state will reduce, and the overall economy of the state will improve.



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Section V: Enforcement

The Alabama Department of Education, the Alabama Department of Labor, and the Alabama Department of Revenue shall jointly oversee the implementation of this legislation.

Section VI: Funding

Once this bill becomes effective, it will generate revenue through taxing households for the first year, and will then tax corporations beginning January 1, 2025.

Section VII: Severance

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill will take effect on January 1, 2024



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB58

Committee: 2-Transportation

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: Saint James

Author(s): Adam Kavlick

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title The Alabama Autobahn

Section I: Definitions

Autobahn: The federal highway system in Germany, known for containing sections without posted speed limits.

Unrestricted zone: A section of a highway where there is no posted speed limit for qualifying vehicles.

High risk area: A section of a highway near an urban area, construction zone, or congested merging area where speed limits are enforced for all vehicles.

Section II: Proposal

This bill will establish a highway enforcement model in Alabama structured after Germany's autobahn. Passenger vehicles including sedans, SUV's, and pickup trucks will not be restricted by a posted speed limit while traveling on highways. Vehicles with trailers and vehicles that exceed 3.5 tons must follow current speed limits. The Alabama Department of Transportation shall oversee the regulation of "unrestricted zones" and reserves the right to uphold speed limits for high risk areas. Drivers are restrained by speed limits unless otherwise designated by traffic signs.

Section III: Justification

In 2019, Alabama state legislature passed Rebuild Alabama, a bill aimed at improving the state's transportation infrastructure over the next 10 years. It's time for Alabama to pave the way in our nation's transportation system, as well as make good use of our new roads. Although the idea of unrestricted speed limits has been generally dismissed as dangerous, this system has enjoyed success in Germany and can thrive in Alabama with proper regulations. In this new and improved system, drivers will be able to reach their destination in reasonable time without



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breaking the law. Since reckless driving will understandably be a major concern, law enforcement will take a strict, zero tolerance approach to traffic offenders. An “Alabama Autobahn” will essentially hold drivers more accountable to their actions and removes the temptation to engage in speeding.

Section IV: Consequences

There are no associated consequences with this bill.

Section V: Enforcement

Alabama Highway Patrol will be responsible for prosecuting reckless driving within unrestricted speed zones. Penalties for irresponsible driving (i.e. drag racing, dangerous overtaking, excessive speeds) are significantly more severe in unrestricted speed zones, and may include fines and/or jail time.

Section VI: Funding

Taxpayer dollars will be used to install traffic signs designating the beginning and end of unrestricted zones.

VII: Severability Clause

Any laws or parts of law in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

VIII: Enactment Clause

This bill will become effective at the beginning of the next calendar year.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB59

Committee: 4- Health

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: Jefferson Davis

Author(s): JaQuasia Gary-Stevenson

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title The Child Mental Health Neglect Act

Section 1 (Definitions)

- a. DHR: Alabama Department of Human Resources
- b. EVALUATION HOLD: keeping an admitted person in a mental health facility for purposes of evaluation and/or diagnosis
- c. MEDICALLY INDICATED: determined to be in the best medical interest of the patient by a professional duly certified or licensed in their respective, relevant health-care field
- d. MENTAL HEALTH FACILITY: a facility used to treat those mentally ill
- e. MINOR: a person under 18 years of age
- f. NEGLECT: Negligent treatment or maltreatment of a child, including the failure to provide adequate food, medical treatment, supervision, clothing, or shelter. (AL Code § 26-14-1)
- g. SUA SPONTE: of one's accord; voluntarily

Section 2: Self-Admission of Minors to Mental Health Facilities

- (a) A minor who is at least 14 years old may admit themselves into a mental health facility for in-patient evaluation.
- (b) Evaluation within 24 Hours. The mental health facility must, within 24 hours, evaluate the minor in order to determine whether in-patient treatment is medically indicated.
- (c) Parental Notification. Upon self-admission, the mental health facility must notify the minor's parent or legal guardian of the fact of admission.
- (d) Evaluation Hold. The mental health facility may place a 24-hour evaluation hold on the discharge of the minor, notwithstanding any request or demand by the minor's parent or legal guardian that the minor be discharged from the facility.
- (e) Post-Evaluation.



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(1) After evaluation, the mental health facility may, in its discretion, choose to discharge the minor into the custody of the minor's parent or legal guardian, provided that said discharge is medically indicated.

(2) If the mental health facility determines that further in-patient treatment is medically indicated, the mental health facility may admit the minor for such treatment.

(i) If the parent or legal guardian demands the discharge of the minor, the mental health facility must comply within 72 hours of the time of original admission, notwithstanding the facility's determination that in-patient treatment is indicated.

(ii) However, in the circumstance where a parent or legal guardian demands the discharge of the minor notwithstanding in-patient treatment being medically indicated, the mental health facility shall refer the case to DHR for further investigation. A demand to discharge a minor notwithstanding medically indicated in-patient treatment being necessary will be prima facie evidence of potential neglect, and the DHR shall investigate according to its standard processes.

Section 3:

DHR shall investigate and monitor any failure to provide reasonably adequate professional mental health treatment for a child/minor after self-admission in a mental health facility as described in **Section 2** above. DHR may sua sponte remove a child from their home for an additional 48 hours, in which the child shall continue to receive treatment in a mental health facility.

Section 4:

Alabama Medicaid already covers mental health services for eligible children, providing "community based and inpatient services". If the child is to be proven eligible by psychiatrists. If one does not acquire medicaid, Alabama offers mental health services for reduced fees at many state-licensed clinics but Medicaid for the minor is recommended.

-OR Alabama can take charity donations from some of the more popular cities to further pay for mental health services.

Section 5:

Nothing in this bill shall be construed to affect the rights of people, or the obligations of the state or its agencies, in circumstances of involuntary commitments as set forth in § 22-52 of the Alabama Code of 1975.

Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section 7: This act shall become effective March 26 (Sunday), 2023.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB60

Committee: 3- Judicial

Chamber: Senate

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): CJ Johnson and Lydia Burn

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Punishing the Problem

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Prostitution- The practice or occupation of engaging in sexual activity with someone for payment.
- Solicitation- The act of asking someone for or obtaining something from someone. (Ex. a buyer would be considered a solicitor)
- Human Trafficking- The unlawful act of transporting or coercing people in order to benefit from their work or service, typically in the form of forced labor or sexual exploitation

Section II: Proposal

This bill will decriminalize prostitution and further criminalize solicitation. As it stands, prostitution and solicitation are both Class A misdemeanors under Alabama law. This bill will lower the charge of prostitution to a citation of \$100 while solicitation will be classified as a Class C felony.

Section III: Justification

Under this bill, Prostitution is defined as the act of selling oneself for different sexual actions and solicitation is defined as the action of obtaining these sexual actions for oneself. Oftentimes in cases of prostitution and solicitation, the wrong party is punished. Enforcers of the law punish the party who is most times the victim instead of the party that asks for the service. This bill will deliver justice where it is due. Not only will this help lower the rates of both prostitution and solicitation, the revenue gained by the solicitor will be confiscated and given back to the state and the prostitute. This will also help reduce human trafficking as there will be less opportunities for those involved in prostitution to be taken advantage of.

Section IV: Consequences

This bill will result in the destruction of the system in which certain individuals are exploited. It will lead to more arrests of solicitors in the state and take down several opportunities for a person to be unlawfully taken advantage of.

Section V: Enforcement

This bill will come into effect when a person is either convicted with a charge of prostitution or solicitation.

Section VI: Payment

This bill does not require payment as it simply changes the weight of already existing charges.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or it's otherwise becoming law.

HOUSE BILLS

SPECIAL ORDER CALENDAR

These bills have been selected by the leadership to skip the Committee Process and be debated first in their Chamber. Debate will begin on these bills when Chambers convene on Friday. They are not assigned to a Committee. The patrons should report to Committee A.

H005 Abusers Don't Care Who You Are

Lila Sokol Hoover- Spain Park

H006 All Green Card Holders Who Are Taxpayers Allowed to Vote in State Elections

Amolika Mishra and Ayah Mahmoud
Montgomery- Saint James

H033 Instituting Sick Days for Menstrual Cycle

Ingrid Dominguez Montgomery- Carver

The Regular Calendar will be distributed as soon as possible after Rules Committee and will be available from the Clerk/Secretary in each chamber

HOUSE COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE A TRANSPORTATION, FINANCE, COMMERCE

CHAIRPERSON GABBY CARMARGO CO-CHAIRPERSON MICHAEL ALLEN

LOCATION: STATE HOUSE ROOM 304

COMMITTEE B JUDICIAL

CHAIRPERSON ISABELLA SHINN CO-CHAIRPERSON ROSELYN OLVERA

LOCATION: STATE HOUSE ROOM 325

COMMITTEE C PUBLIC SAFETY

CHAIRPERSON DOMINICK CLAUSEN CO-CHAIRPERSON TYRA DAVIS

LOCATION: STATE HOUSE ROOM 429

COMMITTEE D HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

CHAIRPERSON CARYS COLLINS CO-CHAIRPERSON RAPHEAL YOUNG

LOCATION: STATE HOUSE ROOM 825

COMMITTEE F EDUCATION AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

CHAIRPERSON CATHERINE SIZEMORE CO-CHAIRPERSON JULIA DAIGLE

LOCATION: STATE HOUSE ROOM 807

COMMITTEE G EDUCATION AND TRANSPORTATION

CHAIRPERSON REGAN TALLENT CO-CHAIRPERSON ELIJAH MCCAY

LOCATION: STATE HOUSE ROOM 329



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB1

Committee: G- Education II

Delegation: Cherokee County

Author(s): Reagan Tallent

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: First Class Education – An Act to amend Sec 16-28-4, Alabama Code 1975, relating to the minimum age for attendance at public schools.

SECTION I (Definitions):

Average Daily Attendance - Total ADA is defined as the total days of student attendance divided by the total days of instruction.

Average Daily Membership - The aggregate membership of a school during a reporting period (normally a school year) divided by the number of days that school is in session during this period.

SECTION II (Proposed Action):

This bill will amend Sec 16-28-4, Alabama Code 1975, to change the minimum age for attendance at public schools from six years old on or before December 31st to five years old on or before September 1st or the date on which school begins in the enrolling district.

SECTION III (Justification)

Missing kindergarten has always led to learning gaps. The pandemic has exacerbated the problem by creating a larger than normal cohort of kids that need extra attention when starting school. Mandatory kindergarten will result in many benefits for Alabama and its citizens including, improved social emotional skills, increased earnings, reduced childcare costs, and increased labor force participation.

SECTION IV (Procedural and administrative provisions):

1. The Department of Education will create a first-grade readiness assessment, to be approved by the State Board of Education,
2. The Department of Education will publish essential first-grade readiness skills information on the Department's website, and
3. The State Board of Education will adopt policies which will assist local boards of education in implementing this requirement.
4. No public school system will lose any teacher unit because of this requirement.

SECTION V (Funding): Funding will be determined by the Finance and Taxation Education Committee. The effect of this bill will increase the ADM by an estimated maximum of 5000 students annually.

SEVERABILITY CLAUSE: "All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed."

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act to become effective upon passage and approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB2

Committee: A- Commerce

Chamber: House

Delegation: Cherokee County

Author(s): Amalia Molly Rochell and Jack Noah Watson

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

SECTION I (Definitions):

A **meal break** shall be defined as an uninterrupted period of at least 30 minutes, during which work should not be undertaken.

An **employer** is a person or organization that employs people.

An **employee** is a person employed for wages or salary.

SECTION II (Proposed Action): All employers must give a minimum 30-minute meal break for employees aged sixteen and above, working six or more hours.

SECTION III (Justification): As of today, there is no law in the state of Alabama stating that an employer must give their employees over the age of sixteen a break of any kind, no matter how long they have been working in a day. That is what this bill is trying to change. Breaks can drastically change the work ethic and motivation of employees. Taking a break from work can decrease symptoms of burnout, decrease stress, improve focus which in turn increases productivity. So, not only is this going to improve the mental health and wellbeing of workers across the state, employers will also see an increase in productivity as well.

SECTION IV (Procedural and administrative provisions): The Department of Labor will administer this provision in the normal course of business.

SECTION V (Sanctions and penalties): Sanctions and/or penalties will be at the discretion of the Department of Labor in keeping with the current mandatory break laws.

SECTION VI (Payment): This bill will require no funding.

SEVERABILITY CLAUSE: "All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed."

EFFECTIVE DATE: This legislation should go into effect 120 days upon passage.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB3

Committee: C- Public Safety

Delegation: Cherokee County

Author(s): Dominick Clausen

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Get Out of My Space: An Act to Regulate Surveillance of Alabama Citizens

SECTION I (Definitions):

Drone Surveillance: the use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) to capture still images and video from a distance or at a high altitude to gather information about specific targets, which may be individuals, groups, or the environment.

SECTION II (Proposed Action): This bill will follow a property-rights approach to drone regulation by placing limits on continuous (persistent) surveillance, enacting procedures for data retention (time limits), and transparency (regular reporting) ensuring that the public is informed about the activities of government pertaining to surveillance.

SECTION III (Justification) The prospect of expanded use of unmanned aerial vehicles, commonly referred to as "drones", has raised concerns among Alabama citizens. In the last several years, states have enacted various policies aimed at calming those fears. However, so far, the enactment of overly broad restrictions on drone use has served to hinder only the type of non-invasive, beneficial uses of drones that most agree is a reasonable use of the technology. Therefore, this bill proposes to approach drone legislation differently, recognizing the possibility that future technology may make unmanned aerial surveillance more protective of privacy than manned surveillance.

SECTION IV (Procedural and administrative provisions): The 5 core provisions of this bill are:

1. **Property rights:** provides landowners with the right to exclude aircraft, persons, and other objects from a column of airspace extending from the surface of their land up to 350 feet above ground level. *(Solves most public and private harms associated with drones.)*
2. **Duration-based surveillance:** limit the aggregate amount of time the government may surveil a specific individual. *(Addresses the potential harm of persistent surveillance, a harm that is capable of being committed by manned and unmanned aircraft.)*
3. **Data retention procedures:** Require heightened levels of suspicion.
4. **Procedural protections for accessing stored data gathered by aerial surveillance.**
5. **Deletion of all stored data after a specified time.**
6. **Transparency and accountability measures:** require government agencies to periodically publish information about their use of aerial surveillance devices (both manned and unmanned).
7. **Geofencing and auto-redaction:** make aerial surveillance by drones more protective of privacy than human surveillance.

SECTION V (Funding): None

SEVERABILITY CLAUSE: "All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed."

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act to become effective upon passage and approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB4

Committee: H- Government Operations

Chamber: House

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Ella Meadows

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Primary Voting at 17 Act.

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Primary Voting at 17 Act.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

Congressional Caucus: A group of members of the US Congress that meet to pursue common legislative objectives.

General election: A regularly scheduled election involving most districts in the nation or state, in which voters select officeholders.

Primary election: Held to select a party's candidate for the general election.

Section II: Background

In 17 states, 17-year-olds who will be 18 by the time of the next general election are permitted to vote in that year's primaries and caucuses. 19 states allow 17-year-olds to vote in the presidential primaries and/or caucuses of both major parties, while 4 other states only allow 17-year-olds of a certain party to vote in the presidential election.

Section III: Proposition

Once enacted, this bill will allow 17-year-olds that will turn 18 by the next election, and meet all voting criteria, to participate in upcoming primaries and general elections. This includes teenagers of all parties.

Section IV: Justification

Under current Alabama law, only those 18 or older are allowed to vote. This prohibits 17-year-olds whose birthdays are in the same year the right to vote. This bill will help encourage people to participate in the United States political process. It will also help strengthen America's democracy, and inspire others to vote for a better future. A few of the states who permit 17-year-olds to vote are Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Utah, Vermont, Virginia and West Virginia. The state of Alabama should follow suit and allow 17-year-olds to vote.

Section V: Implementation

Anywhere people can currently register to vote should offer this service to people who turn 18 during the year of presidential election. Examples of cities or places where people can register are the DMV, usa.gov, a National Mail Voter Registration form, etc.

Section VI: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed

Section VII: Enactment Clause

This act is to become effective upon passage and approval of the Governor or it's otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB5

Committee: B- Judicial

Chamber: House

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Caroline Cornes

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: An Act to Reform Alabama's Prison System

Authors: Caroline Cornes

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AND ACT

Title: An Act to Reform Alabama's Prison System

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

Parole: The conditional release of prisoners before they can complete their sentence. Parole prisoners are supervised by a public official known as a parole officer and they must abide by specific behavioral conditions. If a prisoner on parole violates the conditions of their release, they face being rearrested and returned to prison.

The Department of Corrections: the department of local government that is responsible for managing the treatment of convicted offenders.

The Alabama General Fund: The Alabama General Fund supports state programs such as child development and protection, criminal justice, economic development, legislative activities, public health and safety, and more.

Section II: Background

Throughout all thirteen prisons located in the state of Alabama, overcrowding has proved itself to be a major issue within the walls of each prison. Overcrowding has been an issue within the prisons of Alabama for decades but recently, in the past five or so years, this issue has rapidly accelerated resulting in overcrowding being a more pressing issue than ever before. At an incarceration rate of 938 per 100,00 people, Alabama incarcerates more prisoners than any other democracy. The overcrowding of prisons can lead to many serious issues including: an increase in violence, an inability to provide basic needs to prisoners such as medical care, and more. This pressing issue of overcrowding in prisons within the state needs to be addressed now in order to repair the corruption occurring in Alabama prisons.

Section III: Proposition

In order to solve the ongoing problem of overcrowding in the prisons of Alabama, there will be an increase in the funding of and the investment into parole and job opportunities for prisoners within the state. This increase in funding would directly result in inmates facing a much greater chance at parole, resulting in the reduction of the population of prisons. In addition, by moving a greater number of inmates into the parole system, and reducing the population of prisons, the state and federal agencies would benefit in return as this would save them a considerable amount of money each fiscal year.

The state will also reclassify non-violent crimes such as shoplifting and drug possession to



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

misdemeanors to prevent a disproportionate amount of offenders from entering the system in the first place. By doing this, this bill both reduces the current and future number of prisoners, ensuring that this is a long-term fix.

Section IV: Justification

This motion that would increase the funding of parole programs would give many more inmates an opportunity to live their lives outside of the walls of a prison instead of being locked up for their entire sentence. Not only would these parole programs promote the reformation of inmates and reduce the likelihood of recidivism, they would also greatly reduce the amount of inmates crowding the prisons. With a decrease in the crowding of prisons, the prison system of Alabama would see many improvements and a huge step towards fixing the crippling corruption of the state's prison system would be made. This measure taken to reduce the crowding of Alabama prisons would provide both social and economic reforms to the state.

For example, in California in the early 2010s, the state's prison systems were facing overcrowding issues and measures including an increase in parole opportunities greatly helped to resolve the issue. One measure taken to resolve the issue was in 2016 in which the bill, Proposition 57, was passed that expanded parole eligibility of inmates residing in prisons in California. These efforts made by the state resulted in a drastic decrease in the population of prisons within the state from 2010 to 2020. They also reduced the violent crime rate in California by more than half from 1992 to 2019.

Section V: Implementation

The department of corrections would oversee the implementation of the bill. Costs will naturally lower from the reduction of prisoners, however, any additional funds for the initial start up of the program can be sourced from the Alabama General Fund.

Section VI: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with the enactment of this law are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment Clause

This bill will become effective upon the approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB6

Committee: C- Public Safety

Chamber: House

Delegation: Montgomery Catholic

Author(s): Zion Williams, Haylei Mason

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Do Not Touch Service Animals

Do Not Touch Service Animals

Section I: Terms

Service animal: Animals trained to perform a task specific to the owner(s) disability (Guide, therapy, or emotional).

Pet: A domestic or tamed animal kept for your companionship or pleasure.

Harassment: aggressive pressure or intimidation.

Adequate: Satisfactory or acceptable in quality or quantity.

Training: The action of teaching a person or animal a particular skill or type of behavior.

Consent: permission for something to happen or agreement to do something.

Section II: Purpose

The purpose of this bill is to prohibit service animals from being physically contacted by non-owners without the owner's consent, while they are on duty. This bill will provide a better work environment in which the service animal can assist the owner.

Section III: Justification

50 to 70 percent of service dogs do not complete their training. Service animals go through strenuous and extensive training to assist their owner(s). The purpose of a service animal is to assist the specific person(s) in need of service. If they are being touched constantly their focus shifts. This may cause them not to carry out their job to their full potential. In turn, putting the owner at a major mental or physical health risk. Even though they go through tedious training these are still animals and will still react to contact of any kind. These animals are not pets in any way, they constantly pursue a task in which they must carry out adequately on a day-to-day basis.

Section IV: Funding and oversight

This bill requires no funding.

Section V: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB8

Committee: B- Judicial

Delegation: Carver High School

Author(s): Tremayne Chapman

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Sweet home Alabama bill

A Bill to ban incest marriages

[Sweet Home Alabama Bill]

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STATE LEGISLATURE HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

Section 1. This bill will expand the definition of incest in the state of Alabama to include any relation closer 3rd cousins.

Section 2. Marriages or or any type of sexual relationships between these relations will be banned/outlawed in the State of Alabama.

Section 3. This will be enforced by the Alabama Attorney General's office and all law enforcement personnel.

Section 4. The penalty will be increased from its current limits to include a prison sentence of 5- 15 years and a fine not to exceed \$25,000.

SECTION 4. This legislation will take effect on January 1st 2024



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB9

Committee: C- Public Safety

Chamber: House

Delegation: Catholic

Author(s): Maria Schwarz

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Cut the Cost of Assault Weapons

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

TITLE: Cut the Cost of Assault Weapons

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section 1: Terms

Assault weapon- high-powered, semi-automatic or automatic firearms designed to fire rounds at a higher speed and velocity than most other firearms.

Per capita- per 100,000 people.

Open carry- To carry or have the gun on a person that is visible or in a holster opposed to being concealed.

Mass shooting- an event in which one or more individuals are "actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a populated area."

Section 2: Purpose

A bill to require a license to own, transfer or sell semi-automatic assault weapons. This bill will increase the safety measures for Alabama citizens by lowering the gun violence death rate, providing funds for each county's sheriff department, while protecting second amendment rights.

Section 3: Justification

Alabama is ranked second nationwide in gun-related deaths, with a death rate of 22.9 deaths per capita. With firearms now more easily accessible to Alabama citizens and no background checks, these numbers only have room to rise. Research also shows that states that offer some type of restriction on assault weapons have the lowest homicide rates in America. Furthermore, in the United States, 25% of all mass shooting deaths were attributed to assault weapons. Restricting access to semi automatic weapons by requiring a license would lead to a decrease in gun violence rates while also creating avenues of revenue for the sheriff's departments. As of Jan. 1st 2023, Alabama's law to remove the requirement of a permit to carry a concealed handgun went into effect. Without the need to purchase a permit, sheriff's departments all over the state of Alabama have already reported losing thousands of dollars a month. Gun violence costs Alabama 15.4 billion dollars every year, and more than 421 million dollars of that is paid by the state's taxpayers. Limiting the access to assault weapons would not only help keep Alabama safe, it would cut down those prices, making room for this money to help Alabama in other ways.

Section 4: Funding and Enforcement

This bill should not require additional government funding.

The purchase of licenses will be enforced by local police/sheriffs departments.

The price of buying a license is 20 dollars for a year and 100 dollars for five years.



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In accordance with federal law, Alabama requires firearm dealers to initiate background checks through the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) database.

Private sellers and buyers must also show proof of license to sell or purchase assault weapons.

Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section 6: This act shall become effective January 1, 2024 after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB10

Committee: B- Judicial

Chamber: House

Delegation: Montgomery Catholic

Author(s): Anna Lathram

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Death Row Innocence Commission

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

TITLE: Death Row Innocence Commission

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Terms

Formal Inquiry - the stage of the investigation where the committee has obtained the signed agreement from the convicted person and has begun any forensic testing and claimant interviews

Claim of Factual Innocence - a claim on behalf of a living person on death row, convicted of a felony that asserts their complete innocence of any criminal responsibility for the felony for which the person was convicted, where there is some credible, verifiable evidence of innocence that has not previously been presented at trial or considered at a hearing granted through post conviction relief

Claimant - a person, on death row, asserting that he or she is completely innocent of any criminal responsibility for a felony crime upon which the person was convicted

Section II: Purpose

A bill to establish a committee to investigate and review an inmate's case on death row if he or she files for a claim of factual innocence. This would serve as a last opportunity for the convicted person, if he or she claims to be innocent, to be heard. If the person does such and claims innocence, then the committee will have all the evidence in the person's case presented to them. Then, if the majority of the committee decides there is sufficient evidence of factual innocence, the evidence will be presented a second time in front of a three-panel judge. If the majority of the judges decide that the claimant is innocent, he or she will be exonerated and have all or any charges dropped. This would act as a final prevention measure to prevent any executions of the innocent and ensure that all relevant evidence is fully considered.

Section III: Justification

Alabama makes greater use of the death penalty than any other state in the nation. There are currently 166 persons on death row, which is the highest number per capita of any state in the nation. Since 1973, 190 former death row inmates, in the United States, have been exonerated of all charges. That is one in eight persons on death row. Nineteen were exonerated after they died. Alabama has failed to carry out the last two attempted executions. All of this shows there are many improvements that need to take place concerning the appropriate use of the death penalty. However, that is not all. In recent years, there have been many DNA and forensic evidence advances, exemplifying the clear need to have a final review of each case prior to committing the death penalty. This potential new evidence needs to be recognized and considered in each and every case where the inmate requests it. This proposed bill



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would be the perfect way to do so as well as create a great first step in improving the state's capital punishment as a whole.

Section IV: Composition of Committee

Members of the committee will include:

One circuit court judge appointed by the Circuit Judges Association.

One district attorney appointed by the District Attorneys Association.

One victim advocate appointed by the Governor.

One person engaged in the practice of criminal defense law appointed by the Alabama Criminal Defense Lawyers Association.

One member of the public who is not an attorney and who is not an officer or employee of the judicial branch of the government appointed by the Governor.

One sheriff appointed by the Alabama Sheriffs Association.

One member appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

One member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The makeup of the commission shall be inclusive and reflect the racial, gender, geographic, urban/rural, and economic diversity of the state.

The committee will meet a minimum of once every 6 months, or more often if necessary.

Each member will be appointed for a three year term.

Section V: Operations and Procedure

Any convicted person can make a claim of factual innocence to the committee through a court, a State or local agency, or his/her council. The committee will then decide whether or not they will grant a formal inquiry into the claim of innocence. If they do, they must first obtain a signed agreement from the claimant that he or she will cooperate in all aspects of the investigation. Once this signed agreement is obtained, then the committee must notify the victim and explain the inquiry process as well as letting him or her know of the right to share any views or concerns about the inquiry that he or she might have. Once they obtain this agreement, the committee can also begin to conduct any forensic testing or interviews.

Once the formal inquiry has been completed, all evidence will be presented to the full committee in a public hearing. The committee may compel the testimony of any witness. After this hearing, all eight members of the committee will vote to establish further case disposition. If five or more of the members vote that there is sufficient evidence of factual innocence to merit judicial review, the case will be referred to the presiding circuit court judge in the circuit of original jurisdiction.

If the commission concludes there is sufficient evidence of factual innocence, then a request will be sent to the Chief Justice of the Alabama Supreme Court to appoint a three-judge panel, not including any trial judge that has previously been involved in the case. The three-judge panel will conduct an evidentiary hearing. The district attorney of the district of conviction will represent that state at the hearing. At the hearing, the court, and the defense and prosecution can compel the testimony of any witness, including the convicted person. The three-judge panel will then conclude whether the claimant has proved by clear and convincing evidence that he or she is innocent of the charges. This determination will require two out of the three to vote in the affirmative. If two out of the three judges have determined that the claimant is innocent, the panel will dismiss all of any of the charges and the individual shall be immediately released from incarceration.

Section VI: Funding and Oversight

The members of this committee will receive no salary, but all necessary substance and travel expenses will be paid for through the Alabama State General Fund.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

Section VII: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section VIII: This act shall become effective January 1, 2024 after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB 11

Committee: F- Education

Chamber: *Special Order*

Delegation: Montgomery Catholic Preparatory School

Author(s): Mikiyah Washington

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Denying History

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Denying History

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section 1: Terms

Civil Rights: Guarantees of equal social opportunities and equal protection under the law (U.S. Government and federal laws), regardless of race, religion, or other personal characteristics.

Racism: Discrimination, or antagonism by an individual, community, or institution against a person or people on the basis of their membership in a particular racial or ethnic group, typically one that is a minority or marginalized.

Community Engagement: The process of working collaboratively with and through groups of people affiliated by geographic proximity, special interest, or similar situations to address issues affecting the well-being of those people. It is a powerful vehicle for bringing about environmental and behavioral changes that will improve the health of the community.

Leadership: The action of leading or guiding a group of people or an organization

Unity: The state of being one

Education: The process of receiving or giving systematic instruction, especially at a school or university.

Section 2: Proposal

A bill that mandates civil rights in Alabama history standards. This makes the state of Alabama history standards mandatory to learn about black history in schools. (For example: in history books, lectures, standards, and celebrating events for black history month throughout February).

Section 3: Justification

As MLK said, "We may have all come on different ships, but we're in the same boat now." Montgomery, Selma, Tuskegee, and Birmingham are just a few of many cities at the heart of the civil rights movement and with the current, proposed restrictions in history education, the most important part of our state and nation's history might not make the cut.

In March 2022, the American Historical Association sent letters to the Alabama House of Representatives and Senate opposing the following proposed bills: HB 312, HB 8, HB 9, and HB 11, as well as SB 292, SB 9, and SB 7, all of which would impose restrictions on history education in the state of Alabama. While these bills are designed to "prohibit discriminatory teaching," they would effectively silence teachers from helping students consider the honest history of slavery and racism concerning both the state of Alabama and American history. Furthermore, this action will manipulate students from understanding the truth of the evidence many of them experience everyday (sexism, racism, and



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discrimination). The vast majority of history educators understand and teach on the subject that slavery and racism have played a key role in shaping American and World History. This bill would enforce the right of faculty to teach and students to learn. In class, we are often urged not to repeat history. This bill urges you to do the same. Mandating this bill means creating a free and open exchange about history and the forces that created our world today-an exchange that should take place inside the classroom as well as in the public realm generally. To ban the tools that enable those discussions is to deprive us all of the tools necessary for citizenship in the 21st century.

Section 5: Funding and Oversight

This bill will not require any additional funding for the review of Alabama's social studies standards. Standards will be reviewed by Alabama's State Board of Education.

Section 6: Severability Clause

All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section 7: Enactment

This act shall become effective January 1, 2024 after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB12

Committee: B- Judicial

Chamber: House

Delegation: Montgomery Catholic

Author(s): Isabella Shin

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Stop the Hate

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

TITLE: Stop the Hate

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

Hate Crime: a crime, typically one involving violence, that is motivated by prejudice on the basis of ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or similar grounds.

Law Enforcement Officer: a government employee appointed to enforce the law, such as a police officer or sheriff.

Certification: an official document attesting to a status or level of achievement.

Section II: Proposal

The bill will prioritize the certification of law enforcement officers against hate crimes and enable them to make more informed decisions in the future when confronted with such offenses.

Section III: Justification

Bias is a human phenomenon and instances of prejudice against different races, religions, and other minority groups are persistent throughout American history. Although we have come a long way as a country, discrimination and stereotypes are still prominent within our society. A hate crimes are illegal acts that are motivated by prejudice. Though race and religion are the most common sources of hate crimes today, it takes on many different forms. Since 2010, the FBI has received reports from law enforcement agencies of about 6,000 hate crime events each year. However, according to government studies, the actual figure is much higher – 260,000 annually. Because the victims are unwilling to contact the authorities, many hate crimes go unreported. An approach to influence change in the community and support individuals who are victimized by hate crimes is to make it mandatory for law enforcement personnel to receive training on recognition and understanding of these crimes. Officers would gain a more comprehensive understanding of how to use techniques and methods to handle incidents of hate crimes in a non-combative manner, observe the warning signs of hate crimes firsthand, and learn about law enforcement practices such as the reporting, documentation, and procedures for these crimes. This certification goes for opposing hatred and speaking out to encourage inclusiveness and tolerance across Alabama.

Section IV: Funding and Oversight

Private and public partnerships for providing necessary funding will be encouraged. The ALEA (Alabama Law Enforcement Agency) will oversee the certification of its law enforcement officers and organize a training schedule.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

A “Stop the Hate” grant will be issued to qualified nonprofit organizations to provide training and services to law enforcement officers to facilitate understanding of hate incidents and hate crime prevention measures.

Section V: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section VI: This act shall become effective January 1, 2024 after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB14

Committee: A- Commerce

Chamber: House

Delegation: Cherokee County

Author(s): Jack Noah Watson & Amalia Rochell

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Give Me a Break Bill

AUTHOR: Amalia "Molly" Rochell, Jack Noah Watson

TITLE: Give Me a Break Act

SECTION I (Definitions):

A meal break shall be defined as an uninterrupted period of at least 30 minutes, during which work should not be undertaken.

An employer is a person or organization that employs people.

An employee is a person employed for wages or salary.

SECTION II (Proposed Action): All employers must give a minimum 30-minute meal break for employees aged sixteen and above, working six or more hours.

SECTION III (Justification): As of today, there is no law in the state of Alabama stating that an employer must give their employees over the age of sixteen a break of any kind, no matter how long they have been working in a day. That is what this bill is trying to change. Breaks can drastically change the work ethic and motivation of employees. Taking a break from work can decrease symptoms of burnout, decrease stress, improve focus which in turn increases productivity. So, not only is this going to improve the mental health and wellbeing of workers across the state, employers will also see an increase in productivity as well.

SECTION IV (Procedural and administrative provisions): The Department of Labor will administer this provision in the normal course of business.

SECTION V (Sanctions and penalties): Sanctions and/or penalties will be at the discretion of the Department of Labor in keeping with the current mandatory break laws.

SECTION VI (Payment): This bill will require no funding.

SEVERABILITY CLAUSE: "All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed."

EFFECTIVE DATE: This legislation should go into effect 120 days upon passage.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB15

Committee: C- Public Safety

Chamber: House

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Sophia Self

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Outlawing the Killing of Healthy Animals in Shelters

Authors: Sophia Self

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Outlawing the Killing of Healthy Animals in Shelters

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

Kill shelter: a shelter that accepts all animals and allows euthanization once the shelter becomes overcrowded

No-kill shelter: a shelter that saves 90% of its animals

Animal euthanasia: legal killing of animals

Section II: Background

Alabama is the nation's 5th worst state when it comes to putting down animals in shelters. In Alabama, 61 out of 92 shelters are kill shelters, and in 2020, 16,825 dogs and cats were euthanized. Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, many families went through financial hardships and had to give up their pets. Now shelters are overflowing with pets, and killing many animals due to the overcrowding. The Greater Birmingham Humane Society (GBHS) had a euthanasia rate of 51% in 2017, many of those being treatable animals, despite having foster families willing to take them in.

Section III: Proposition

This bill will require shelters to save at least 75% of all healthy animals.

Section IV: Justification

Many animals are killed due to overcrowding in shelters, but this problem could be solved if more animals were spayed and neutered. In fact, spaying (\$175) and neutering (\$135) costs significantly less than euthanization (\$300). In addition to spaying and neutering, there are many alternative solutions to stop overcrowding in shelters instead of killing animals. They can be put into foster programs, relocated to other shelters, or be given to rescue groups. It is also unethical to kill healthy animals in shelters. They are not suffering, so they should not die because of things that are not their fault, like financial hardship or overcrowded shelters.

Section V: Implementation

The Department of Public Health will oversee this legislation.

Section VI: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment Clause

This act is to become effective upon passage and approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB15

Committee: A- Commerce

Chamber: House

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Ann Wright Carlson

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Grocery Tax Elimination

Household food items: Fruits, vegetables, and other household necessities

Low income: Households with income of 19,000 or lower per year

Alabama Education Trust Fund budget: Budget used to show the amount of money available for the development of public schools and other educational activities within Alabama



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY15

Committee: R- Government Operations

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Montgomery Catholic

Author(s): Amari Archie

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Make Election Day an Alabama State Holiday

Section 1: Terms

Election: a formal and organized choice by vote of a person for a political office or other position.

Holiday: a formal and organized choice by vote of a person for a political office or other position.

Section 2: Purpose

A bill which allows people to have more free time on election day so they can go out and vote for who they think is right for the government.

Section 3: Justification

Making election day a state holiday would allow for people to have more time to cast their vote for legislature. Some people aren't able to vote on an election day because of their tough work schedules which can demand a whole day seeing as there are no laws or limits on how much you can work a day in the state of Alabama. Another reason for making election day a holiday is that people in rural parts of the state might not have any close access to any voting location so they end up having to drive to a location that takes even more extra time out of their day. Another factor of making election day a holiday is that it would give people the ability to have a rest day so they can recuperate from the stresses of school and work.

Section 4: Funding and Oversight

This bill should not require any government funding.

Alabama does not have any laws that regulate work hours, so employees must follow federal guidelines set forth by the U.S. Wage and Hour Division, a division of the U.S. Department of labor.

Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section 6: This act shall become effective March 5 2024 after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023 February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY16

Committee: M- Public Safety

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Catholic

Author(s): Aaron Taylor

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Enforce the use of badge cameras by all law enforcement

SECTION I - Terms

Badge camera - mobile audio and video recording system worn by a law enforcement officer, but shall not include a recording device worn by a law enforcement officer while engaging in an undercover assignment.

Law enforcement officer - a person whose public duties include the power to act as an officer for the detection, apprehension, arrest, and conviction of offenders against the laws of this state.

SECTION II - Purpose

A bill to enforce the use of badge cameras worn by all law enforcement.

SECTION III - Justification

Today in Alabama there is a deep distrust between citizens and police officers, and to bridge that divide body cameras will be enforced. The badge camera is an audio/visual camera where the visual is automatically turned on as soon as the officers clock in, and they turn on the audio when they report to the incident. The audio component of the camera is time delayed, the officer must hold the button for about 2 seconds to power on audio recording. My bill is to mandate that all police officers wear the new badge cameras. This bill will solve the problem of not only police brutality but brutality against officers in Alabama.

SECTION IV - Funding and oversight

Means of financing the cameras and the upkeep/operation of the cameras would come from the raise of tax on tobacco and e-cigarettes from 0.034 to \$0.100 per cigarette stick and vape. Independent police monitor's would watch the footage from the police cameras, and because most of them are interns and volunteers they would not receive any added payment.

SECTION V - Conflicting Laws

All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

SECTION VI- Enactment

This act shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB12

Committee: D- Environment

Chamber: House

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Kelcie Dowling

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Deduction in Favor of Alternative Paper

Section I: Definitions

Alabama Dept. of Revenue: This department manages services for both individual and business taxpayers in the state of Alabama.

Alternative Paper: Paper not sourced from wood and traditional forestry practices. May be composed of post-consumer waste, kenaf, bamboo, agri-pulp, cotton, hemp, etc.

Business Tax Deduction: Provision that reduces taxable income.

Deforestation: The action of clearing a wide area of trees.

Pollution Control Equipment Business Deduction: A tax incentive for businesses with materials located in Alabama for the control, reduction, or elimination of air, ground, or water pollution or radiological hazards that result from the taxpayer's activities.

Section II: Background

The world consumes approximately 400 million tons of paper each year, accounting for 70% of global warming, and the demand for paper is only increasing. The cost of wood pulp is rising, and deforestation is limiting access to wood based raw materials. In Alabama alone there are 22 paper producers and 18 paper mills. The very first paper in the world was made from hemp which is more sustainable than current forestry practices. Considering 1 acre of hemp can produce as much paper as 4-10 acres of trees over 20 years, this can ease the burden of deforestation. Alternative sources for paper are not only more sustainable, but they are also an idea that is increasingly popular among businesses.

Section III: Proposition

On top of the Pollution Control Equipment Business Deduction, a new business privilege tax deduction will be implemented through the Alabama Department of Revenue. An entity may deduct from their Alabama net worth the net amount invested in all devices, facilities, or structures, and all identifiable components or materials for use therein, that are located in Alabama and for the use of transitioning to alternative paper sources.

Companies may apply for this deduction through the Department of Revenue and must send clearly detailed reports of all materials. This is not intended to cause an abrupt halt to the use of wood to produce paper; rather, it shall ease the transition into the use of alternative materials.

Section IV: Justification

Using hemp and other alternatives promises to reduce the toxic environment caused by commercial wood paper. On the other hand, in conventional forestry practices, carbon dioxide is emitted into the environment, gallons of water and toxic chemicals are used, and rotting paper emits methane (harming our environment even more). Alternative paper sources like hemp offer an environmentally sustainable



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alternative and will actually benefit the consumer and companies.

In the coming years making wood based paper will be just as expensive as paper alternatives such as hemp. It will be beneficial for companies to transition to paper alternatives and the government should not only allow that to be a smooth transition, but they should encourage it.

Section V: Implementation

The Alabama Department of Revenue will oversee the implementation of this legislation. They will confirm the finances of these companies and apply deductions appropriately.

A committee composed of 3 members from each house of the State Legislature, 2 representatives of the Alabama Department of Revenue, and will be headed by the current head of the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. This committee will be picked and meet every 4 years to reassess the need for these measures, reporting their findings and making recommendations to the State Legislature for renewal, alteration, or the repealing of this legislation.

Section VI: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment Clause

This act is to become effective upon January 1, of the year following the approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023 February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB13

Committee: F- Education

Delegation: Saint James

Author(s): Will Alexander

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: A Bill To Improve Internet Access In Public Schools

Section I: Definitions

Public Schools- any public institution whose main purpose is education, consists of multiple instructors, and is regulated by government authorities.

Section II: Proposition

The purpose of this bill is to improve access to online Internet services to Alabama schools so they can have access to online informational resources and can become accustomed to current technology standards and expectations in society. It would see proper Internet infrastructure and checks implemented into all public schools to ensure that they have the proper connection, means to access said connection, and access to up to date technology. This would all be overseen by the Alabama State Department of Education.

Section III: Justification

In a 21st Century of vast online resources and ever changing online tools, proper access to Internet resources are crucial. In 2022, 86 Alabama school districts were found to have slower Internet rates than the Federal Communication Commission's standard of 1Mbps, and within the ten slowest districts were Autauga, Selma, Montgomery, and Elmore. This bill would have these districts and all others meet the standard and continue to meet it as it changes over time.

Section IV: Costs and Funding

The funding for this bill will come from an increase in each Income Tax Bracket of 4 equal amounts until each bracket is 0.25% greater than before the bill's implementation and the General Fund whenever necessary.

Section V: Severability Clause

Any laws or part of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section VI: Enactment Clause

This bill will become effective by the end of the 2022-23 school year upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023 February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB20

Committee: H- Government Operations

Chamber: House

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Lib Staples

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: State Holidays for State-wide Elections

Section I: Definitions

State Holiday: A day set aside by a government in order to honor an event, historical figure, or cultural observation. Government and public employees receive paid leave on these dates while private businesses are not obligated by law to give paid leave to their employees.

State-wide Election: A general election for candidates running for a state or federal office.

Section II: Background

Of the 3.7 million people that are registered to vote in the state of Alabama, 396,151 are inactive voters. This number of inactive voters is about 10 percent of all registered voters. Many of these voters are not able to travel to their polling location within the hours of operation on election day due to their employment obligations. Consequently, they are not able to participate in the electoral process.

Section III: Proposition

Upon ratification of this bill, any day that is set aside for a State-wide Election as declared by the office of the Secretary of State shall be deemed a State Holiday.

Section IV: Justification

In the general election of November 8, 2022, only 38.5 percent of Alabama's registered voters came to the polls. In the year of a gubernatorial election, we, as a state, should aspire to have more than 38.5 percent of registered voters, not to mention our population, vote for the leader of the state government.

Considering the fact that voting is one of the most important fundamental rights given to the citizens of Alabama, the state should make it as easy as possible for its citizens to vote.

Section V: Implementation

As the Secretary of State establishes the State calendar for the year, any date on which a State-wide Election is held should be deemed a State Holiday. Election day shall be treated as any other state or federal holiday within Alabama. Government and public employees should be given paid leave in order to vote, and, in turn, the State shall benefit from a more inclusive electoral process.

Section VI: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment Clause

This act is to become effective upon passage or approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB20

Committee: A- Transportation

Chamber: House

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Grayson Hydinger

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Modify Electric Vehicle Registration Fees Based on Road Usage

Section I: Definitions

Electric Vehicle - Electric Vehicle ("EV") means a vehicle designed to operate exclusively on electricity stored in a rechargeable battery, multiple batteries, or battery pack.

Internal Combustion Engine - Internal Combustion Engine ("ICE") means a device in which air enters a combustion chamber, is mixed with fuel, compressed in the chamber, and combusted.

ICE Vehicle - ICE Vehicle means a conventional vehicle powered solely by an Internal Combustion Engine.

Vehicle Registration Fee - Vehicle Registration Fee ("Registration Fee") means an amount of money paid to the State of Alabama for both the official registration of the vehicle with the State and the permission to legally use the Vehicle on public roads therein.

ABC Board - ABC Board means the state governing body that controls alcoholic beverages through distribution, licensing and enforcement.

ABC Store - ABC Store means a liquor store operated by the ABC Board where alcoholic beverages other than beer are authorized to be sold in unopened containers.

Department of Transportation - Department of Transportation ("DOT") means the state government agency with the primary responsibility of statewide transportation through all modes of travel.

Department of Revenue - Department of Revenue ("DOR") means the state government agency that collects individual and business income tax, estate tax, excise tax, withholding taxes, sales and use tax, and business and license taxes.

Section II: Background

The current laws in Alabama regarding road use by EVs are quickly becoming obsolete, as companies announce rapidly-approaching dates to halt production and sale of ICE cars. Alabama currently charges one of the highest EV-specific registration fees in the country – \$200 each year – a fee collected simply for owning an EV instead of an ICE car. The reasoning behind this high charge is that EVs are exempted from paying gas taxes to go towards road maintenance and must therefore make up their "fair share" in registration fees.

Unfortunately, the share that EV drivers are being forced to pay is not equivalent to the amount that ICE car drivers are paying. The typical ICE car driver in Alabama pays around 20% less in taxes towards road



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maintenance and upkeep than EV drivers do, a disparity which will only broaden as gas cars become more efficient (leading to less frequently collected gas taxes) and EV registration fees increase annually, as required by current Alabama law.

Section III: Proposition

The 245 currently operating ABC Stores spread throughout the state of Alabama will be tasked with collecting and reporting odometer information to the DOT and DOR.

Upon implementation, each EV owner will be assigned a certain week of the year (Determined by the registrant's last name) to be their assigned check-in date range. Each year, the driver will simply go to the nearest ABC Store during those seven days, have a Store employee record and report their plate number and odometer reading, and then continue with their day. The ABC Store employee will enter the information into a program built for the purpose, and the computer system will match the plate number with the citizen and charge them the appropriate amount for their Vehicle registration fee that year. The registration fee for EVs under this bill will be equivalent to \$0.009412 per mile driven. This is equivalent to the current cost per mile of the gas tax on the typical ICE car in Alabama.

Section IV: Justification

This change will mean both ICE and EV drivers will pay their true "fair share" towards road upkeep and will also ensure the state's roads continue to be maintained and improved well into the ICE-free future. The ABC Store employees who will be conducting the mileage checks are already State employees, meaning the State would incur no further ongoing expense to implement this program.

In terms of accessibility and convenience, the ABC Stores are spread evenly throughout the State already, and most Alabama citizens know where their nearest Store is. This, plus the seven day windows given for citizens to complete their mileage checks, will ensure that the implementation of this law will have minimal impact on the everyday Alabamian's life.

Section V: Implementation

Upon enactment, the State need only make a one-time investment from the transportation budget to implement computer system modifications to allow uploading of information from the ABC stores to the DOT/DOR database. There are no additional, recurring expenses as a result of the implementation of this bill.

Section VI: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment

This bill will come into effect on January 1, 2025 upon the approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB23

Committee: F- Education

Chamber: House

Delegation: Mountain Brook High School

Author(s): Lily Johnson

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Requiring High School Students to Take a Financial Literacy Class

Section I: Definitions

Financial Literacy: the ability to understand and effectively use various financial skills, including personal financial management, budgeting, and investing

Financial Literacy Class: class that teaches financial literacy skills

ACCESS: the state of Alabama's virtual school program

Section II: Background

Currently, the state of Alabama requires students to take a one credit class that goes over instruction-academic planning and career development, financial literacy, and technology. Although the class goes over the basics of financial literacy, it is not merely enough to set students up for success post graduation. Additionally, it is highly recommended that students take the class before the end of 9th grade. That being said, it is unlikely that students would remember any of the financial literacy concepts by the time they need to use them—after high school graduation when students are no longer supported by their parents.

Section III: Proposition

All Alabama high school students need to take a financial literacy class in 11th or 12th grade in order to graduate. The course will be offered for students to take through ACCESS during the summer following their completion of 10th grade and 11th grade.

Section IV: Justification

Understanding financial literacy concepts such as how to pay taxes, how to budget, how to invest your money, and how to start a retirement plan at a young age sets students up for success in the future. Additionally, college is one of the most expensive things a student will ever pay for. Data suggests that on average, students in Alabama leave school with \$37,348 of debt and more than 615,000 students in the state have student loans. Because many students take out loans in order to help pay for college, it is vital students understand the liability associated with a loan. This would be taught in the required financial literacy class. Not only will this class explain budgeting and loans, it will also show students how to start a retirement fund and begin investing their money. This will help students begin wealth building at a young age. Studies have linked high school financial literacy classes to an increased accumulation of wealth by age 25 and help decrease the likelihood that someone will use a payday loan. Additionally, after Texas required its high school students to take a financial literacy class, they saw a 5.2% increase in credit scores. Increasing state financial literacy is vital to the future of Alabama.

Section V: Implementation

The Alabama Department of Education would oversee the implementation of a financial literacy class.



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The department would also help to draft and approve course of study standard requirements that ensure that students who go through the course finish it with strong financial knowledge. Funding for this bill comes from the Department of Education which gets its money through local, state, and federal tax dollars. Upon approval of the bill, time will be given for the Department of Education to finish the course of study standard requirements. Once finished, it will be a requirement for incoming freshmen the following school year.

Section VI: Severability Clause (Same for everyone)

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment Clause

This act is to become effective immediately after the passage and approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB24

Committee: A- Commerce

Chamber: House

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Drue Perkins

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Gas Tax for Improved Infrastructure

Section I: Definitions

Gasoline: A fuel made from crude oil and other petroleum liquids for use in vehicle engines.

Infrastructure: The basic physical and organizational structures and facilities, including building, roads, and power supplies, needed for the operation of a society or enterprise.

Section II: Background

Alabama first enacted a gas tax in 1923 at two cents per gallon. The current gas tax in Alabama is twenty-eight cents per gallon and has been in effect since October 1, 2021. The Alabama gas tax funds road construction and repair, it is vital to the infrastructure of Alabama. Alabama received a C- on the Report Card of Alabama's Infrastructure graded by the American Society of Civil Engineers. This score says that Alabama has mediocre infrastructure that requires attention. Alabama needs to improve their infrastructure if they want to compete economically with other states.

Section III: Proposition

The Alabama gas tax will increase from twenty-eight cents per gallon to thirty-three cents per gallon.

Section IV: Justification

One of the key factors of drawing industry to a state is the adequacy of infrastructure. Industry provides jobs which increase the economic well-being of the citizen's of Alabama. By raising the gas tax to improve infrastructure, Alabama will increase their infrastructure grade and attract new industries to the state. Whether these industries be manufacturing or distribution, they will help to set Alabama's economy ahead.

Section V: Implementation

The Department of Transportation will oversee the implementation of this bill. All funding will come from the increase in Alabama's gas tax.

Section VI: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment Clause

This act is to become effective upon passage and approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB25

Committee: H- Government Operations

Chamber: *Special Order*

Delegation: Saint James School

Author(s): Amolika Mishra and Ayah Mahmoud

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: All Green card holders who are taxpayers allowed to vote in state elections

Section I: Definitions

Suffrage: Right to Vote in political elections

Green card: A permit allowing a foreign national to live and work permanently in the US

Reside: Have one's permanent home in a particular place

Accorded: Give or grant someone (power, status, or recognition).

Section II: Proposition

This bill will automatically grant taxpayers who possess a Green Card the ability to vote in state elections, but only if they are older than 18.

Section III: Justification

Green Card holders reside and work in the US and are generally accorded the same privileges as US citizens. Green Card Holders must have a role in issues that may have an influence on them because they are also impacted by state government actions. It is only reasonable that they be granted suffrage.

Section IV: Severability Clause

Any Laws or parts of this law in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section V: Enactment Clause

This bill will become effective January 1st 2024 upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB26

Committee: A- Commerce

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Jackson Short

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Protecting and Supporting Children of DUI Victims

Section I: In addition to the current penalties prescribed for driving while under the influence of alcohol, cannabis, or any other controlled substance and any restitution allowed under Alabama law, if an individual is convicted of driving under the influence and that offense led to the death of a person who is the parent or guardian of a child, the person convicted shall be ordered to pay child support for the child pursuant to current Alabama law until the child reaches the age of majority, which is 19 in Alabama.

Section II: The child support amount will be determined by current Alabama child support guidelines, or a court of competent jurisdiction can order a different amount based on the following factors:

- A. The financial needs and resources of the child;
- B. The financial needs and resources of the child's surviving parent or, if no other parent is alive or capable of caring for the child, the guardian of the child, including the State of Alabama if the child is in foster care;
- C. The standard of living the child would have enjoyed;
- D. The physical and emotional condition of the child and the child's educational needs;
- E. The child's physical and legal custody arrangements; and
- F. The reasonable work-related child care expenses of the surviving parent or guardian.

Section III: If an individual is ordered to pay child support under this law, then the child support will accrue from the date of the accident.

Section IV: If an individual ordered to pay child support under this law is in jail or prison, that individual will still have an obligation to pay such child support which will accrue even while he or she is incarcerated. The child support obligation, if not paid in full by the time the child reaches the age of 19, will still have to be paid off before the individual has fulfilled his obligation, even if the child is over the age of majority.

Section V: All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VI: This act shall become effective on the first day of the third month following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB27

Committee: A-Commerce
Representatives

Delegation: Jefferson Davis

Author(s): Justin Howard

Chamber: House of

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Prohibit gender reassignment for trans youth

Section II Proposition

1. Any business or corporation incorporated or doing business in the State of Alabama is hereby prohibited from performing any of the procedures enumerated in subsection B of this section, provided said procedures are conducted for the purpose of transitioning from one gender to another for anyone under the age of 18.
2. Gender reassignment surgery, gender-affirming surgery, or any other surgical process that includes any of the following procedures: hormone therapy, genital reconstruction, feminizing vaginoplasty, masculinizing phalloplasty/scrotoplasty, metoidioplasty, masculinizing chest surgery, facial feminization procedures, reduction thyroid chondroplasty, and voice surgery.
3. Notwithstanding subsection A of this section, procedures enumerated in subsection B of this section shall be permitted for people born intersex or in case of a medical emergency.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB29

Committee: A-Commerce

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Madeline Pope

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Equal Wages

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Corporate: a large company or group
- Wages: a fixed regular payment made by an employer to its employees

Section II: Proposal

Any business that receives federal or state funding is required to post pay rates on their website and salaries to ensure gender equality in wages. Said business would have to make their salaries for each position within their company public. This would also include how they pay their employees who have worked for longer and therefore have bigger salaries. Wages would be made public in a way that clarifies the income at the start of the position and how wages would increase as an individual moves up the corporate ladder.

Section III: Justification

This bill would help prevent unfair wages in the workplace. Women are paid significantly less than their male counterparts.

Section IV: Consequences

Wages will be more equal and there would be less under the table business. Employees have the ability to hold their company accountable.

Section V: Enforcement

Companies can be fined for not publicizing their payment per job/position. If a staff member has been underpaid they are able to sue the company. Legal action from the government can be taken if companies do not comply.

Section VI: Payment

The implementation of the bill itself does not require funding.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB28

Committee: A- Commerce

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Donald Morgan

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: More Money Less Problems

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section 1: Definitions

- A minimum wage is the lowest remuneration employers can legally pay their employees—the price below which employees may not sell their labor. Most countries had introduced minimum wage legislation by the end of the 20th century.

Section 2: Proposal

- In Alabama, the Minimum wage is \$7.25, the lowest wage in the United States. People can barely make a living with the minimum wage in Alabama. This bill will raise the minimum wage to \$10 so, raising the minimum wage by \$2.75. The minimum wage has stayed the same since 2008, so it needs to be raised to match inflation. From 2008 to now, the cumulative inflation rate has been 38%. We have the country's lowest minimum wage, which needs to be changed. If you have a government job, the taxpayers will pay for the wage increase. If you work for a private company, the company will pay for the increase.

Section 3: Justification

- Remember that 52 weeks in a year and 40 hours are in the average full-time workweek. The federal minimum wage is \$7.25 per hour (about \$15,000 annually). You can not make a living with \$15000 thousand and year. With taxes and inflation going on right now, you will barely pay bills. In California, they raised the minimum wage this year because of inflation and covid. On January 1st, 2020, California's minimum wage was 13 dollars. They raised the Minimum wage to \$15 an hour in January 2021. Effective January 1, 2023, all employers' minimum wage is \$15.50 per hour. They raised the minimum wage by \$2.50. AL should raise the minimum wage by \$2.75, so it would be \$10. Because that is a 38% rise, and inflation since 2008 has raised by 38%. The last time the minimum wage was raised was in 2008. So since 2008, the cumulative inflation rate has been 38%, so we need to raise the minimum wage to match inflation. The current federal minimum wage is \$7.25, and AL is that.

Section 4: Consequences

- After this bill is passed, the minimum wage will be raised and Alabama civilizations will be more wealthy and will spend more money in Alabama. This will make the government in AL better and AL a better place.

Section 5: Enforcement

- The U.S. Department of Labor sets the minimum wage standard, and these standards are enforced by the Department's Wage and Hour Division. Employers can be taken to an employment tribunal or civil court if an employee or worker feels they have not received the National Minimum Wage or National Living Wage. The employee has a legal claim for damages against the employer. To recover the unpaid wages, the employee can either bring a lawsuit in court or file an administrative claim with the state's labor department. In theory, raising the minimum wage forces business owners to raise the prices of their goods or services, thereby spurring inflation.

Section 6: Payment

- The companies would be paying for this bill.

Section 7: Conflicting laws

- This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section 8: Enactment

- This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB29

Committee: D- Environment

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Riley Harrelson

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: End The Spread of The Evil Trees

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Invasive- Tending to spread prolifically and undesirably or harmfully.
- Native- Of indigenous origin or growth.
- Suffocating- Causing difficulty in breathing.

Section II: Proposal

- Due to the number of invasive trees causing damage to our communities and forest, this bill will ban the sale of two types of trees. This includes the sale of the Bradford Pear tree and the Callery Pear tree. This bill will also create a bounty for these trees. Hunters who kill these trees will receive a three hundred-dollar reward. The hunters must submit a picture to their local government tree service for them to pick up and properly dispose of them.

Section III: Justification

- Even though these trees produce beautiful and astonishing flowers, there is a dark side to these trees. For example, these trees are suffocating our native trees. Due to the thorny thickets that these trees produce, they choke the life out of native pines, dogwood, oaks, and maple trees. This is only one problem that they create. Another problem is the way that the tree is structured. Weak branches and a V-shaped body is a reason that the branches will snap very easily. This could cause great damage to houses, cars, roads, and possibly people. They are also very good at crowding out native plants and not being a host to insects. Therefore, this is why I believe that banning the buy or sell of the Bradford Pear and the Callery Pear tree is the safest option for the state of Alabama.

Section IV: Consequences

- The consequences of banning these trees are mostly beneficial. This includes increasing the survival of native Alabama trees. It will also make Alabama safer from natural events like falling trees. A negative consequence that would happen is the loss of these beautiful trees in our state.

Section V: Enforcement

- This bill will be enforced by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. If this bill is passed, anyone who is caught buying or selling the trees will be fined 1 thousand dollars. If the person is caught selling or buying the product again, they will be fined 10 thousand dollars or up to a 1-year prison sentence.

Section VI: Payment

- Any money raised from the fines from citizens illegally buying or selling the Bradford or Callery pear tree will pay for enforcing this bill. Fines will also pay for the rewards of citizens eliminating these trees from their property.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

- This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

- This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB29

Committee: H- Government Operation

Chamber: House

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Anna Huffstetler

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: A Just Judiciary

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Partisan Election- an election when a candidate for public office is required to declare his or her political party allegiance, affiliation or affinity, or list "none" as the alternative
- Gubernatorial Appointment- method of judicial selection in which the governor appoints a person to a judicial vacancy
- Judicial System- the system of law courts that administer justice and constitute the judicial branch of government
- Judicial Branch- the branch of government charged with the interpretation of laws and the administration of justice

Section II: Proposal

The current partisan judicial election system will no longer serve as a selection process for the Supreme Court, Court of Civil Appeals, Court of Civil Appeals, and Circuit Courts in the State of Alabama. The state will adopt a system in which gubernatorial appointments will take place in replacement of the current partisan election system. When a seat becomes vacant, either in the middle of a term or at the end, the governor will appoint a judicial candidate from a list provided by a judicial nominating commission. The selected candidate must be approved by a majority vote of the state Senate.

Section III: Justification

In order for the judicial branch to fulfill its intended purpose, the current judicial election process must be abolished and replaced with an entirely new way of selecting officials. The judicial branch was created to be an impartial branch of government to interpret laws. The Judiciary should answer directly to the Constitution-- not the people. However, partisan elections directly tie judicial officials to the will of the people, disallowing the interpretation of the law to remain impartial. The election process supports a direct relationship between judicial elections and limited, partial rulings due to campaign contributions, pressure from forthcoming elections, and capricious public opinion. Judicial elections impede upon unbiased interpretations of the law, and therefore should be replaced with an appointment process.

Section IV: Consequences

By abolishing this flawed selection process from the Alabama Judicial System's courts, Alabama can strengthen its Judicial System as a whole. The new gubernatorial appointment selection process will empower judicial officials to remain impartial executors of the law. It will diminish the influence of businesses and individuals on influential judicial decisions, ultimately resulting in a more just judiciary.

Section V: Enforcement

The Alabama Judiciary System will be in charge of reforming the current system and enforcing this bill.

Section VI: Payment

This bill should not come with any additional costs.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #SB29

Committee: 1- Education

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Katelyn Morgan

Chamber: Senate

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Age-Appropriate Materials Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- (1) "Library collection" means the materials made available to students by a school operated by an LEA or by a public charter school, but does not include materials made available to students as part of a course curriculum
- (2) "Materials" means books, periodicals, newspapers, manuscripts, films, prints, documents, microfilm, discs, cassettes, videotapes, videogames, applications, and subscription content in any form.

Section II: Proposal

1. This bill will enact a form of the Age-Appropriate Materials Act in Alabama

(b) Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, each school operated by a local education agency (LEA) and each public charter school shall maintain a current list of the materials in the school's library collection. The list must be posted on the school's website.

(c) By the 2023-2024 school year, each local board of education and public charter school governing body shall adopt a policy for developing and reviewing school library collections. The policy must include: (1) A procedure for the development of a library collection at each school that is appropriate for the age and maturity levels of the students who may access the materials, and that is suitable for, and consistent with, the educational mission of the school; (2) A procedure for the local board of education or public charter school governing body to receive and evaluate feedback from a student, a student's parent or guardian, or a school employee regarding one or more of the materials in the library collection of the student's or employee's school; and (3) A procedure to periodically review the library collection at each school to ensure that the school's library collection contains materials appropriate for the age and maturity levels of the students who may access the materials, and that is suitable for, and consistent with, the educational mission of the school.

(d) A local board of education or public charter school governing body shall evaluate each material for which feedback is provided to determine whether the material is appropriate for the age and maturity levels of the students who may access the materials, and to determine whether the material is suitable for, and consistent with, the educational mission of the school.

(e) If the local board of education or public charter school governing body determines that material contained in the school's library collection is not appropriate for the age and maturity levels of the students who may access the materials, or is not suitable for, or consistent with, the educational mission of the school, then the school shall remove the material from the library collection.

Section III: Justification

- Many school libraries may be unaware of the material they have available to students and this could cause students to read materials that are not appropriate for their age or that their parents feel uncomfortable with them reading. By having all materials in school libraries and classrooms approved by the librarians, school board, and parents they can make sure that all materials are within the age category for the students.

Section IV: Consequences

- The consequences would be that some teachers and librarians may need to work more for the duration of the time it takes them to categorize all of the books and materials. Another consequence would be that the students can not read the books while librarians and teachers are turning their materials in to the library or school board which could cause students to miss out on reading skills for the period of time in which the materials are being examined to deem the age appropriateness of the material.

Section V: Enforcement

- The Department of Education will have oversight

Section VI: Payment

- This bill will require no payment

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

- This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

- This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB30

Committee: C- Public Safety

Chamber: House

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Malia Belyeu

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Track the Race

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

Police Officers - a man or woman employed in the police force.

Precinct- a district of a city or town as defined for police purposes.

Murder- the unlawful killing of one human being by another.

Excessive Force- Excessive force refers to force in excess of what a police officer reasonably believes is necessary.

A police officer may be held liable for using excessive force in an arrest, an investigatory stop, or other seizures.

Section II: Proposal

The proposal is to have police officers record the race of all people that they pull over.

Section III: Justification

In America there have been many incidents with police officers and injustice to races other than their own. This will help keep officers accountable and keep them aware of what they are doing as they are doing it.

Section IV: Consequences

In the event that an officer murders or uses excessive force on someone of another race, these records will be taken into account in the questioning of the officer. In the event of excessive force, the officer will get a warning and be let off the first time it occurs. In the case of murder... kind of self-explanatory.

Section V: Enforcement

This would be enforced by the police departments in Alabama. For example, If you work for Hoover PD (mostly white) and the demographic that you pull over is majority black or any race other than white, you will be pulled in by the precinct director for a meeting to address the issue.

Section VI: Payment

Police officers already have the equipment to fill out the report so it would just be something else to type when they are filling it out.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This will override any conflicting laws when passed.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill will be enacted as soon as it is passed by the house and signed by the governor.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB31

Committee: F- Education

Chamber: House

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Catherine Sizemore

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Give the Students a Break

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Excused Absence-Schools know children have valid reasons to be absent.
- Unexcused Absence-when children miss school for reasons not accepted by the school.

Section II: Proposal

The proposal is to allow a maximum of twenty excused absences per school year and 15 unexcused absences before Truancy.

Section III: Justification

Currently, in the state of Alabama, the law states that students are allowed 3 excused absences per semester. This is unreasonable because children can often have multiple medical-related absences. Field trips are also counted as an excused absence and use one of the 3 allotted absences. These two examples alone cross over the 6 absences per year rule. If one took into account sick days and possible emergencies, it can be determined that the 6 absences per school year rule is unrealistic.

Section IV: Consequences

The main consequence that will likely occur from extending the number of absences allowed per school year is that children could possibly fall behind in their school work. This is a serious consequence but it's certainly necessary. Students are given 3 days to make up work for every day they missed. Since the majority of schools have a designated study period, students should be able to catch up to their peers during this time.

Section V: Enforcement

This law will be enforced the same way school attendance laws are enforced. Currently, many school systems have created their own policies for excused and unexcused absences. All public schools in Alabama must adhere to this law and allow students the correct number of absences.

Section VI: Payment

This Bill does not require additional payment.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or it's otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB32

Committee: F- Education

Chamber: House

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Avery Belew

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Increasing Unexcused Absences

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions:

- Truancy: the action of staying away from school without good reason; absenteeism.
- Truancy intervention program: A parent, guardian, or other person having supervision of any child officially enrolled in Alabama public schools (K-12) shall explain in writing the cause of any and every absence of the child no later than three (3) school days following his/her return to school.

Section II: Proposal:

- This bill if enacted will allow students more unexcused absences before entering the truancy program and going to court. Students will be granted more than 5 unexcused absences and will not be required to go to court with a legal parent or guardian until further notice of absences.

Section III: Justification:

If students in Alabama exceed 5 unexcused absences while attending school, they become truants. Consequences of being in the truancy program include attending court with a legal parent or guardian, and excess requirements like being placed in a diversion program, paying fines, doing community service, and attending a class or counseling. These extra consequences of the truancy program can take up more school time leading to more missed school. This can lead to missing assignments and grades slipping for students.

Just under 30% of high school students have outside jobs and 83% of high school students have extracurricular activities to attend. With teenage students having enormous, unrealistic workloads attending school can be difficult. Students with high or above-average grades should be allowed more unexcused absences. If students can maintain exceptional grades and keep up their schedule during the school year, unexcused absences should not be jeopardizing for students.

Mental health is also concerning for teenage students regarding absences. Things like school work, extracurriculars, academic pressure, social media, and relationships can cause these mental issues in high schoolers. Major depression among teens has increased by 69%, anxiety has increased by 71%, and suicide rates have increased by 56% in the past 9 years. These mental disorders can be reasons for missing school. Sometimes school can be the cause of these problems, coming from bullies, teachers, and pressure from family.

Section IV: Consequences:

By adding unexcused absences to the truancy program, students will receive more time off of school for personal problems and situations outside of school.

Section V: Enforcement:

This bill will be enforced by school districts in Alabama. School districts will change their truancy program rules and add to their schools handbook the specific changes on the absences policy. Schools will be mandated to inform students and legal parents and guardians of the changes in the truancy program.

Section VI: Payment:

Payment will not be necessary for this bill

Section VII: Conflicting Laws:

This will override any preexisting truancy laws on unexcused absences.

Section VIII: Enactment:

This law would be immediately effective after being passed.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB33
Committee: F- Education
Delegation: Spain Park
Author(s): Alex Roberts

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Mental Health Staffing Mandate in High Schools

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

Mental Health Staff - An onsite staff member with psychological training, who can assist students with needs related to mental health.

ASCA - American School Counselor Association

UCLA - University of California at Los Angeles

Section II: Proposal

The proposal is to increase the number of onsite mental health staff to meet the common consensus minimum amount among studies, a ratio of 700 students to every 1 psychologist. For example, Spain Park has 1,634 students currently enrolled, which would mean at least 2 mental health counselors would be needed.

Section III: Justification

UCLA and ASCA, recommend as a MINIMUM requirement among public schools a student-to-onsite psychologist ratio of 700 to 1. 90% of schools in the US do not meet this requirement, and 100% of schools in Alabama fail to meet this requirement, according to Education Weekly, who took data from state educational entities across the US. To put it simply, 100% of academic mental health departments in Alabama are severely understaffed. This is an issue, as mental illness and teenage suicide are only increasing. Despite how common and ever-more-severe this issue appears to be, attempts to remedy it has been scarce. This bill seeks to rectify this absurd deficiency.

Section IV: Consequences

It has little to no negative consequences, besides the possibility of small modifications needed in order to house these staff members.

Section V: Enforcement

Same enforcement as that of other school staffing requirements.

Section VI: Payment

Alabama's education budget has recently been raised to \$8.3 billion dollars, the highest in the history of the state. I am certain that some of this money can be allocated towards this new requirement.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective at the start of the next school year after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB34

Committee: B- Judicial

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Fisayo Aduroja

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Legalizing Recreational Marijuana for use and sell.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

Recreational Marijuana refers to laws that allow anyone over the age of 21 to buy cannabis.

Section II: Proposal

The proposal is to legalize recreational marijuana so people don't go through illegal methods to get marijuana.

Section III: Justification

If we legalize it people wouldn't have to fight about getting it nor have to go through illegal methods to get it. If you legalize marijuana it will add billions to the economy, create hundreds of thousands of jobs, free up scarce police resources, and stop the huge racial disparities in marijuana enforcement.

Section IV: Consequences

There are many consequences but the benefits outweigh them.

1. Legalization would increase the number of drug users.
2. The adverse physical effects of drugs destroy families and cause drug abusers to engage in criminal activity.
3. Drug legalization jeopardizes the safety of society because drug use diminishes the ability to think and react quickly.

Section V: Enforcement

There wouldn't have to be any enforcement. Legal marijuana can reduce crime, improve law enforcement resources. With homicide rates and gun violence rising nationwide, law enforcement faces significant challenges. It stands to reason that police departments that are freed from marijuana arrests will have more resources to devote to serious crimes.

Section VI: Payment

Other States currently levy three types of marijuana taxes: as a percentage of price either the retail or wholesale price, You can also tax based on weight by per ounce, and based on the drug's potency like the THC level. For payment Alabama can use a combination of these taxes.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB35

Committee: A- Commerce

Chamber: House

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): AnnMarie McDaniel

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: The Confederacy Has Got to Go!

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

• Monument-a statue, building, or other structure erected to commemorate a famous or notable person or event.

CAMP-The Committee on Alabama Monument Protection (CAMP) was created by the Alabama Memorial Protection Act of 2017. Its responsibilities include considering and acting on applications for waivers authorized by the act and adopting administrative rules providing for implementation of the act.

Confederate symbols- signs, statutes, monuments, memorials, anything that relates to the confederacy or its members.

Section II: Proposal

In 2017, Alabama signed a bill that prohibits the relocation, removal, altercation, renaming or other disturbance of any monument located on public property which has been in place for 40 years or more. The Alabama Memorial Preservation Act does provide a waiver process for the relocation, removal, altercation, renaming, or other disturbances of any monument located on public property which has been in place for at least 20 years and less than 40 years. If the Attorney General determines that an entity exercising control of public property has relocated, removed, altered, renamed, or otherwise disturbed a monument from public property without first obtaining a waiver from the committee as required by this article, or failed to comply with the conditions and instructions issued by the committee upon the grant of a waiver pursuant to this act, the entity shall be fined twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for each violation. The Confederacy Has Got to Go! would revise this act by making an exclusion for confederate symbols. This would make it legal to relocate, remove, altercate, or rename any confederate symbol located on public property which has been in place for 40 years or more without requiring a waiver from CAMP. If The Confederacy Has Got to Go! is made a law, fines from violation of the Alabama Monument Preservation Act would not be reimbursed, but the fines would cease to exist for people removing confederate symbols and monuments. Once The Confederacy Has Got to Go! is enacted monuments may be removed, renamed, relocated, or disturbed by statue owners, protestors, or request by citizens.

If monuments were removed with no place to go, they would be donated to the Confederate Memorial Park in Autauga County. The Confederate Memorial Park would be a repository for removed monuments.

Section III: Justification

The Alabama Memorial Preservation Act makes no exceptions for confederate statues. In Alabama, there are currently 156 confederate symbols throughout the state. The fact that confederate affiliated symbols are unable to be removed from public places causes issues in communities. Cities like Montgomery, Birmingham, and Huntsville have already gone against the Alabama Memorial Preservation Act. Montgomery renamed a street that was named after a confederate president, Birmingham covered up a confederate monument with plywood, and Huntsville removed a confederate statute from the Madison County Courthouse. All of these cities were fined 25,000 for their actions. Members of Alabama's community have spoken against the Confederacy, yet this act remains without exceptions for confederate monuments. In Tuskegee, a city with a 97% African american population, people have protested and filed lawsuits for the removal of a confederate monument. The monument has not been taken down. Confederate monuments have no place in public, they should be in museums or other non public locations.

Section IV: Consequences

Alabama will have less public confederate symbols. This could lead to less protests about confederate symbols being displayed in public. More people could move to Alabama because the state feels more welcoming.

Section V: Enforcement

This law will be enforced by police officers.

Section VI: Payment

Any payment needed will be supplied from the 1% of tax dollars that help fund operations at the Confederate Memorial Park. This tax gives the park around 700,000 a year.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB36

Committee: A- Commerce

Chamber: House

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Hudson Campbell

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Time Is Money Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- ADLOR- Alabama Department of Revenue. Controls state income taxes and credit distribution.
- Tax Credit- Amount of money that can be offset against a tax liability.
- Community Service- Voluntary, unpaid work intended to help people in a community

Section II: Proposal

This bill provides tax credits for volunteers above the age of 18 who complete certain amounts of unpaid service hours.

Completing 100 verified service hours results in a \$1,000 tax credit.

Completing 500 verified service hours results in a \$5,000 tax credit.

Completing 1,000 verified service hours results in a \$10,000 tax credit.

Section III: Justification

Nonprofits and volunteers play a vital role in nurturing our communities. They feed and clothe the homeless, educate the children of this state, and provide places of belonging. Since nonprofit organizations and the work they do is so important, monetary donations made to this organization can be matched by the government in the form of a tax credit. Service hours are a donation of time.

People willing to work to better their communities should be rewarded for their service. This bill not only compensates volunteers for their time but also encourages others to participate in helping their community. 25% of Alabamian adults are involved in some form of volunteering and deserve compensation.

Section IV: Consequences

This bill will increase the amount of people volunteering in the state as well as increasing the amount of time they volunteer.

Section V: Enforcement

This will be enforced by the Alabama Department of Revenue. The credit will be deducted from the total owed state income tax. The hours volunteered must be logged on a form provided and reviewed by ALDOR. This form must be submitted each week that the hours are worked. The form will require approval by a higher-up of the organization, as well as a log of time spent volunteering. After reviewed and approved by ALDOR the credit will be applied if approved. If a form is denied, the volunteer may resubmit after contacting ALDOR and learning the basis of its denial. There will be no expiration date for resubmission. The time to complete the hours will begin on Tax Day and end on the next Tax Day. Once the credit is approved the applicant will receive a check in the mail for the qualified amount.

Section VI: Payment

This will not cost any extra money but simply reduce the amount of taxes owed by the qualified individuals.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon its signing by the Governor.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill will take effect on April 18th, 2023 following its signing.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB37

Committee: C- Public Safety

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Katie Clark

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Free Flagging

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- HOA - Homeowners Association
- Freedom to Display to Display the American Flag Act of 2005 - States that a condominium association, cooperative association, or residential real estate management association may not adopt or enforce any policy, or enter into any agreement, that would restrict or prevent an association member from displaying the U.S. flag on residential property within the association with respect to which such member has a separate ownership interest or a right to exclusive possession or use.
- First Amendment - provides that Congress make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting its free exercise. It protects freedom of speech, the press, assembly, and the right to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.
- CC&R's - Covenants, conditions, and restrictions describe what you can and can't do with your home.

Section II: Proposal

According to this measure, a HOA cannot prohibit a homeowner from flying a particular flag.

Section III: Justification

This bill would allow those who live in neighborhoods to freely hang any flag of their choosing on their property without any regulations from the HOA. It follows accordingly with the First Amendment where people can hang flags through their freedom of speech.

Section IV: Consequences

Those who choose to hang any flag of their choice should be aware of the consequences they may receive from others if the flags are taken offensively or insulting. This follows along with the principle of making smart choices.

Section V: Enforcement

In addition to state law regulations, the federal government has laws that govern the operation and management of common interest communities in the state of Alabama.

HOA rules should always complement federal and state laws. Hence, an HOA cannot create CC&Rs that violate or breach the law.

Section VI: Payment

This amendment does not involve any payments.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or it's otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB38

Committee: D- Environment

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Nellie Feese

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Larger Fines and/or Jail Time for Water Pollution

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

biodiversity- the variety of life in the world or in a particular habitat or ecosystem.

water pollution- the contamination of water sources by substances that make the water unusable for drinking, cooking, cleaning, swimming, and other activities.

ADEM- Alabama Department of Environmental Management

EPA- United States Environmental Protection Agency

Section II: Proposal

The proposal is to increase the punishment for violations of the laws for water pollution in Alabama. This would include increasing the fines by 50% and/or increasing jail time by two additional years.

Section III: Justification

Alabama is the most biodiverse state, but our water is slowly becoming more contaminated. 50 to 60 percent of our streams have failed to meet water quality standards. Leaking underground storage tanks has caused around 90 percent of the soil and water contamination, and of that 90%, only 75 percent of the known releases were cleaned. Our waterways are under threat from sewage, and many smaller communities are lacking decent sewage infrastructure. This pollution is affecting the quality of ecosystems by decreasing the variety of plants and animals. Water pollution may also cause acid rain, exacerbate climate change, and lead to contaminants in drinking water. Many living things can't survive in this toxic environment. In order to preserve wildlife, we must take action to defeat water pollution.

Some rivers, including the Fowl and the Dog River in Mobile, even have swimming advisories because the amount of pollution can be dangerous. This is mainly due to people and companies' lack of proper sewage systems. If people continue to use improper systems or dump their sewage into the wrong places, more rivers will become unswimmable and polluted. This is a bad look, especially for a state that prides itself on freshwater and its wildlife. We are knowingly decreasing our biodiversity.

I hope that increasing the fines for water pollution might be a deterrent for those looking to dump toxic solutions into our waterways. Further, increasing fines levied for violations will generate additional revenue to support preventative measures, including improvements in sewage infrastructure, educating people on pollution (public service efforts), and overall pollution prevention.

Section IV: Consequences

People may become angry about paying more money. It is more often larger corporations or companies that will feel the effect of this bill. It is less common for individuals to commit these crimes. The consequences of not

enforcing the law would result in damaged sewage lines, polluted drinking water, polluted bodies of water, and low air quality.

Section V: Enforcement

This will be enforced by the EPA (the United States Environmental Protection Agency) along with the ADEM (The Alabama Department of Environmental Management).

Section VI: Payment

Payments will only increase for those violating the pollution laws that are already set in place.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or it's otherwise becoming law.

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Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or it's otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB39

Committee: F- Education

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Josiah Toone

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Hammer and Weight Throw Legality

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Hammer Throw: An athletic (outdoor track and field) sport in which a hammer is hurled for a distance, using two hands within a throwing circle. Legal in college, illegal in high school.
- Weight Throw: An athletic (indoor track and field) sport. Similar to the Hammer throw in size and weight. Legal in college, illegal in high school.
- Track and Field: Athletic events that take place on a running track and a nearby field; track events and field events.
- Indoor Track and Field: Events competed in a specialized indoor track and field.
- Outdoor Track and Field: Events competed in a standard Track and Field stadium.
- Throwing Events: Events in the field of the track; includes shot put, hammer throw, weight throw, discus, and javelin.
- Implement: The throwing tool used in the event (ex. Shot put implement: shot; javelin implement: javelin)

Section II: Proposal

This bill will legalize the weight throw event in indoor track and field, and the hammer throw event in outdoor track and field, in Alabama high schools.

Section III: Justification

In Alabama, both hammer and weight throws are ruled as an illegal high school throwing event. Without the weight throw, indoor throwing events only include shot put. Without the hammer throw, outdoor throwing events are narrowed down to shot put, discus, and javelin. Without these [hammer and weight] throw events, high schools across Alabama are limiting the athletic opportunities for student-athletes. Along with this, states which allow these events to be thrown are at an unfair advantage over our Alabamian athletes planning to throw in college. These athletes will have had the opportunity to start their hammer and weight throw careers 4 years before our Alabama athletes. At the University of Alabama, a survey of all the throwing athletes showed that the majority of them chose the hammer and weight throws as their favorite throwing events, to watch and to compete in.

Section IV: Consequences

Most of the consequences of this bill would mostly be the cost. Schools that choose to participate in this event would need to install a new throwing circle and net for the safety of the other throwers. With all equipment (one hammer, one weight, one circle, one safety net), the cheapest cost would total \$2,300. This is not including school-specific fees, such as location and how many implements needed. Looking past the cost, another

consequence would be safety. Even with the netting and location needed for these events, they are a high-priority safety risk.

Section V: Enforcement

High schools will have the option to choose to participate in these events.

Section VI: Payment

If a school chooses to participate, the school must loan the track and field program a budget of \$7,500 to buy all necessary safety and throwing equipment.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or it's otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB40

Committee: D- Health

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Olivia Williams

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Menstrual Equity

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Menstrual products - sanitary napkins, tampons, menstrual cups, menstrual discs, period underwear, and that conform to industry standards.
- Public Bathroom - any structure or facility situated on public or private property equipped with toilets, urinals or washbowls, or other similar facilities, erected and maintained for use by members of the general public for personal hygiene and comfort.
- Period Poverty - the inability to afford or access period supplies due to financial constraints.
- Medicaid - public health insurance program for some people or families with limited incomes and resources, including children, pregnant women, older adults, and people with disabilities
- Hygiene - conditions or practices conducive to maintaining health and preventing disease, especially through cleanliness.
- COVID-19 - An infectious disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus

Section II: Proposal

1 and 4 women struggle to purchase period products due to lack of income. This bill imposes requirements to make free menstrual products available in state buildings and state correctional facilities. It also ensures that individuals throughout the state have access to essential period products that they require to participate fully in daily life. Furthermore, the bill requires employers with at least 100 employees to provide free menstrual products for employees.

Section III: Justification

Menstrual products are an absolute necessity for people who menstruate, which is about half of the population. Around 2/3 of low-income women cannot afford menstrual products at least once a year, which can become a financial and social burden. This takes individuals away from their schooling and jobs. In the state of Alabama, period products are still subject to sales tax. Roughly 2 in 5 people struggle to obtain these products due to a lack of income and don't receive the proper hygiene they need. This has especially been true during the COVID-19 crisis. Due to severe economic impacts affecting millions of people throughout the nation, period poverty has become a newly visible thing. Period poverty can lead to physical health and hygiene problems.

Without access to pads or tampons, women may resort to items unsanitary, or not meant for that usage which can cause infections and other medical problems.

While Medicaid provides financial protection to healthcare needs, individuals still struggle to access the material basic necessities they require to thrive. Free access to tampons and pads in public washrooms would alleviate this problem and allow all women easy access to the products they need. The free period products would be made available in all women's and gender-neutral bathrooms; if there are no gender-neutral bathrooms in a building, the products would be available in at least one men's bathroom, and all men's bathrooms would indicate which one(s) had the products available. The products must also be made from certified organic cotton, and not contain certain harmful materials. In all, Access to menstrual products is a basic human right and is vital for ensuring the health, dignity, and full participation of all Alabamians in public life.

Section V: Enforcement

Each appropriate authority shall ensure that at all times there is an adequate supply of menstrual products, available and accessible, free of cost, in all women's restrooms and all-gender restrooms, and in at least one men's restroom. menstrual products are stocked in, and available free of charge in, each covered public building under the jurisdiction of such authority.

Section VI: Payment

This bill would cost roughly \$10 million and payment would come from a 5% tax on cigarettes and 6% on alcohol.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB41

Committee: F- Education

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Zoey Hewitt

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Adjust School Schedule

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

N/A

Section II: Proposal

- The proposal is to require public schools to adjust yearly schedules from kindergarten through twelfth grade. The adjustment would include four two week breaks as well as more days off in replacement of the two month summer break.

Section III: Justification

- This adjustment would reduce the amount of time needed each year to review over material learned the previous year.
- The "summer slump" would be reduced, and students would retain their motivation throughout the year.
- Students and teachers alike would have more opportunities for sick days and mental health days, as the curriculum would not be as rushed.
- A two or three week break for every season will allow for rest and vacation time, without spending too much time away from learning.

Section IV: Consequences

Possible consequences of this bill would be resistance due to a shorter summer break.

Section V: Enforcement

This bill will be enforced by the public school's Board of Education.

Section VI: Payment

This bill will not require any payment; it is solely a schedule adjustment.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or it's otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB42

Committee: B- Judicial

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Lilia Sokol

Chamber: * Special Order*

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Abusers Don Care Who you Are

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Sodomy- deviate sexual intercourse
- Deviate Sexual Intercourse- genital-to-anus contact, or mouth-to-genital contact (previously included non-married couples, heterosexuals or not, and still includes non-married LGBTQ+ couples)
- Rape- non-consensual intercourse with a female (requires penetration)
- Sexual Assault- if a man subjects a woman to sexual contact by forcible compulsion
- Sexual Contact- any touching of the sexual or intimate parts of a person done to gratify the sexual desire of either party

Section II: Proposal

This bill seeks to remove sodomy as a charge from Alabama state law and integrate it into rape charges. The new definition of rape and sexual assault are as follows:

- Rape- Non-consensual intercourse or non- consensual mouth to genital/anal contact between an aggressor and a victim, regardless of gender or orientation
- Sexual Assault- if an aggressor subjects a victim to sexual contact by forcible compulsion

Section III: Justification

Sexual assault is the least reported crime in the US, and this is especially true for men who have been sexually assaulted. It is estimated that, on average, only 28% of sexual assault cases are reported. Of those cases, which are, on average, around 450,000 per year, men make up only 12.8% of the cases reported. This may seem like men are in the minority regarding sexual assault, but 1 in 6 men have been sexually assaulted in their lifetime.

That is 27.1 million men in America. If we do the math, only 970,000 of those men reported their sexual assault. These alarmingly low numbers of reports are also found within Alabama, with only 2% of sexual assault cases reported being from men. This is because of one big reason: Alabama has sodomy laws. Men cannot be raped in the state of Alabama. They can only be sodomized. The definitions of these two terms are above if you would like clarification. Sodomy was first coined in the book of Genesis and was mentioned strictly as a sin. This, with Alabama being in the Bible belt, means that men are not willing to come out and say they have been assaulted, let alone testify in court that they have been sodomized. The use of sodomy has also historically been taken advantage of to target the LGBTQ+ community. Up until 2019, sodomy between married same-sex couples was illegal. This is no longer the case due to a Supreme Court ruling, but under Alabama law, LGBTQ+ couples are not recognized. This means they can still be targeted and charged with sodomy even if all of the acts are consensual. That is why this bill calls to get rid of sodomy and rewrite the charges of rape and sexual assault.

Section IV: Consequences

There are no foreseeable consequences for the law itself, although the changing of the law may not increase the report rate of male victims as hoped, even though it has worked in other states.

Section V: Enforcement

This new wording and removal of sodomy from Alabama law will take effect in court cases and will be used in sentencing in the way any other law would be used.

Section VI: Payment

This bill will require no payment.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB43

Committee: B- Judicial

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Roselyn Olvera

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Legal Counseling For Children under the Special Immigrant Juvenile Status

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Criminal Prosecutions- to initiate criminal proceedings against a person
- Proceeding- all methods of invoking the action of a court
- Minor- individuals under the age of 18
- Undocumented immigrants- foreign-born people who do not possess a valid visa or other immigration documentation

Section II: Proposal

This bill will provide the appropriate representation for illegal immigrants under the age of 18 while they are in the immigration system waiting for legal status once it is determined that the child could not be reunified with their parent or guardian. Whenever a child is deemed dependent, the department or community-based care provider will determine whether the child is a citizen of the United States. The community-based care provider has to report to the court in its first judicial review concerning the child and whether the child is a citizen of the United States and, if not, the steps that have been taken to address the citizenship or residency status of the child. If the child is not a citizen, the department or community-based care provider has to include in the case plan developed for the child a recommendation as to whether the permanency plan for the child will include remaining in the United States. If the case plan requires the child to stay in the United States, and the child is in need of documentation to put that plan into effect, the community-based care provider must evaluate the child's case to determine whether the child may be eligible for special immigrant juvenile status under federal law.

Section III: Justification

The children going through the system without representation lose their ability to make any important decisions in their lives. These children that can not be reunited with their families due to cases of abuse or neglect are left alone without any knowledge of what is happening to them while in the immigration system. Providing the children with community-based care providers will allow them to be represented by someone with proper knowledge of the process as well as someone they could trust to help make the correct decisions for their future. The children would also be able to have a say in whether or not they wish to stay in the country, and their decision must be stated in their plan. After the child decides that the best thing for their future would be to stay in the country their case must be evaluated and decided that they could be eligible for special immigrant juvenile

status under federal law. The next step would be no later than 60 days after an order finding that the child is eligible for special immigrant juvenile status and that applying for this status is in the best interest of the child, the department or community-based care provider shall, directly or through volunteer or contracted legal services, file a petition for special immigrant juvenile status and the application for adjustment of status to the appropriate federal authorities on behalf of the child. By passing this bill it would be offering the appropriate support for those immigrant children that would be going through the system blindly.

Section IV: Consequences

If the children don't receive the proper representation their futures could be unfairly changed. By providing a community-based care provider the children would be fully aware of all the steps and important decisions of their case. The children will be able to have a say in where they go once they receive help from the community-based care provider so that they can make the appropriate decision for their future. If the children don't have proper representation their status would be compromised in the United States even if it would be in their best interest to stay in the United States and wait for status.

Section V: Enforcement

The children will have a community-based care provider that will determine if the child fits under the requirements of SIJS. The next step would be no later than 60 days after an order determining If the child may be eligible for special immigrant juvenile status the community-based care provider will petition the court for an order finding that the child meets the criteria for special immigrant juvenile status. The ruling of the court on this petition must include findings as to the express wishes of the child if the child is able to express such wishes and any other circumstances that would affect whether the best interests of the child would be served by applying for special immigrant juvenile status. Special Immigrant Juvenile Status requirements include: being under the age of 21, currently living in the United States, being unmarried, having a valid juvenile court order issued by a state court in the United States, being eligible for USCIS consent, and having written consent from the Department of Health and Human Services/ Office of Refugee Resettlement to the court's jurisdiction.

Section VI: Payment

Government grants and private donations such as The Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) program helps eligible refugees and other humanitarian immigrants by providing cash assistance for up to eight months from their arrival date in the United States (or from the date of their immigration status for asylees or victims of trafficking)
Ex: Florida, Maryland, Tennessee

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

- This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

- This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB44

Committee: A- Commerce

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Zach Gray

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: The Lottery Comes to Alabama

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I Definitions:

- Revenue - The total number of income by a sale
- Gross revenue - the sum of all money generated by a business, without taking into account any part of that total that has been or will be used for expenses.
- Lottery - a means of raising money by selling numbered tickets and giving prizes to the holders of numbers drawn at random.

Section II Proposal:

Along with Utah, Hawaii, Alaska, and Nevada, Alabama does not have a lottery . This bill will add an amendment to Article IV of Alabama's state constitution, legalizing the lottery in the state of Alabama.

Section III Justification:

Unlike almost every other state, Alabama does not have a lottery. While previous votes have determined that the lack of a lottery is for religious reasons, what isn't being considered is that those who do not want to participate in it, do not have to. Many families who travel out of state for the holidays partake in the lottery of other states. This means the money that Alabamians are spending is helping other states to prosper. If the lottery in Alabama became legalized, that money can start going to the state of Alabama itself, being put to use in the form of road improvement, scholarships, building construction, and other state needs. The lottery is the best way to raise revenue without raising taxes.

Section IV Consequences:

If this bill is passed in the state of Alabama. Alabama would join 44 other states in having a lottery. On average the money coming from the state lottery would pay out around 60% of gross revenue in prizes. Of course after the states pay the advertising cost for the lottery and the prize money, the state government can keep what's left. As stated in the justification, the lottery would help keep state taxes lower.

Section V Enforcement:

If the lottery comes to Alabama the state government would be in charge of the lottery and the winnings. There would be no national government intervention.

Section VI Payment:

The two most common state lottery games in the U.S would be the Powerball and Mega Million. These companies would be used by Alabama and the state pay to establish the lottery but, like stated previously, the state would end up making 40-60% of the winnings back for the state government.

Section VII Conflicting Laws:

As of now the Alabama constitution in Article IV, §65 states: "The legislature shall have no power to authorize lotteries or gift enterprises for any purposes, and shall pass laws to prohibit the sale in this state of lottery or gift enterprise tickets...". There have been attempts in 2015 to change this law, but the trial was not passed. This bill would add an amendment to the Alabama constitution stating that Alabama state lotteries are now legal.

Section VIII Enactment :

This law will become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB44

Committee: A- Commerce

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Michael Allen

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Money or Family: You Shouldn't Have To Choose

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- FMLA - Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 - a federal labor law requiring certain employers to provide employees with unpaid, job-protecting medical and family leave. The current standard for family leave in the United States
- Family Leave - leave given to employees who birthed a child and are caring for that child or employees with new adopted or foster children.
- CTFMLA - Connecticut Family and Medical Leave Act - a Connecticut legislature that entitles all pregnant and adoptive employees to 12 weeks of paid leave per year.

Section II: Proposal

This bill would require all Alabama employers to provide job-protecting family leave for up to 12 weeks with 60% of their original salary. This includes all state employees and all private employees. All other FMLA guidelines that do not affect family leave will not be changed.

Section III: Justification

The current guidelines for family leave in Alabama are that of FMLA leave. The current system allows for 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protecting leave but this luxury is only required for companies with at least 50 employees. With more than 80% of Alabama's businesses not reaching at least 50 employees, most employers are not required to give their employees any family leave. Only 27% of Alabama employers currently offer any kind of paid family leave. This bill would adopt a system inspired by the CTFMLA which would entitle every Alabama employee to paid, job-protecting family leave for up to 12 weeks. This bill would require that only 60% of employees' original salaries be paid in order to make it more feasible for small businesses. As of September 2022, only 11 states and D.C. required paid family leave. It's time for Alabama to be ahead of the game.

Section IV: Consequences

The expected outcome of this bill would be better workers' rights. This bill will allow pregnant and expecting parents ample time to adjust to their new lifestyle without the fear of losing money.

Section V: Enforcement

The Alabama Department of Labor will enforce and promote this bill.

Section VI: Payment

Alabama employers will hold the burden of funding the new system for paid, job-protecting family leave. The CTFMLA requires a .5% payroll tax on all employees' salaries in order to pay for their family leave. The payment system of the CTFMLA will not be adopted because employees should not have to pay for their own rights.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the Governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB45

Committee: D- Health

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Audrey Jones

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Period Poverty

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Disposable menstrual products: includes pads and tampons
- Mentrason: the process in a woman of discharging blood and other materials from the lining of the uterus at intervals of about one lunar month from puberty until menopause, except during pregnancy.
- Tampon: a plug of soft material inserted into the vagina to absorb menstrual blood.
- Pad: an absorbent pad worn by women to absorb menstrual blood; a sanitary napkin

Section II: Proposal

This bill will provide disposable menstrual products for female students, grades 5-12 at no cost to the students.

Section III: Justification

An article by Medical News Today defines period poverty as a lack of access to menstrual products, education, hygiene facilities, waste management or a combination of these barriers. A national study by Thinx & PERIOD found that approximately 20% of teenagers who menstruate in the United States were either unable to afford menstrual products or struggled to afford them. Similarly, a research article by BMC Women's Health found that 14% of college women experienced period poverty within the past year while 10% faced it every month.

Section IV: Consequences

Experiencing period poverty can have negative academic and emotional impacts on students. States have sought to address these negative health impacts by enacting legislation requiring local school districts to provide free menstrual products in schools. The Thinx & PERIOD study also highlights that 25% of teens have missed class time because of a lack of menstrual products while nearly two-thirds of teenagers who menstruate have felt anxious about a lack of access to menstrual products.

Section V: Enforcement

The State Superintendent of Education shall annually notify the local superintendent of education for each school of the amount of funds allocated to each local board of education for every Alabama school, and

the local superintendent shall also provide notice to the department regarding the intention of each school to participate in the program.

Section VI: Payment

The Alabama Department of Health will redirect a portion of their current budget to pay for enforcement of this act. I expect this to cost around \$250,000.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or otherwise becoming a law



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB46

Committee: G- Education II

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Elijah McCay

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Bringing Our Classrooms Into the 21st Century

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I. Definitions

- "Media literacy" means the ability to access, analyze, evaluate, create, and communicate using a variety of objective forms, including, but not limited to, print, visual, audio, interactive, and digital texts.
- "Single-use vape pod" and "Nicotine based vapor liquids" These terms include any vapor cartridge or other container of nicotine in a solution or other form that is intended to be used with or in an electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, electronic pipe, or similar product or device."

Section II. Proposal

"Media literacy" as defined in **Section I** will be taught in every high school in the state of Alabama during freshman year. The standards for this course would be the ability of students to evaluate, produce, and critically analyze media and media messages. These standards will be set by the Alabama Department of Education as well as any further standards the Department deems necessary.

Section III. Justification

In a world dominated by social and digital media, it has become hard to distinguish fact from fiction. Our schools are meant to equip our students are they are currently not equipping our students on how to navigate this modern society.

With this bill, we will provide a one-semester class at every public high school in the state to teach media literacy. The standards for this course would be the ability of students to access, evaluate, produce, and critically analyze media and media messages.

Section IV. Consequences

This bill will lead to more competent voters and a more competent workforce who are more easily able to distinguish political fact from fiction.

Section V. Enforcement

This bill will be enforced by the Alabama Department of Education which will oversee the implementation of this class in the State's high schools.

Section VI. Payment

This bill package will cost ~\$20,000,000 and will be paid for by a new tax on vape products as defined in **Section I**. It will be a \$3 tax on the aforementioned products, which will generate ~\$24,400,000 in revenue.

Section VII. Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII. Enactment

This class should be implemented at the beginning of the 2027-2028 school year and will only affect incoming freshmen.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB47
Committee: D- Health
Delegation: Spain Park

Chamber: House

Author(s): Justin Schaffer, Helen Hawkins

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Prenatal Abolishment Regarding Outrageous Diets of the Young

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Fetus- an offspring of a human or other mammal in the stages of prenatal development that follow the embryo stage
- Cannibalism- the act of consuming another individual of the same species as food
- Placenta- an organ that develops in the uterus during pregnancy

Section II: Proposal

In the great state of Alabama there is absolutely no law that states that babies or baby fetuses are not allowed in food. To call this an absurdity is an understatement.

Though there are no instances in Alabama or in the United States of America where this criminal and cannibalistic situation has happened, there should be a law that prevents this from ever becoming reality. As the legislators of this great state, who and what kind of people would we be if we did not put a stop to this horrible and evil action, that has not yet taken place but very well could be because again in this state it is NOT illegal for babies or baby fetuses to be put into food.

Section III: Justification

On January 24, 2012 in the state of Oklahoma, Ralph Shortey, an Oklahoma state senator introduced a bill that would ban the manufacture or sale of food containing aborted human fetuses. Unfortunately the bill failed but it is up to us, the legislators of the great state Alabama to move forward and not make the same mistake as Oklahoma. For a long time people have consumed human placentas because of "health benefits". I mean if people are willing to consume placenta what's not to say they are willing to consume fetuses because of someone saying that there are many "health benefits" in that. The hope of this bill is that when or if consuming fetuses becomes a "trend" this bill puts a stop to the monstrosity of consuming babies and fetuses.

Section IV: Consequences

Life in prison without the possibility of parole, or death

Section V: Enforcement

The Alabama Department of Health will enforce this.

Section VI: Payment

I am not sure if this would cost money, but I do know the cost of not voting to pass this bill is too high. With the strike of a gavel, the thunder clap of justice if you will, millions of people, babies, and fetuses will be safe from this evil action.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB48

Committee: A- Commerce

Chamber: House

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Gabby Camargo

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Equalization for Menstruation

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- EBT card - electronic benefits transfer - a card that looks and works like a debit or credit card but is loaded with food stamps and/or cash benefits.
- SNAP - Supplemental nutrition assistance program
- Incontinence Items - products designed to help manage urinary or bowel output
- taxpayer's state tax liability - the payment owed by an individual, business, or other entity to a federal, state, or local tax authority

Section II: Proposal

- This bill creates an additional fund for other personal health needs - this being feminine hygiene products, diapers, and incontinence items - to EBT cards for people that already qualify for SNAP.

Section III: Justification

- In Alabama, there are almost 3 million women, 200,000 babies, and 1 million senior citizens, and 78% of these people qualify for the supplemental nutrition assistance program. The current rules state that only food items are available for purchase with this program. However, these items are not the only necessary items for the population of Alabama. Feminine Hygiene, diapers, and incontinence items are all necessary products of life. These people who qualify for assistance are already struggling enough to afford other necessities in everyday life, ranging from shelter to education, they should not be forced to worry about the cost of these items as well.

Section IV: Consequences

- It helps people in need afford other basic necessities, that are not food.

Section V: Enforcement

- This bill will be enforced by the Alabama Department of Human Resources and the ABC board.

Section VI: Payment

- There is no need for extra payment due to the fact that federal and state governments already pay for 100% of SNAP. However, to ensure the funds for this new program, the fund will be excepting grants and donations. To encourage donations, you will be able to claim a 50% tax claim on a taxpayer's state tax liability.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

- This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

- This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB49

Committee: H- Government Operations

Chamber: House

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): JeTia Samples

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Extend Our Voting Rights

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- **Motor Voter-** Provides for three voter registration programs that allows you to register to vote when you apply for your state license or identification card.
- **Voting Pre-Registration-** Only lets 18 years pre registration for voting
- **Constituents-** a voting member of a community or organization and has the power to appoint or elect.

Section II: Proposal

Sixteen and Seventeen year olds are ready to vote. This bill proposes to lower the opportunity to vote. Lowering the voting age will give opportunities in the youth to express their civic and their significance in the country or state. This bill will propose to letting 16 and 17 year olds also vote in their local elections. The youth is affected by their living communities. This bill helps 16 and 17 year olds having the option to vote.

Section III: Justification

We as citizen need to make voting a habit. A small number of votes often decides issues or a candidate. There are huge consequences when a citizen do not use their voice and vote. Voting is how Americans control their lives and hold elected officials more accountable. This was a major founding principle of our country. Studies have shown that to make something a habit it is better to start young. Since we need to make voting a habit it is better to start at the age 16 than 18 years old. We as a nation need to start valuing the younger generation. It is very critical for one to ensure those whose futures that is more impacted have a chance to express their voices. 16 and 17 year old are huge advocates for our country and have made a tremendous impact for our nation. When one turn sixteen, they are able to get a official license that is provided by your state and is more able to get a job. When you get a job you have to pay federal income tax at any age. One is also more likely to get tried as an adult for crime. If 16 and 17 year olds are able to pay a income tax, in a sense it would be fair to let them vote. Bringing more young citizens into the reach of their government will push their government into hearing their voices. The youth is affected by local political issues just like the older generation. 16 and 17 year old should have to right to vote on issues that effect on a local level. Passing this bill would also increase the youth education in civic. By the time at the 17, one will be taking or may have ntaken a civic class. The youth will already have a civic education but getting to play a role into it will also increase civic engagement. Empowering the young generation will improve our democracy. The youth having a voice is what will make a

communities, government and local officials stronger. The youth will see that in order to have change, you must use your voice and vote. This bill will not hurt our democracy but will make it stronger.

Section IV: Consequences

After the bill is passed, citizens will obviously see that 16 and 17 year olds have the change. Once the bill is passed, 16 and 17 year olds will have to OPTION to vote. There will be many consequences to this bill due to other citizens overlooking the knowledge of a teenager

Section V: Enforcement

This bill will be enforced by the same mechanisms that regulate elections in the state of Alabama.

Section VI: Payment

This bill will actually bring in more funding. The more population the more money

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws. This bill will help expand the 24th amendment.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor and to be considered into an presidency election



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HBS0

Committee: A- Transportation

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Olivia Landess

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Lifted Trucks Limitations

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Modified- To transform from the original product/structure to a new/changed product
- Passenger Truck- A car with a tailgate, at least 4 wheels
- Car- 4-wheeled road vehicle powered by an engine
- Bumper- Horizontal bar fixed on the back of a motor vehicle
- Vehicle- A means of transportation by a car or passenger truck

Section II: Proposal

This bill will put a limit on the height a truck or car can be lifted to a max of 32 inches measured from the ground to the bumper.

Section III: Justification

This bill should be enacted since the excessive lift of a car/truck causes a multitude of safety issues. These issues include road safety such as the risk of the car/truck tipping over, and hurting the driver, any passengers, and pedestrians around the vehicle. The risk of limited visibility for drivers behind the lifted vehicle, drivers in front of the vehicle at night with the lifted vehicle's lights blinding the driver through their mirrors, and lastly limited visibility for the driver of said lifted vehicle. Issues to do with the built-in safety features of the vehicle before it was modified will not proceed with safety features such as non-delayed braking.

Section IV: Consequences

By limiting the height of the amount of lift added to a car or truck can reduce the number of injuries and deaths caused by these modified vehicles by 22.5%.

Section V: Enforcement

This law will be enforced by state officers, troopers, police, and sheriffs. Officers or any other individual with jurisdiction has the ability to pull over an individual that is suspected to have a vehicle raised above the limit to measure said vehicle. If the vehicle is above the 32-inch limit there will be a fine of \$15,000 for breaking this law. Once this law is put into place there will be a 2-month grace period for any Alabama citizen to lower their car to the state-wide regulation of 32 inches from the ground to bumper before the fining period starts. If this bill is passed it will be widely broadcasted with the new limitations on how high a vehicle can be lifted.

Section VI: Payment

This bill does not require any extra funding just for the simple tape measurer to measure the distance between the ground and the bumper, but any money that comes from the fine can be used for state government funding.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB51

Committee: D- Environment

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Carys Collins

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Protect the Coosa

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Coosa river- a 280 mile river that flows through Alabama and a part of Georgia
- waste/pollution- the introduction of harmful materials into the environment that affects it negatively
- Poultry farming- the act of raising chickens and/or turkeys to then later consume or sell
- Municipal sewer systems- a series of pipes underground that carry waste from more urban areas to a plant to process the waste

Section II: Proposal

This bill will require the state to uphold the regulations of the Environmental Protection Agency. These regulations are not being upheld which is causing unsuitable and old sewer systems to leak and cause major pollution in many places.. The state will have to meet the standards that the EPA have set in place. For example, the state would have to update/upgrade the crumbling sewer lines.

Section III: Justification

The Coosa river is an important river because of its rich biodiversity and this waste that is being leaked into the river is becoming extremely harmful to wildlife as well as neighboring communities. The effect this waste has on the environment is monumentally harmful. For example, the waste is secreting toxins in the river that people drink, fish, and swim in and the state is not telling the people what is in this water.

There have been several water quality tests that have been done in the Coosa. Those tests have resulted in the conclusion that PFAS has been found in the water. PFAS (Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) is a man-made chemical that does not break down easily. It's also been shown that these substances accumulate in our bodies and the environment. Exposure to some PFAS have been connected to serious health issues. The levels found in the river are extremely greater than the health standards For example, PFOA (one of the PFAS) was found to be 4,200 times the health standard. This is extremely dangerous to the health of humans and wildlife.

The chicken waste being leaked into the river could lead to dangerous and toxic algae to grow throughout the entire river. It also causes severe water-born illnesses that affect the people and wildlife who rely on that river. Not to mention the fact that the majority of residents who use the river in any capacity are low-income

African American families. The state is not doing enough to protect the health and well being of its people and its environment.

Section IV: Consequences

This bill will in no way have any negative impact on the state government. The only thing that will be affected may be the funds that will have to be spent on the reinforcement of the sewer lines, which should already be in the budget because they should have been enforcing the EPA standards years ago. This bill will only ever benefit the people. The river would become more of a priority to maintain to uphold the health of people and the safety regulations that have been put in place for this very reason.

Section V: Enforcement

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management will enforce this bill. If this bill is passed, on the day it's passed the upgrading process will begin. This bill will give the state one year to start and finish the process of upgrading and reinforcing the sewer systems. If the state fails to act on the contents of this bill, it will be sent off to the federal government for not protecting the people.

Section VI: Payment

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management will fund the enforcement of this law. There should be no conflict in the funds due to the fact that the State has specific money to pay for things like this. Upgrading the sewer lines is long overdue and should not in any way affect the funding of this department.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

- This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Sections VIII: Enactment

- This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB52

Committee: H-Government Operations

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Julia Daigle

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Stop Gerry From Mandering

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Gerrymander - to manipulate the boundaries of (an electoral constituency) so as to favor one party or class.
- Communities of interest - a neighborhood, community, or group of people who have common policy concerns and would benefit from being maintained in a single district.
- Redistrict - to divide or organize the state into new political districts
- Packing - Putting all of a minority population into one district to only give them one vote
- Cracking - Dispersing minority populations across multiple districts to diminish their vote

Section II: Proposal

This bill will put in place an independent redistricting commission for state legislative and congressional maps.

Applications will be open to anyone in the state of Alabama. Applicants must not be candidates for or elected officials to partisan state, federal, or local office; officers or members of the governing body of a national, state, or local political party; paid consultants or employees of a federal, state, or local elected official or political candidate of a federal, state, or local political candidate's campaign, or of a political action committee; employees of the legislature; a registered lobbyist or an employee of a registered lobbyist; or an unclassified state employee who is exempt from classification in state civil service except for employees of courts of record, employees of the state institutions of higher education, and persons in the armed forces of the state. Applicants must also have been registered with their political party for at least 3 years.

The commission will consist of 12 citizens, four Republicans, four Democrats, and four independent or minor parties. Two citizens, at most, can be chosen from the same county. 18 commission members will be chosen by the Supreme Court out of a pool of applicants that must meet the proper qualifications. The 18 must consist of 6 democrats, 6 Republicans, and 6 people that are not affiliated with either party. The majority and minority leaders of each chamber will each get to reject one of those members and decide which two unaffiliated applicants to dismiss.

The commission must uphold these standards when creating the state legislative maps: Districts must adhere to the U.S. Constitution and comply with federal law. Districts must be of equal population, contiguous, compact, reflect the state's diverse population and respect communities of interest, and reflect county and city boundaries. Districts shall not provide a disproportionate advantage to any political party determined by accepted measures of partisan fairness, and may not be drawn in favor of a particular candidate.

Section III: Justification

Every voice should be heard in our state. The current redistricting protocol makes our state susceptible to Gerrymandering. This can cause partisan advantages and can deprive certain groups of a fair vote or voice. By bringing in citizens with all different political beliefs to create the districts in our states we can allow for more equal and true representation in our legislative body and U.S. congress. Milligan v. Merrill, a case challenging Alabama's congressional map for diluting Black voters, is currently being heard in the Supreme Court. Oral arguments were heard on October 4, 2022

Section IV: Consequences

An independent commission for creating fair districts will be created

Section V: Enforcement

The majority and minority leaders from both chambers will make sure the commission upholds their responsibilities.

Section VI: Payment

Funds already used for redistricting would now be used for the independent commission.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming law. The Congressional and State Legislative maps will be approved in the same manner they currently are. The first commission will be in place by the 2030 Census.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB53

Committee: A- Commerce

Chamber: House

Delegation: Spain Park High School

Author(s): Lilly Johnson and Shelly Millender

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Roll the Dice

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I Definition:

- Online Gambling- Any kind of gambling conducted on the internet
- Gambling- Playing games for a chance for money; bet.

Section II Proposal:

This bill will legalize online sports gambling in Alabama.

Section III Justification:

Alabama is among 10 states where online sports betting isn't legal. Alabamians have been pushing for the legalization of online gambling and legalizing online sports betting is a step in the right direction. It will also restrict the government's involvement in individuals' financial decisions.

In 2020, more than 33 million Americans planned to bet on the upcoming NFL season. In states such as Alabama where online sports betting is illegal people are finding illegal sites to gamble on. As we know when there is a will there is a way. Alabama can capitalize on the influx of online betters and legalize online sports betting. The government can gather taxes from gambling sites that would need to get a license in order to hold their operations in Alabama. In states where sports betting is legal legalization has been very beneficial to their economy.

The legalization of online sports gambling will provide an increase in employment opportunities. These will come from the establishments that will station in Alabama after the legalization of online sports gambling. Helping the unemployment rate lower in Alabama.

Section IV Consequences:

Alabama will miss out on a great opportunity by not passing the legalization of sports betting. Alabama will miss out on the tax revenue online sports betting will produce. Alabama will also miss out on the influx of jobs that the bill would cause.

Section V Enforcement:

The Alabama Committee of Gaming will oversee its enforcement.

Section VI Payment:

Alabama will not have to spend any money on the bill. The bill will make money for the state.

Section VII Conflicting Laws:

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment:

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB54

Committee: A- Commerce

Delegation: Spain Park High School

Author(s): Ryan Scholl

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: A Better Tomorrow for Today's Foster Children

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Foster Care- A system in which a minor has been placed into a ward, group home, or private home of a state-certified caregiver, referred to as a "foster parent" or with a family member approved by the state. The placement of the child is normally arranged through the government or a social service agency.
- Reimbursement- The funds allocated to adults to take in foster children, usually about 700 to 820 a month.

Section II: Proposal

Across America the foster care system is regarded as one of the worst places for a child to be due to factors such as mistreatment, neglect, unstable environments, and trauma from before being in the system as well as traumas that occurred in the system. Information and specifics regarding these topics is limited due to the negative light it would cast the system in, but the facts stand regardless. In Alabama there are about 6,000 kids in foster care across the state at any given time. Of those 6,000 children, 4080 of them, or 68%, are placed with non-relative foster parents while 900, or 15%, are placed with relative foster parents. When children are placed in these foster homes the adults that take them in are reimbursed, or paid. They are usually given between 700 to 850 dollars a month per kid. While the foster care system cannot be fixed with one bill the children's lives can be improved at least a little bit.

This bill proposes that the payment the parents receive be split. 25% of the payment would go to the parents as reimbursement, and 75% would be given to them to be used on the children. Whether this goes towards extra help with school, therapy, after school activities, or something else that could benefit the children in such ways. This goes to provide a better environment for children in foster care as well as give them a way to grow and thrive in a system that tends to bring the opposite.

Section III: Justification

The bill will help provide a better environment for children in foster care. It gives them the tools and skills to grow and function despite the obstacles set in their path. The funds being used on the children gives the children a better chance in the future, and requires that the foster parents give the children the support they need, without the excuses of finance.

Section IV: Consequences

This bill increases the protection to the states most vulnerable children.

Section V: Enforcement

The bill is enforced by the Alabama Department of Human Resources, which already oversees the foster system. The money would be held by the children's social worker, and the foster parents would have to submit a request before they could use the money.

Section VI: Payment

The payment will not change from the current system in place to supply funds to foster families

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB55

Committee: A- Commerce

Chamber: House

Delegation: Spain Park High School

Author(s): Shelby Millender and Olivia Garabay

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Sunday Funday

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Spirits : Liquor, spirits, spirit drink, distilled beverage or hard liquor is an alcoholic drink produced by distillation of grains, fruits, vegetables, or sugar, that have already gone through alcoholic fermentation. The distillation process concentrates the liquid to increase its alcohol by volume.
- Dry county: a county in the United States where the sale of alcoholic beverages is forbidden by the local municipality

Section II:

I propose that a statewide bill is implemented to override the liquor laws that differ by county either restricting or not allowing alcohol sales on Sunday. There is no logical reason other than biblical morals that explain why Sunday alcohol sale rules are different compared to other days. We have the right to buy alcohol when we please, as long as you are of age, our right should not be violated based on the religion of some.

Section III: Justifications

In Alabama only 9/67 counties have county-wide alcohol sales on Sunday without restriction. Some counties restrict alcohol sales on Sunday to after 12 pm such as: Shelby counties, others differ in their allowed time frame, while some do not allow sales at all. With Alabama being in the bible belt it seems that biblical influence is the reason for these nonsensical laws. People of the age of 21 are allowed to buy alcohol unrestricted, except for those that live in dry counties. In order to erase confusion and nonsense Alabama should have a state-wide unban on alcohol sales.

Section IV: Consequences

If this bill passes Alabama will be one more step closer from completely separating church and state in the Alabama legislature.

Section V: Enforcement

- The ABC board will oversee its enforcement

Section VI: Payment

- Alabama will not spend any money on the bill, the bill will instead increase revenue for the state

Section VII: Enactment

- This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB56

Committee: B- Judicial

Chamber: House

Delegation: Spain Park High School

Author(s): Helen Hawkins, Justin Schaffer

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: The Decriminalization of all Drugs

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I : Definitions

- Drugs - a medicine or other substance which has a physiological effect when ingested or otherwise introduced into the body.
- Decriminalization - the action or process of ceasing to treat something as illegal or as a criminal offense.

Section II : Proposal

This bill proposes the decriminalization of drugs. Our prisons are overpopulated. Decriminalizing drugs would clear up prisons for people who deserve to be there.

Decriminalizing drugs would help drugs become regulated and controlled. This would also help addicts get the help they need without the fear of being arrested. Instead of being sentenced to prison for drug charges there should be a series of fines. Each time the offender is charged the fine would increase. First charge, 250 depending on the drug and how much is found on them. Second charge, 500 again depending on the drug and how much is found on them. The third charge will be 1,000 dollars and will increase by 1,000 dollars each time they are charged after.

Section III : Justification

15% of Alabama's prison population is nonviolent drug offenders. They are taking up space in our already overpopulated prisons, and most of the "offenders" were charged because of being caught with a very small amount. Decriminalizing drugs would also help with the very overpopulated prisons which are a whole different discussion.

Section VI: Consequences

Instead of being sentenced to prison for drug charges there should be a series of fines. Each time the offender is charged the fine would increase. First charge, 250 depending on the drug and how much is found on them. Second charge, 500 again depending on the drug and how much is found on them. The third charge will be 1,000 dollars and will increase by 1,000 dollars each time they are charged after.

Section V: Enforcement

This will be enforced by the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA).

Section IV: Payment

This will not cost any payment.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII:

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB57

Committee: B- Judicial

Delegation: Spain Park High School

Author(s): Breonna Crumb

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Racial Profiling

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I-Definitions

- Racial Profiling - the use of race or ethnicity as grounds for suspecting someone of having committed an offense.
- Ethnic Profiling - when they base their actions on ethnicity, race, religion, or national origin instead of an individual's conduct or objective evidence.

Section II-Proposal

We all know that racial profiling is a big problem in this country, and we need to put a stop to it, so people can stop living in fear every time they leave their homes. So to start it off I suggest we start with the people who can help end it and who do it the most in Alabama the police departments. Yes the police, to start off can get the race of everyone they pull over, for any reason, and record and document it. I say this because it happens all the time to minority races all the time and the police officers who do it need to be stopped. And the only way we will do that is by having the police document the race of the person they pull over so when their boss looks at their records for the week over they can see how many of certain did the officer pull over and why. Then something can be done about it.

Section III-Justification

The reason my bill should be enacted is first off Racial profiling is patently illegal and against the U.S Constitution's core promises of equal protection under the law for all and freedom from unreasonable searches and seizures. Racial Profiling is also ineffective. It alienates communities from law enforcement and, makes them not trust you but to me, it's the other way around. If the police are racially profiling then they are no better than the people they sore to protect. Racial profiling does not just affect people of color, but it affects immigrants, Muslims, and refugees, racial profiling targets 50% of minorities in Alabama. This bill will help get the data so we can better fight the problem and eventually stop racial profiling. This bill will also improve trust between law enforcement and the community they are there to protect.

Section IV-Consequences

If the police are caught going after one certain race on their document they get a warning, saying if their records next week have the same result as your previous records they would be put on leave until further notice. After your boss looks over your records and tries to see what's happening/going on you will either keep working, get demoted, or even get fired.

Section V-Enforcement

To sure that this is enforced the head of each police department will have to all least one a month and check the police records and if they see something wrong they deal with it how they see fit to do it with it.

Section VI-Payment

Only if the person gets fired,the person who takes the spot will just get paid the same salary as the person before.

Section VII-Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing

Section VIII-Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approved by the government or it's otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB58

Committee: C- Public Safety

Delegation: SPHS

Author(s): Sophie Hunt

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Mental Evaluation for People Owning Firearms

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Firearms- a rifle, pistol, or other portable gun.
- Violence- behavior involving physical force intended to hurt, damage, or kill someone or something.
- Homicide- the killing of one person by another.
- Competent- the ability to act in the circumstances, including the ability to perform a job or occupation, the capacity to reason, or to make decisions.

Section II: Proposal

Once enacted, this law will make it a requirement for anyone owning a firearm to get an annual mental evaluation proving that they are mentally competent to own one.

Section III: Justification

Alabama has the second highest rate of gun violence in the US. From 2011 to 2020, Gun homicides increased 100%, compared to a 70% increase nationwide. 51% of gun deaths in Alabama are suicides, and 45% are homicides. By requiring a mental evaluation, it would help prevent someone owning firearms from hurting themselves or others.

Section IV: Consequences

People would be upset, especially because this deals with people's 2nd amendment rights. People might try to fight it, or try to change the bill entirely.

Section V: Enforcement

Once this bill is enacted, if someone refuses to get their annual mental eval, they will first be fined \$250. The second time they get a strike, they'll be fined \$500, and the third time their licenses will be taken from them. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives will help enforce this law.

Section VI: Payment

People will be required to pay for their own mental evaluation.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will conflict with people's 2nd amendment rights.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective a year after its passage.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB59

Committee: A- Commerce

Chamber: House

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Isabella Ritchey

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: State Sales Tax

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- State Sales Taxes - is a direct tax on consumption that many states and local governments impose when you purchase goods and services
- General Sales tax- a type of tax that governments impose on income generated by businesses and individuals within their jurisdiction. By law, taxpayers must file an income tax return annually to determine their tax obligations.
- IRS - The government agency is a bureau of the Department of the Treasury and is under the immediate direction of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue.
- Illegal immigrant - migration of people into a country in violation of the immigration laws of that country, or the continued residence of people without the legal right to live in that country. (A human)

Section II: Proposal

- I would like to take away the General income tax and raise the state sales tax by either 2%, 4%, and 5%. I would also like to lower the number of illegal immigration and allow more control over taxes.

Section III: Justification

- A problem expressed is illegal immigrants not paying taxes. This bill will cause everyone that lives in Alabama to pay taxes. This bill will also allow people to have more control over their taxes. It helps them have control over how much they pay and if they need to cut back to do so.

Section IV: Consequences

- The consequence is that not everybody can pay sales tax. To fix that concern people in the poverty line in Alabama so about 12,000 to 25,000 will be evaluated to see if they cannot pay these taxes. People in poverty will be evaluated on the number of people living in the house, how much the person makes, and how much their living space is. If they meet the qualification to not pay these taxes they will be given a type of license they can use to remove the tax or lower the text. When entering this card they will have a pin they need to enter made specify for that card only. After putting in the pin a person working at the store will check the person's

card to make sure they are using their card. When you insert this card it will register the time place and what the card was used for, and where the card was used. This will make sure the card is being used for needed items and not on something like cigarettes. One of the big qualifications to have this card is being a legal citizen in the United States. Illegal immigrants are high in poverty and will have a hard time maintaining a healthy life and paying sales tax. This will gesture them to start getting their citizenship. To make sure these people aren't starving and are healthy necessities like milk, eggs, cheese, certain meats will be taxed less than 2%.

Section V: Enforcement

- The taxes will be enforced by The IRS. The use of the card will be enforced by the government and monitored by the police. To see if someone is eligible for the card social services will do the checking.

Section VI: Payment

- These cards will be paid for like a credit card through the bank. You will have to pay a small fee to have this card but tax will not be enforced on the fee.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

- This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

- This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or it's otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB60

Committee: G- Education II

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Jaydin Reynolds

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: One Ad at a Time

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

Marketing - business of promoting and selling products or services, including market research and advertising.

Grade school - a public school including the first six or the first eight grades.

Section II: Proposal

This bill will ban food and beverage marketing in grade schools.

Section III: Justification

From sugary drink ads on vending machines to fast food logos on book covers and stadium scoreboards, unhealthy food marketing is a frequent sight in schools. Research shows that, despite common misperceptions, these marketing relationships result in little to no revenue for schools.¹ In addition, they encourage students and staff to make unhealthy food choices and compromise the educational mission of schools.

Section IV: Consequences

A small fine will be put in place depending on the amount of marketing found.

Section V: Enforcement

Just one quick sweep will say if they have this bit of marketing up or not the first time it is brought up will be a warning anything after that will be obligated to a fine .

Section VI: Payment

There is no payment needed for this bill

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governors signing

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB61

Committee: C- Public Safety

Chamber: House

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Libby Baty

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: GUNS!

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

Nes ICS: FBI's National Instant Criminal Background Check System

POC: Point of Contact State

FLL's: Federal Firearm License

Section II: Proposal

Make Alabama a full point of contact state. This requires the background checks to be approved for the purchase of a firearm to not only be processed through the NICS database (current practice) but also state records as well. This would be done by FFL's contacting POC's who would then run checks through state databases as well as NICS.

Section III: Justification

Federal law is not able to require states to present information identifying persons as ineligible for firearm acquisition. Currently, many criminals or unstable persons are still able to obtain weapons, legally, even with domestic violence charges or other charges disqualifying them for firearm purchase. This is because state and local authorities fail to report to the NICS database. This has led to numerous preventable injuries and deaths. Bill inspired by an issue seen across the state of Alabama, every 16 hours a female is killed by a current or former intimate partner, according to Forbes. Many of these incidents occurring after one purchases a weapon even with criminal charges.

My proposed solution would take a few minutes for each check conducted by FLL's.

Section IV: Consequences

It will lower the number of those in possession of weapons when disqualified from doing so in an effort to lower crime and death rates.

Section V: Enforcement

Should a FLL fail to use the POC's their license will be revoked by the POC department and possibly face criminal charges.

Section VI: Payment

The total cost for the state would average \$600,000*. This cost would include: regular salaries, benefits, overtime, other personnel, travel, hardware/software/networking/ telecommunication acquisition and maintenance, materials/supplies/equipment, contractual/ consulting, utilities, training and other.

This would come from the states general fund budget.

*as compared to Oregon's state costs

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB62

Chamber: House

Committee: B- Judicial

Delegation: Ozark - Carroll High School

Author(s): Jade Byars

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: The Shield of Awareness Against the Sword of Modern Day Slavery

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section 1: Sex Trafficking - the action or practice of illegally transporting people from one country or area to another for the purpose of sexual exploitation.

Seminar - a conference or other meeting for discussion or training.

Trafficker - a person who deals or trades in something illegal.

Hotbed - an environment promoting the growth of something, especially something unwelcome.

Sexual Exploitation - any actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power, or trust for sexual purposes. It includes profiting monetarily, socially, or politically from sexual exploitation of another.

Mandatory Reporters - a certain person (Childcare workers) who must report when they know or suspect that child abuse is going on.

Section 2: Enacting this bill will make it a requirement for all Educators, Medical Professionals, Law Enforcement Officials to attend seminars once every 2-4 months to enrich their knowledge in sex trafficking preventative measures, signs of sexual exploitation, and how to safely and effectively intervene in these types of situations.

Section 3: A professor at the University of Alabama has stated that more awareness needs to be made about sex trafficking due to many misconceptions thanks to media portrayals and sex trafficking is preventable. According to the CDC, they have pushed forth their efforts of increasing community awareness. So why not do it in the state of Alabama considering it is happening behind our back doors.

Students spend a lot of time with their teachers for about ten months of the year. As students are in school, teachers see and have a close bond with a lot of their students, so they are more apt to see subtle changes in behaviors and notice signs of abuse. Teachers are also known as mandatory reporters, which means that if any student speaks to them about abuse, drug use, or inflicting self harm, they are required to report it to the Department of Human Resources. Medical professionals, because they have a keen eye for being able to see abuse physically and emotionally, and Law enforcement officials due to the fact that they have specialized training to handle dangerous situations similar and they have the authority to convict traffickers of their crimes.

Section 4: N/A

Section 5: Organizations in Alabama who dedicate their time fighting for the rights of sex trafficking victims will be responsible for teaching these seminars. Organizations include: The Well House, Human Trafficking Task Force, and The Alabama Fusion Center. These organizations will be enforced by the state government.

Section 6: There will be no state funding or any money from the general fund needed since the enactment of this bill would make representatives of organizations who deal with sex trafficking and already have the training responsible.

Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act or any provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section 8: The bill will become effective January 1st, 2024, upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill # HB 63

Committee: B- Judicial

Chamber:

Delegation:

Author(s):

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Preservation of Accessible Support for Child Sexual Abuse Act of 2023

Section 1: Definitions

Statute of limitations is defined as a law that sets the maximum amount of time that parties in a dispute have to initiate legal proceedings.

Sexual abuse refers to sexual behaviors or sexual acts forced upon a woman, man or child without their consent.

Statute of limitations upon child sexual abuse in the state of Alabama: the current statute of limitations for civil accusations of child sexual abuse in the state of Alabama is two years following a victim's 19th birthday.

Section 2: Proposal

- (1) The statute of limitations upon civil accusations of child sexual abuse will be immediately repealed.
- (2) Financial support for victims of child sexual abuse will continue past prior caps at the age of 18, and individuals will receive information from organizations such as the National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) and Alabama Abuse Crisis Centers pertaining to recommended supports for recovery and justice following abuse incidents.
- (3) Improved education upon sexual health and sexual rights will be implemented as a required course within high school institutions. The contents of these courses will be regulated by the Alabama Department of Public Health and the Alabama Department of Education, and they will provide advice and assistance specific to the needs of minors.

Section 3: Justification

- (1) Cases of child abuse have increased rapidly throughout the past decade, and the Alabama Department of Public Health reports that Alabama is ranked eighth in the country for highest rates of child sexual abuse. This issue is combated primarily through education and the improvements in victim-centered legislations.
- (2) Providing increased education regarding sexual abuse in schools will improve overall public safety, increase reporting, and empower victims through heightened



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accountability. According to the Center for Primary Care at Harvard Medical School, comprehensive sexual education is a primary factor in reducing rates of abuse.

(3) The majority of victims of child sexual abuse do not disclose the event of their abuse until reaching adult age due to the necessary development of understanding and the effects of surrounding stigma towards abuse cases. The statute of limitation is an obstructive system in the prosecution of abusers, as adult victims of past sexual abuse are prohibited from pursuing civil cases after the short period of limitation (two years).

(4) All victims of sexual abuse deserve the right to justice, and the current statute of limitations hinders victims' ability to challenge their abusers. Alabama contains one of the shortest statutes of limitations across the country. Child victims of sexual assault have only two years following their 19th birthday to prosecute in civil cases. In North Carolina, the recent expansion of the statute of limitation in child sexual abuse cases within the SAFE Act is expected to improve the overall conditions of victims.

Section 4: Funding

(1) Funding for victim support and educational improvements will be drawn primarily from the Alabama Departments of Education and Public Health.

(2) State organizations such as Alabama's branch of the National Sexual Violence Resource Center and Thrive Alabama are expected to assist in financial support for victims of sexual abuse. Partnerships with local and university institutions such as the Sexual Assault Support Center of the University of Alabama can also contribute funds.

(3) It is to be noted that reductions in child sexual abuse cases will have a positive impact upon the population and economy of Alabama, as the regular economic burden of sexual abuse upon the state as a result of victim's medical treatments has been about \$1,000,000 per victim according to the Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention.

Section 5: Severance

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section 6: Enactment

This bill will be enacted upon being signed into law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB64

Committee: G-Education II

Delegation: Carver High School

Author(s): Ingrid Dominguez

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Instituting Sick Days for Menstrual Cycle

Section 1: Definitions

Sick Day- a paid day in which an employee does not work because he or she is sick

Menstrual Cycle- a series of natural changes in hormone production and the structures of the uterus and ovaries of the female reproductive system that make pregnancy possible.

Section 2: Proposal

Women will be given a minimum of 2 paid leaves each month for menstrual cycles. This will offer relief to women who are suffering severe period pain and can take a few days off if necessary.

Section 3: Justification

Jessica L. Barnack-Tavlaris, a psychology professor at the College of New Jersey, led a study looking at Americans' attitudes about menstrual leave. In research published in 2019, she and her co-authors found that 45 percent of the 600 people surveyed would support menstrual leave in the United States. Between 15 and 25 percent of people who menstruate will experience moderate to severe menstrual cramps, according to Siobán Harlow, a professor of epidemiology and global public health at the University of Michigan's School of Public Health. Ten to 15 percent of menstruators will have pain that's not very well-controlled with nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs. Some people have conditions including endometriosis or uterine fibroids that exacerbate pain, while others suffer from very heavy menstrual bleeding all of which can make working difficult. Taking menstrual leave will help women not go through a work day with having to deal with painful period pain. It helps women's wellbeing and takes needed days off to be able to work to their fullest well.

Section 4: Funding

This act will not require extra funding as this will be built into the employees regular salary and benefits package.

Section 5:

Enforcement Any employer found to be in violation of this act will be fined \$500 for each offense.

Section 6: Repealing Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with these acts or any provisions of this act are hereby repealed

Section 7: Enactment Clause This act shall become effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB65

Committee: B- Judicial

Chamber: House

Delegation: Heart of the Valley

Author(s): Tyler Peek and Mary Frances Itsede

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title A Bill to Make Capital Punishment More Reputable

Section 1

Individuals who are processed through the Alabama Justice System will not be eligible for capital punishment sentencing unless at least two pieces of authenticated fingerprint or DNA evidence are presented in court and are recognized and validated by the judge ruling case.

Section 2

“Evidence” as mentioned throughout this bill, must meet all of the current court admissibility requirements in order to be admissible in court and fulfill capital punishment requirements.

“Validate refers to the process of recognizing a piece of evidence as completely authentic beyond any reasonable doubt and individual to only the defendant. A “mistrial” is defined as a trial in which serious misconduct or procedural error has taken place, making the trial invalid

Section 3

This bill will take effect with complete respect to the 8th amendment of the United States Constitution, and the evidence specified in **SECTION 1** will simply and exclusively act as a requirement to carry out capital punishment rather than a definitive deciding factor. Evidence specified in **SECTION 1** may either include two pieces of authentic DNA evidence, or a combination consisting of one piece of each. If a judge attempts to administer capital punishment without the requirement stated in this legislation being met, the sentence will not be honored; the trial must be declared a “mistrial” and the defendant must be granted a new trial.

Section 4

This legislation will take effect on March 1st, 2023. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB66

Committee: D-Health

Delegation: Davidson

Author(s): Raphael Young

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Troubled Teen Industry Protection Act

Preamble: WHEREAS the Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program, a federally funded group authorized to monitor psychiatric residential treatment facilities, detailed the deplorable living conditions, physical and emotional harm, and lack of meaningful therapeutic opportunities that children as young as 12 were experiencing in facilities meant to help them. Steps should be taken to ensure these programs are genuinely helping troubled youth.

Definitions:

Psychiatric residential treatment facilities - housing that provides effective and integrated treatment for individuals faced with complex psychiatric problems.

Internal Revenue Code **Section 501(c)(3)**- charitable, religious, educational, scientific, literary, testing for public safety, fostering national or international amateur sports competition, and preventing cruelty to children or animals.

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)- a condition of persistent mental and emotional stress occurring as a result of injury or severe psychological shock.

Abuse- the treatment of a person with cruelty or violence, especially regularly or repeatedly.

Proposed Action:

This bill will require the courts to enforce that any organization involved in the Troubled Youth Industry should have weekly Child Protective Services visits, it should also be deemed that every staff member working with the youth be a licensed in mental health, also eliminating all cruel and unusual punishment tactics such as isolation rooms. All facilities must follow the Alabama Habitability Laws and failure to follow the laws will result in the facility being shut down until requirements are met. The same should be followed if all organizations do not have a detailed list that explains the therapeutic plan the organization will make to better help the youth that has been placed in their care. It is also suggested that Vermont's Act 264 be enforced, passed in 1988 it requires that human services and public



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education work together, involve parents and coordinate services for better outcomes for children and families. The act developed a coordinated system of care so that children and adolescents with a severe emotional disturbance and their families receive appropriate educational, mental health, child welfare, juvenile justice, residential, and other treatment services in accordance with an individual plan.

Justification:

The 14th Amendment provides, in part, that no state can "deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." "Any person" includes the youth and at the moment everyday laws are being broken in these facilities. Recently a lawsuit was filed against Sequel Youth and Family Services, LLC in Macon County, Alabama asserting claims of severe abuse and neglect of a 15-year-old boy at Sequel's Tuskegee, Alabama facility. The lawsuit claims Sequel Tuskegee and other Sequel facilities are "houses of horror where staff members abuse and prey upon children." The victim in this case alleges he was "choked, beaten, punched, slapped and slammed to the ground by employees and other residents". Actions that are unacceptable in places meant to help and house youth. Which is why organizations such as "Breaking Code Silence" intend to be a vehicle for the TTI-survivor community—ever striving to uplift, organize, and inspire present and future generations, while promoting youth rights and evidence-based alternatives to the troubled teen industry.

Severability Clause:

All laws or any parts of laws that come in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Enactment Clause:

This bill will become effective immediately, upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB67

Committee: G-Education II

Delegation: LAMP

Author(s): Rishad Israil

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: A State Lottery to Support Public Education

Section I: Definitions

- A lottery is defined as a means of raising money by selling numbered tickets and giving prizes to the holders of numbers drawn at random.

Section II: Purpose

The People of the State of Alabama declare that the purpose of this Act is support for the preservation of the rights, liberties, and welfare of the people by providing additional monies to benefit education without the imposition of additional or increased taxes. The People of the State of Alabama further declare that it is their intent that the net revenues of the Alabama State Lottery shall not be used as substitute funds but rather shall supplement the total amount of money allocated for public education in Alabama.

Section II: Proposal

A state-operated lottery shall be initiated by the State of Alabama and take place annually. With the exception of the lottery, this Act shall not be construed to modify existing State law pertaining to the prohibition of casino-style gambling, such as roulette, poker, or slot machines. The State of Alabama Government will use the money generated by the lottery to supplement existing funds to public education in the forms of scholarships, grants, and other allocations necessary to finance the running of Alabama's public schools.

Section III: Justification

As Alabama continues to experience teacher shortages, low levels of post-secondary educational attainment, and low, if not last, rankings for math and science proficiency in the nation, it is imperative to change such trends in order to help the state of the economy long-term and thrive in a STEM focused age where an estimated 60% of jobs will require some kind of degree by 2025 according to the Education Policy Center at the University of Alabama. The funds for such changes, however, are simply not available and must be derived from the implementation of a state lottery.



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Section IV: Consequences

If this bill becomes law, then the state of education in Alabama will improve; levels of educational attainment will rise, unemployment rates will be alleviated, and the economy will be better stabilized going forward.

Section V: Enforcement

The Alabama Department of Education, the Alabama Department of Revenue, and the Alabama Department of Finance shall jointly oversee the implementation of this legislation.

Section VI: Funding

A temporary line of credit will be established for initial start-up costs as deemed necessary; afterward, the lottery will be self-funded.

Section VII: Severance

Any laws or parts of the law in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment

This bill will become effective on January 1, 2024, upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB68

Committee: B-Judicial

Chamber: House

Delegation: Ramsay

Author(s): Michael Coleman

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Dead Man Walking: Alabama Death Penalty

Section I: DEFINITIONS: Death Sentence- Shall be executed by lethal injection, unless the person sentenced to death affirmatively elects to be executed by electrocution or nitrogen hypoxia. The sentence shall be executed pursuant to **Section 15-18-82**. Jury-A body of people (typically twelve in number) sworn to give a verdict in a legal case on the basis of evidence submitted to them in court.

SECTION II: PROPOSITION:Alabama still allows a judge to impose a death sentence without a unanimous jury recommendation for death if at least 10 of 12 jurors recommend a death sentence. It should be required that a jury votes unanimously to sentence someone to the death penalty in the state of Alabama.

Section III: CONSEQUENCES: If anyone shall commit a crime worthy of the death penalty and a jury votes unanimously, then they must accept their punishment willfully, only in the instance where the punishment is reasonable. A change in the method of execution shall not increase the punishment or modify the penalty of death for capital murder. Any legislative change to the method of execution for the crime of capital murder shall not violate **Section 22** of Article I of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

Section IV: OVERSIGHT

The Alabama Law Enforcement Agency, Alabama Legislature, and people of Law Enforcement will oversee the implementation and oversight of this bill.

SECTION V: SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

SECTION VI: ENACTMENT CLAUSE

This act to become effective upon passage and approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB69

Committee: C- Public Safety

Chamber: House

Delegation: Jefferson Davis

Author(s): James Gipson

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Get Rid of Abandoning Buildings

Section 1: Definitions

Abandoned - to leave behind or run away from someone or something, or to give up something:

Building - a structure with a roof and walls, such as a house, school, store, or factory.

Section 2: Bill Description

There are too many abandoned buildings in Alabama. I have come up with a resolution for this issue. There should be a use for buildings six months after their abandonment. If not, the building shall be demolished. There are plenty of businesses that need buildings. The government will work to distribute them and make it easier for people to acquire a building.

Section 3: Consequences

All owners that no longer use/want their buildings shall contact the government immediately. If the owner does not contact in a four-week period after the building is abandoned, the landlord shall receive a \$500 fee weekly. After four weeks the fine will increase to \$750.

Section 4: Funding

The funding will come from the Alabama General Fund.

Section 5:

All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section 6:

This act shall become effective IMMEDIATELY upon/after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB69

Committee: G-Education II

Chamber: House

Delegation: Jefferson Davis

Author(s): Marena Mitchell

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Gender-neutral Restrooms in Public Schools

Transgender students in K-12 are prohibited from using restrooms that align with their gender identity in the state of Alabama;

Whereas immediate consequences include a decline in the mental state of transgender youth and an increase in victimization and harassment;

Whereas a substantial number of transgender youth who weren't allowed to use restrooms aligned with their gender identity were sexually assaulted in studies.

Section 1: Definitions

- a. GENDER-NEUTRAL: a gender not associated with either sex (male or female).
- b. GENDER-NEUTRAL RESTROOM: a restroom that may be used by anyone of any (or no) gender
- c. PUBLIC SCHOOL: any school any part of whose buildings or facilities are, or have been, constructed using any amount of federal, state, or local money.

Section 2: New Construction

All public schools constructed after the effective date of this Act must include multi-stall gender-neutral restrooms.

Section 3: Old Buildings

(a) Renovation Required. Public schools constructed prior to the effective date of this Act must be renovated in such a manner as to include at least one multi-stall gender-neutral restroom.

(b) Renovation Plans. Local educational authorities (LEAs) must provide to the State Department of Education within 3 months of the passage of this Act a timeline providing for the reasonably timely renovation of public schools under their jurisdiction.

(c) Timeliness Requirements. The State Department of Education shall review LEA renovation plans for reasonable timeliness given the number of buildings under



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each LEA's authority and given the urgent necessity to comply with this Act.

(d) Deadlines. In no case shall the State Department of Education approve a renovation timeline that fails to comply with the requirements of this Act within 18 months of the effective date of this Act.

Section 4: Funding

The General Fund will allocate the funds necessary for this bill.

Section 5: Interpretation

(a) Nothing in this bill shall be construed to require solely gender-neutral restrooms.

(b) Separate restrooms for girls and boys may continue to be constructed in public schools, notwithstanding any provision of this Act.

Section 6: Repealer

All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section 7: Effective Date

This Act shall take effect after June 1, 2023.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB70

Committee: A-Transportation

Chamber: House

Delegation: LAMP

Author(s): Hojeong Yang

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Automated DMV registration

Section I: Definitions

Automated technology- Any device that can complete autonomous activities without continual human intervention or supervision is said to be automated. This is further defined as any and all computerized or automated technology having a non-human interface, including artificial intelligence (AI).

Section II: Proposal

Automated machines and technology will replace existing DMV workers.

Section III: Justification

As technology continues to improve and unlocks new opportunities, some jobs can be replaced by AI technologies. Average wait time at Alabama DMV is almost 1 hour. With stressed and overworked workers, we can see the frustration between the workers and the registrants. With automated technology replacing over stressed and overworked workers, it can significantly reduce the waiting time for the registrants. Another benefits of AI machines is it can be more efficient and accessible to more people, such as immigrants.

Section IV: Consequences

With AI technology replacing government workers many people would wonder where the replaced government workers will go. We will implement jobless government workers to other government departments that is understaffed, such as the Department of Human Resources where they are heavily understaffed and need workers desperately.

Section IV: Funding

To fund this bill we will subsidize \$10 million to tech/AI companies that produces and train AI devices to implement them into DMV stations.

Section V: Enforcement

The Alabama Department of Motor Vehicles, the Alabama Department of Transportation, and the Alabama Department of Human Resources shall jointly oversee the implementation of this legislation.

Section VI: Severance

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment

This bill will take effect on July 1, 2023



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YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB71

Committee: G - Education II

Chamber: House

Delegation: Jefferson Davis

Author(s): Lawrence Kemp

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Trade Schools in Foster Care

Section I: Definitions

trade school - an educational institution designed to train students for a specific job in a skilled trade

Section II: Proposition

The purpose of this bill is to allow all teenagers in foster care from the ages of 16 to 18 access to trade schools.

Section III: Justification

The chances of a teen in foster care being adopted from the ages of 13-18 is less than 10%. While quite a few public schools in the state give access to trades schools, most foster care teens attend on-site schools at their care facility. By allowing them into trade schools it gives them an opportunity to choose a skill and career path that interests them. They will also have a better chance of getting a job so they will not have to rely on someone else to provide for them, or in the worst case scenario end up homeless. This bill will increase the amount of jobs in the state while also decreasing homelessness by giving people who leave foster care an opportunity to support themselves.

Section IV: Funding

This bill's enactment will be paid for with government funds.

Section V: Conflication

All laws or parts in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section VI: Enactment

This bill shall go into effect January 1, 2024, upon its enactment and approval by the governor otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB72

Committee: D - Environment

Chamber: House

Delegation: Davidson

Author(s): Christina Trinh

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Modernizing Democracy and Voter Registration Act

Preamble: Whereas Alabama experiences record low voter turnout rates of 38% for the general election and 13% for the primary election; the cumbersome voter registration process has increased voter apathy and undermined a well-functioning democracy that hinges on political participation; be it resolved to enact the following provisions to be detailed further in the sections of this bill.

Section I: Definitions

Public Assistance Office: a state or county office for a program to provide public assistance and government aid, typically in the form of social welfare or social insurance

Voter Eligibility: the requirements set forth in a political subdivision for being able to register to vote

Voter Registration: the process whereby citizens register with election officials to become eligible to vote

Voter Roll: the list of actively registered voters who can vote in an upcoming election within a particular jurisdiction

Section II:

All public assistance offices shall electronically transmit consumers' identifying information to the appropriate state or local election official and voter registration databases 14 days after an interaction with the office. Such transmission of information is more resource and cost-effective than the traditional paper registration provided at such offices that are already required by the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to offer voter registration opportunities.



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Section III:

After an interaction, the office shall mail each individual a notice that they will be registered to vote, lest they choose to respond and opt-out within 14 days of the interaction. In affiliating, election officials shall create a new voting record, reregister, and/or update voter records and rolls for the individual. Electronic automation will contribute to the accuracy of records, which is crucial to orderly and secure elections.

Section IV:

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or any provisions of it are hereby repealed.

Section V:

This act shall go into effect throughout the state within 90 days upon its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law



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YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB73

Committee: D-Health

Chamber: House

Delegation: Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Madhumita Ravikumar

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title The Institution of Universal Background Checks and Mental Health Screenings for Firearm Transactions

Section 1: Definitions

Firearm: Any weapon which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive

Background Check: Verification of an individual's identity and criminal record

Mental Health Screening: An assessment to determine the presence of symptoms of any kind of mental health disorder

Private dealer: Any firearm dealer who is not federally licensed

Section 2: Proposal

- (1) Grant Alabama a point-of-contact (POC) status for access to the National Instant Background Check System (NICS) in order to conduct more effective background checks when dealing firearms
- (2) Give federally licensed and private firearm dealers access to the NICS database
- (3) Require both federally licensed and private firearm dealers to conduct background checks through the NICS database and mental health screenings on buyers before transactions
- (4) Mental health screenings should be done by licensed medical professionals
- (5) Businesses not in accordance with this law will face a minimum fine of \$700

Section 3: Justification

- (1) As of right now 1,149 people have died from gun violence in America. 489 of these deaths were caused by murder, unintentional harm, etc. 660 of these deaths were suicide. Around 46 percent of people who commit suicide had a known mental health condition during their lifetime. Access to the NICS database and mental health screenings will prevent individuals who may be a danger to themselves or others from procuring a firearm



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(2) Around one in five firearm transactions occur without a background check, which is around 20 percent of purchases. This equates to millions of Americans buying millions of guns without a second glance at prior convictions. Universal background checks could reduce violence by identifying prohibited purchasers and preventing potential violence and crimes.

Section 4: Funding

(1) In order to fund this program, the state of Alabama will enforce an excise tax of 25 cents on the purchase of e-cigarettes.

Section 5: Severance

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section 6: Enactment

This bill will be enacted after being signed into law and at the start of the next year



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YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB74

Committee: C - Public Safety

Chamber: House

Delegation: Ramsay

Author(s): Brielle Ballard and JaKeria Clopton

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Permit-less Carry Repeal

Section I

1. a) Firearm: any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; (b) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; (c) any firearm muffler or firearm silencer. Such a term does not include an antique firearm.

Section II: PROPOSITION

The "Permitless Carry" law should be repealed for all persons in the state of Alabama, except those exempted.

Section III: CONSEQUENCES

Up to three months in prison and/or \$500 in fines

Section IV: OVERSIGHT

The Alabama Law Enforcement Agency will oversee the implementation and oversight of this bill.

Section V Severability Clause

All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section VI Enactment Clause

Shall become effective six months after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law



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YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB75

Committee: G- Education II

Chamber: House

Delegation: Hoover High School

Author(s): Chloe Parchman

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Providing Feminine Hygiene Products in School bathrooms

Section I: DEFINITIONS

Feminine Hygiene products- Personal Care products used during menstruation; includes sanitary napkins and tampons.

Qualifying schools- Schools that meet the following criteria

- a. Provides education to grades 5 through 12
- b. Receives title I funding

HB-50- Alabama law that states qualifying schools will receive federal funds for menstruation products and must provide them through a counselor or nurse.

Title 1 funding- an established grant program directed at low income students for benefit of financial support concerning education.

Aunt FLOW- A movement that provides funding to fight for legislation in states regarding free feminine products.

Section II: PROPOSAL

Be it enacted by the Alabama Youth Legislature, this bill would require all Alabama school systems to provide easily accessible menstruation products in every woman's bathroom.

Section III: JUSTIFICATION

Period Poverty is labeled as a public health crisis by the national institute of health. Providing feminine hygiene products increases school attendance by 2.4%. Studies show 1 in 5 girls leave school due to lack of products and other menstruation related issues. Menstrual health is commonly ignored as are other female medical needs in present day times. There is no reason during 2022, girls should ever feel out of options when surprised with their cycle or when running out of products. Women are attempting to get an education and miss out on assignments and lessons because of schools overlooking these issues. I personally went around Hoover High school and received over 300 signatures supporting my bill. Women want



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to feel heard. Passing this bill would be about more than just menstruation, it would inform girls statewide, that their legislator cares about their needs and necessities.

Section IV: SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

There are no current laws that prevent my bill from passing. Alabama HB-50 actually supports my bill and has a similar intention. I am attempting to improve a law that is already in place and make it more realistically effective.

Section V: Funding

The state superintendent of education is currently required to annually comprise the total amount of federal funding and allocate grant rewards. Based on the total number of female students at each school they are to provide federal funding for menstruation products under the clause of the HB50 law. The funding for my bill is already in place and being given to schools. The problem is that schools are not required to use them in a helpful way. Line 21 of this law states students must receive these products through a nurse or school counselor. This makes accessing products extremely difficult because during emergencies how is a student expected to walk to the office? The products are not readily available and therefore this grant money is not benefiting girls the way it was intended to. Overflow funds not spent in one year will remain with the department for use in the following year.

Section VI: CONSEQUENCES

The passing of this bill will result in cooperation from girls statewide to not take advantage of the readily available products. Similar programs were implemented at Stanford University through the funding program Aunt FLOW, 86% of girls only used the products during emergencies and reported the effectiveness of the products being right there in the bathroom. One student described the products as "life saving". This bill will actually affect lives!

Section VII: ENACTMENT

This bill will be enacted 90 days following passage unless otherwise specified by the Governor.



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YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB77

Committee: D-Health

Chamber: House

Delegation: Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Sandar Htwe

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title The Alabama Psychedelic Assisted Therapy and Research Act of 2023

Section 1: Definitions

lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) - a synthetic chemical with hallucinogenic properties

Psychedelic-assisted therapy - the use of psychedelics practiced under the guidance of a trained clinician. The clinician administers a controlled amount of a psychoactive substance to induce a person into an altered state of mind/consciousness.

DMN - the part of the brain where the perceptions of selves are mostly curated, it is responsible for ruminating thoughts; People with conditions like depression, anxiety, ADHD, and

OCD have a DMN that is overactive.

MDMA - Methylenedioxymethamphetamine, commonly seen in tablet form and crystal form, is a potent empathogen-entactogen with stimulant properties primarily used for recreational purposes.

Psilocybin - the psychoactive compound in magic mushrooms

Section 2: Proposal

- (1) The psychedelics will be used for therapeutic purposes to help people with PTSD, depression, and anxiety.
- (2) A 2015 study found out that psilocybin-assisted therapy showed a decrease in drinking and reduced alcohol cravings.
- (3) Psychedelic Assisted Therapy has a goal to help people with PTSD, depression, and anxiety. It will help PTSD patients with facing their trauma in a healthy way.
- (4) There are clinical trials that demonstrate the long-term efficacy in the use of psychedelics to treat PTSD. A study found 54% of their patients not finding the criteria for following-up treatment. 23% of the participants no longer needed a follow-up.



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Psychedelics will be administered safely for a result like this one to help people with PTSD face their trauma.

(5) There will be guidelines that the clinician will be required to follow to administer the substances.

(1) Therapists should have training and a certificate in psychedelic-assisted therapy and be certified by a professional organization.

(2) Therapists must have Professional liability insurance.

(3) Therapists must participate in continuing education programs to stay current on all new research.

(4) Therapists must adhere to the ethical standards of the profession.

(5) Therapists should have access to monitoring and supervision from other medical professionals who are experts in the field of psychedelic-assisted therapy.

(6) The use and possession of psychedelics will not be available to people with no certification in psychedelic-assisted therapy. They have to be trained in that area to be able to possess and administer the substances.

Section 3: Justification

(1) There should be more options for people with depression, PTSD, or anxiety to explore. In the state of Alabama the drug laws are strict. Therefore many citizens suffering from disorders do not have many options to treat their disorders. Psychedelic-assisted therapy can and will be able to help people with illnesses and behavioral disorders

(2) Self-treatment will not be legal. The use of psychedelics has to be under the supervision of a licensed clinician. The clinician will be administering the amount of substance that will enter the body of the patient.

(3) The results of all the studies can make it to the FDA (Food and Drug Administration) by next year or later this year.

(4) Without a patient's consent, clinics will not be able to disclose any information from their patient to help further research.

(5) There are therapeutic benefits of using psychedelics. There are numerous studies that confirm the high efficacy of treating disorders like depression, PTSD, and anxiety.

(6) Expanding research on psychedelics for illnesses and disorders help develop new treatments for a wide variety of psychiatric and behavioral disorders to tailor the specific needs of individual patients.

Section 4: Funding

(1) For funding the NIH (National Institute of Health) will provide a grant for the opening of clinics. A Federal Grant will also be administered for the training of clinicians and other healthcare workers.

(2) With a mix of federal funds psychedelic research will be more equitable and inclusive.



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(3) For government funding, the state government could allocate funds from the state budget to support the implementation of psychedelic-assisted therapy. This could include the funding for training and the development and maintenance of a regulatory framework for the therapy.

Section 5: Severance

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section 6: Enactment

This bill will be enacted upon being signed into law/upon earning a majority vote in both the House of Representatives and the Senate and approval of the president.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB78

Committee: G - Education II

Chamber: House

Delegation: Carver High School

Author(s): Lauren Sanders

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title The Fine Arts Bill

Section 1: Definitions

Fine Arts - The fine arts are parts of life that generally call for highly advanced methods and skills. They can refer to music, painting, and sculpture. Fine arts are presently described as anything that takes skill to do.

Creativity - The use of the imagination or original ideas, especially in the production of an artistic work.

Section 2 : Purpose : This bill will add the arts such as art, music, theater, and ect. into the curriculum for high school students.

Section 3 - Each high school will be required to have at least 1 class dealing in the fine arts.

Section 4- These new teachers will be employed by the schools and the school system.

Section 5: financing : The financing will come from the general fund budget for education.

Section 6 - effective date : The bill will be put into place August 2024. This will give the school system time to find teachers and places for them to have the class.

Section 7: Severability clause: All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby



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YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB79

Committee: D - Environment

Chamber: House

Delegation: UMS-Wright

Author(s): Will Kittrell

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Delta Rescue Act

Section I: Definitions

EPA: Environmental Protection

CCR: Coal Combustion Residual Rules-EPA requirements for the disposal of coal ash

ADEM: Alabama Department of Environmental Management

Coal Ash: Any Residual byproduct of the combustion of coal

James M. Barry Electrical Generating Plant: Coal and natural gas electrical generation facility in Mobile County

Section II: Proposal

If carried out as intended, the Delta Rescue Act will protect the Mobile-Tensaw River Delta from coal ash from the James M. Barry Electrical Generating Plant and outline regulations needed to protect the local environment. These regulations will limit environmental degradation due to coal ash and protect public health, local ecology, and tourism for the Alabama Gulf Coast.

Section III: Justification

Under current EPA regulations, coal ash storage must be stored safely away from groundwater in landfills or recycled; however, coal ash from the Barry power plant currently resides in an unlined pond just a few feet from the Mobile River. This irresponsible and dangerous storage of coal ash allows for toxic pollutants like mercury, arsenic, and lead to seep into the groundwater and the nearby river. Over 21 million tons of coal ash sit upstream of Mobile Bay and, subsequently, the Gulf of Mexico, posing environmental, economic, and health risks to residents of Mobile and Baldwin Counties. Furthermore, the Mobile-Tensaw River Delta is prone to environmental



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disasters from floods, hurricanes, and frequent rainfall that make the likelihood of leaks from coal ash ponds alarmingly probable. A major breach of Plant Barry coal ash ponds into the environment will cause irreparable damage to one of the country's most biodiverse regions while damaging the statewide and local economies.

Section IV: Consequences

The Delta Rescue Act will allocate the funds needed to remove and safely secure the coal ash from Plant Barry. All removed coal ash will be transported to inland landfills, where all dumping sites will be properly lined to prevent toxic pollutants from being exposed to surrounding areas. The removal will continue over the next ten years, starting from the highest-risk coal ponds and moving inland.

Section V: Enforcement

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management will oversee the entire removal and relocation process of Plant Barry Coal Ash by monitoring the air, soil, and water qualities of the Mobile-Tensaw River regions as well as the new landfill sites. The ADEM will be responsible for contracting the removal and will apply the waste standards of Plant Barry uniformly throughout the state; however, any additional major waste excavation like the one outlined in the Delta Rescue Act will have to be reviewed and voted upon by the Alabama Youth Legislature.

Section VI: Payment

Coal Severance rate taxes in Alabama will be raised from \$0.35 per ton to \$0.50 per ton to allow for the financing and contracting of coal ash removal services by the ADEM. Additionally, the ADEM will be allocated 40 million dollars from the nearly 500 million dollars of federal aid for clean energy in Alabama. Additionally, 10% of all budget surpluses in the Alabama State Budget will be used in efforts to remove and relocate coal ash from Plant Barry in the next ten years.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor or its otherwise becoming law.



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YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26,2023

Delegate Bill #HB80

Committee: C- Public Safety

Chamber: House

Delegation: Ramsay

Author(s): Tyra Davis

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Alabama Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force Additions

Section 1: Definitions:

Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force: The Task Force serves as a collaborative multidisciplinary body aimed at coordinating anti-human trafficking efforts across local, state, and federal levels. It is a communication hub, drawing together the state and regional coalitions and providing direction, consistent messaging, and sharing of best practices.

Human Trafficking: the unlawful act of transporting or coercing people in order to benefit from their work or service, typically in the form of forced labor or sexual exploitation.

Physical Defense Mechanisms: unconscious psychological responses that protect people from threat or harm to their body.

Trauma: an emotional response to a terrible event like an accident, rape, or natural disaster.

Section 2: Proposal:

In retrospect to the Texas Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force, Alabama should add items listed to the Alabama Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force. Services will be as stated: classes with self defense training experts, finance aid, psychologist and therapy sessions, trauma informed organizational self assessment, and focused self career paths.

Section 3:Justification:

The Alabama Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force was instituted for the response of the rise of human trafficking across the United States and laws impacting trafficking prosecutions, investigations, and service provisions for victims. The structure of the program is to rebuild a relationship with a community and self-act activism in victims in human trafficking. The program

is used to expand the network of local and regional efforts focused on educating the public to



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recognize human trafficking, identifying victims and directing them to services, and ensuring traffickers are effectively investigated and prosecuted throughout the state. The program would also focus on people that have been through sex trafficking and provide services to help them through their trauma that they have experienced. The activities would give victims the opportunities to grow and get acclimated to society. The appropriate interventions can help to achieve long term stability and permanency, and greater well-being for the victims of human trafficking.

Section 4: Consequences:

It would allow the state of Alabama to grow their Human Trafficking Task Force to help victims through their trauma. It would give the tools for victims to mentally and spiritually grow into a better person instead of a person who will retaliate against another person. With these new changes we can be allowed to grow better as a community and act in the best interest of the victims.

Section 5: Enforcement:

The Alabama Attorney General's Office is over the program as it was implemented by 2014 House of Representatives Representative Jack Williams.

Section 6: Funding:

The Alabama Department of Criminal Justice and the Alabama District Attorney's Office will fund the program like it was set in the bill in 2014.

Section 7: Conflicting Laws:

The bill will be overridden as soon as the governor signs it into fruition.

Section 8: Enactment:

This bill shall be in production immediately after its passage and approval by the governor and its otherwise becoming law



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YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB81

Committee: E - Health II

Delegation: Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Maryam Kazamel

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Bettering Mental Health for Foster Children 2022

Section 1: Definitions

Foster Child refers to a minor child who has been taken into state custody and placed with a state-licensed adult, who cares for the child in place of their parent or guardian.

Therapy refers to intensive professional, psychological, psychiatric, or other counseling-related treatment.

Mental Illness is a diagnosable mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder.

Therapist refers to a person who holds a valid license issued pursuant to Alabama statute or is certified or registered by the appropriate body to practice and who has completed the approved educational curriculum.

Section 2: Proposal

Foster children in the state of Alabama can receive therapy treatments once a week, free of charge for them as well as their foster parents. The option for group therapy with other family members will also be available. The therapy will be administered by licensed therapists at public hospitals and practices.

Section 3: Justification

Children and teens entering foster care have already had many traumatic experiences that have adversely affected their well-being. In foster care, ongoing uncertainty, multiple losses and transitions can further erode a child's or teen's sense of self and overall health. Additionally, Children in foster care often struggle with issues of trust, attachment, and anxiety. It is estimated that up to 80 percent of the over 400,000 children in foster care in America suffer from a mental health issue compared to 18-22 percent of the general population of children. Youth exiting foster care shared that they often lacked strong and supportive relationships. In order to combat these issues, proper attention should be given to the mental health of foster



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children.

Section 4: Funding

Money from the General Fund appropriation for the Department of Mental Health, which has a budget of 183 million dollars, can be used to fund the program.

Section 5: Severance

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section 6: Enactment

This bill will be enacted after being signed into law and at the start of the next fiscal year.



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YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB82

Committee: B-Judicial

Chamber: House

Delegation: Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Thomas Patton

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title A Bill to Repeal The Anti-Road Rage Bill

Section 1: Definitions

Anti-Road Rage Bill refers to Alabama Code Title 32. Motor Vehicles and Traffic § 32-5A-80, a law which makes driving in the left lane of an interstate highway for more than 1 ½ miles without passing another vehicle illegal.

Driver An operator of a motor vehicle.

Road Rage A fit of anger exhibited by a driver caused by stress from road conditions.

Law Enforcement The agencies and employees who are responsible for managing public safety, enforcing laws, and protecting the public order.

Section 2: Proposal

- 1) Repeal Alabama's Anti-Road Rage Bill.
- 2) Law Enforcement agents will continue operations as prior to the passage of the Anti-Road Rage Bill.

Section 3: Justification

- 1) The Anti-Road Rage Bill has been misapplied and exploited by bad actors within Alabama. According to John Archibald's report of Brookside on AL.com, 25 to 30% of defendants in Brookside's traffic court faced dubious left lane violations. This law has been subject to abuse because of the difficulty to objectively determine if violations have occurred. This is because it is difficult to measure 1 ½ miles on the interstate, given varying traffic, weather, and road conditions. Despite its exceptions, this bill can easily be abused to unjustly fine law-abiding Alabamians.
- 2) This bill encourages risky driver behavior by arbitrarily requiring drivers to pass within 1 ½ miles. While there are exceptions they are subjective and may be applied differently depending on law enforcement's perception of traffic congestion, road construction,



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and inclement weather.

3) The Anti-Road Rage Act enforces cultural norms as opposed to safety-oriented traffic laws. Unlike running a red light or rolling a stop sign, driving in the left lane for more than 1 ½ miles without passing on the interstate will not risk injury or death of drivers.

4) The Anti-Road Rage Act enables further road rage by focusing law enforcement on those driving in the left-lane rather than those in a road-rage. Legislation should center responses on those in road-rage

Section 4: Funding

1) No source of funding will be necessary as this bill would only change existing law enforcement duties.

Section 5: Severance

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section 6: Enactment

This bill will be enacted after being signed into law and at the start of the next fiscal year.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB83

Committee: G - Education II

Chamber: House

Delegation: Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Abby Wehby

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Free School Lunch

Section 1: definitions

Student aid refers to the services provided to students who are of low income and need basic necessities.

Education is the process of providing similar instruction to a group of people. Education levels among schools are improved when students are healthy.

Section 2: proposal

- 1) Every student attending a public school in Alabama should have access to free lunch during school hours. Access to free lunch will ensure the nourishment of every student, improving school performance, making students feel safer, and more welcomed at school.
- 2) Students will be able to purchase school lunches for reduced or no price during lunch blocks at public high schools. The cost of school lunches will be paid for by state income tax dollars contributing to public schools from taxpayers living in the district, as well as donations and benefactors of the schools. The majority of public high schools in Alabama adopted a free lunch policy in the years following the outbreak of COVID-19 due to a federal grant. These policies helped mitigate any financial issues among families brought about by the pandemic by ensuring that their students will be fed and safe at school. This free lunch plan ended with the new school year in August of 2022. A reduced lunch plan is still offered to some students that apply and meet the criteria.
- 3) After the end of the free lunch plan in 2022, parents had to reapply to enroll their students in reduced and free lunch plans. In the 2019-2020 school year, about 1.2 million students were eligible and enrolled in the free lunch program in Alabama and 12 other U.S. states. 50% of students in Alabama were eligible for free or reduced lunches in these same years.



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4) Households that receive Medicaid, Alabama SNAP, and Alabama TANF are eligible for free lunch plans in Alabama. Children in the foster care system, migrant children, and other individual extreme factors can certify a child for the current free and reduced lunch program in Alabama.

Section 3: justification

- (1) Nearly $\frac{1}{3}$ students skip meals daily due to financial circumstances.
- (2) Many students benefited from the federal free lunch grant after COVID-19, and since that grant was taken away in August of 2022, not all students have been able to get lunch. In 2021, 98.9% of lunches were served free according to the US Department of Agriculture of Economic Research Service
- (3) High school students buying lunch daily pay about \$450 per school year for just an entrée of school lunch. This is a financial burden to households who are on the brink of being able to receive reduced lunch plans. Taking away this issue entirely will provide great relief to all Alabama households.

Section 4: funding

- (1) This program will be funded by local, state, and federal tax dollars. Funding can be derived from the Alabama Child Nutrition Program and income tax dollars that already go to public school funding. Benefactors for public schools can also be proposed the idea and asked for contributions to help enact the law.
- (2) Schools in lower income areas will receive state and federal funding if the law is passed.

Section 5: severance

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section 6: enactment

- 1) If a majority is voted in the state legislature and approved by the governor, the bill will become effective immediately and provide free lunches to all Alabama students attending public schools. School board members and public school officials will work together to enact this law and provide funding to allow the insurance of nourishment for all students within the school day



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB84

Committee: C- Public Safety

Chamber: House

Delegation: Saint James

Author(s): Alex Ruona

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Alabama Background Checks Act

Section I: Definitions

- FFL - Federal Firearms Licensee; A licensed firearms dealer with a state license to sell and distribute firearms.
- NICS - National Instant Criminal Background Check System; centralized catalog of records comprising three separate national databases containing information about individuals' criminal, mental health histories, and any civil orders entered against them.
- POC - Point of Contact; A person or department that can be approached for information or assistance on a Specific topic.

Section II: Proposition

This bill will enact a mandatory universal NICS background check upon a buyer prior to the transaction of a firearm(private sale or via FFL) to ensure the validation and eligibility of said buyer and exchange.

Section III: Justification

Federal law requires a background check for millions of buyers willing to purchase a firearm through a licensed dealer. Although the federal government does not require a background check during a private transaction. Fourteen states have mandated universal background checks on all firearms transactions. The state of Alabama is not one of those fourteen. The state of Alabama and all other states not implemented with the universal background checks have an exportation of criminal firearms rate of 30% more than those with universal background checks. Furthermore, 80% of all firearms acquired for criminal purposes are obtained via transaction from unlicensed sellers. 96% of inmates convicted of firearm offenses who were already prohibited from possessing a firearm at the time of the offense obtained their gun from an unlicensed seller. According to the FBI, in 2022 alone, 31,596,646 background checks have been conducted for the transaction for firearms. Only 16% of that total were conducted in states with universal background checks. Alabama processed 739,113 potential buyers of the year 2022, excluding any exchanges of private sales.(Note: the amount of checks is not correlated with the amount of firearms during a single transaction) This bill does not infringe the 2nd amendment and the right of the people to bear arms. The 2nd amendment of the constitution Guarantees "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.". Although a collective rights theory of the Second Amendment asserts that



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citizens do not have an individual right to possess guns and that local, state, and federal legislative bodies therefore possess the authority to regulate firearms without implicating a constitutional infringement. With all of these facts and statistics, it is clear that this bill will benefit society to ensure safety and security through unlicensed dealers. It is important to provide safety to the public by restricting convicted criminals the ability to access firearms. Given the dire significance of mass shootings and gradual increase in gun violence in the United States, it is time Alabama starts to move towards the solution of this problem and not a cause.

Section IV: Consequences/conflicts

This bill will establish little to no interference among the state of Alabama, with 90% of both gun owners and non-gun owners supporting this policy. The average electronic processing NICS-check takes less than 2 minutes, 107 seconds to be precise. Be it the state of Alabama is a non-POC(Point of Contact) state, the FBI withholds responsibility among enforcement of the act and its regulation of background checks of the state of Alabama. With the concern of falsely denied transaction and enforcement, any person who believes he/she was wrongfully denied may challenge or appeal the denial.

Section V: Enforcement

This bill will be enforced by state law in regards to connected bills and The Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms' currently enacted regulations. State regulations and procedures per universal background checks will be implemented from the currently established guidelines and laws within states with universal background checks.

Section VI: Severability Clause

All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act or provisions of this are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Effective date/Enactment

This bill ought to become effective on January 1st, 2024 after its effective passage and approval by the governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2022

April 22, 2022

Delegate Bill # HB85

Committee: A- Transportation

Chamber: House

Delegation: Spain Park High School

Author(s): JeTia Samples

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Extend Our Voting Rights

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section 1: • Motor Voter- Provides for three voter registration programs that allows you to register to vote when you apply for your state license or identification card.

- Voting Pre-Registration- Only lets 18 years pre registration for voting
- Constituents- a voting member of a community or organization and has the power to appoint or elect.

Section 2: Sixteen and Seventeen year olds are ready to vote. This bill proposes to lower the opportunity to vote. Lowering the voting age will give opportunities in the youth to express their civic and their significance in the country or state. This bill will propose to letting 16 and 17 year olds also vote in their local elections. The youth is affected by their living communities. This bill helps 16 and 17 year olds having the option to vote.

Section 3: We as citizen need to make voting a habit. A small number of votes often decides issues or a candidate. There are huge consequences when a citizen do not use their voice and vote. Voting is how Americans control their lives and hold elected officials more accountable. This was a major founding principle of our country. Studies have shown that to make something a habit it is better to start young. Since we need to make voting a habit it is better to start at the age 16 than 18 years old. We as a nation need to start valuing the younger generation. It is very critical for one to ensure those whose futures that is more impacted have a chance to express their voices. 16 and 17 year old are huge advocates for our country and have made a tremendous impact for our nation. When one turn sixteen, they are able to get a official license that is provided by your state and is more able to get a job. When you get a job you have to pay federal income tax at any age. One is also more likely to get tried as an adult for crime. If 16 and 17 year olds are able to pay a income tax, in a sense it would be fair to let them vote. Bringing more young citizens into the reach of their government will push their government into hearing their voices. The youth is affected by local political issues just like the older generation. 16 and 17 year old should have to right to vote on issues that effect on a local level. Passing this bill would also increase the youth education in civic. By the time at the 17, one will be taking or taken a civic class. The youth will already have a civic education but getting to play a role into it will also increase civic engagement. Empowering the young generation will improve our democracy. The youth having a voice is what will make a communities, government and local officials stronger. The youth will see that in order to have change, you must use your voice and vote. This bill will not hurt our democracy but will make it stronger.

After the bill is passed, citizens will obviously see that 16 and 17 year olds have the change. Once the bill is passed, 16 and 17 year olds will have to OPTION to vote. There will be many consequences to this bill due to other citizens overlooking the knowledge of a teenager

Section 4: This bill will actually bring in more funding. The more population the more money

Section 5: This bill will override all conflicting laws. This bill will help expand the 24th amendment.

Section 6: This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor and to be considered into a presidency election

Section 7:

Section 8:



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB86

Committee: A-Commerce

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Mary Raines Alexander and Ann Wright Carlson

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title The Grocery Tax Elimination Act

Section I: Definitions

Household food items: Fruits, vegetables, and other household necessities Low income: Households with income of 19,000 or lower per year

Alabama Education Trust Fund budget: Budget used to show the amount of money available for the development of public schools and other educational activities within Alabama

Section II: Background

Grocery taxes in Alabama add an additional tax of 4% on grocery items within Alabama, creating unnecessary burdens on low income households. In some Alabama cities, grocery taxes are double that. In Tuscaloosa, the grocery tax is 10 percent due to additional county taxes. Alabama has one of the highest food insecurity rates; therefore, by eliminating grocery tax on household food items, impoverished Alabamians would not have to make such harsh sacrifices in order to put food on the dinner table.

Section III: Proposition

Once enacted, this bill would eliminate the 4% tax on grocery food items, not including: alcoholic beverages, supplements, prepared food, drugs, tobacco, or over-the-counter drugs. However, local governments may retain current, varying sales taxes on food but not place any new, additional sales taxes on food.

Section IV: Justification

The current Alabama grocery tax is a regressive policy that targets low-income households with an unnecessary burden upon their income. With the increased inability to support each mouth at the table, food insecurity becomes rampant. According to a recent research study, Alabama has the fifth highest rate of food insecurity, and with the elimination of the 4% grocery tax within Alabama, the presence of food insecurity within Alabama is estimated to drop by 3.2%.

No family should have to place their health and hunger below or a carton of milk above rent payments. The grocery tax is negligent of the majority of Alabama residents living in unstable, targeted environments where food, a basic necessity, is a luxury. An unfortunate irony arises when the money collected from the grocery tax is meant to fund the Education Trust Fund, yet the grocery tax itself fails to allow young children of lower-income families to grow, or live a healthy, stable life.

While a 4% tax might seem minute to those of higher socioeconomic standings, the grocery tax can amount to \$700 a year for some, money that Alabamians have no control nor basic authority over. Thus, it imposes a harsh reality of health sacrifices and volatile living situations for many Alabama citizens.

Section V: Implementation

With the elimination of the grocery tax, there would be a reduction in revenue directed to the Alabama Education Trust Fund budget; therefore, in order to replenish the budget, the State could reduce expenditures within the Alabama Education Trust Fund budget that are not directly related to education, such as: Motorsports Hall of fame, Black Belt Adventures, Black Belt Treasures, Sports Hall of Fame, the Alabama Sports Festival, the Alabama Sports Council, Alabama Civil Air Patrol, Alabama Trails Commission, etc. dependent upon the consultation of the state.

Additionally, expenditures within the States general fund budget spent on Alabama public health and healthcare might decrease as well with an increase in accessibility to more nutritious foods in low- income households.

Section VI: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment Clause

This bill will become effective on the first day of the following year upon its enactment and approval by the Governor or otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #HB88

Committee: C-Public Safety

Chamber: House

Delegation: Ramsay

Author(s): Jakeria Clopton

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Firearm Safety Act

Section I: DEFINITIONS:

Firearm: Any weapon which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive excluding an antique firearm.

SECTION II: PROPOSITION:

Prior to purchasing or acquiring a firearm, unless exempted, you must have a valid Firearm Safety Certificate (FSC), which is valid for 5 years.

The exemptions being:

- (1) Any active or honorably retired peace officer.
- (2) Any active or honorably retired federal officer or law enforcement agent.
- (3) Except as provided in subdivision (d), a person to whom a firearm is being returned, where the person receiving the firearm is the owner of the firearm.
- (4) Any individual who has a valid concealed weapons permit issued [...].
- (5) An active or honorably retired member of the United States Armed Forces, the National Guard, the Air National Guard, or the active reserve components of the United States, where individuals in those organizations are properly identified. For purposes of this section, proper identification includes the Armed Forces Identification Card or other written documentation certifying that the individual is an active or honorably retired member.

The test shall cover, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) The laws applicable to carrying and handling firearms, particularly handguns.
- (2) The responsibilities of ownership of firearms, particularly handguns.
- (3) Current law as it relates to the private sale and transfer of firearms.
- (4) Current law as it relates to the permissible use of lethal force.
- (5) What constitutes safe firearm storage.
- (6) Issues associated with bringing a firearm into the home, including suicide.
- (7) Prevention strategies to address issues associated with bringing firearms into the home.



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You must pass the 30-question test with a score of at least 75% (23 correct answers) and will immediately receive the certificate. If you fail the test, you have to wait 24 hours to retake it.

Section III: CONSEQUENCES

If you purchase or acquire a firearm without a valid FSC will be fined no less than 1000 and up to 10,000 dollars and/or up to 6 months of imprisonment. If you sell or give someone a gun without checking for a FSC will receive a fine of no less than 5000 dollars and up to 15,000 dollars.

Section IV: OVERSIGHT

The Alabama Law Enforcement Agency will oversee the implementation and oversight of this bill.

SECTION V: SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

SECTION VI: ENACTMENT CLAUSE

This act is to become effective on January 1st, 2024, upon passage and approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB90

Committee: D- Health

Delegation: Ramsay

Author(s): Karmin Matthews

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title No Penalty for menstrual-related issues

Section I

Menstrual Cycle- A series of natural changes in hormone productions and the structures of the uterus and ovaries of the female productive system

Female- The sex that can bear offspring or produce eggs

Section II

A job or state public school can't just punish a cis woman for days or leaving early or late due to menstrual cycle-related issues. If the woman is of working age, then she should be justly compensated for that day's work.

Section III

If a job or school unjustly punishes a woman for a proven menstrual issue, then they will have to pay a fine of up to 500 dollars. The woman also deserves the right to sue for discrimination.

If a school or job gets up to 3 fines in one calendar year then they will have to be fined by the state for up to \$10,000

Section IV

The EEOC (Equal Employment Opportunity Commission) shall oversee this law unless taken to a higher state authority.

FIRST YEAR BILLS

SPECIAL ORDER CALENDAR

These bills have been selected by the leadership to skip the Committee Process and be debated first in their Chamber. Debate will begin on these bills when Chambers convene on Friday. They are not assigned to a Committee. The patrons should report to Committee H.

F013 Designate Juneteenth as a State Holiday

Lulu Espy, Frances Fitzpatrick
Montgomery- Montgomery Academy

F026 Silenced by Time

Jaja Gancayco
Montgomery- Catholic

F031 North Birmingham Clean Air Act

Mekhiah Canady
Birmingham-Parker

The Regular Calendar will be distributed as soon as possible after Rules Committee and will be available from the Clerk/Secretary in each chamber.

FIRST YEAR COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE H COMMERCE

CHAIRPERSON JORDAN BELSER CO-CHAIRPERSON GRAHAM FOSTER
LOCATION: STATE HOUSE ROOM 324

COMMITTEE M PUBLIC SAFETY

CHAIRPERSON NAOH RUSHING CO-CHAIRPERSON DANIELLA NKOUDOU
LOCATION: STATE HOUSE ROOM 316

COMMITTEE N JUDICIAL

CHAIRPERSON PRESTON PHILLIPS CO-CHAIRPERSON DORI HANTOOSH
LOCATION: STATE HOUSE ROOM 325

COMMITTEE P EDUCATION

CHAIRPERSON ANNA DICKEY CO-CHAIRPERSON MCKENZIE BLACKLEDGE
LOCATION: STATE HOUSE ROOM 200

COMMITTEE Q HEALTH AND TRANSPORTATION

CHAIRPERSON SHARAIA CANADY CO-CHAIRPERSON KAREENA SINGH
LOCATION: STATE HOUSE ROOM 304

COMMITTEE R ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORTATION

CHAIRPERSON SAM EAGAN CO-CHAIRPERSON ANNA BETH FRAZIER
LOCATION: STATE HOUSE ROOM 320



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill # FY1

Committee: R- Commerce

Delegation: Cherokee County

Author(s): Jozalynn Woodall

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Living Wage Act

DEFINITIONS: Minimum wage - the lowest wage an employer is allowed to pay their employees.

SECTION 1: A minimum wage is NOT a living wage. It is the lowest amount an employer can legally pay. The real Living Wage is based on the cost of living. A living wage is one that would allow a person to afford basic needs, food, health care and transportation. Alabama's minimum wage, which matches the Federal minimum, is not enough to live on.

SECTION 2: The minimum wage will increase to \$15 an hour by 2027.

SECTION 3: To reach \$15 in four years, the minimum wage will be increased to \$9 2024; then it will increase by \$2 each year until 2027.

SECTION 4: Enforcement will be done by the Alabama Department of Labor in accordance with their standard practices. If investigators discover violations of the employment laws, they may recommend changes in business practices to bring an employer into compliance and/or employers who willfully or repeatedly violate the minimum wage will be subject to a civil money penalty.

SEVERABILITY CLAUSE: "All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed."

EFFECTIVE DATE: *"This act to become effective upon passage and approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law."*



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY2

Committee: R- Environment

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Mary Kate Brooks

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: No more Plastic Bags, and no more Pollution

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Pollution- the presence in or introduction into the environment of a substance or thing that has harmful or poisonous effects.
- Marine life- organisms that live in the saltwater of seas or oceans.
- Decompose- the process by which dead organic substances are broken down into simpler organic or inorganic matter.
- Compostable- able to be made into compost.
- Environment- the surroundings or conditions in which a person, animal, or plant lives or operates.

Section II: Proposal

This bill will ban plastic bags. All stores and etc. will have the option of no bags, reusable bags, compostable bags, etc.

Section III: Justification

This bill will reduce pollution in Alabama and increase marine life. Over 1 million marine animals die each year due to plastic debris in the ocean. Most birds mistake plastic bags for food, which can kill them. Alabama needs to do their part trying to prevent that from happening, starting with this bill. This bill will have us start using reusable bags and even compostable bags instead of plastic bags.

Compostable bags are made out of vegetable starches, wood pulp, lactic acid, or soy proteins. Which is much better for the environment. These bags take 10-45 days to decompose. Plastic bags take about 1,000 years to decompose. That's a huge difference. Alabama uses about 1,839,600,000 plastic bags each year. And all these bags still have 1,000 years to decompose? That's a huge problem, and all we are doing is making this problem worse. There are millions of plastic bags not decomposed just flying around. Most, end up in oceans. In fact, by 2050 oceans will carry more plastic mass than fish. The goal of This bill is to help stop that from happening. By replacing plastic bags in stores.

Stores will replace plastic bags with compostable bags and have an option of paper bags. There will also be an option to purchase a reusable bag. Which can benefit many people by taking the payment of the bags off the cost. This will also benefit the environment, especially if nothing is being thrown away and it is being used

constantly. This bill is one step closer to getting other states to stop using them too. This bill can help the environment and save marine animals.

Section IV: Consequences

This bill will show a decrease in pollution and an increase in the marine life population.

Section V: Enforcement

Stores will take out plastic bags and replace them with compostable bags and will start advertising reusable bags. The Alabama Department of Environmental Management will oversee its enforcement.

Section VI: Payment

Since this bill will be replacing plastic bags with compostable bags the built-in cost you pay for plastic bags will instead go to compostable bags. The reusable bags will be something you have to decide to buy separately.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill will become effective in 2028.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023 February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY3

Committee: R- Commerce

Chamber: First Year House

Delegation: Huntsville- Heart of the Valley

Author(s): Ricardo Andres Ramirez

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: End Predatory Car Title Loans

74th ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

December 9, 2022

Delegate Bill #

Committee: Finance

Delegation: Huntsville - YMCA Heart of the Valley

Author(s): Ricardo Andres and Jose Sandoval-Moran

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: End Predatory Car Title Loans

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

SECTION I: DEFINITIONS

Titles Loans: Title loans are when a borrower puts up an asset, such as a car. As collateral for financing.

Interest Rate: The proportion of a loan charged as interest of the borrower. Typically expressed as an annual percentage of the loan.

Repossession: The action of retaking possession of something, in particular when a buyer defaults on payments.

APR: (APR) is the cost you pay each year to borrow money, including fees, expressed as a percentage rate.

Collateral: something pledged as security for repayment of a loan, to be forfeited in the event of a default.

Usury-the illegal action or practice of lending money at unreasonably high rates of interest. Default- failure to fulfill an obligation, especially to repay a loan

Auction: a public sale in which goods or property are sold to the highest bidder.

SECTION II: PROPOSITIONS

Cap the interest rates on all consumer loans in Alabama at 25% APR. This would relieve significant financial pressure on borrowers with low incomes.

Currently if a title borrower defaults, the lender can simply take the car and sell it to get the money owed. This law would ensure borrowers get any amount received at auction beyond the loan amount owed. This would help limit Alabamians' financial damage from defaults and the resulting loss of a vehicle.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

SECTION III: JUSTIFICATION Many states such as Alabama with the lack of public transportation, a car is often the only way a person gets their basic needs done. Taking someone's car because they are unable to pay a loan means they can't drive to work, They can't drive to medical appointments. They can't drive to pick up their kids from school. Most states have realized that greedy title lenders are a major drain on the finances and well-being of their residents. Even in the states where the practice remains legal most borrowers are in safe hands but there is no protection to Alabama borrowers.

Reduce the allowable APR on title loans to 25%. This would Rate uniformity for small loans and help stop the worst abuses of borrowers.

SECTION IV: SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

Any laws or parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

SECTION V: ENACTMENT CLAUSE

This bill will become effective immediately upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY4

Committee: P- Education

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Catholic

Author(s): Campbell Webb

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Arts for Low Income Families/Students

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

TITLE: Arts for Low Income Families/Students

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

SECTION I: TERMS

Arts: Including, but not limited to: dance, drama, creative writing, painting, design, theater, music, poetry, ethnic art, film, etcetera.

Underprivileged: deprived through social or economic condition of some of the fundamental rights of all members of a civilized society

Community center: a place where people from a particular community can meet for social, educational, or recreational activities

Low-income individual: an individual whose family's taxable income for the preceding year did not exceed 150 percent of the poverty level amount

Citizen: a legally recognized individual of a state or commonwealth

SECTION II: PURPOSE

This ordinance will mandate an after school and work program at all community centers for the underprivileged citizens/families in the state of Alabama.

SECTION III: JUSTIFICATION

The focus of this arts program ordinance in all community centers of Alabama, will give adults and minors an opportunity to build experience in Fine Arts. In doing so, inspiring the low income families or citizens for a better future, job, and life, by giving them different experiences and a different perspective on jobs and/or opportunities. The federal poverty level for the state of Alabama is \$13,590 for an individual and \$27,750 for a family of four for 2023. Low income individuals may not be able to afford activities pertaining to the arts, by initiating this ordinance, low income citizens will experience the desired activities. Mayor Steven L. Reed has invested half a million dollars into reopening community centers in Montgomery alone. With half a million dollars going towards community centers, it could go towards the arts program ordinance as well. Fine art instructors (willing volunteers such as student outreach programs) will visit the community centers for different fine arts.

SECTION IV: FUNDING AND OVERSIGHT

This ordinance will put an arts program in all community centers across the state for the low income families and students. All the supplies, such as paper, paint, colored pencils, and more, will be provided by the willing volunteers visiting in the set time period. Supplies will be new(bought) or donated. The funding will come from those who wish to advertise, the community centers pre existing funding for



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

community centers, and grants such as The Project Grants. Since this program is made for the community centers of Alabama, the State government's funding that goes towards the art programs will help support this program.

SECTION V: All Laws or Parts of Laws with this act are hereby repealed.

SECTION VI: This ordinance will take effect at the beginning of the 2023-2024 fiscal year.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY7

Committee: P- Education

Delegation: Catholic

Author(s): Amelia Kate Skala

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Stay Day Act

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

TITLE: Stay Day Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section 1: Terms

Personal Health: the wellness of an individual, including physical, mental, and behavioral well being.

Physical Health: the state of a person's physical body and its well being.

Mental Health: a person's condition with regard to their psychological, social, and emotional well-being.

Behavioral Health: the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of substance use disorders, life stressors and crises, and stress-related physical symptoms.

Semester: a half-year term in a school or college, typically lasting fifteen to eighteen weeks.

Section 2: Purpose

A bill to provide high school students in the state of Alabama with two excused personal health days per semester, with required guardian's permission.

Section 3: Justification

Personal Health and Wellness days for Alabama high school students should be mandated because it would lower dropout and truancy rates, while providing students with support that they might not receive otherwise. The majority of teenage students in the state of Alabama suffer from some kind of physical, mental, or behavioral struggle. High school students with mental health struggles are twice as likely to drop out of school than their peers. Additionally, this would give students time to recover from non-mental conditions, such as chronic illness. This bill would exponentially lower these dropout rates, by providing students the time they need to take these "mental health breaks". It would also decrease the truancy rates in our state. Students would no longer have to miss unexcused days of school, raising attendance rates. This bill is designed to provide a support system, which is currently lacking in Alabama public schools.

Section 4: Funding

This bill would not require any government funding.

Section 5: Implementation

When tracking Personal Health and Wellness Days (Here after PHW) absences, district policies should consider the following:

Students are limited to two PHW days per semester;

PHW days cannot be taken on consecutive school days, (e.g., Friday and Monday, Wednesday and Thursday);



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

PHW absences should always be excused when parent or guardian permission is documented, regardless of the number of absences a student has accumulated during the school year.

PHW absences should not be included in reporting or referrals related to truancy;

PHW absences will count towards chronic absence calculations as students are missing opportunities to learn.

Districts are encouraged to create codes in their student information systems for tracking and monitoring use of PHW days.

Section 6: Severability Clause

All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section 7: Enactment Clause

This act shall become effective 2024, after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY8

Committee: N- Judicial

Chamber: *Special Order*

Delegation: Montgomery Catholic

Author(s): Jaja Gancayco

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Silenced by Time

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

TITLE: Silenced by Time

Section I: Terms

Sexual assault: sexual contact or behavior that occurs without explicit consent of the victim. This includes rape/attempted rape, unwanted sexual touching, or forcing someone to execute unwanted sexual acts.

Statute of limitations: a law that sets the maximum amount of time that parties in dispute have to initiate legal proceedings.

Section II: Purpose

This bill will eliminate the statute of limitations that is attached to sexual assault cases in the state of Alabama entirely.

Section III: Justification

In 2022, 3,138 cases in the DNA section of ADFS (Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences) were given, out of which 57.4% of those (1,802 cases) were of rape and sexual assault. Sexual assault is one of the most prominent crimes not only in Alabama but throughout the world. Sexual assault cases are notoriously difficult to prosecute, as most of the time the assaulter is either alone, a close member of the victim, or both. Just like that of other crimes, victims are entitled to a right to earn justice for what has been done to them. However, multiple reasons, such as blackmail or trauma linked to the assault, can hold back the victim from coming out with their story.

The statute of limitations to report adult sexual assault in Alabama is two years from the date of the incident, with no special extension whatsoever. Making the removal of this limitation is not impossible in Alabama, as there is no statute of limitations for minor sexual assault or rape. The time to not only get over the trauma and emotional damage of this crime but to possibly escape their assaulter if they are a part of their household varies from victim to victim. However, there should not be any sort of rush for those who experience that type of violence to get over their trauma and report when they might not be comfortable. Victims of sexual assault should not be denied their entitlement to justice simply because their emotional trauma or condition took longer to escape than others. By entirely removing the statute of limitations to report a crime as vile as sexual assault, not only victims but the entire state of Alabama will be safer.

Section IV: Funding and Oversight

This bill does not require any additional funding from the state.

Section V: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

Section VI: This act will be in effect immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY10

Committee: R – Government Operations

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Vestavia

Author(s): Ellie Hoar

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: A Bill to Enact Background-Checks for Politicians

Bias refers to any harmful, negative beliefs about a marginalized group of people

Mental Instability refers to measurable instability of emotions and thoughts that hinder one's abilities to perform everyday tasks and/or to think in a rational manor

Marginalized refers to any group of people that experience oppression due to ethnicity, religion, sex, sexuality, gender identity, or any physical or mental trait that are inhibited from existing without encountering bias



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY11

Committee: R- Environment

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Sam Eagan

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Banning Plastic Bags in Alabama Retail Stores

Degrade-break down or deteriorate chemically.

Retail Store-a place of business usually owned and operated by a retailer but sometimes owned and operated by a manufacturer or by someone other than a retailer in which merchandise is sold primarily to ultimate consumers.

Landfill-a place to dispose of refuse and other waste material by burying it and covering it over with soil, especially as a method of filling in or extending usable land.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY12

Committee: P- Education

Delegation: Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Paul Douglas Ross

Chamber: Jefferson County

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Combating the Mental Health Crisis in Alabama Public Schools

Mental Health - Of or referring to the mental and emotional well-being of a student or individual in the school system.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY14

Committee: N- Judicial

Delegation: Vestavia Hills High School

Author(s): Ethan Melenevsky

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Recidivism Mitigation through Compulsory Education in Correctional Facilities Act of 2023
Section 1: Definitions Recidivism refers to the act of continuing to commit crimes even after having been punished Postsecondary Education refers to education after

Section 1: Definitions

Recidivism refers to the act of continuing to commit crimes even after having been punished
Postsecondary Education refers to education after high school; this can include college, vocational/trade school, apprenticeship, etc.

Career Technical Education (CTE) refers to a set of programs that offer education and practical skills in various fields, spanning from traditional occupations such as carpentry and welding to modern fields such as drafting and design and logistics

Commissary - a store available to inmates; often used to supplement nutrition or fulfill other basic needs

Commissary Account - the account through which inmates are able to purchase items from the prison commissary; funds come from wages (in states where inmates earn wages) or money sent by loved ones

Section 2: Proposal

1. All persons imprisoned at or above the age of 21 who are physically and mentally capable and have not completed or are not enrolled in postsecondary education, or are not employed or retired shall be enrolled in a Career Technical Education program.

2. Such persons, upon reaching a designated level of proficiency in their chosen fields, shall be awarded certificates of course completion signifying their ability to competently complete the tasks associated with a job in that field.

3. Those who receive these certificates shall be employed by designated institutions which shall pay them no less than federal minimum wage (or Alabama's minimum wage, should it adopt one in the future).

4. These institutions and their employment of inmates shall be subject to inspection by federal authorities in order to ensure that inmates' rights are not violated and that workplace treatment is just.

5. Earnings from this employment shall be apportioned as follows: 50 percent of earnings will be immediately accessible to inmates in their commissary accounts, 20 percent placed into a safe holdings account and made inaccessible to inmates until the time of their release, and the remaining 30 percent shall be reinvested into the educational program.

Section 3: Justification



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1. According to Virginia's 2018 compilation of three-year re-incarceration rates, Alabama's recidivism rate was 31.5 percent.
2. Inmates who participate in correctional education programs recidivate 28 percent less than those who do not. This is due to the fact that their options have been expanded beyond crime; they are able to earn a living without committing crimes.
3. Though compulsory education will not be equally effective for all inmates, it will help many who may not otherwise choose to participate.
4. Alabama currently does not pay inmates for their labor. Though inmates are incentivized to work in order to be released from prison on parole, paying them for their labor would create another appealing incentive that would satisfy some short-term needs, such as items from commissary stores in addition to providing them with the resources needed to begin civilian life anew.
5. Furthermore, creating a work environment where inmates are treated fairly and paid for their labor under federal oversight would do away with current abuses.
6. The state as a whole stands to benefit as well. With time, a reduction in recidivism and crime will allow for a more prosperous economy, as well as fewer hard-earned taxpayer dollars spent on prisoners.

Section 4: Funding

1. The state can utilize and expand existing partnerships (e.g. Auburn University's Alabama Prison Arts and Education Project) to educate inmates.
2. In addition, 30 percent of inmate wages will be contributed to the program.
3. Furthermore, the program itself will become less costly over time as recidivism, and with it, the prison population, is reduced. Money saved on prisoners will eventually surpass the cost of the program.
4. If necessary, the program may draw from the State General Fund.
5. However, it is worth noting that the program will lead not only to a decrease in funds spent on prisoners, but also to a boon to the state's economy resulting from a decrease in crime, allowing for the collection of more taxes.

Section 5: Severance

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section 6: Enactment

This bill will be enacted upon being signed into law and planning will begin immediately.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY17

Committee: R- Commerce

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Mary Cates Freeman

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Increasing Access to Healthy Food

Section I: Definitions

Food Desert: a low-income census tract where at least 500 people or 33% of the tract population residing more than one mile from a supermarket or grocery store in urban areas, and more than ten miles in rural areas

Section II: Background

Roughly 2 million of Alabama's residents live in a food desert. Of those 2 million people, 150,000 of them live in Birmingham. Those 150,000 people make up 69% of the population of Birmingham. Additionally, in each of Birmingham's nine city council districts, there is at least one food desert. Because of the small number of healthy food options within a food desert, people eat highly processed and nutritionally inadequate food. In turn, this puts the residents living in the food desert at high risk for heart disease, obesity, strokes, and other diet-fueled illness and diseases.

Section III: Proposition

To reduce the number of food deserts, this bill would incentivize grocery stores to be built by giving a 10% sales tax credit to businesses that build a grocery store within a food desert.

Section IV: Justification

With food deserts being so prevalent within Alabama, many residents are eating nutrient-poor foods that are highly processed. As a result, Alabamians are at greater risk for heart disease, strokes, obesity, type II diabetes, and other diet-related health consequences. However, we can not begin to combat reducing these poor health trends without fixing the root cause: the inability to buy healthy and nutrient-rich foods. By building more grocery stores and increasing access to healthy foods, the overall health of Alabama will see significant improvement.

Section V: Implementation

This bill would be implemented by the department of human resources and the Alabama department of revenue. The department of human resources would make sure that the grocery store is actively running in the food desert area. The department of revenue would distribute the sales tax credit. There would not need to be any funding for this bill.

Section VI: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment Clause

This bill would be effective immediately upon approval of the bill.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY18

Committee: R- Environment

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): William Tabb

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Restoring Alabama's Native Species With Prescribed Fire

Section I: Definitions

Prescribed Fire: A high-heat fire intentionally set in a predetermined area to burn off any underbrush or invasive species will restrict the growth of other plants

ADCNR: Abbreviation for Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

WMA: Abbreviation for a Wildlife Management Area, pieces of land throughout the state that are monitored by Fish and Game.

Section II: Proposition

The ADCNR will create comprehensive plans to set prescribed fires on all WMA's to restore Alabama's natural longleaf pine savannas. In addition, this bill will also create more easily accessible classes for private land owners to become Certified Prescribed Burn Managers to allow them to prescribe burn on their own land.

Section III: Justification

Conservationists have traced the beginning of the disappearance of Alabama's native plants and animals to the late 1960's, which is also when prescribed burning became unpopular, and this lack of fire has changed the landscape of Alabama immeasurably. Since Alabamians stopped burning in the 1960's, quail populations have decreased by an astonishing 90 percent. Bringing back fire not only to state-owned lands, but to private-owned lands as well will allow our native species like quail, turkey, rattlesnake master, longleaf pines, slash pines, post-oak, possumhaw, and leafy prairie clover.

Section IV: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

Section V. Enactment

This act shall become effective upon its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023 February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY19

Committee: P- Education

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Sophie Hicks

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Establishment of Uniforms in Public Schools Act

Section I: Definitions

School Uniform: student clothing of designated colors and a reasonable design of a particular style. Uniforms may consist of but are not limited to shirts, shorts, pants, skirts, blouses, blazers, and shoes.
Public School: public K-12 education

Section II: Background

Nationally, approximately forty percent of schools mandate uniforms. Though some schools do so, public K-12 education in Alabama currently is not required to include uniforms in their code of conduct.

Section III: Proposition

Applying to any public K-12 education, local boards of education must adhere to a standard school uniform. The State Department of Education shall develop a recommended uniform every two years. Such recommendations shall include design as well as a cost. Each local board of education shall have the sole discretion of determining their school's uniform. However, uniform cost may not diverge more or less than twenty-five percent of the state recommended cost.

Section IV: Justification

With ranking forty-seventh of fifty states in public education, Alabama is in dire need of improvement in the classroom. The establishment of uniforms across public K-12 education is meant to decrease and eliminate problems that shift students' attention away from learning at school.

A study shows that school uniforms have helped reduce discipline referrals by ten percent as well as showing a sixty-three percent decrease in police log reports during the first year of implementation. Additionally, school uniforms help to reduce focus on fashion contests that shift focus away from the learning environment. Uniforms help to minimize socioeconomic differences by eliminating the fashion hierarchy stemming from designer brands and labels.

Uniforms also help to create a greater sense of community within the school. A greater sense of community leads to a greater sense of pride and belonging, which thus stimulates effort and greater care academically.

Section V: Implementation

The State Department of Education shall set recommended standards for school uniforms. Local school boards shall have the final determination at their sole discretion of what their school uniforms shall be with limitations of cost specified above. The intent of this act is for students and their families to purchase their own uniforms, however, local school boards shall make that determination for their schools.

Section VI: Severability Clause



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All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment Clause

This act shall become effective for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year, following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY21

Committee: R- Commerce

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Hooker Cook

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: A Tax on All E-Cigarettes, Refill Media, and E-cigarette Accessories

Section I: Definitions

An electronic cigarette or e-cigarettes is an electronic device that simulates tobacco smoking. It consists of an atomizer, a power source such as a battery, and a container such as a cartridge or tank. Instead of smoke, the user inhales aerosols.

Section II: Background

E-cigarettes are often called "e-cigs," "e-hookahs," "mods," "vape pens," "vapes," "tank systems," and "electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS)." They work by heating up liquid nicotine, tobacco, illegal drugs, and/or flavorings into aerosols that will be inhaled by the user. The e-cigarettes can be refilled by buying separate cartridges or refill liquid. The CDC states, "In 2022, 2.55 million U.S. middle and high school students used e-cigarettes in the past 30 days, including 3.3% (380,000) of middle school students and 14.1% (2.14 million) of high school students." and "Among current adult e-cigarette users, the percentage who have never smoked cigarettes is highest among those aged 18–24 years (56.0%), and is lower in older age groups."

Section III: Proposition

A bill to increase tax on all e-cigarettes, refill media, and all e-cigarette accessories to 6% of the product price added on top of sales tax to discourage use of these harmful products. The tax money will go to state-run addiction rehabilitation facilities and anti-smoking/vaping public service announcements.

Section IV: Justification

According to the CDC, "The e-cigarette aerosol that users breathe from the device and exhale can contain harmful and potentially harmful substances, including: nicotine, ultrafine particles that can be inhaled deep into the lungs, flavoring such as diacetyl, a chemical linked to a serious lung disease, volatile organic compounds, cancer-causing chemicals, and heavy metals such as nickel, tin, and lead. It is difficult for consumers to know what e-cigarette products contain. For example, some e-cigarettes marketed as containing zero percent nicotine have been found to contain nicotine." The use of e-cigarettes is clearly very harmful, and the increased tax on these products will discourage use. The tax proceeds will fund state-run addiction rehabilitation facilities and anti-smoking/vaping public service announcements helping people who are addicted to e-cigarettes.

Section V: Implementation

This self funding bill will be regulated and enforced by the Alabama Department of Revenue.

Section VI: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment Clause



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

This act is to become effective January 1st, 2024, upon the approval of the Governor or otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY22

Committee: R- Government Operations

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Jeb Blair

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: State Government Term Limit

Section I: Definitions

Bicameral Legislature: A government that has a two-house legislative system, such as the House of Representatives and the Senate that make up the U.S. Congress.

Corruption: A form of dishonesty or a criminal offense which is undertaken by a person or an organization which is entrusted in a position of authority, in order to acquire illicit benefits or abuse power for one's personal gain.

Section II: Background

Alabama has a bicameral legislature modeled after the federal United States government. Alabama's legislature consists of the smaller upper chamber, the Senate, and the larger lower chamber, the House of Representatives. Unlike the United State's Senate and House of Representatives, Alabama's constitution says that state Senate and House members serve four year terms each and do not have a term limit. The members of Alabama's legislature commonly remain in office and become career politicians. Since 2014, the incumbent in state Senator races have been reelected 94% of the time, while incumbents for the House of Representatives are reelected 89% of the time. Due to studies like these, The Washington Post named Alabama the fourth most corrupt state in the U.S.

Section III: Proposition

This proposal will amend Alabama's constitution and limit the term limit of Alabama state Senators and members of the state House of Representatives to two terms (maximum of eight years).

Section IV: Justification

This proposal will efficiently ensure that career politicians will no longer control the state of Alabama while receiving exponential earnings each year. Limiting the number of terms to two will add new leaders to Alabama's legislature and advocate for competitive, fair elections. More legislative members will add new ideas that can advance Alabama's state, economy, and development. This proposal will not solve government corruption across the nation, but Alabama will set an example for many states on the principles of government that will promote our nation.

Section V: Implementation

This amendment will give each member of Alabama's legislature a maximum of two years. If only part of a full four year term is filled, it will still be considered one of the two possible terms a politician is eligible to run for.

Section VI: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment Clause

This act is to become effective upon the next election cycle after successfully amending Alabama's constitution.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY20

Committee: P- Education

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Henry Short

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Additional Funding for Special Needs Programs

Section I: Definitions

Special education program- program at an educational institution that works to educate students with learning or physical disabilities

Section II: Background

In Alabama, school districts special education programs are unable to provide the care that is needed to provide the assistance that our special needs students require to get a sufficient education.

Section III: Proposition

In addition to the current cost for admission tickets to AHSAA athletic events, each school will add \$0.50 to each ticket at every sporting event, and supply this money to the state of Alabama. The state of Alabama will then distribute the money to each school system's special education program, in accordance with how many special needs students are at each school, as reported by the school.

Section IV: Justification

Given the complexity of many disabilities, special education programs are a fantastic approach that breaks the one-size-fits-all model that schools typically take. However, Alabama's programs are far off from what they should be accomplishing. The teacher shortage is most apparent in special education classrooms, and many districts cannot afford to set an environment that adequately addresses our students' needs. Failing to address this grave disservice to our differently abled peers is a gross violation of their right to pursue an education. Increased funding would allow for better programs, classrooms, and teachers, all of which would better equip these students to live in a world that's already challenging for them.

Section V: Implementation

This bill will be enforced by the Alabama State Department of Education. People currently exempt from buying tickets and students who do not have to buy tickets to enter the games are exempt from this bill.

Section VI: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment Clause

This act shall become effective on March 1st and approved by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY23

Committee: P- Education

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Perry Stringfellow

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Requirement of Resource Officers For Every Public School In Alabama

Section I: Definitions

Resource Officer (SRO): A full or part time officer with sworn law enforcement authority assigned to a school trained in school based policing and crisis response.

NASRO: National Association of School Resource Officers.

Pack (of cigarettes): Contains 20 cigarettes.

Section II: Background

Nearly all national news coverage shows a rise in school related crises. This is no different in Alabama. Alabama's state superintendent Eric Mackey stated that there are less than 500 SRO's covering Alabama's approximant 1,500 schools. Alabama's public schools serve more than 700,000 students, making it essential to create a safe and connected community. SRO's help this cause by building a safer environment by participating in informal mentoring and counseling, in person teaching, as well as enforcing the law. SRO's also build community with students making them feel safe and acknowledged. Overall, SRO's are an unmatched addition to schools, aiding in a schools safety, community, and knowledge.

Section III: Proposition

This bill would require all public schools in the state of Alabama to have a full time resource officer, whose salary is paid for by an increased tax on cigarettes. The resource officer will also be required to go through SRO specialized training provided by NASRO, also paid for by the increased tax on cigarettes.

Section IV: Justification

This bill would put the state of Alabama at the head of school safety. With the rise in school emergencies and crises, safety is needed. Not only would SRO's aid in this cause, but they would also bring the sense of safety needed to schools, making students feel protected, allowing them to focus more on school, improving students' learning. Students would also have someone to rely on in emergency situations. Most importantly, SRO's would drastically reduce the number of school crises and increase the schools community and environment, making them a crucial part of schools and communities. Cigarette smoking is the leading cause of preventable disease, disability, and death in the U.S. This bill would increase the taxes on cigarette packs, discouraging the purchase and use of them.

This would lower the amount of smoke related

issues. Alabama has the 37th lowest tax on cigarettes, this bill would allow us to catch up to other states while making our population healthy.

Section V: Implementation

If this bill were to be enacted, funding would come from an increased tax on cigarettes from \$0.67 (per



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

pack) to \$1.00 (per pack), this tax increase would fund the SRO's salaries and training. The Alabama Department of Revenue would oversee the tax rates on cigarettes, distributing the share needed for the SRO's salaries and training. The Alabama State Department of Education would oversee the placing of each SRO into schools, as well as making sure each SRO has gone through the specialized SRO training provided by the NASRO.

Section VI: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment Clause

This act is to become effective August 1st, 2024 upon the approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY24

Committee: P- Education

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Sofia Martinez

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Hugs, Not Holds

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

School Resource Officer (SRO) - sworn law enforcement officers that are responsible for safety and crime in schools.

Individual Education Plan (IEP) - a plan required by federal law for children with documented disabilities or disabled children to be helped and understood correctly by staff.

Section II: Proposal

This bill will limit the power of school resource officers in schools. It will prohibit physical restraining and aggression against children of elementary school-age.

In addition with training for SRO's that is student focused to help officers handle misbehaving or stressed children in schools with IEPs for children with documented disabilities.

Section III: Justification

In the school year of 2018 and 2019, over 700 children in the u.s were arrested in elementary school. Students who misbehave and cause trouble that should be dealt with by a teacher instead by a police officer who isn't trained how to handle children or deescalate a feud with an irritated child. These officers are at the schools to make the kids feel safe and protected, not to be shown aggressive action against or for them to fear their SRO's. We are supposed to trust the SRO's with our own children's safety while they are at school. One day we are hugging our children good bye as they leave for school then later that day you receive a phone call that your child has been restrained either with handcuffs or zip ties as discipline by a school police officer for acting out. Our children should be able to be curious, ask questions, learn and be what they are. Kids.

The issue of misbehaving children should be taken care of by the staff such as teachers, principles and administrators. Not law enforcement officers with violence and fear.

Here is an example from a student in a North Carolina school. The seven year old had allegedly spat at his teacher earlier that day; in response, he was pinned to the ground for 38 minutes, had the officer's weight pressed on him, according to the officer's body cam. At one point, court records say the officer put his knee on the child's back. Using brutal force on a seven year old child instead of helping him understand and calm back down for disciplinary action by staff is cruel.

As mentioned earlier, more than 700 children are arrested in U.S elementary schools in the school year alone. Just the fact that young children get treated and approached by violence by the police that should be keeping them safe alone is disturbing. Just like the North Carolina student, there are many more similar cases where police officers arrest young children like him at school, often violently. In the year of 2021, police officers handcuffed and screamed at a five year old who had wandered off from school.

According to CBS News' analysis of the 2017-2018 Education Department data, children with documented disabilities were four times more likely to be arrested at school. Federal Law requires a plan known as Individualized Educational Plan (IEP). These plans help students with disabilities ...

SRO's can be critical and offensive due to their training; however, the state of Georgia's placing in being in the top 10 nationally for most elementary school arrests, they changed their approach in training and SRO's. Instead of training their SRO's from being a warrior, they switched to being a guardian. Their new set goal was to help kids make it to graduation instead of arrests. The officers were now stressed the new fact that they are now student focused, where they can make an environment where students can learn, and teachers can teach for learning instead of criminalizing these young children.

With limiting SRO's or their power in school make the children more unsafe? Will it be better to have more and fund them more? Do SRO's really make kids safer? School districts look up to SRO's to keep their children safe from tragic events like school shootings but research shows SRO's don't make kids safer. An analysis of 179 shootings on school grounds, which is a horrific thing to say out loud, shows no evidence that the presence of School resource officers had lessened the severity of school shootings.

Section IV: Consequences

If this bill is passed and put into action some expected outcomes consist of: lower crime, not like arrests for drugs, guns or other things we fear but minor things we perhaps may not need an arrest record for like a fight between two kids.

Section V: Enforcement

ALEA (Alabama Law Enforcement Agency) and the state board of education will be charged with the enforcement of this bill and the creation of training.

Section VI: Payment

Funds for this program will be taken from the same pre-existing funds that pay for police and teacher training from the general fund.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY26

Committee: Q- Transportation

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Carter Holloway

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Woop-Woop! Should NOT Be the Sound of Da Police

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Community engagement - Police officers will have to engage in their community by going to local parks, recreation centers, etc. They will have to build a relationship with the people in their community to reduce the amount of police brutality and

Section II: Proposal

My bill will force police officers to engage in their community to build relationships with the people of Alabama.

Police officers will be paid to spend 2 hour shifts twice a week out of their 40 hour work week schedule to hang around their community and not do any traditional police work. Meaning they can't respond to calls, or arrest people.

Examples of engaging in the community would be playing pickup basketball at a gym/ recreational center, hosting or going to barbecues, etc. Once the bill is passed, the department can decide what other activities officers will be required to take part in.

The officers will not be able to stay in their police cars or regular cars, they will not be able to drive in their cop cars during their community engagement hours, There can't be more than three officers from a department doing community engagement hours, and they will be barred from wearing their police uniforms.

Section III: Justification

In the state of Alabama and the rest of the country, there is a policing problem that is highly concerning. That problem is that people don't trust the police in their community. The result of this could be people not giving information to the police that is crucial to a case. Although some officers have given policemen a bad reputation, all police officers shouldn't be viewed as terrible people. This bill was dedicated towards trying to help police officers with being more successful when it comes to getting information from a witness and it also helps the people of Alabama by feeling more comfortable with police officers.

The connection between legitimacy perceptions and compliance behavior suggests a link between community outreach efforts that increase levels of legitimacy and reduce crime. As Sherman and Eck (2002: 318) note: "The capacity of police legitimacy to prevent crime is something community policing may well be effective at creating." For example, door-to-door visits by officers seem to be an effective approach for both increasing citizen satisfaction and reducing levels of victimization. Wycoff, Pate, Skogan, and Sherman (1985)

found that efforts by police in a target neighborhood in Houston to initiate more positive, informal contacts with citizens led to lower rates of victimization. The program focused on the quality of police-citizen interactions.

Section IV: Consequences

As stated earlier this bill will create better relationships between communities and its police officers. It could possibly decrease the amount of falsely imprisoned people since the police would be able to truly know the people in their community. It increases the amount of information policemen can get when it comes to a case.

Section V: Enforcement

ALEA would be responsible for managing and implementing these regulations and if these regulations aren't met it can result in disciplinary action for the department and financial penalties.

Section VI: Payment

There will be no additional costs, because the shifts will be within their required working hours instead of being added onto their original working hours.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY 27

Committee: Q- Transportation

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Anna Beth Frazier

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: No More Vroom Vroom

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- revenue: the total amount of income generated by the sale of goods or services related to the company's primary operations
- catalytic converter: a device incorporated in the exhaust system of a motor vehicle, containing a catalyst for converting pollutant gasses into less harmful ones
- carbon emissions: emissions stemming from the burning of fossil fuels and the manufacture of cement

Section II: Proposal

With the enactment of this bill, specific mechanical shops will be required to provide a vehicle inspection when cars come in. These mechanical shops can have the option of hiring someone new to execute the inspections or get one of their employees to become certified to do proper vehicular checkups.

These inspections will be looking for multiple things:

- catalytic converters
- working headlights and taillights
- correct mixtures of air and fuel levels and many more.

Section III: Justification

The requirement of a catalytic converter is already a law in the state of Alabama, yet it is loosely enforced, and the best way to enforce this is to inspect all of the vehicles that come through mechanic shops to accomplish two goals in one effort. Not only will this possibly create more jobs, it will increase the state revenue that can go towards improving the state infrastructure and education systems. This will make the roads safer in more than one way. For example, diminished headlights are a factor in roughly 50% of all nighttime auto accidents. By implementing inspections of head and tail lights this number can be reduced. Although it is already a supposed mandatory rule that headlights must be checked, they are actually often overlooked when it comes to vehicle maintenance.

Carbon Emissions have also become a rising problem recently, with all of the smog and gasses that are extremely bad for the environment being excreted from our cars. A typical passenger vehicle emits about 4.6 metric tons of carbon dioxide per year, and the transportation sector generates the largest share of greenhouse gas emissions with 27% as of 2020. With this bill, the examination of catalytic converters and air and fuel levels will help lower the level of toxic gasses that are being put into our environment.

The mechanic shops will be determined by each county with 3 of the shops within the area that have the required vehicle inspection criteria.

Section IV: Consequences

People would be less inclined to go and have their oil changed because they would have to also have an inspection. The economy would benefit because of the increase in a net movement of revenue from the new job opportunities that have been created, and there would be a decrease in unemployment rates due to the possible jobs that these mandatory inspections would create. Inflation might deepen depending on job growth and the amount of revenue movement. The environment will benefit from this with the decrease in carbon monoxide and other toxic gas emission rates.

Section V: Enforcement

This bill will be enforced by the Alabama Department of Motor Vehicles and the Alabama county offices.

Section VI: Payment

This bill requires no payment.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective a year after this bill is put in place in the state of Alabama to give the mechanical companies a chance to hire new employees for this job or get certified to be able to perform those inspections.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY27

Committee: M- Public Safety

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Grayson Haberecht

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Enhance Background Checks for Firearm Purchase in Alabama.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Background Check - Any check in relation to the purchaser's past relation with firearms or screening for a criminal record, history of violent tendencies, or any form of mental or physical condition prohibiting the purchaser from safely using the firearm.
- Firearm - Any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive
- Public Seller - any person, firm, or corporation who sells or otherwise transfers to the public any pistol, revolver, or other firearms, new or used, capable of being concealed upon the person.
- Private Seller- Any private citizen of the State of Alabama transferring ownership of one or more firearms in exchange for monetary or physical compensation.

Section II: Proposal

Due to the danger that the unregulated sale of firearms presents to the citizens of the State of Alabama, this bill would, once enacted, would require Public and Private sellers to enhance the screening and background checks (Psychological, Criminal, and Physical) of any Alabamians wishing to purchase a firearm.

Section III: Justification

The danger that the loosely checked purchase and sale of firearms pose to the State and Public of Alabama is monumental. This lack of restrictions allows citizens with violent intentions to gain possession of a firearm and, therefore, the ability to harm the public, with possibly fatal injuries. This is a fatal flaw in the State of Alabama's public safety. Past events in the State of Alabama have proven that citizens with violent intentions do indeed exist with the will and capability to execute their ideals.

Other dangers stem from this flaw. Those being that people without the physical or mental capabilities to safely handle firearms can purchase and use firearms. This poses a great danger to those citizens in their inability to keep themselves safe, as they may improperly discharge weapons, causing injury to themselves.

Section IV: Consequences

The passing of this bill may lead to a decline in sales for Public and Private sellers alike, because of the decrease in people wishing to purchase a firearm because of the extended time required to perform these checks. Also, if they find any item of concerning note, the seller will be required to terminate the sale of the

firearm and notify the relevant authorities of potential risk. However, the increased safety of the public is a monumental gain for the State of Alabama. This also would make it harder for citizens with violent intentions to purchase or gain possession of a firearm because of the increased psychological screenings.

Section V: Enforcement

The Alabama Law Enforcement Agency(ALEA) will enforce this bill. If this bill is passed, Public and Private sellers will have one month to implement the enhanced screenings into their system of purchase. Any seller found to not have used the enhanced screening in any sale of a firearm will be fined \$2,500 on the first offense, \$5,000 for the second offense, \$7,500 for the third offense, and \$10,000 for any following offense after. If any seller continuously disregards these checks, the firearm sales license will be suspended pending investigation possibly leading to the license revocation.

Section VI: Payment

ALEA will allocate a portion of its state funding to fund these enhanced screenings. Any money taken as a result of fines will be allocated to fund free firearm safety and usage training for the public.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY28

Committee: N- Judicial

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Alex Kilgore

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Stealing the Ability to Steal

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Asset- Property owned by a person.
- Forfeiture- The loss or giving up of something.
- Private Property- Property that only belongs to a person.
- Confiscate- To take something with authority
- Civil Trial- A trial in a court of law, must be proved beyond preponderance of the evidence.

Section II: Proposal

This bill takes the right from any law enforcement to take and keep any private property that is suspected to be involved in a crime.

Section III: Justification

This bill should be enacted as it would be a solution for a large problem in Alabama. Currently any law enforcement official can confiscate any private property off of the suspicion that the property is involved in a crime. After the property is seized there is a civil trial and the owner of the property must prove that the items are not involved in a crime. Often times the legal fees can outweigh the dollar amount of the items taken. Granted, the property must be reported by the agencies by a bill passed in 2019, but this is not enough. If this bill is passed then property would never be seized off of a suspicion. It does not matter if the items are accounted for or not by an agency, the property is still taken. And that will never happen if this bill is passed.

Section IV: Consequences

The expect outcome of this bill would cause good things for the state of Alabama. It would help those in poverty and could even lower crime. If an impoverished person is a victim of civil asset forfeiture, that could be detrimental to that person. Said person might even do anything to get back to their previous status. Some of these things include a variety of different crimes. If asset forfeiture could be eliminated in the state of Alabama it would be enourmous.

Section V: Enforcement

This would be enforced by the agency or department of the law enforcement official to oversee and make sure that nothing that violates the terms of this bill.

Section VI: Payment

This bill being passed would save money. It takes more time and resources to keep these items than simply not take them in the first place.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY29

Committee: P- Education

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Karter Long

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Give Me a Break!

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section 1: Definitions

- Mental Health - a person's condition with regard to their psychological and emotional well being
- Video Games - a game played electronically, manipulating images produced by a computer program on a television screen or other display screen
- Anxiety - a feeling of worry, nervousness, or unease, typically about an imminent event or something with an uncertain outcome
- Depression - is a common and serious medical illness that negatively affects how you feel, the way you think, and how you act
- PC - a personal computer
- PlayStation - a brand series of game consoles created and developed by Sony Computer Entertainment
- Xbox - a gaming console brand developed by and owned by Microsoft
- Nintendo Switch - a hybrid video game console, consisting of a console unit, a dock, and two Joy-Con controller

Section 2: Proposal

This bill would make it so schools would create a new facility to provide a calming place for students. A video game room would calm the kids and create a fun environment for them. There would also be a mental health room to help the student calm down and to receive care. This bill would take 5% of the revenue from the football team.

Section 3: Justification

My bill should be enacted because it would limit the number of suicides students would commit. Untreated depression is the number one cause of suicide, so the facility schools would add would make sure all students are talked to, and treated for their depression. Suicide only spreads grief, it doesn't stop it. Families shouldn't experience their children killing themselves. My bill also should be enacted because adding video game centers would make a fun learning environment for children. Having fun plus lowering the suicide rate is a win-win.

Section 4: Consequences

The expected outcome of my bill is to decrease the number of depressed students and suicide in Alabama. Also, to increase the amount of video game lovers

Section 5: Enforcement

The department of education will make sure schools add these facilities. The teachers will also tell the students about

Section 6: Payment

School football teams will give 5% of their revenue to the school

Section 7: Conflicting laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section 8: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill#FY30

Committee: P- Education

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Shivika Kumar

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Alert! Walking in a Weather Wonderland

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Excused absences are when a child has a valid excuse to miss school
- An unexcused absence is an absence without a valid excuse, too many can result in truancy
- Truancy is too many unexcused absences, which can be similar to skipping school.
- Flash flood - a sudden, rapid flood due to rain and storms
- Severe weather - "a thunderstorm that produces one-inch hail or larger in diameter and/or winds equal or exceed 58 miles an hour." Storm watches can last 4-8 hours.
- Dixie Alley - an area in the southeast of the United States that is prone to tornados. There is not a specific tornado season here.

Section II: Proposal

This bill gives parents the right not to send their children to school or to after-school activities if they deem it unsafe due to weather and weather-related factors. The child's absence from school will be marked as an excused absence due to weather concerns.

In order for the school to accept Weather related excuses, the letter would have to include evidence (i.e pictures of tornado warnings, storms, flood flashes, etc.)

Section III: Justification

Many times a severe storm lasts all night, so many children and their guardians feel it necessary to stay up the whole night. Sometimes a tornado warning goes off and they are forced to get up and find a safe place. The next day, they both end up with no rest which studies have shown to cause more negative emotions. So the next day it would be better for the child to get rest and come to school late rather than at the same time in the early mornings.

Furthermore, Alabama receives an average of 56 inches of rain making it prone to flooding. In October 2021, 4 people died, including a couple swept away while in their car, due to flash flooding. So when there is a warning, parents do not feel safe driving their kids to school or sending them on a bus.

In 2022, Alabama was the third-most state with tornado hits. Alabama is also part of Dixie Alley, so if a parent chooses to keep their children from school on a day of a severe storm or tornado alert, it will result in an unexcused absence. Since this weather is common in Alabama, those excuses will build up and lead to truancy

which can have great consequences, such as attending a meeting in a courthouse. But the safety of a child is not equivalent to a child skipping school.

Section IV: Consequences

After this bill is passed, some people might take the advantage of skipping class. But the safety of children is far more important. Also, this bill is only applied to severe weather and flash floods, not just a rainy day, and you must submit evidence for an excuse.

The child might miss school, but they will still be responsible for making up the school work. And since it will be marked as an excused absence, the child has three days to make up missing work.

Section V: Enforcement

The Alabama Department of Education will oversee this rule and the school secretary will be in charge of enforcing it at school. If this bill is passed, a parent excuse will be counted as an excused absence if due to safety from severe weather.

Section VI: Payment

This bill does not make or require money.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY31

Committee: N- Judicial

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Lily Landers

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: The Dangers of Sex Offenders

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- A sex offender is someone who commits a crime involving a sexual act. What makes a sex offender an offender is if they are involved in abuse, molestation, or exploitation. They can also be involved in sexual conduct with a minor or sexual assault.
- Victims are the people who are harmed, injured, or killed as a result of a crime, accident, or other events and actions.
- A penalty is the punishment imposed upon a person who has violated the law, whether a contract, a rule, or regulation.

Section II: Proposal

The dangers of sex offenders having light sentences in jail for their heinous crimes is absolutely appalling. This bill would, if enacted, increase the minimum penalty for sex offender's crimes from 10 years to 25 years.

Section III: Justification

The dangers of letting a sex offender out of jail in the span of 10 years does not give them enough time to reflect on their crime. One of the risks of letting a sex offender out of jail early is recidivism. From 2005-2014 the Bureau of Justice Statistics did a follow up on sex offenders and it showed that from the time they were released in 2005 that they were 5% of the releases and 16% of arrests for rape or sexual assault. If sex offenders had a longer penalty then their minds could have time to get away from the satisfaction of wanting to commit the crime again. The shorter the jail time the more likely they are to hurt someone again. If there was more of a penalty placed on them they might actually get their minds set more straight.

From the Bureau of Justice Statistics follow up this also shows the risk that 10 years of penalty doesn't ensure the safety of victims and the community. Sex offenders are more likely to go back into the world and commit the same crime to different people. This means they are hurting more people. The safety of the community isn't ensured with just a 10 year penalty. Victims of sex offenders need time to grow up and process the events that happened. Only giving a 10 year penalty isn't enough for a victim to feel safe. 25 years ensures more safety to the victims and community, relief to the victims, and thinking time for the offenders. Therefore 25 years would be enough of a penalty for sex offenders.

Section IV: Consequences

If this bill was passed then sex offenders in the state of Alabama would spend a minimum penalty of 25 years in prison instead of 10. Although this might seem like a lot of time it gives the offenders time to think and pay for what they have done. This means more time for the victims to feel safer and grow up. It also will help keep the community safe by decreasing the chances of recidivism.

Section V: Enforcement

The Alabama Department of Criminal Justices will enforce this bill. If this bill is passed, on the day it is signed into law sex offenders from that day forward will now have to face a minimum penalty of 25 years in prison.

Section VI: Payment

There will be no additional funding added to this bill.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY32

Committee: P- Education

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Gracie Everly

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: It's time for students to ACT up!

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Standardize Test- A standardized test is a test that is administered and scored in a consistent, or "standard, manner.
- ACT-The ACT is a standardized test used for college admissions in the United States. It tests English, mathematics, reading, and scientific reasoning. It also offers an optional direct writing test.
- SAT- The SAT Is a standardized test used for college admissions in the United States. It tests Evidence-Based Reading, Writing, and Math.
- Prep Class- A Class used to prepare students for another class or standardized test
- Niche.com- This is a website that reviews and posts information about different schools around the U.S.

Section II: Proposal

This bill will require all public high school students who will be attending college to take an ACT/SAT preparation class as a prerequisite or credit for graduation.

Section III: Justification

This bill should be enacted because many kids take and submit their ACT and/or SAT to a college or university application for entrance into college/university. The ACT/SAT is a standardized test that tests your skills in certain subjects but most students are recommended to take a prep class because you often need to learn "how" to take the test. According to Niche, the average ACT score for Spain Park High School and Hoover High school is 27. The average SAT score for Spain Park High School is 1280 and the average for Hoover High School is 1300. Both of these scores are above the state average of 18 and 1184. These schools both offer ACT/SAT prep classes for students to take. Studies show that these kinds of classes help students improve their scores on these tests. But, not all students can afford to get a private tutor or access to be able to get to a class like that. That is why everyone should have access to a prep class by having required if they plan on going to college at you're in high school. Then you won't have to worry about costs or transportation and you can go right to school.

Section IV: Consequences

The expected outcome if the State of Alabama passes this bill is that all public high school students who will be taking the ACT/SAT will be put taking an ACT/SAT prep class. The average score of different schools will hopefully rise and so will the state average. Individual people's scores will also raise with the passing of this bill.

Section V: Enforcement

The Alabama State Department of Education will enforce this bill through individual schools and teachers

Section VI: Payment

Funding for a full-time instructor and classroom materials/supplies will be required. This funding could come from state/city governments and/or school system budgets. Generally, classroom supplies cost anywhere from \$100-\$700 dollars, and paying a teacher generally costs about \$52,353.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY33

Committee: N- Judicial

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Myers Wade

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: False Claims Bill

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Accusation: "a statement saying that someone has done something morally wrong, illegal, or unkind, or the fact of accusing someone" -Cambridge Dictionary
- Defamation: "the action of damaging the reputation of a person or group by saying or writing bad things about them that are not true" -Cambridge Dictionary
- Retaliation: "the act of hurting someone or doing something harmful to someone because they have done or said something harmful to you" -Cambridge dictionary

Section II: Proposal

In the state of Alabama there is a very minor punishment for falsely accusing (or defamation) someone of crimes that they didn't commit. On November 13, 2013, Ryan Ferguson was released from a 40-year prison sentence after it was proved that he was falsely accused of murder. Ferguson was paid 11 million for the 10 years that he spent in prison. The original person that accused him although he was sent to prison, he got a much lighter sentence than what Ferguson

Section III: Justification

False Accusations may not be the largest problem in the state of Alabama, but with the advancements in technology false accusations could become an extremely big deal.

Section IV: Consequences

False Accusations/defamation can ruin peoples' lives and can (in some cases) lead to suicide of the victims. Defamation isn't punished to the extreme that it needs to be. There's almost no sentence that can currently be considered equivalent to what the victims receive from the accusations.

Section V: Enforcement

If the state of Alabama was to pass a law that would enforce harsher punishments to the accusers. If the accusers were to pass laws that would give equal to worse punishments than that of the victims' of defamation then there wouldn't be nearly the risk of this happening in the future.

Section VI: Payment

This law wouldn't need much payment and I believe that the payment could simply be gotten from the taxes that are already in effect.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

In the state of Alabama there aren't any laws that conflict with this bill, if it were to be enacted.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill would be able to be enforced immediately after the governor would approve of this law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY34

Committee: M- Public Safety

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Addison Pledger

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Abigail Zwerner Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- firearm- a rifle, pistol, or other portable gun.
- Criminal liability- when a person can be held legally responsible for breaking the law.
- a minor-a person under the age of full legal responsibility.

Section II: Proposal

This bill is about criminal liability for parents or guardians when allowing a minor of 14 years and younger access to a firearm. This will hold parents or guardians liable if a minor 14 years or younger commits a crime involving a firearm.

Section III: Justification

Gun violence is a highly prominent issue in the United States. Gun violence recently surpassed car accidents as the leading cause of death in children. Alabama is one of the few states in this country that has no laws involving precautions and/or regulations for firearms involving minors. Studies show that 70% of guns used in youth suicides, unintentional shootings among children, and school shootings perpetrated by shooters under the age of 18 are acquired from the home or the homes of relatives or friends. In 2021, Children's of Alabama reported treating 75 children total for firearm injuries. Safe firearm storage helps prevent gun deaths and injuries in children. Numerous studies over the past 20 years have found that child access prevention laws can reduce suicide and unintentional gun deaths and injuries among children and teens by up to 54%, with the greatest reductions occurring in states which require safe storage of firearms. If Alabama wants to protect the youth and the future of our country, requiring safe firearm storage statewide is a must.

Section IV: Consequences

Whatever the severity of the crime, the parent will hold liability.

Section V: Enforcement

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

Section VI: Payment

This bill will cost nothing.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY35

Committee: Q- Health

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Ansley Gilbert

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Organ Donation Takes Guts

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Opt out- choose not to participate in something
- Organ Donation- the process when a person allows an organ of their own to be removed and transplanted to another person
- Opt in- choose to participate in something

Section II: Proposal

This bill will make internal organ donation be an opt out program in the state of Alabama. After passage of this bill, unless someone has legally stated or has told their immediate family (proof required) before their death that they would not like to donate their organs, they will automatically be assumed to have given consent to have their organs removed, should they have viable organs and be a match for someone currently in need of an organ donation.

This bill would only apply to those aged 18 and older, those who are deemed mentally capable to understand this decision, and people who have lived in the state of Alabama for at least 6 months prior to their death. A person may opt out for any reason, it just has to be kept on government record or proof from an immediate family member to not be considered an organ donor.

To opt out of organ donation, a person will go to their local DMV with a form of identification and put on government record that they would not like to be an organ donor. A person may opt back in at any time. Anyone that currently has a driver's license will automatically be renewed to have them registered as a donor, so if you currently have a license but would not like to be a donor, you must go and complete the opt out process.

Section III: Justification

The lack of organs available for organ donation is a serious problem facing Alabama, as well as other states across the country. Because the amount of people in need of donations far outweighs those currently registered as organ donors, there is an organ shortage of sorts. Around 17 people die each day while on the organ donation list, and a new person is added to the list about every 9 minutes.

The organ donation list is currently opt in, which means people have to register to be organ donors. This decreases the number of organs available because those with viable organs might not be registered as donors, which means doctors cannot take their organs without consent from the immediate family, which is not always given.

Having the organ donation list be opt out increases the number of people who can give organs because more people who die with viable organs would only need proof that they do not consent to having their organs removed. A single person with viable organs can save countless people in need of organs.

Section IV: Consequences

The expected outcome of passing this bill involves patients that require organ donations to have a shorter waiting time before receiving an organ. This will save many people's lives, as many people die while on the organ donation list because there is not an organ available for them.

Section V: Enforcement

Doctors and healthcare workers will enforce this bill. Because it is automatically assumed the person is giving consent to having their internal organs transplanted, unless the immediate family can provide proof from the deceased that they would not like to be an organ donor, the doctors and healthcare workers are free to enter the deceased into the organ donor list.

Section VI: Payment

This bill does not require any additional funding.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY36

Committee: Q- Transportation

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Lorelai Kindle

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Pass, Don't Hit the Grass

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- An All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) is a self-propelled vehicle that was designed to travel across unimproved terrain and is unsuitable for public highways and roads. Examples are quad bikes and golf carts.

Section II: Proposal

Due to the possible fatalities that can occur, this bill would, once enacted, require the education and licensing of operators of ATVs. No one without a license and proper education would be able to operate an ATV in the state of Alabama.

Section III: Justification

Most people don't know how to operate an ATV but still do anyway. About 135,000 people are injured and over 700 are killed in ATV accidents every year.

Section IV: Consequences

By enacting a bill that required education and licensing, less people would suffer the consequences of uneducated people. Alabama would have less people in the hospital because of ATV injuries. Hospital workers would have less patients they would have to care for.

Section V: Enforcement

Any law enforcement officer who is a part of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), a motor vehicle inspector, a state police officer, uniformed municipal police officer, constable, state park police officer, state forest police officer, or forest ranger. The owner or agent of the land the ATV is being operated on may also stop the vehicle and enforce it.

Usage of an ATV without a license or permit with a certified supervisor can result in a total amount of fines, fees and assessments that can total up to \$60.

Supervising an unpermitted person knowingly can total fees to \$121.

Failure to stop driving or pull over after request from an enforcement officer can result in fines, fees, and other assessments that can total up to \$78.

Section VI: Payment

This would be paid for the same as the driver's test. A permit test would cost \$5 and a license would cost \$36.25. Tests would be taken on a safe section of road near the DMV along with the written test.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY37

Committee: M- Public Safety

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Kaitlyn Kinney

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Guns Aren't Fun

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Feeble- weak, not strong
- Honorable Discharge- the highest ranking a service member can have when leaving the military
- Felon- a person who was convicted of a crime

Section II: Proposal

This bill will require 18-year-olds to get a gun permit before purchasing a gun, and they would need a permit to carry a gun.

It would require a background check on the given person before giving the opportunity to purchase a gun.

Unless the person is retired/honorably discharged from the military, in which case they only need a permit to carry the gun, only if they are older than 18.

If the person is also a convicted/formally convicted felon, then they are restricted from getting a gun overall, even if they are a juvenile.

Once you have the permits, you can then carry the gun openly.

If a 15-year-old would like to hunt, they would need a hunting permit and then a purchase permit in order to get a hunting rifle and only will be allowed to hunt, and not carry.

Section III: Justification

A test done from 2013 to 2019 showed an overall highlight that states with feeble gun laws had 5% more mass shootings and 50% more mass shooting casualties than states with healthy gun laws.

Alabama has also been recorded in one study with the second-highest rate of gun violence in the US. In different studies, Alabama was recorded in at least the top ten with gun violence.

Currently, Governor Kay Ivey had made it even easier for any person to get a gun, even young juvenile offenders. Governor Ivey also removed the requirement for people to get a permit, this removes the filter that lets law-abiding citizens get guns, while others don't.

Section IV: Consequences

People will believe this violates the 2nd amendment, but all this bill does is help the people who deserve guns get their guns and limit the people who don't deserve them to not getting them.

Only allowing law-abiding citizens to carry guns will help lower the rates of gun violence seeing as felons are restricted from even owning one.

People will also be safe since the right people still have guns. They will also be safe because with the better filter and the harder time it would be to obtain a gun, then there would be less gun violence.

Section V: Enforcement

In order to get the permit to purchase a gun, the person would have to just get a paper from a local gun shop that will allow people to only buy a gun.

If the person would like to carry the gun, then there would be a test to fill out at the police station, as well as a background check, that will allow people to carry the gun on them.

Section VI: Payment

The payment will come from the person purchasing the permits.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY38
Committee: P- Education
Delegation: Spain Park
Author(s): Hudson Reed

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Fair Play for all

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Transgender. is a term used to describe people whose gender identity differs from the sex they were assigned at birth. Gender identity is a person's internal, personal sense of being male or female.

Section: II Proposal

This bill will make transgender athletes play with the same gender as they were before.

Section: III Justification

The reason this bill needs to be passed is because it is simply unfair for a man at birth to play women's sports. The reason for it being unfair is that a transgender person who changed into a woman still has the physical traits of a man.

Section IV: Consequences

The outcome of this bill will be to make sports fairer since it is unfair for a person that the same physical strength as a man to play women's sports.

Section V: Enforcement

The department of education and the AHSAA. The AHSAA will enforce this when they decide if you are eligible to play.

Section VI: Payment

There will be no payment required for this bill.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

- This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

- This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY39
Committee: R- Environment
Delegation: Spain Park
Author(s): Sadie Brewer

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Bunnies Over Beauty

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definition

- Cosmetic: involving or relating to treatments or products intended to improve one's appearance.
- Animal cruelty: is generally a malicious or criminally negligent act that causes an animal pain, suffering, or death.

Section II: Proposal

This bill will make cosmetic testing on animals inside Alabama State borders illegal in the state.

Section III: Justification

Animal Cruelty is illegal in the state of Alabama as well as many other states so why should we allow Animal testing when it is a form of animal cruelty? Every year many Dogs, bunnies, cats, as well as other small animals, and rodents get tortured for the sake of mass-producing beauty products. These cruel and inhumane procedures should be stopped and deemed illegal in the state of Alabama.

There are many laws in other states that eliminate this form of testing such as the Animal Welfare Act which was signed into law on August 24, 1966. It is the only Federal law in the United States that regulates the treatment of animals in research, teaching, testing, exhibition, transport, and by dealers. The Act is enforced by USDA, APHIS, and Animal Care. Animal testing is also a very unnecessary procedure because there are many beauty brands that don't perform these procedures on animals and are able to produce just as good if not better products at the same rate as the brands that do perform these. It also is a huge waste of money since it costs these brands around 30,000 dollars to perform these procedures.

Overall Animal testing is unreliable, inefficient, and outdated. The suffering that animals unwillingly endure in our experiments and tests is unnecessary and cruel. This is why I believe we should make a bill that outlaws it in Alabama state borders.

Section IV: Enforcement

This will be enforced by the department of Commons and they will do this by making the factories that perform these procedures stop using this method of testing and shut down the factories if they refuse to do this and they will have annual checkups every 6 months to ensure that these forms of testing aren't going on.

Section V: Payment

This should cost little to nothing and not affect taxpayers negatively.

Section VI: Conflicting laws

This bill will override any conflicting laws upon the governor's signing

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY40

Committee: P- Education

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Brittain McClure

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: A Mind ts a Terrible Thing to Waste

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Mental health - a person's condition with regard to their psychological and emotional well-being
- absence - any student who is physically or mentally unable to attend school
- Excused absence - school knows children have a valid reason to be absent
- Mental health absence - your mental health is disrupting your ability to participate in academic and campus life

Section II: Proposal

Because education is one of the biggest causes of many mental health problems of students this bill would enact that grade students 7 -12 have the option to have 3 mental health days per semester.

Section III: Justification

Education is one of the teenagers' biggest pressures in life, as more or less than 18 years of their life is revolved around education. Even though this problem isn't new, it's occurring in students' life earlier than before. Plus, mental health problems began to increase during and as we transition out of a pandemic. Technology has also been a big impact on students' mental health because, although it has created a way for kids to connect to school and get work done, it has also made it hard for kids to disconnect from school.

1 in 3 teens meet the criteria for a mental health disorder by the age of 18. This rate will continue to increase if the state of Alabama doesn't try to make a change. 37.1% of united states high school students reported poor mental health during Covid 19. About 15% of youth report suffering from at least one major depressive episode in the year 2022.

Section IV: Consequences

After this bill is passed, the school system may have issues initially with how students use it these days. However, students should begin to be more engaged in activities in school after taking a mental health day.

Section V: Enforcement

The Alabama depart of education will enforce this

Section VI: Payment

This does not cost any money



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY41

Committee: Q- Health

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Ella Yarbrough

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Free healthcare for all!

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Health care - The organized provision of medical care to individuals or a community.
- Public health - Public health promotes and protects the health of people and the communities where they live, learn, work and play.
- Health insurance - A contract that requires your health insurer to pay some or all of your health care costs in exchange for a premium.
- Medical bankruptcies - Medical bankruptcy is an informal term that describes clearing out medical debt. Medical debt is something that always stays with you. 1.1 million people suffer from medical debt in Alabama.

Section II: Proposal

This free healthcare bill would include check-ups, screenings, patient consulting to prevent illnesses, disease, or other health problems. It should not cost people to stay healthy no matter how much money you make. Healthcare should be an essential by the government service.

Section III: Justification

This bill should be indicated because with people health improving that lets them live longer and healthier life. With people's health improving it will lower the rate of people dying and prevent illnesses. Healthcare should be provided to everyone. 7.6% of Alabama's population does not have health care. People shouldn't have to pay to live a longer and healthier life. Alabama has the highest prevalence of stroke, the third-highest rate of diabetes and kidney disease, and consistently high levels of heart disease and obesity. Fruit and vegetable consumption and physical activity levels are low. Together, these factors, along with many others, have placed Alabama at 48th in the national health rankings. If everyone had free healthcare it would reduce overall health care spending, improve public health, and would stop medical bankruptcies.

Section IV: Consequences

There is a lack of competition in the healthcare industry so that's why there isn't free healthcare. If Alabama passed this bill it would decrease the number of health problems in the state because people would be getting the help they need without having to worry about the cost. It would increase the number of fruits and vegetables and other healthy foods for people because they could eat healthier without having to worry about the cost of food, they will be provided with what they need. A free healthcare system comes with tight

regulation and offers the government similar cost control to socialized medicine. It relies on an overall healthy population, as a greater prevalence of sick citizens will drain the "sickness fund" at a much faster rate.

Section V: Enforcement

Health insurance company of Alabama would enforce this.

Section VI: Payment

Healthcare would be paid for by taxes.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY42

Committee: Q- Health

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Reagan Mosolino

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: The Blue Heart Project

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Human Trafficking- The unlawful act of transporting or coercing people in order to benefit from their work or service type in the form of forced labor.
- Trauma- A deeply distressing or disturbing experience that causes emotional shock.
- Survivor- a person who has experienced abuse or cruel treatment but escaped
- Credentials- a qualification, or aspect of a person's background, typically when used to indicate that they are suitable for something.
- GED- a group of four subject tests which, when passed, provide certification that the test taker has United States high school-level academic skills.

Section II: Proposal

1. This bill, once enacted, gives trafficking survivors in the state of Alabama financial compensation and legal aid in order to restore government credentials that were stolen or compromised during the time of tracking. This would include aid in restoring driver's licenses and birth certificates.

2. This bill will also provide financial aid for education and training for trafficking survivors to get their GEDs for jobs.

Section III: Justification

There are over 6,000 victims of human trafficking each day in Alabama. Which includes most victims as women. When they get back into society they have a lot of PTSD and trauma created from being trafficked. That is something Alabama does help with....

During their time out of society, the victims get things taken away like driver's licenses and a lot of identification needed for jobs. Alabama doesn't provide things that help trafficking survivors get back what they lost. This fund will also provide free education for GEDs.

Section IV: Consequences

After this bill is passed, trafficking survivors will get back all their items of identification that were lost and would be provided with free education for GEDs. This will make it easier for the survivors to get back into society which will also help provide them with the financial stability that they lost.

Section V: Enforcement

The Department of Human Resources would enforce this bill. If this bill is passed, the DHR will create a donation project which will help trafficking survivors get their licenses and other identification lost during that time back without the survivors having to pay money for the credentials. It will also help trafficking survivors with free education to get their GEDs.

Section VI: Payment

To fund this program, a state-managed fund will accept donations and grants. To promote more donations, the state will institute a new tax policy. Any citizen of the state of Alabama who donates to this fund will get a 50% tax claim on a taxpayer's state tax liability for every donated dollar.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY43

Committee: R- Commerce

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Bella Angelone

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Hangry for Tax Relief

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I : Definitions

- Tax-Mandatory contributions levied on individuals
- Grocery Tax- Taxes on peoples food
- Basic Necessity- Something that isn't a want but a need in someone's life

Section II: Proposal

This bill will remove grocery taxes. To compensate for the lost money of taking away grocery taxes, we will increase property taxes.

Section III: Justification

In America there are people working hard and making as low as \$7.25 an hour (minimum wage). Someone making minimum wage is barely bringing home \$309.2 a week, that barely covers groceries for a \$234.10 a week average with tax. Food is a necessity in life and no one should be denied their basic right to food. Alabama is one of 7 states in the whole country who charge taxes on a basic necessity of life in addition to having one of the highest grocery tax rates. Therefore taking away Grocery taxes would be a highly ethical thing to do due to its numerous consequences it has. However there would need to be a way to compensate for the money the state would lose when removing grocery taxes.

The Alabama property tax is one of the lowest in the country, equaling \$3.33 per \$1000 of property value, meanwhile the national average is \$10.35. Therefore to compensate for the lost money of taking away grocery taxes , we will increase property taxes by \$4. In grocery taxes all the different amounts of income all pay the same amount but on property taxes you can charge the right amount that is similar to the person's income and property size.

Section IV: Consequences

This bill will make food more accessible to socioeconomically disadvantaged populations in the state of Alabama. This bill will even out the playing field of inequity in Alabama and help out the 16% of Alabamians in poverty.

Section V Enforcement

This bill will be enacted by the Alabama department of Revenue.

Section VI: Payment

Once this bill is in effect it will Remove grocery taxes and will immediately increase the property taxes to \$7.33 per \$1000.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor or its otherwise becoming law in Alabama



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY44

Committee: N- Judicial

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Jaylin Arias

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: No Man is an Island

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Solitary confinement- The isolation of a prisoner in a separate cell as a punishment
- Crime rate- The ratio between the number of felonies and misdemeanors recorded by the police and gendarmerie and the population in question
- Correctional facility- A jail, prison, or detention facility used to house people who have been arrested, detained, held, or convicted by a criminal justice agency or a court
- Psychosis- a severe mental condition in which thought and emotions are so affected that contact is lost with external reality
- Sensory deprivation- A process by which someone is deprived of normal external stimuli such as sight and sound for an extended period of time, especially as an experimental technique in psychology

Section II: Proposal

Because of the inhumanity of solitary confinement, this bill would once be enacted, and remove solitary confinement in Alabama correctional facilities. Correctional facilities would have to remove disciplinary segregation in Alabama and be fined for noncompliance.

Section III: Justification

The state of Alabama should call solitary confinement what it is, cruel and inhumane. It can ruin someone's life, as it is a torturous punishment that too many do not survive. It is sensory deprivation and lack of important social interaction which causes or exacerbates trauma as well as other mental health issues. People who experience isolation in jail suffer mentally, emotionally, and financially both while incarcerated and after being released. It can also cause psychosis. The individual is not the only one impacted by solitary confinement, whole communities mourn the loss of parents, siblings, and friends. More than 2 dozen people in Alabama have lost their lives in solitary confinement and The state of Alabama is willing to do everything in its power to put an end to that.

A 2019 South Carolina study found that survivors of disciplinary segregation are 127 times more likely to die of an opioid overdose within two weeks of release. Being placed in solitary confinement also increased the risk of being convicted of another crime within three years of release by 15%. Correctional facilities spend three times more on the solitary unit of prisons than the other units. The average cost per year of each solitary prisoner is \$75,000 while a normal prisoner costs an average of \$14,780 per year.

Solitary confinement is used to protect the other prisoners, but it increases the crime rate after release making the public less safe for its citizens. Therefore removing this unit in Alabama prisons would decrease the crime rate and make the public safer.

Section IV: Consequences

After this bill is passed, prisons in Alabama may have problems at first with misbehaving prisoners but by not putting them in solitary confinement, later the crime rate in Alabama will be lower for prisoners after being released. After removing this unit, fewer prisoners would have psychological, and mental health problems.

Section V: Enforcement

The Alabama Department of Justice would enforce this bill. If this bill is passed, the day it is signed into law, Alabama prisons will have 72 hours to remove the solitary confinement unit from all its prisons. They would have 1 year to convert this part of the prison into normal cells. If a prison's disciplinary segregation is not discontinued within this time frame, the prison will be fined \$75,000 for each prisoner still in solitary.

Section VI: Payment

The Alabama Department of Justice will redirect its budget for solitary prisoners to pay for the conversion of the cells into normal cells. Any money raised will also go toward the removal of the unit and the new cells and rehabilitating the failing prisons in Alabama.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY45

Committee: Q- Transportation

Delegation: Spain park

Author(s): Allie Perez

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Introduce a Driver Privilege Card for Undocumented Residents in Alabama

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Undocumented resident: foreign-born people who reside in the U.S. but do not possess citizenship, a valid visa, or other proof of lawful presence
- Driver privilege card: A certification for undocumented residents to become legal drivers
- REAL-ID: a driver's license or identification card that is also a federally accepted form of identification

Section II: Proposal

In the interest of the public safety on Alabama roadways, this bill would, once enacted, allow non-US citizens who reside in Alabama and are unable to present a proof of lawful presence to become legal drivers through the issuance of a driver privilege card. In order to be eligible for a driver privilege card, the applicant must present two proofs of identity showing the applicant's full legal name and date of birth (ie. a foreign passport, foreign driver's license, a consular identification document issued by the country of citizenship, or an individual taxpayer identification number assignment letter) and two proofs of Alabama residency (ie. a monthly mortgage statement, residential rental/lease agreement, or utility bill). Additionally, the applicant must pay a \$40 application fee to begin the certification process.

After the required documentation and fees are received, the applicant must undergo and pass a vision exam, driving knowledge test, and road skills exam. If a translator is needed for the completion of these exams, the applicant is permitted to provide one. Translators are required to present a photo identification document.

It is important to note that all the age-based restrictions applied to the Alabama driver's license also apply to the driver privilege card, such that a 14 year old, for example, will not be allowed to apply for a driver privilege card. However, it is equally important to note that the driver privilege card is not a REAL-ID. Therefore, it may not be used to acquire a commercial driver's license, board an airplane, enter federal buildings, or vote.

Finally, the state of Alabama will ensure that none of the information collected about an individual's identity will be shared with national immigration enforcement agencies, such as the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The information collected will only function for the purposes of identification within the state of Alabama and for the state to ensure that all drivers present on Alabama roadways are competent, certified drivers.

Section III: Justification

Not having a process by which undocumented residents of Alabama can become legally certified to operate a motor vehicle on Alabama roadways poses a serious risk for the safety of the public. Currently, there are an estimated 55,833 undocumented people living in the state of Alabama. Ensuring these residents become certified drivers through a series of competency exams makes the roads safer for everyone. Several other states which have passed similar laws have experienced the benefits of providing their undocumented residents a process through which to become legal drivers. Connecticut experienced a 9% decrease in hit-and-runs while California experienced a 7-10% decrease in the same accident category, which translates into an estimated savings of \$3.5 million in out-of-pocket property damage expenses for California drivers. This decrease in hit-and-runs can be attributed to the fact that undocumented immigrants were less likely to flee after getting into an accident because they had valid driving documentation and they knew that police would not report them to federal immigration authorities if they had this driving documentation. Moreover, Utah and New Mexico experienced 80 and 60 percent drops, respectively, in uninsured driving after passing laws that allow undocumented persons to become legal drivers.

Not only would the driver permit card increase roadway safety, but it would also have positive effects on the economy and human welfare at large. Many undocumented workers are limited in their ability to perform everyday, necessary tasks due to their limited access to transportation or a fear of driving unlawfully. With the driver permit card, undocumented residents would have a much greater access to a variety of jobs, goods, and services, all of which would ultimately have positive effects on the economy. On a more personal level, the driver permit card would improve the lives of their holders by allowing them to access essential services such as doctor's appointments, education, grocery stores, and more. It is also important to consider that not only would the undocumented drivers benefit from this access, but so would their children. Notably, there are 28,000 U.S. citizen children in Alabama who have non-citizen parents. These children require housing, food, clothing, healthcare, and education, all of which their parents must travel to access. Therefore, making a driver permit card available to undocumented immigrants would have far reaching economic and social benefits.

Section IV: Consequences

After this bill is passed, Alabama roadways will become safer. Less hit-and-run accidents will occur and the number of people with car insurance will increase. Additionally, there will be increased trust between undocumented immigrant communities and law enforcement. The economy will benefit from the increased mobility of people to work and shop and more jobs will be filled. Perhaps, more jobs will also be created at the DMV to accommodate for an increased influx of applicants.

Section V: Enforcement

The Alabama Department of Revenue, Motor Vehicle Division will enforce this bill. If this bill is passed, its effective date will be delayed 9 months to give the motor vehicle division and its vendor sufficient time to make the necessary system changes to implement this new credentialing process. This would include training employees, composing the application, updating online systems and services, and designing and manufacturing the driver permit card.

Section VI: Payment

The Alabama Department of Revenue, Motor Vehicle Division will receive \$50,000 in initial funding to implement this bill. These funds will pay for the cost to create the necessary changes to DMV's information system and for the DMV's vendor to produce the new credential. After this initial investment, the new credential will generate funds from the \$40 application fee, and these funds will be used to continue paying for this bill.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY46

Committee: P- Education

Delegation: SPHS

Author(s): Levi Hughes

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Free School Meals For All Students

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- School: An educational institution meant to teach children and prepare them for life.
- School Meals: Meals (Breakfast and Lunch) provided by a school for students who need food from the school because it is harder for them to get food from home. from home. Does not include a la carte items.
- A La Carte Items: Food items served at school lunches that cost a little extra and don't come with a standard meal.

Section II: Proposal

School meals will be served for free. A la carte items will cost slightly more in order to fund this project. \$3.70 will be the national average for lunches, adjusted for inflation every year. \$2.72 will be the national average for breakfast. When this bill is passed, food authorities shall not physically discriminate against any child for needing free lunch, whether by a special token or out-loud written document, singling the child out.

Section III: Justification

This bill is necessary as kids being unable to get breakfast or lunch from a school because it would add to their debt is a problem. Most children are also afraid of applying for free school meals as they are usually singled out by some sort of special token or a written list. This bill would make school meals free for all, eliminating the shaming of people who need free meals and opening meals up to all.

Section IV: Consequences

This bill would cause positive change in schools and communities as it would get food to those who need it, giving them more energy to get through the school day. This bill MAY reduce the quality of school lunches, but it is unlikely given the results of the 21-22 school year.

Section V: Enforcement

This bill would be enforced by the department of education

Section VI: Payment

This bill would be paid for by slightly raising the price of a la carte items as well as setting an average price per school lunch.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY48

Committee: N- Judicial

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Ozark - Carroll High School

Author(s): Amiyah Jackson, Alina McKnight and Layla Ard

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Revoking the Imposition of the Death

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

Botched - to carry out a task badly or carelessly

Capital Punishment - The legal authorization of ending a convicted individual's life as punishment for a criminal offense.

Death Row - a prison block or section for prisoners sentenced to death.

Impose - to be accepted or put into place

Lethal Injection - a legal administered injection that causes severe pain, such as respiratory distress and other associated symptoms, used as a form of capital punishment

Torture - infliction of severe pain or suffering

Section II: Purpose

This bill will prohibit the sentencing of the death penalty upon the violation of federal law. Funding of the death penalty would be relocated to the Alabama Department of Corrections to a) provide housing and living expenses for those previously sentenced to the death penalty and b) improve current prison conditions.

Section III: Justification

On average, it costs Alabama more than \$30 million to execute a single criminal sentenced to death. This is only putting Alabama into a greater debt each year. In 2022, two men were executed successfully in Alabama. Instead, that money could be used towards something that better benefits the Alabama prison systems, such as funding towards the ADOC.

Not only is the death penalty expensive, failures of incapacitating a criminal are on the rise. Within the USA, seven of the twenty executions held in 2022 were botched. For Alabama, two botched executions took place in 2022, making it a total of three since 2018. One occurred in July of 2022 when a three hour delay held up the execution of Joe James. Most recently in November of 2022, prison workers were unable to administer a lethal dose injection in the execution of Kenneth Smith.

The death penalty does not deter crime. In fact, Alabama has amongst the highest crime rates within the US. Evidently, the death penalty does not lower crime statistics. The funding for executing an inmate could be used towards other elements that would be more useful in lowering offenses.

Section IV: Severance Clause

Any laws and parts of law in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section V: Enforcement

All those sentenced to death would be resentenced to life in prison with no possibility of parole.

Section VI: Funding

These funds will be allocated to the general fund.

Section VII: Severability Clause

All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act or any provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VIII: Enactment Clause

The bill will become effective January 1st, 2024, upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY49

Committee: R- Environment

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Ozark - Carroll High School

Author(s): Myranda Brock and Rebecca Woodham

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Don't Say No... Wait You Can't

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

Animal testing - also known as animal experimentation, is the use of non-human animals in experiments that seek to control the variables that affect the behavior or biological system under study.

Science - the systematic study of the structure and behavior of the physical and natural world through observation, experimentation, and the testing of theories against the evidence obtained.

Medicine - a compound or preparation used for the treatment or prevention of disease, especially a drug or drugs taken by mouth.

Experimenters - a person who performs a scientific procedure, especially in a laboratory, to determine something.

Animal cruelty - a person commits the crime of cruelty to a dog or cat in the second degree if he/she, in a cruel manner, overloads, overdrives, deprives of necessary sustenance or shelter, unnecessarily or cruelly beats, injures, mutilates, or causes the same to be done a dog or a cat.

CDC - Center of Disease Control.

PETA - People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.

Section II: Purpose

The practices are performed on living animals for purposes of research into basic biological diseases, assessing the effectiveness of new medicinal products, and testing human health. As well as, safety of consumer industry products such as cosmetics, household cleaners, food additives, pharmaceuticals, and other industrial/agro-chemicals. They are killed in laboratories for biology lessons, medical training, curiosity-driven experimentation, and chemical, drug, food, and cosmetic testing.

Section III: Summarization

Each year, more than 110 million animals including mice, frogs, dogs, rabbits, monkeys, fish, and birds are killed in U.S. laboratories. 115 million animals are used for testing so five million animals are reused for experimentation and testing each year. In the state of Alabama, UAB (University of Alabama at Birmingham) is a major conductor in animal testing, the university received \$253 million in state appropriations in the last fiscal year, some of which have funded animal experiments. Ninety-five percent of all drugs that are shown to be safe and effective in animal tests fail in human trials.

Section IV: Proposition

Legislating this bill will make experimenters and persons who are involved in this act be punished. They will get a minimum of two years in prison, depending on the severity of the experiment, the consequence will vary. This sentence will be double the current punishment of abusing animals in Alabama by one year, though the law as of right now does not include animal testing, only in certain aspects of the experiments. This bill will also make animal testing banned statewide.

Section V: Justification

Defining what is considered animal cruelty will determine if animal testing is morally and ethically okay. Considering this, it is true animal testing is the same as animal cruelty by definition.

Animals have a consciousness as well as emotions, though they can not speak for themselves that does not give their life any less merit than that of humans. The suffering that animals unwillingly endure in experiments and tests is unnecessary and inhumane..

Section VI: Payment

Working with PETA, their funding will be valuable to the mission of protecting these animals against abuse and cruelty.

Section VII: Consequences

A minimum of a two year sentence which will escalate depending on severity of the crime and abuse of the animal.

Section VII: Enforcement

There will be areas in the state of Alabama that will aid the effort of animal testing prevention. Any animal that is found by animal control will be put in shelters. The CDC will seize any drugs or chemicals that were used in various experiments by experimenters.

Section VIII: Severability Clause

All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act or any provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section IX: Enactment Clause

The bill will become effective January 1st, 2024, upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY50

Committee: P- Education

Delegation: Ozark - Carroll High School

Author(s): Tenley White and Julie Nguyen

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Perfect Attendance is not Perfect Mental Health

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

Mental disorder - a wide range of conditions that affect mood, thinking, and behavior.

Section II: Proposal

Require all public schools in the state of Alabama to grant students from the sixth to twelfth grade a supplement of five mental health days every school year that would not count against their attendance. In addition to this, hire a school appointed professional to aid and support the students' mental health journey.

Section III: Justification

One in six youth aged six to seventeen experience a mental health disorder each year. Mental health days reduce stress and burnout while also providing teens the chance to come back with more energy, less stress, and a renewed spirit. According to the National Alliance for Mental Health, high school students with depression are two times more likely to drop out of school than their peers. With this act, we can raise awareness and put an end to the stigma that adolescents do not feel the same effects of mental health disorders as adults. By making these changes and allowing students to take these days off, we are making school a better environment for the students while also supporting them in being their best self that they will carry with them for the rest of their lives.

Section IV: Funding

The salary for the appointed professionals hired at the schools will be allocated from the general fund.

Section V: Severability Clause

All laws or legislation in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section VI: Enactment

This bill shall go into effect immediately after its passage and signing by the governor, or it is otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY51

Committee: Q- Health

Delegation: Davidson High School

Author(s): Liana Jayasena and Alyssa Fields

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Abortion Rights in Alabama

Preamble: WHEREAS under code §26-23H-4, it is unlawful for any person to intentionally perform or attempt to perform an abortion unless an abortion is necessary in order to prevent a serious health risk to the unborn child's mother, disregarding incidents such as rape. Due to this, measures should be taken to ensure that, if rape is present, abortion is a right given as an option.

Section I Definitions

Abortion- the deliberate termination of a human pregnancy, most often performed during the first 28 weeks of pregnancy

Rape- a type of sexual assault usually involving sexual intercourse or other forms of sexual penetration carried out against a person without their consent

Section II Proposition

Abortions are a right given to citizens in the presence of a serious health risk to the unborn child's mother or in the case of rape causing the pregnancy.

Section III Justification

Previously, under code §26-23H-4, it is unlawful for any person to intentionally perform or attempt to perform an



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abortion unless an abortion is necessary in order to prevent a serious health risk to the unborn child's mother. This dismisses incidents such as rape. Consequently, children may be birthed by mothers that may not be of the legal age to take care of a child and the child may be put into a rigorous adoption system. Another consequence may be the child is born by a mother that is not capable of having the child and therefore is not treated with care, causing the child to live a life not suitable for the child's needs. Due to this, the right to an abortion if rape occurs is necessary.

Section IV Enforcement and Funding

If the patient has insurance, then the insurance company will pay the costs to fund the abortion. If the patient does not have insurance, then the patient will have to pay for the procedure. If rape is the confirmed cause of the pregnancy or the pregnancy may result in serious health risks to the patient, then the option of abortion will be provided to them. If the medical staff refuses to abort a fetus, if the fetus' birth causes health risks to the mother or if the mother was impregnated by rape, they can be fined and imprisoned in the county jail for up to 5 years depending on the outcome of the patient.

Section V Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this acts or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VI Enactment

This act to become effective upon passage and approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY53

Committee: Q-Transportation

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Eleanor Couch

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Addition of a Transportation Benefit to the EBT (Electronic Benefits Transfer) Card

Section I: Definitions

Benefit: Money or monetary value given to an individual by Federal, State, or local governments for the purpose of financial assistance.

SNAP Benefit: Benefit provided to low-income individuals to allow them to buy the food they need to maintain good health by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. Previously known as food stamps.

EBT: an electronic system that allows SNAP benefit recipients to pay for food using a card similar to a credit card or a bank card.

Section II: Background

Transportation is necessary for daily commutes. People need to have a way to get to their workplaces, schools, doctors, stores, and more. Public transportation in the state of Alabama is severely limited, which leaves people who do not have access to a car without a means of transportation. Lack of transportation has a significant negative impact on one's quality of life.

Section III: Proposition

A transportation benefit allowing payment for 1000 yearly services from select transportation services will be added to EBT Cards. Those who qualify for SNAP benefits are also eligible to receive this benefit. Select transportation services include ride-hailing services, taxi services, bus services, and rail transport.

Section IV: Justification

Lack of transportation disproportionately affects impoverished families. People under the poverty line have to spend a higher portion of their incomes on transportation if it is even something they have ample access to. Providing this resource would make it much easier for adults to get higher-paying jobs to lift themselves and their families above the poverty line. Research has shown that GDP per capita and car ownership are linked. It is imperative that we



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implement this program to lower our statewide poverty rate, which is 16.1% as of 2021. Alabama citizens are some of the most financially challenged in the country, and it is necessary for our State government to assist its citizens to allow for our state to flourish.

Section V: Implementation

The funding for this bill would come from state-collected sales tax. In order to make sure government income is not significantly impacted, the minimum sales tax collected by the state would be raised from 4% to 6%. This bill is to be overseen and administered by the Alabama Department of Human Resources.

Section VI: Severability Clause (Same for everyone)

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment Clause

The standard response: This act is to become effective upon passage and approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY54

Committee: N- Judicial

Delegation: Davidson

Author(s): Jacob Kim

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Prohibition of Marijuana in Alabama

Preamble: WHEREAS under code §20-2A-50 medical cannabis is to be regulated and is to be cultivated, processed, dispensed, securely transported, and tested in laboratories; consequences include the marijuana being used for unrightful purposes. Due to this, measures should be taken to eliminate all uses of marijuana in the state of Alabama.

Section I Definitions

Cannabis: a tall plant with a stiff upright stem, divided serrated leaves, and glandular hairs. It is used to produce hemp fiber and as a drug; like marijuana

Section II Proposition

All uses of marijuana should be illegal and inappropriate to use without any exceptions.

Section III Justification

Marijuana should not be used for medical purposes; there may be other replacements for marijuana without having the side effects it inflicts on you. The medically qualified marijuana has CBD which has negative side effects as well. Because of this, no marijuana in any form should be allowed.

Section IV Enforcement and Funding

Instead of medical marijuana, replacement drugs with less severe side effects will be used. If marijuana is illegally used, you can be fined between \$20 and \$1000 and imprisoned in the county jail for up to 1 year depending on the severity of the case.

Section V Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this acts or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VI Enactment

This act is to become effective upon the start of the next fiscal year given the passage and approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY52

Committee: P-Education

Delegation: Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Hannah Mills

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Diversify the English Curriculum for Students K-12 Act

Section 1: Definitions

Historically Underrepresented Students/Groups This term refers to groups who have been denied access and/or suffered past institutional

discrimination in the United States due to ability, color, ethnicity, gender, and race.

Diverse Literature: Literature that exposes the reader to a variety of characters. Characters are varied in one way or another. Variations common in diverse literature include the following: race,

ethnic group, nationality, social-economic status, urban versus rural settings, family dynamics, and abilities/disabilities.

Public Schools: Public schools are learning institutions that are funded by the Alabama government.

Curriculum: Refers to the lessons and academic content taught in a school or in a specific course or program.

Section 2: Proposal

This bill requires all public schools in Alabama to diversify the English curriculum to include more novels that represent the community as a whole. School systems should require all students

to be exposed to diverse literature. Diverse literature should account for at least 30% of the yearly curriculum. Diverse texts should be treated the same as the standard curriculum.

Students

will be required to be tested on these readings to ensure comprehension.

Section 3: Justification

According to the U.S Census Bureau, 36% of Alabamians are a part of the minority. However, the English curriculum in Alabama does not include minority groups and women. The English curriculum should reflect the Alabama population. Many novels included in the current English



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curriculum do not reflect the diversity of the modern classroom. A diverse English curriculum can allow historically underrepresented students to feel more comfortable and included in the school environment. This bill can help underrepresented students feel more supported in the school environment and stimulate learning. Diverse literature increases the self-love among underrepresented students and allows these students to take pride in their culture, identity, and

gender. A diverse English curriculum can benefit all students in Alabama. All students will be exposed to new perspectives and points of view. Furthermore, diverse texts allow students to respect the differences and opinions of others which can help unify Alabama classrooms and create more well rounded students.

Section 4: Funding

Funding for additional literature and other necessary materials will be taken out of the Department of Education Fund.

Section 5: Severance

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section 6: Enactment

This act shall become effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the Governor or its
otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY55

Committee: Q-Health

Delegation: Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Anna Kate Bailey

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Mandatory CPR Certification Act SEC. 1.

(a) CPR stands for cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and is defined by the American Heart Association as "an emergency lifesaving procedure performed when the heart stops beating." The CPR Certification will entail training in compressions, mouth to mouth, choking procedure, and AED usage, as defined by the American Heart Association.

(b) Chest compressions are used during CPR and are regularly patterned movements pressing against the chest in short intervals in order to restart/regulate the heartbeat.

(c) Airways must be checked before completing CPR. The airway is where the air a person is breathing enters and exits the body. Before having CPR performed on them, the person must have clear, open, unobstructed airways, allowing for circulation to take place.

(d) Obstructions are blockages of passages that prevent certain functions from taking place. In this context, the airways of a person must be checked for obstructions preventing the person's breathing.

(e) An AED is defined by the Red Cross as "an automated external defibrillator that is used to help those experiencing sudden cardiac arrest."

(f) Cardiac Arrest is described as a sudden and unexpected stop of the heart, preventing it from pumping blood.

SEC. 2.

(1) This act will require all Alabama high school students and teachers to become certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation. This certification must be completed in order to graduate/teach, and may be embedded within another mandated course, such as health, or career preparedness. The certification must be renewed every two years, so teachers must undergo a course during the summer every two years.

(2) This will affect all students wishing to graduate through the Alabama school system following the General Education Pathway. It will also affect teachers that must become certified as well, and that may potentially teach this course, or have this course embedded within a class they already teach.

(3) The Alabama course of study requires Health Education for all high school students, with the majority of students taking this course in 10th grade. In **Section 1.4 c** of Health Education, the performance of CPR is listed, however currently this does not mean the students must learn the resuscitation method, just that they learn about it. This simple course in certification, which is already outlined within the Health Education course, can be easily modified to include CPR certification. The World Health Standards in lesson 3.1 a includes learning to "examine possible solutions to world health issues through available intervention programs." CPR is certainly an



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an intervention, and therefore fits perfectly within both the Alabama and World Health Standards for high school students. Teacher workshops that occur over the summer may be adapted to teach CPR training. While embedding this course within another preexisting class/workshop is certainly an option, it is ultimately up to the school to make sure their students and teachers become CPR certified.

SEC. 3.

(1) About 350,000 people in the United States undergo cardiac arrest outside of a hospital. This means that they cannot receive the immediate and essential care in resuscitation that would be provided by professionals. The greater the percentage of the population that is well educated on CPR and other resuscitation techniques, the more of those 350,000 people that have a chance at survival.

(2) Only around 46% of the people that experience cardiac arrest outside of a hospital get the help that is vital to survival before professionals arrive. If bystanders were educated and could perform CPR, then they can automatically double or triple the survival rate.

(3) Currently, only about 10% of people that experience cardiac arrest outside of a hospital survive. The survival rate rises dramatically when CPR is performed or at least begun immediately, as often it takes too much time for the emergency personnel to arrive.

(4) When CPR is performed within the first 10 minutes after cardiac arrest begins, the brain tissue has a much better chance of fully recovering. Whereas the more time that elapses, the more likely that brain death will occur, as the body is unable to pump blood to it. If bystanders are able to perform CPR, then they give cardiac arrest patients a much higher survival and recovery rate.

SEC. 4.

(1) Funding for this act will be up to individual school systems, and can come from various areas of the school's budget. Ultimately, each school can make their own decisions on where they want the course to fit into their budget.

SEC. 5.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

SEC. 6.

This bill will be enacted after being signed into law and at the end of the 2022-2023 school year.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY56
Committee: M-Public Safety
Delegation: Davidson
Author(s): Alyssa Fields

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Assault Weapon Rights in Alabama

Preamble:

In the state of Alabama, there is no law restricting or banning assault weapons. Incidents, such as mass shootings and deaths, would occur much less if there was a law restricting assault weapons to military only.

Section I Definitions

Assault Weapons- semi-automatic firearms with a detachable magazine designed for military use

Section II Propositions

Assault weapons are not legal to be used by citizens and to be taken up and only able to be used by military forces.

Section III Justification

Out of all mass shooting incidents between 2009 and 2018, assault weapons accounted for 25% of deaths and 76% of nonfatal injuries. In addition, when assault weapons are used, 6x more people are shot. If these weapons were only allowed to be used by the military and the government, instead of citizens using these weapons for things like hunting.

Section IV Enforcement and Funding

If a person refuses to give their assault weapon(s) and are tried and charged, they shall either pay fees or up to 1 year in jail. If a person is caught with an assault weapon after the law goes into an action, no matter if the person is using it for unlawful reasons or not, they shall be charged and arrested with up to 3 years for non-deadly crimes and p to life for deadly crimes.

Section V Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this acts or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VI Enactment

This law is to become effective upon approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY57

Committee: Q-Transportation

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: YMCA Heart of the Valley

Author(s): Velinda Dionicio Perez

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: : Alabama Residential Driver's License

SECTION I: DEFINITIONS

The Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN): A tax-processing number issued by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to ensure that people—including undocumented immigrants—pay taxes even if they do not have a Social Security number (SSN) and regardless of their immigration status.

Driver's License: a document permitting a person to drive a motor vehicle.

SECTION II: PROPOSITIONS

- The license will be issued for driving purposes only.
- The license will state "For driving privileges only, not valid for federal identification, voting, or public benefit purposes."
- The applicant must show proof of having filed an Alabama income tax return or being a dependent of someone who has filed an Alabama income tax return for the past two years.
- The license will be issued to individuals who do not have a social security number and can provide proof of identity through passports, proof of date of birth, and residency.
- The license will be valid for three years.
- Discrimination is prohibited against individuals with a basic driver's License.

SECTION III: JUSTIFICATION

- The state of Alabama lacks strong public transportation.
- The average number of vehicles per household in Alabama is 1.09.
- 97% of working adults have at least one vehicle available in the state of Alabama.
- According to researchers at CoPilot, Alabama ranks as one of the most car-dependent states.



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- Immigrants pay taxes that support road and highway construction.

SECTION IV: SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

Any laws or parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

SECTION V: ENACTMENT CLAUSE

This bill will become effective immediately upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY58

Committee: P-Education

Delegation: LAMP

Author(s): Carson Washington

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Funding Remedial Education for Underserved and Failing Students

Section I. Definitions

- Students with academic deficiencies do not have passing grades in a minimum of five courses or higher than a 59.5 in the previous semester and are determined by an educator or administrator to be unlikely to successfully meet the standards for graduation.
- Low-income students are defined as minors from families with annual incomes below 200% of the federal poverty guideline.
- Professional development is defined as training and mentoring in specialized instruction strategies that can be applied in different subject areas.
- Public schools are institutions funded by taxation and maintained by a local government for the education of residents in that district.
- Learning disabilities are disorders that impact the ability to comprehend or use spoken or written language, perform mathematical calculations, and coordinate movements.
- Proof of employment includes employment verification letters, W-2 tax forms if eligible, contracts with an employer, and paychecks.

Section II. Provisions

- Every citizen in the State of Alabama between the ages 12 to 18 who is defined as 'academically deficient' in english language arts, science, social sciences or mathematics and attends a public school must
- Enroll in a remedial education class concerning the subject and attend a minimum of 75% of sessions. These classes shall take place between academic years for a minimum of 1 hour a day over a minimum of 25 days.
- Score above a 69.5 on a supplementary exam administered in that subject at the end of the period.
- Federal Title I provisions shall be increased by 20% in public schools where
- A minimum of 51% of students qualify as low-income.
- Individuals in the State of Alabama obtaining a teaching certificate must
- Pass the Praxis Core Test in their subject area.
- Have a minimum 2.65 GPA in their subject area.



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- Undergo a minimum of 50 hours of high-quality professional development.
- Pass the edTPA assessment.

Section III. Exemptions

- Citizens who are enrolled in any public school system within the State of Alabama and who have been diagnosed with a learning disability are exempt from the provisions of this bill.
- Citizens who are enrolled in any public school system within the State of Alabama and are employed for a minimum of 10 hours a week while providing proof of employment are exempt from the provisions of this bill.

Section IV. Justification

- Alabama's education system has in previous years lagged behind those of other states. In order for the citizens of this state to have a better quality of life, it is necessary for the ineffectiveness and inequalities in the educational system to be addressed.
- The Alabama Department of Education will, in the 2023-24 school year, lower the requirements for the Praxis Core Test.
- 22.7 percent of children in the State of Alabama are below the poverty threshold, the 7th highest percentage in the nation.
- The average ACT score from students in the state of Alabama is 18.8, the 9th lowest in the nation.
- 20 percent and 24 percent of Alabama students in the 8th grade scored at or above proficient in Mathematics and Reading respectively, as compared to the national average of 34%

Section V. Consequences

- If this bill were to become law, Alabama would see higher literacy and mathematics proficiency rates coupled with increased standardized exam scores. Furthermore, this bill would bring new economic development to the state through an increase of employment prospects.

Section VI. Enforcement

- The Alabama Department of Education and Alabama Department of Revenue will oversee the implementation of this legislation.

Section VII. Funding

- This legislation will be funded by a 1.15% increase in state income tax across all brackets.

Section VIII. Severance

- All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section IX. Enactment

- This act shall take effect ninety (90) days after the adjournment of the Youth Legislature.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY59

Committee: M- Public Safety

Delegation: St. James

Author(s): Emilee Alexander

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Drinking Bill

Section I: Definitions

Adult-for the purpose of this bill, an adult shall be defined as a person who has reached the age of 18.

Section II: Proposal

The drinking bill proposes that the drinking age in Alabama be lowered to the age of 18. The passing of this bill will require all establishments which serve alcohol in the state of Alabama to serve alcoholic beverages to anyone with a government issued ID that indicates they are 18 or older. Anyone who is 18 may be served an alcoholic beverage but not be able to buy one at a place other than a restaurant or bar.

Section III: Justification

The original drinking age was based upon centuries old English law, which listed 21 as the age of adulthood when a person could vote and become a knight. During World War II President Franklin Roosevelt lowered the minimum age for the military draft from 21 to 18. In the time of the Vietnam war era many Americans felt it was unfair for men to be considered mature enough to fight in the military, but not old enough to vote. In 1971, US states ratified the 26th amendment lowering the voting age to 18. Many state legislators also lowered the drinking age during this time based upon the same logic. Later under increasing pressure from the federal government, states began changing their legal drinking age to 21 to comply with the National Minimum Drinking Age Act of 1984 in order to keep their federal highway funding.

When someone turns 18 they take on the right and responsibility to elect the leader of the United States. Someone as young as 18 can enlist for the military, and die fighting for their country, but they cannot legally drink. In 20 states, including Alabama, at age 18 a person can legally adopt a child, but they can't legally purchase alcohol. In Alabama, at the age of 18 a person can purchase weapons and even get married without parental consent. When a person turns 19 they can take out a loan and be chosen for jury duty. Look at nations all around the world for context. 64 percent of the world's nations have a minimum drinking age of 18 with



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some as low as 16. In the United States, 18 and 19 year olds are considered mature enough to make a lifelong commitment to raise a child or marry another person, serve in the military, elect our leader, purchase a weapon, take out a loan, and even be selected for jury duty, but are not considered mature enough to consume alcohol.

Section IV: Severability clause

Any laws or parts of law in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section V: Enactment clause

This bill will become effective August 17th, 2023, upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY60

Committee: P-Education

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Emmy Grace Cribbs

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Elementary ASL Education Act

Section I: Definitions

ASL: American Sign Language, a complete visual language that serves the predominant sign language used by the deaf and hard of hearing community in the United States and much of English-speaking Canada.

Deaf culture: set of social beliefs, behaviors, art, literary traditions, history, values, and shared institutions of communities that are influenced by deafness and which use sign languages (such as ASL) as the primary means of communication.

Section II: Background

ASL is the primary method of communication for the 3.5 million people who are deaf or hard of hearing in the United States, but is only spoken by 1% of the American population, thus leaving speakers to be isolated from those around them, as they can not communicate as easily.

Section III: Proposition

Applying to any public K-3 education, basic conversational ASL must be taught in elementary schools and integrated into their current curriculum. The Alabama Department of Education shall construct an online course on ASL for teachers in collaboration with the deaf community in Alabama and the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind. Said course shall include, but is not limited to, basic language and methods of teaching. The course shall be mandatory for any and all teachers who teach kindergarten, first, second, and third grade and the course must be taken every three years. Additionally, the Alabama Department of Education will establish a recommended curriculum for teaching ASL as well as defined standards to be achieved. This curriculum will also be created in association with the deaf community and the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind. However, local boards of education will determine the curriculum for their individual districts, but this curriculum must comply with the minimum standards defined by the Alabama Department of Education.



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Section IV: Justification

This bill would benefit both deaf and hearing students in many ways: First, teaching sign language to students would help close the communication gap between ASL speaking students and their hearing peers and teachers, allowing them to not feel as isolated from those around them. Teaching ASL also gives students an opportunity to develop a stronger appreciation for deaf culture and to help break down the stigmas associated with lack or loss of hearing. Finally, many studies have found that students who were taught in ASL or taught to communicate with ASL developed stronger spatial reasoning skills, enhanced cognitive processes, as well as 17% higher standardized test scores than students who were not taught, proving that it benefits both deaf and hearing students.

Section V: Implementation

An online course will be created by the Alabama Department of Education to familiarize teachers with ASL and ways to integrate it into their classrooms. This will be created in collaboration with the deaf community and the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind to ensure that educators are properly taught how to educate their students about the deaf community and how to use ASL in a respectful manner. Additionally, the Alabama Department of Education will create a recommended curriculum and set minimum standards for students. This curriculum shall also be created in association with the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind and the deaf community.

Section VI: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment Clause

This act shall become effective for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year, following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY61

Committee: M - Public Safety

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Finley Becker

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Protecting and Decriminalizing Homeless Populations By Repealing Panhandling Laws

Section 1: Definitions

Homelessness refers to an individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, such as those living in emergency shelters, transitional housing, or places not meant for habitation as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Panhandling - the act of a person experiencing homelessness begging or soliciting for money, often in public places.

Incarcerated Person refers to any individual incarcerated in a Federal or State correctional institution who is charged with or convicted of any criminal offense.

Unemployment refers to people who are jobless but available to work and actively seeking a job.

Section 2: Proposal

1) Homeless people can no longer be arrested for loitering or panhandling.

Section 3: Justification

1) Homelessness currently impacts over half a million Americans nightly, and is a national crisis. Homelessness is difficult to escape mainly due to a lack of housing, leaving many on the street. Many are unable to get jobs because of lack of a home address, proper preparations like hygiene, and their background, leaving them loitering on streets and public areas. Loitering is incredibly common for homeless people who are stuck in unemployment.

2) Arresting individuals who panhandle violates the First Amendment which protects freedom of speech. With panhandling being a crime, America's most vulnerable citizens are not being protected by the government and are instead being punished and criminalized for something largely out of their control.

3) One large issue in the cycle of homelessness is involvement with the justice system or jail time. Convictions, large or small, can lead to unemployment. Formerly incarcerated individuals have an employment rate of 27 percent compared to the national 3.5 percent, making low-level crimes, like panhandling, incredibly detrimental to homeless individuals.

4) Additionally, Kay Ivey donated \$2.8 million in the fall of 2021 and \$2.65 million



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December of 2022 directed to ending homelessness in Alabama. This highly contrasts Alabama's panhandling laws, because they threaten Alabama's homeless populations that Kay Ivey is trying to support. Keeping homeless individuals out of jails will stop the cycle of homelessness and put this money into proper use.

Section 4: Severance

1) All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

2) § 13A-11-9 : This law defines the crime of loitering, stating, "A person commits the crime of loitering if he: (1) Loiters, remains or wanders about in a public place for the purpose of begging;". This law and parts of laws in conflict with it are hereby repealed. All incarcerated individuals because of § 13A-11-9 will have their cases reviewed.

Section 5: Enactment

This bill will be enacted upon being signed into law and the former laws repealed.



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YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY62

Committee: M-Public Safety

Delegation: Davidson

Author(s): Liana Jayasena

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Gun Permissions in Alabama

Preamble: WHEREAS the issuance of a permit to carry a pistol pursuant to **Section 13A-11-75** or the recognition of a nonresident license under this section does not impose a general prohibition on the carrying of a pistol without a permit, consequences include a firearm under the responsibility of a misguided or rash individual. Due to this, measures should be taken to ensure the firearm is used rightfully.

Section I Definitions

pistol- a handgun whose chamber is integral with the barrel

permit- an official document giving someone authorization to do something

firearm- a rifle, pistol, or other portable gun

Section II Proposition

Permits must be required in order to carry a firearm. When obtaining the permit, the individual must be ensured to

be of the national age requirement, suitable to be licensed, and with a clean criminal record.

Section III Justification

Previously, under code §13A-11-85 (a), the issuance of a permit to carry a pistol pursuant to

Section 13A-11-75 or

the recognition of a nonresident license under this section does not impose a general prohibition on the carrying of a

pistol without a permit. The measure of requiring permits in order to carry a firearm should be put in place to ensure

the firearm is used rightfully.

Section IV Enforcement and Funding

In order to obtain the permit, the following must be ensured: the individual must be at least 18 years of age, a resident of the country in which the individual is applying, a U.S. citizen, a



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suitable person to be licensed, and must pass a criminal history background check. If you are charged and arrested for possessing a concealed gun on your person or in your car without a valid and current concealed carry permit, under Alabama Code §13A-11-50, you can be fined between \$50 and \$500 and imprisonment in the county jail or punished for hard labor for the county for up to 180 days (about 6 months).

Section V Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this acts or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VI Enactment

This act is to become effective upon the start of the next fiscal year given the passage and approval of the Governor or it's otherwise becoming a law.



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YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY63

Committee: R - Commerce

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Parker High School

Author(s): JaMya Haddix and Jeremiah Barrow

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Raise the Wage for Service

Section 1:

The intent of this Legislation is to ensure that the state of Alabama has set forth a standard livable minimum wage for service industry employees that also receive gratuity tips.

Section 2:

Minimum Wage: A fixed regular payment, typically paid on a daily or weekly basis made by an employer to an employee, especially to manual or unskilled workers.

Employee: A person employed for wages or salary, especially at nonexecutive level.

Gratuity/Tip: Asum of money given to someone as a reward for their services.

Server: Person or thing that provides a service or commodity, such as a waiter or waitress.

Section 3: The state of Alabama is one of the many states like Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Tennessee that has yet adopted a minimum livable wage for service industry workers, but uses the federal wage of \$2.13 per clock hour. Due to the recent onset of economic inflation, this Legislation is to increase the required minimum wage for said employees to \$7.25 per clock hour. Service employees will still be allowed to collect gratuity for their services in addition to the minimum hourly pay. This will provide said employees to earn a livable wage as well as increase employment interest and opportunities the service and hospitality industry.

Section 4: All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or any provisions of it are hereby repealed.

Section 5: This act shall become effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



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YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY64

Committee: R-Commerce

Delegation: Parker High School

Author(s): Jordan Belser

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Livable Wages for Alabamians Act

Section 1: The intent of this Legislation is to increase the base minimum wage for hourly employees.

Section 2: Minimum wage: the lowest wage permitted by law or by a special agreement. Living Wage: a wage that is high enough to maintain a normal standard of living. Clock Hour: The period of time during which one engages in paid work.

Section 3: With the cost of living increasing and the minimum wage not, the importance of increasing it is paramount in this time of living. Federal minimum wage has not increased since 2009, at which time it was \$6.55. Currently, Federal Minimum wage is \$7.25, which is not a livable wage for Alabamians and their families. This Legislation is to propose a yearly increase of \$2.00 per clock hour pay, per year, for the preceding four years not to exceed \$16.00 as the base minimum wage. The goal is for all Alabamians to be able to provide for themselves and their families with a livable wage. It is also the goal for many of our citizens to transition out of poverty to a livable middle-income status.

Section 4: Non-compliance of business owners and or employers will incur penalties in accordance with Alabama Code **Section 25-1-30(d)(g)** and U.S. Department of Labor regulations.

Section 5: All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or any provisions of it are hereby repealed.

Section 6 : This act shall become effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the Governor or it's otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY65

Committee: Q-Health

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Davidson

Author(s): Madeline Borchert

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Physician Assisted Suicide Rights in Alabama

Preamble: WHEREAS, Any person in a rational state of mind, who is suffering from an incurable disease, deserves the right to end their own life through medical means if so wanted. However, in Alabama any medical personnel who assists a patient in death is considered a murderer. As citizens of the USA, we are supposed to be given unalienable rights, including liberty and the pursuit of happiness. For someone trapped in constant pain the only comfort they might still be afforded is the comfort from knowing their pain will soon be at an end. As such, this right is being denied and physician-assisted suicide should be a legal right provided to citizens if so desired.

Section I: Definitions

Physician-assisted suicide- the painless killing of a patient suffering from an incurable and painful disease or in an irreversible coma.

Section II: Proposition

Physician-assisted suicide should be a right provided to citizens of Alabama, who are sick to the point of no recovery. Before undergoing the procedure, patients must be deemed to have a right state of mind and are at the point of no recovery.

Section III: Justification

Previously, under code, 22-8A-10; 22-8A-9(a) any person who purposefully causes another person's death, even done so because of compassion, is considered murder in Alabama. Despite the proposition, If a doctor is found to be misusing this right or proceeding while the patient is in an ill state of mind, the crime of murder should still be given.

Section IV: Enforcement and funding

In order for a patient to undergo this procedure, they must: pay for the medical supplies needed, give verbal and written consent while deemed in a right state of mind, and must have



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been deemed incurable. In order for a doctor to conduct this procedure, they must: Have verbal and written consent from the patient, believe the patient is in a right state of mind, and feel morally okay with the procedure they are conducting. If any doctor or person commits physician-assisted suicide without consent, without the patient being in a right state of mind, and/or without reason, they should be referred to code 22-8A-10; 22-8A-9(a) and charged with murder, receiving life in prison or possibly even the death penalty.

Section V: Severability clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this acts or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VI: Enactment

This bill will become effective immediately upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law



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Delegate Bill #FY66

Committee: Q-Health

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Davidson High School

Author(s): Madeline Borchert

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Helping Hands for Families Act

Section 1: The purpose of this legislation is to ensure women and minor children residing in temporary housing facilities (shelter) are provided child care supervision and provisions.

Section 2: Child Care: Care for children, especially that provided by either the government, a shelter/temporary housing, or a person while parents are at work or are absent for another reason.

Mandatory: Required by law or rules; compulsory.

Minor (child): Children who fall within the 0-14 age range.

Shelter: A type of homeless service agency which provides temporary residence for homeless individuals and families.

Section III: The intent of this Legislature is to provide "mandatory" child care services statewide, in temporary housing facilities (shelter's) that are specifically for women and their minor children. Providing such services will allow working mothers to search for and or to continue their employment without interruption. The goal is to provide some form of normalcy to both mother and child while living in temporary housing facilities. With the passage of this Legislation, daily child care services will be provided to children ages 0-14 in all women's and children's shelters located throughout Alabama. Shelter staff and volunteers will provide supervision that will include basic educational services, tutoring and various structured activities. Nutritious snacks and meals will be provided in accordance with USDA regulation and guidelines.

Section 4: Funding to establish said child care facilities:

The start up and annual cost for all 33 shelters as provided by the State of Alabama:



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Start up cost: \$282,000/33 shelter's=\$8,445.45 per child care facility. This will cover needed resources such as furniture, books, computers and educational resources.

Annual Cost:\$165,000/33 shelter's= \$4,848.48 per child care facility.

Source of Funding: Alabama Public Welfare Trust Fund via increasing tax revenue of intoxicating alcohol and cigarettes by 3- 5%.

Section 5: Shelters and child care facilities must adhere to all established regulations governed by the Alabama Department of Human Resources. Non compliance with state Legislation will be enforced in accordance with regulations of the Alabama Department of Human Resources.

Section 6: All law and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provisions of it are hereby repealed .

Section 7: This act shall become effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the Governor or otherwise becoming a law.



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YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY67

Committee: R- Environment

Delegation: Parker High School

Author(s): Mekhiah Canady

Chamber: *Special Order*

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title North Birmingham Clean Air Act

Section 1. (a) The intent of this Legislature is to prohibit hazardous chemical producing factories/industries/companies/corporations from operating in low-income minority residential areas.

Section 2: Environmental Racism: A term used to reflect negligence towards the areas that are neglected that are majority minorities. Hazardous Chemical/Waste: (a) The term "hazardous waste" shall mean the same as defined by **Section 22-30-3(5)**. Low income Minority residential area: A minority community(LIC) defined by the U.S. Department of the Treasury as a census tract with a poverty rate of at least 20 percent or a median family income 80 percent or less than the area it is benchmarked against.

Section 3: "North Birmingham Clean Air Act" will remove and or prohibit hazardous chemical producing companies/factories/corporations/industries that are located or seeking to operate near low -income minority residential areas. The goal is to hold said entities accountable for their actions financially and provide medical treatment and resources to all residents who have been negatively impacted by harmful air pollutants emitted into their neighborhoods.

Section 4: Neighborhoods that have be violated by said companies: must pay a minimum fine of \$35,000 per resident who has resided in said community for no less than one and a half years, including residents that have since moved away. Said resident must be evaluated by a medical professional and deemed negatively affected by the negligence of said companies. This shall also include residents who have passed away, in which compensation will be 20. funded to the deceased's estate. Said entities found in violation of this Legislation will be financially responsible for all aspects of environmental purification (clean-up) of polluted residential areas including relocation.

Section 5: All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or any provisions of it are hereby repealed.

Section 6: This act shall become effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



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YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY68

Committee: R - Environment

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Miriam Barrett

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Funding recycling facility improvement by a tax on toxic plastics

Section I: Definitions

Plastic pellets: lentil sized pieces of plastic that are melted down to create plastic products, the most basic marketable form of plastic

Recycling facility/plant: facilities that collect, sort, and process recyclable materials

Resin: a form of unprocessed plastic, also can refer to plastic pellets (below)

Toxic plastic: types of plastic that contain harmful chemicals or toxins that can be leached out into the surrounding environment with or without specific conditions (prominently 1, 3, 6, & 7)

Wholesale: the most basic version of a product or material, specifically bought by producers (ex: companies buying plain t-shirts to print on)

Section II: Background

There are seven types of plastics. Each has varying degrees of toxicity and difficulty in the recycling process. The most toxic types of plastic are 1, 3, 6, and 7. The most difficult and least common plastics to recycle are 3, 5, 6, and 7.

Section III: Proposition

I propose that the state establish a tax (10% per ton of wholesale plastic pellets / resin) on wholesale toxic plastics (1, 3, 5, 6, 7) bought by companies. The revenue from this tax would be sent directly towards improving recycling facilities and expanding their abilities to handle more types of plastics.

Section IV: Justification

Most commonly in Alabama, only plastic types 1 and 2 are recycled. The two less common extremes of facility capacity found in Alabama are (1) recycling plants that won't accept plastics



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at all, or (2) recycling plants that are capable of recycling types 1-7 (only a small percentage of recycling facilities in Alabama recycle that many- 0.16%). If tax was collected for problematic plastics as stated previously, that tax money could fund advancement of equipment or new equipment to be able to handle more types of plastics going through the recycling process.

Section V: Implementation

This tax would be directed solely towards the producers buying wholesale resin to make other goods, not the consumers of these goods. The agency that will handle this is the Alabama Department of Environmental Management.

Section VI: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment Clause

This act is to become effective upon passage and approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



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YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY69

Committee: Q - Transportation

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Brannon "Parker" Lachowicz

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Keeping Roads Safe Act of 2023

Section 1: Definitions

Distracted driving refers to any activity that diverts attention from driving, including talking or texting on your phone, eating and drinking

Cognitive distraction pertains specifically to when a driver's attention or concentration is hindered by some sort of mental distraction.

Cellular device is defined as handheld device that can be the cause of distracted driving through texting and talking

Bluetooth device is in reference to a speaker wired into the car itself and can relate cellular device mechanisms into the car (can be speakers, earbuds, headphones, computer)

Section 2: Proposal

- (1) Raise the age of a ban on handheld cellular devices in a vehicle from 18 years old to 21 years old
- (2) Restrict the use of a handheld device in a school zone or work zone except in cases of an emergency
- (3) Restrict the use of a bluetooth device (talking or listening) during driving before the age of 18 years old
- (4) Increase the fine of a distracted driving incident to \$400 and a 3 point deduction on the offender's driving record

Section 3: Justification

- (1) As newly licensed drivers begin to operate their vehicle, distracted driving rises with it. According to a 2019 Alabama department of transportation study, 47 people were killed in that year alone, up 8 from the previous year. In addition, 3,170 people are killed as a result of distracted driving every single year in the United States. Driving while manipulating a phone can



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raise the chance of crashing six fold according to the Insurance Institute of Highway Safety

(2) It is estimated that 152,000 are injured in school-related accidents and over 55% of those accidents are caused by teenagers. Another statistic from Alabama's Survey of Transportation 2019 is that 2,236 incidents of school-zone accidents occurred in that year alone in the state of Alabama. Protecting the children of Alabama should be the number one priority of all citizens in the state of Alabama.

(3) Speaking on a bluetooth device as an inexperienced driver can intensify the effects of distracted driving. Drivers talking on the phone while driving can miss up to 50% of what's happening around them. The Hart Law Firm's research concluded that a driver's ability to process moving images decreases by a third while driving.

(4) Raising the point system and fine will discourage drivers even more so from using their phones while driving. The most dangerous thing that people do every single day is get their cars and drive. People forget that one thin yellow line is the difference between life and death.

The city of Syracuse, N.Y. increased the amount of enforcement on the roads in respect to cell phone use and it resulted in a significant decrease in distracted driving across the board.

Section 4: Severance

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section 5:

Upon earning a majority vote in both the House of Representatives and the Senate and approval of the president or overridden veto, the bill will become effective immediately.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY71

Committee: N- Judicial

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Saint James

Author(s): Preston Phillips

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title A Bill to Improve AL Prison Quality of Life and Conditions

I: Definitions

- Prison: an institution (such as one under state jurisdiction) for confinement of persons convicted of serious crimes.
- Inmate: a person confined (as in a prison).

II: Proposal

The primary purpose of this bill is to create a safer and more beneficial environment for both inmates and staff in correctional facilities throughout the state. This bill will fund the building of new and much larger prisons. Initially, there will be one of these "mega-prisons" for each of Alabama's seven congressional districts. This is because each district has roughly the same population, and if centrally located within these districts, they would be far more accessible. The option to build more of these prisons would be available for future dates, if necessary. These prisons will be equipped with newer technology, such as better surveillance systems and better cell/door locks. These would provide a greater level of safety for the staff and officers that would work the proposed facilities. Safety of the inmates would be a large priority as well, by featuring individual cells that house up to two inmates, rather than the large open bay style cells that are used currently throughout most of the Alabama prisons. Current prisons that are in the worst conditions to hold inmates, but are structurally sound (To be determined by an independent panel), would be repurposed as educational facilities for recently released inmates who want to re-enter society with a trade or skill to put to use within the workforce. On top of the benefits for the inmates and current staff, the building and operation of these prisons would create hundreds of jobs for their surrounding communities. The power for these facilities would be self-sustaining, as they would all be built alongside land set aside for solar panels. This would help alleviate the strain these large complexes would otherwise place on both the energy grid and the environment.



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III: Funding

New prisons could cost in the hundreds of millions, so quite a bit of money will be required to undertake this project. The average annual individual income in the state of Alabama is \$30,458 according to the US Census Bureau. The population of the state of Alabama is approximately 5,074,300. This means that the total average annual income is \$154,553,029,400. If we increase the State income tax for each individual by 0.5 percent for 8 years, the state of Alabama will gain an additional \$772,765,147 per year. That is a total of around 6.1 Billion dollars. This money would allow for the building of the 7 initial prisons, their extensive solar panel arrays, and the salaries of all the staff with a significant amount of money left over to continue to run the prisons for years. The solar panels are an additional expense at first, but in the long run will save a very significant amount of money on electrical bills per year, while keeping these prisons eco-friendly and self reliant.

IV: Severability Clause

"Any laws or parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed

V: Effective Date/ Enactment

This bill shall become effective on May 1st of 2023 after it's passage and approval by the governor or it's otherwise becoming law



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YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY72

Committee: M - Public Safety

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: BTW

Author(s): Jordan Johnson

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Responsible Gun Owner Act

An act establishing a process for firearms licensing. This includes a mandatory permit that requires background checks, mental health assessments, social media checks, mandatory training, and annual mental health checks. This is to ensure the gun owner properly assumes the responsibility of owning a firearm to decrease the amount of gun violence in our nation. Relating to gun control; to establish a process for the licensing and registration of firearms.

For the purpose of this act, the following terms have the following meanings:

- (1) Mentally competent. A person's ability to make rational decisions and express themselves.
- (2) Terrosim.
 - (A) involve acts dangerous to human life that are a violation of the criminal laws of the United States or of any State;
 - (B) appear to be intended —
 - (i) to intimidate or coerce a civilian population;
 - (ii) to influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion; or
 - (iii) to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping and
 - (C) occur primarily within the territorial jurisdiction of the United States
- (3) Mental health assessment. Examinations used to ascertain whether a person is healthy psychologically and socially and is generally developing and/or living well.
- (4) Renounced Citizenship. Formally declaring one's abandonment to the rights and responsibilities as a U.S. citizen.
- (5) Fugitive from justice. Any person who has fled from any State to avoid prosecution for a crime or to avoid giving testimony in any criminal proceeding.
- (6) Mentally defective.
 - (A) Persons who have a mental disorder or neurological deficit that renders them incapable of appraising the nature of their conduct.
 - (B) If a court, board, commission or other lawful authority has determined that



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he or she, as a result of marked subnormal intelligence, or mental illness, incompetency, condition, or disease:

- (i). is a danger to himself, herself, or others, or
- (ii). lacks the mental capacity to contract or manage his or her own affairs

1. This bill Establishes a process for the licensing and registration of firearms. This bill would not invalidate anyone's second amendment right to bear arms. This bill would require a permit when purchasing a firearm. Permit requires background checks, mental health assessments, social media checks, mandatory training, and annual mental health checks to keep permits/firearms.

2. This bill would mandate any persons over the age of eighteen to receive a permit to purchase Firearms. A background check with the National Instant Criminal Background Check system to determine if prospective transferees are disqualified from receiving firearms under federal laws which include

3. (1)who has been convicted in any court of, a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceedingone year;

(2) who is a fugitive from justice;

(3) who is an unlawful user of or addicted to any controlled substance (as defined in **Section 102** of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802))

(4) who has been adjudicated as a mental defective or who has been involuntarily committed to a mental institution;

(5) is illegally or unlawfully in the United States;

(6) who has been discharged from the Armed Forces under dishonorable conditions;

(7)who, having been a citizen of the United States, has renounced his citizenship;

(8) who is subject to a court order that—

(A) restrains such person from harassing, stalking, or threatening an intimate partner of such person or child of such intimate partner or person, or engaging in other conduct that would place an intimate partner in reasonable fear of bodily injury to the partner or child; and

(i) includes a finding that such person represents a credible threat to the physical safety of such intimate partner or child

(9) who has been convicted in any court of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence, Mental health assessments, as well as social media checks are required for permit for ascertains as to the psychological and social well being of the firearm owner. Mental health assessments are to ensure the firearm owner is mentally competent and understands the responsibility of owning a weapon that is capable of causing great harm. Mandatory training to ensure the firearm owner is educated on the responsible practices for firearms. Training typically covers topics such as operating a safety, clearing jams and cartridge malfunctions, and how to properly store a firearm when not in use. Once the permit is received there would be annual mental health checks to ensure the firearm owner is in the mental state to own a firearm.



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Persons with social media posts containing threats of imminent violence and/or terrorism would be denied a permit with this bill. This is not to invade on any First Amendment Rights to free speech. The Constitution does speak on Speech that is directed to and likely to incite imminent lawless action is unconstitutional.

This bill is to ensure every gun owner properly assumes the responsibility of owning a firearm to decrease the amount of gun violence in our nation.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed

This act becomes effective upon passage and approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law



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YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY73

Committee: M - Public Safety

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Sisi Holden

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Restriction of Assault Rifles

Section I: Definitions

Assault rifle: a rapid-fire, magazine-fed automatic rifle designed for infantry use.

Section II: Background

Alabama currently has no law restricting assault weapons. Violent crime is the most worrisome, as reports of gun violence experience more than tripled—from 6% last year to 19%. Alabama residents have an overwhelming concern of gun violence with 61% of residents naming gun violence as their top safety concern (while the national average is about 53%). Individuals kill more people with assault rifles than with other weapons. In fact, an analysis by the Rockefeller Institute of Government found that mass shootings that involved assault rifles resulted in an average of 5.2 deaths and 7.6 injuries, while mass shootings that didn't involve assault rifles resulted in an average of 2.9 deaths and 3.2 injuries.

Section III: Proposition

Prohibit the sale, manufacture, transfer, and importation of military-style assault weapons. This includes any firearm that is chambered for ammunition of reduced size or propellant charge and that has the capacity to switch between semiautomatic and fully automatic fire. All guns lawfully possessed at the date of enactment are exempt.

Section IV: Justification

Every time a shooter must pause to reload, there is an opportunity for lives to be saved. High-capacity magazines and assault weapons drastically reduce the number of these opportunities, increasing the ability of a shooter to harm large numbers of people quickly. In Connecticut, at Sandy Hook Elementary School, a twenty-six year old man had an assault rifle. In 4 minutes, he shot 154 bullets, which killed 20 children and 6 adults. When he had to pause to reload, 11 children were able to escape. Thus, it will reduce shooting deaths upon restricting assault rifles



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as such.

Section V: Implementation

All sale, manufacture, transfer, and importation of assault rifles will now be illegal. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives will oversee the execution. If someone illegally obtains a firearm, on conviction, they will be imprisoned in the penitentiary for no less than two years.

Section VI: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment Clause

This act is to become effective upon passage and approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY74

Committee: Q-Health

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Parker High School

Author(s): Sharaia Canady

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title The Safe and Secure Child Protection Act

Section 1:

The intent of this Legislation is to prohibit the wrongful removal of children from their families.

Section 2:

Child Neglect: A form of child abuse, child neglect is an act of caregivers that results in depriving a child of their basic needs, such as the failure to provide adequate supervision, health care, clothing, or housing, as well as other physical, emotional, social, educational, and safety needs.

Child Abuse: Physical maltreatment or sexual molestation.

Protocol: The accepted or established code of procedure or behavior in any group, organization, or situation of a child.

Section 3:

There is an ongoing issue in which parents and guardians have been wrongfully accused of neglect and abuse of the minor children in their care. During the investigation of said reports, children are removed from the family home often for months while the case is being reviewed. This is being done even when parents/guardians have no history of abuse or violent behavior towards the minors in their care and the child(ren) display no signs of abuse and or neglect. This Legislation is to mandate various protocols to be followed in evaluating suspicions of neglect or abuse prior to removing the child(ren) abruptly from the home in order to conduct a thorough investigation.

Section 4:

The following protocols shall be required of officials investigating reports of



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child neglect and or child abuse: Proper investigation training of social workers. Officials must obtain a certificate of required investigation training. Officials must maintain yearly re-certification of required investigation training throughout the duration of employment with the Alabama Department of Human Resources.

Section 5:

Failure to meet said requirements is punishable by 30 days unpaid administrative leave and professional license temporarily suspended for the same time period. Non compliance and multiviolations and can also lead to termination of employment with the Alabama Department of Human Resources.

Section 6:

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or any provisions of it are hereby repealed.

Section 7:

This act shall become effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY75

Committee: R-Commerce

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Holland Warren

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title End Public Library Fees

SECTION 1. Definition

Public Library - a nonprofit library maintained for public use and usually supported in whole or in part by local taxation (Merriam-Webster)

SECTION 2. Proposal

Public libraries in Alabama, both those serving communities and those in public schools, may no longer charge or collect fees or fines for books or other materials that are returned late, nor may they attach any other financial repercussion to perceived negative patron behavior.

Patrons are still encouraged to return books and other materials to public libraries in a timely manner, and libraries are welcome to provide positive incentives to motivate patrons to do so. Any jurisdiction or school district found to be in violation of this legislation shall lose federal funding until such time as compliance is reached.

SECTION 3. Justification

Libraries are about freedom. Freedom to read, freedom of ideas, freedom of communication. They are about education, about entertainment, about making safe spaces, and about access to information.

I. Library fees can create financial barriers for some members of the community. For example, low-income individuals or families may struggle to pay library fees, which can prevent them from accessing important resources and services.

A. This can lead to a lack of equal access to education and information, which can have negative impacts on individuals and the community as a whole.

B. They can discourage people from using the library. If people know that they will have to pay a fee to borrow books or use other library resources, they may be less likely to visit the library. This can lead to a decline in usage and engagement, which can ultimately harm the library and the community it serves.

C. K-12 enrollment in Alabama's Black Belt noted a 13% reduction in enrollment from 1995-96 to 2019-20; in the following school year, 2020-21, combined Black



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Belt school enrollment fell nearly 4% more—from 106,801 students to 102,697. While the Black Belt continues to suffer from falling enrollment in its K-12 schools, it also struggles to provide adequate access to STEM resources and fails to meet STEM proficiency metrics compared to the rest of Alabama.

1. The removal of library fees makes education accessible to underprivileged individuals and children in the Black Belt region, but it also more broadly helps every Alabamian with a desire to learn.

II. A library is a place that is a repository of information and gives every citizen equal access to information. Including basic health and mental health information.

A. Studies suggest reading books improves life chances and using a library improves children's reading abilities. Libraries can be important spaces that help children learn, engage with community, and cultivate curiosity.

B. Libraries are key sites for adults too. They often provide free wi-fi and access to computers, printers and photocopying, alongside services such as summer reading programmes, author talks and events, tutoring, classes, and a generally quiet place to study.

III. Libraries play a key role in strengthening local economies.

A. They provide a work space for freelancers, support people looking for employment, and can offer job and interview training for those in need.

B. Libraries help many people learn languages through both classes and materials such as books, audiobooks, and online resources.

It's clear that libraries are incredible assets to all who use them, and it's vital to make sure those in our local communities are supported, but that does not have to happen through the billing of people who need to use the library's resources.

SECTION 4. Funding

This legislation shall be jointly overseen by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and the Department of Education. Libraries are able to generate sufficient revenue from other sources, such as donations or grants, to fund their operations without relying on fees.

There

are charity organizations that fund libraries. For example, The Library Campaign, a charity dedicated to supporting friends and users of libraries, or Book Aid International which is the leading international book donation and library development charities are alternative ways to fund libraries and keep them free to the public.

SECTION 5. Severance

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby declared null and void.

SECTION 6. Enactment

After being signed into law, this legislation shall take effect on March 1, 2023.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY76

Committee: M-Public Safety

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Katelyn Long

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Street Lights in Residential Areas

Section I: Definitions

Residential Neighborhoods: any district of the City zoned for residential use or, if not so zoned, any street segment bounded by intersecting streets wherein over fifty (50) percent of the buildings on that street segment are used for residential purposes.

Streetlights: a light illuminating a road, typically mounted on a tall pole.

Index Crimes: the eight crimes the FBI combines to produce its annual crime index. These offenses include willful homicide, forcible rape, robbery, burglary, aggravated assault, larceny over \$50, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

Section II: Background

Streetlights are located along roads to increase light while driving at night. Many streets and roads lack streetlights which can be dangerous because it is more difficult to see road signs, hazards, other drivers, pedestrians, and more.

Section III: Proposition

In all residential neighborhoods, Alabama will require mandatory streetlights every 250 to 400 feet.

Section IV: Justification

Street lights are an important part of staying safe while driving at night. When street lighting is present, it promotes safety and decreases crime. A New York study found that increased levels of lighting led to a 36% reduction in index crimes. In addition to crime, it also decreases car accidents. A study found that the addition of street lights decreased 54% of fatal car accidents to pedestrians. Adding street lights to Alabama neighborhoods will help to make it a safer state for everyone.

Section V: Implementation

When funding this bill, there could be an increased property tax on everyone in Alabama so



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that the streetlights, installment, and maintenance would be paid for. Alabama Power Company could oversee this project by installing their LED outdoor lighting in the residential neighborhoods.

Section VI: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment Cause

This act is to become effective upon passage and approval of the governor or its otherwise becoming a law



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YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY77

Committee: R- Commerce

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Margaret Christiansen

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Bettering Mental Health for Foster Children 2022

Section 1: Definitions

EVs are electric vehicles

Tax/Taxation is a compulsory contribution to state revenue, levied by the government on workers' income and business profits, or added to the cost of some goods, services, and transactions

Environment is a) the surroundings or conditions in which a person, animal, or plant lives or operates and b) the natural world, as whole or in a particular geographical area, especially as affected by human activity

Section 2: Proposal

(1) The state of Alabama should impose a tax on all of the gas sold to the public. The tax should be an additional \$0.05 per gallon. The goal of the taxation is to push Alabamians away from gas powered methods of transport.

(2) All money gained from the taxation will be used to first lower the price of EVs, and then additional money will go towards financing projects within the state. Examples of projects eligible for the tax money include road improvement projects, reconstruction, and financing educational supplies to school districts.

Section 3: Justification

(1) Oil is a scarce resource. At the current consumption rate, the world only has 47 years left of oil. With the majority of the globe's means of transportation depending on that oil being burnt to make gasoline, we are in trouble. A shift in our oil usage is needed, and enacting this bill will assist in weening our globe off of its oil consumption.

(2) Alabamians will save money that they previously spent on gasoline once they start operating EVs instead. EVs are 3-5 times cheaper compared to vehicles



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that run on gasoline. Money saved is money earned. The money citizens will accumulate will be made without the negative effect on the environment, and will be made to their benefit.

(3) Both Electric and Hybrid vehicles produce zero emissions. This means nothing is coming out of the car and further polluting the air. Meanwhile, according to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, one gas powered car pushes 4.6 metric tons of carbon dioxide out into the world each year. That is only the number for one car. With there being around 1.4 billion drivers in the world pumping out this much pollutant, we are quickly destroying our only home.

(4) There has already been an increase in gas tax in recent times called the Rebuild Alabama Act in 2019. This money accumulated from this tax went towards generally benefiting the state. The reconstruction of roads and bridges under this tax made Alabama better, and was generally accepted. So, a conclusion can be drawn that the response to this bill if enacted will be similar, if not the same.

(5) A change is imminent, and crude oil supply will run out. The shift into electric vehicles will happen in the near future, and it is better for Alabama to go ahead and be ahead of the game before it is too late.

Section 4: Funding

(1) No funding would be needed in the enactment of this bill. A tax would be imposed upon the state of Alabama, and money from the tax would start flowing in soon after. The money received from the tax could be used to benefit the state as a whole.

Section 5: Severance

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section 6: Enactment

Upon earning a majority vote in both the House of Representatives and the Senate, the bill will become effective in the next new calendar year [January 1st, 2024]



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY78

Committee: R-Commerce

Delegation: Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Lucy He

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Bettering Mental Health for Foster Children 2022

Section 1: Definitions

Single-family residential property refers to a residential real estate property consisting of 1-4 dwelling units within state boundaries.

Own refers to having any direct majority ownership interest in a single-family residence, regardless of a specific percentage of that ownership interest.

Covered taxpayer refers to any individual and/or business entity who owns over 100 single-family residences within state boundaries.

- This excludes mortgage note holders that own a single-family residence through foreclosure, Americorps certified non-profit organizations, business entities engaged in the construction of single-family residences, and any individual who owns a federally subsidized single-family residence.

Hedge fund refers to _____

Section 2: Proposal

(a) Any private equity investor or private equity investment firm will be subject to a \$20,000 tax penalty immediately every time they purchase a single-family residence after their 100th purchase. This also includes any corporation or entity engaged in trade or business and a group of more than 2 individuals.

(b) All real estate purchases by a hedge fund entity must be reported to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This also obligates any person or entity acquiring a single-family residence from a covered taxpayer who owns another single-family residence at the time of the acquisition to report the transaction to the HUD.

(c) Reports must include a signature by both the purchaser and seller, the full name and address of both parties, a copy of legal identification (state-issued driver's license, proof



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of employment, etc.) for both parties, and the social security number of both parties.

(d) Any person who fails to report the transaction to the HUD must pay the \$20,000 tax penalty unless they can prove the missing report was due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect. No penalty shall be imposed if a cause deemed reasonable by the Secretary is shown. Covered taxpayers must pay the penalty upon demand by the Secretary in a case of a willfully neglected missing report.

Section 3: Justification

(a) According to the NASDAQ stock exchange of 2020, hedge fund investment owns 21.2% of single-family residential properties in Birmingham alone. In Birmingham, the data shows that investors accounted for 21.2% of market share during the final quarter – up from 17.9% in Q2 and 12.4% in Q3 2020 – with a total value of homes purchased at \$304.85 million, according to Redfin. Hedge fund ownership of Alabama real estate has increased 8.8% in just ¾ of 2020.

(b) Alabama is currently in a real estate affordability crisis, as the number of citizens struggling to afford homes increases despite the simultaneous rise in the job market. Lack of action against private equity stakes in the rental and housing markets puts tenants at greater risk of homelessness and undermines their ability for eventual home ownership.

(c) Especially with the recent pandemic, it is becoming increasingly critical for there to be a more viable solution to provide aid to those living in poverty on the streets due to the cost of living crisis and house affordability crisis.

(d) Not only would the initial provision of banning hedge fund control serve to improve housing affordability among the disadvantaged and mitigate the initial problems of being out-bid on single-family real estate by private investors, this bill, if enacted, would be a huge step in the direction of removing social inequity financially. The US House of Financial Services Committee reported that hedge investors target 30% more single mother homes, and private investment firms often concentrate their purchases in communities of color. This limits first-time home buying opportunities against individuals and families who already face discrimination in the real estate market. Transferring tax revenues to down payment assistance programs further enhances the value of this bill.

(e) The government of Alabama must renew its commitment to the goal of ending homelessness and take action against the cost of living crisis.

Section 4: Funding

(a) The HUD will establish grants in which the secretary issues grants to state housing finance agencies to establish new or supplement existing housing programs that provide homebuyers with down payment assistance within state borders.

(b) The Alabama State Treasury shall establish a trust fund known as the Housing Trust



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Fund. Money from the Housing Trust Fund shall only be used to provide for the grants listed in **Section 4A** of this End Hedge Funds Dominance of Alabama Real Estate Act.

(c) All grant-receiving state housing finance agencies must prioritize issuing down payment assistance to homebuyers purchasing a single-family residence from a covered taxpayer.

Section 5: Severance

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section 6: Enactment

Upon earning a majority vote in both the House of Representatives, Senate, and approval of the president or an overridden veto, the bill will immediately become effective at the beginning of the next fiscal year, the HUD shall immediately begin establishing grants to state housing finance agencies, and the Alabama State Treasury shall immediately establish the Housing Trust Fund.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY79

Committee: R-Commerce

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Max Benton

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Age Extension for Renewal of Contractors License

Section I: Definitions

Limited Liability Company: A limited liability company is the US-specific form of a private limited company. It is a business structure that can combine the pass-through taxation of a partnership or sole proprietorship with the limited liability of a corporation

Contractor: a person or company that undertakes a contract to provide materials or labor to perform a service or do a job.

Section II: Proposition

Eliminate the rule stating that qualifying representatives for a corporation, limited liability company, or partnership above the age of 60 are exempt from taking 6 credit hours of continuing education before being issued a Contractors License Renewal from the Alabama Home Builders Licensure Board effective October 1st, 2023

Section III: Justification

In a world of constant change in technology, legislation, and housing developments, it is imperative that each and every contractor in the state of Alabama shares the same up-to-date knowledge for their projects. Normally, this wouldn't be an issue, since all contractors must take 6 hours of continuing education courses annually to renew their license, but this rule only applies to contractors under the age of 60. But why stop at 60? From any age of adulthood, no home builder is perfect; There is always valuable information to be learned from continuing education courses. Even ignoring concerns of senility, if contractors of any age fully understood all aspects involved in having a Home Builders License, then continuing education wouldn't have existed in the first place. Requiring contractors to partake in specialized education courses regardless of age, will allow for more safety, accountability, and productivity among Alabama home builders.



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Section IV: Consequences

The expected outcome of this bill is to maintain the education of contractors regardless of age, resulting in a better understanding of workplace safety, awareness of changes in legislation, and overall knowledge of contracting skills that may have changed since the previous year.

Section V: Enforcement

This bill will be overseen by the State of Alabama Home Builders Licensure Board

Section VI: Payment

There will be no cost to this bill

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing

Section VIII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective October 1st, 2023 after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming of law. If this bill is passed later than October 1st, then it will be postponed until October 1st of the following year.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023
February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY80

Committee: M-Public Safety

Chamber: First Year

Delegation: Saint James

Author(s): Michael Phan and Nicole Jung

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title Minor Firearm Usage

Section I: Definitions

Restlessness- The inability to rest or relax as a result of anxiety or boredom.

Minor- Any persons under the age of 19.

Firearm- A weapon from which a shot is discharged by gunpowder.

Section II: Proposal

This bill proposes to stricken firearm usage for minors in the state of Alabama. Only minors 15 years old or above should be allowed to use firearms under adult supervision.

Section III: Justification

Hundreds of minors in the United States are wounded by firearms with around 12% of them dying annually or being left permanently disabled. By restricting the age requirement for minors to be able to use firearms, it decreases the chance that surrounding people are harmed. Also, Statistics have shown that most of these injuries are sustained by minors under the age of 15 due to the fact that they're not mentally and physically fit enough for those firearms. Finally, studies have revealed that minors with easy access to firearms are more likely to have higher feelings of restlessness, fear, and depression. With these facts in mind, it only makes sense that minors that are at least 15 years or older should be allowed to use firearms with adult supervision.

Section IV: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section V: Enactment

This bill is set to be enacted January 1st, 2024



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY81

Committee: H- Commerce

Delegation: Montgomery Academy

Author(s): Lulu Espy, Frances Fitzpatrick

Chamber: *Special Order*

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Designate Juneteenth as a State Holiday

Section I: Definitions

Juneteenth: June 19th, a day to commemorate the abolition of slavery.

State Holiday: A legal public holiday. The State of Alabama has ten state holidays.

(1) Robert E. Lee's birthday - the third Monday in January.

(2) George Washington's birthday - the third Monday 24 in February.

(3) Confederate Memorial Day - the fourth Monday in April.

(4) Jefferson Davis' birthday - the first Monday in 2 June.

(5) Columbus Day and Fraternal Day - the second Monday in October.

(6) Veterans Day - the eleventh day of November.

(7) Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday - the third Monday in January.

(8) National Memorial Day - the last Monday in May. 9

(9) Thomas Jefferson's birthday - the third Monday in February.

(10) American Indian Heritage Day - the second Monday in October.

Section II: Proposition

To amend Section 1-3-8, Code of Alabama 1975, relating to state holidays; to designate the third Saturday in June of each year as Juneteenth to commemorate the abolition of

slavery.

Section III: Justification

On June 19, 1865, enslaved African Americans in Texas were freed. Since that time, it has been celebrated in African American communities. Texas was the first state to designate Juneteenth as a state holiday in 1980 but it took thirty years to become a federal holiday. On June 27, 2021, President Joe Biden signed the law making Juneteenth a federal holiday. In order for Alabamians to commemorate this holiday, it will need to become state law.

Section IV: Enactment

Goes into effect on 1/1/2024



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #HB87

Committee: G- Education II

Delegation: Catholic

Author(s): Bebe Neeley

Chamber: House

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: The Timeout on Sports Act A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

TITLE: The Timeout On Sports Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

SECTION I: Definitions

Mandatory: required by law or rules; compulsory.

National Holidays: days established by law for the entire country as non-working days.

School break: periods during which schools are closed or no classes or other mandatory activities are held

Extracurricular Activities: an activity, performed by students, that falls outside the realm of the normal curriculum of school, college or university education.

SECTION II: Proposal

This bill will prohibit schools from mandating extracurricular games on school breaks and national holidays.

SECTION III: Justification

According to the National Federation of State High School Associations, "More than 7.6 million high school students participated in school sports in the 2021-22 school year..." Millions of kids play sports every year, and millions of kids miss out on holidays and breaks because of it. When signing up to play sports or applying for a job, prospective athletes and coaches shouldn't have to worry about whether they'll be busy on national holidays or school breaks. According to Cross River Therapy, "The U.S. ranks first as the country with the most stressed students." With academics, sports, and other extracurricular activities, students' stress levels are at an all time high. By limiting the amount of time spent participating in high school sporting competitions, students will be given the opportunity to take additional time to spend on studies, family activities, and other beneficial endeavors.

SECTION IV: Funding and Oversight There is no funding necessary for this bill. **SECTION V: Conflicting Laws**

All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

SECTION VI: Enactment

This act shall become effective January 1, 2024 upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill #FY88

Committee: M- Public Safety

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Kendall Grahm

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Watchful Workers

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

Human trafficking- the unlawful act of transporting or coercing people in order to benefit from their work or service, typically in the form of forced labor or sexual exploitation.

Section II: Proposal

Staff that work in largely populated facilities in Alabama state borders will be trained to identify sex trafficking. These places would include airports, malls, and hotels. Home workers such as electricians, landscapers, plumbers, and movers will also be trained to identify human trafficking. This training would consist of looking for signals indicating human trafficking, identifying suspicious behavior towards people, and knowing how to act in a situation where this is occurring.

Section III: Justification

Staff in airports, malls, and hotels, along with home workers, should have training before hiring to identify trafficking signals. It is crucial that signs are identified because anyone can do this. It is very important that people working in these areas can identify this because these are the main places where trafficking occurs. People that work in homes typically never notice signs of human trafficking even though they are in the same house. With this training, it will limit the amount of people in this industry. and make more arrests.

Section IV: Consequences

This will allow more people to get caught and less people to be put in the trafficking business. People will also feel safer going out knowing people are looking for traffickers.

Section V: Enforcement

The Department of Labor would enforce this in training before allowing people to work in these environments. If you fail to meet the requirements then you will not get the job.

Section VI: Payment

The businesses hiring the staff would pay for this training.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing.

Section VII: Enactment

This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY89

Chamber: First Year

Committee: M- Judicial

Delegation: Spain Park

Author(s): Jack Lutenbacher

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Landowners have rights

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

- Game warden- a person who polices an area of hunting land.
- Warrented search- a search conducted with a warrant
- Unwarenteed search- a search conducted without a warrant
- 4th amendment- people must have a warrant to search your property

Section II: Proposal

This bill makes it possible to where game wardens will not to be able to search your land without a warrant.

Justification: Millions of pieces of land have been searced without a warrant by game wardens without any illigel activity going on in them. Those people were scared and they didn't want their land to be searched.

Section IV: Consequences

If a game warden without a warrant searches your land without a warrant their license should be taken away

Section V: Enforcement

This bill can be enforced by people asking if the warden has a warrant and proving that they do. If they don't then you can sue.

Section VI: Payment This bill needs no payment

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

4th amendment exception.

Section VIII: Enactment

- This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY90

Committee: N- Judicial

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): James Puckett

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Abolishing Solitary Confinement in Alabama Prisons

Solitary Confinement- The social isolation of a prisoner in a separate cell for extended periods of time.

Recidivism- The tendency for a criminal to reoffend after release.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY91

Committee: N- Judicial

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Roscoe Bare

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Abolish the Death Penalty

Section I: Definitions

Specific deterrence - The theory that If one is convicted of a crime, fear of additional punishment prevents that offender from committing future crimes.

General deterrence - The theory that If a defendant is punished for an offense, others who witness the punishment avoid committing the offense to avoid similar punishment.

Capital offense - a crime so serious that capital punishment (involving a sentence of life without parole or the death penalty) is considered appropriate.

Incapacitation - a goal of imprisonment where a criminal is prevented from harming others outside the prison.

Section II: Background

Per capita, Alabama puts more inmates to death than most other states. The death penalty in Alabama is often procedurally flawed and does not achieve its intended goals.

Section III: Proposition

In capital cases, convicts should be sentenced to nothing worse than life without parole.

Section IV: Justification

Although Alabama does not currently have any research about the financial cost of the death penalty, research from other states (i.e. Tennessee, California, Florida, Maryland, and North Carolina) suggests that Alabama taxpayers would pay far less to house inmates for the rest of their lives than if the State continues to administer the death penalty. This money could be used for other types of crime deterrence, like improvements in education, family interventions, investment in community resources, etc. Although it is commonly believed that the death penalty serves as a form of general deterrence, research does not support this belief. In fact, some research has even shown that there is an increase in violent crime in the weeks following an execution. The goal of incapacitating murderers (preventing them from committing more violent crimes) can be achieved through sentences of life without parole rather than death sentences. Research shows that the death penalty disproportionately targets black people. For example, If a black person kills a white person, he or she is much more likely to be sentenced to death than if a white person kills a black person. With the death penalty, there is also the added risk of executing wrongfully convicting innocent persons, such as Walter McMillan. In recent months, Alabama has had two failed executions (Kenneth Eugene Smith and Alan Eugene Miller), raising concerns that the death penalty is cruel and unusual.

Section V: Implementation

The responsibility for implementation would fall to the Alabama Department of Corrections. There



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would be no additional costs, therefore additional funding would not be necessary. For prisoners on death row when the bill is enacted, their sentences would be converted to life without parole.

Section VI: Severability Clause

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VII: Enactment Clause

This act is to become effective upon passage and approval of the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2023

February 24-26, 2023

Delegate Bill: #FY92

Committee: Q- Health

Delegation: Mountain Brook

Author(s): Heidi Hollingsworth

Chamber: First Year

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Requiring insurance to pay for the cost of colonoscopies

Section I: Definitions

A colonoscopy is a procedure in which a flexible fiber-optic instrument is inserted through the anus in order to examine the colon.

Section II: Background

Colorectal cancer is one of the top five deadliest cancers in the world, yet people are not as willing to receive the preventive measures that are vital to their survival because of the cost. Colorectal cancer is the fourth most common cancer in men and women, but many people detect it too late. When caught early, the survival rate of this disease is 90% and very treatable.

Section III: Proposition

This bill will require colonoscopy screenings to be covered by insurance companies so that this procedure is more affordable for patients.

Section IV: Justification

When a person goes in for their regular doctors check up, they are informed of all the things they are at risk for and how it can be prevented in order to maintain a healthy life. When being screened for colorectal cancer is mentioned, it is usually tagged with a price of \$3,000 which deters most people from doing that procedure until they need to, or until it is too late. This simple procedure has the power to save so many people's lives but with the cost associated with it, many are not taking advantage of it. Unfortunately, the reality of it is that most people aren't able to afford the hefty cost because it is uncovered by insurance. This bill will save many people and their families from having to go through an exhausting battle for their life. My dad was not as fortunate and sadly passed away from colorectal cancer in July of 2022. By the time they caught the cancer it was already stage 4 and despite many surgeries and types of chemo colorectal cancer took out another life that meant so much to people. In 2010 The Affordable Care Act required most private health insurance plans to cover the full cost of mammograms which is exactly what this bill will do with colonoscopies. This bill has the power to prevent loss and tragedy in so many people's lives but can't be done if it is not caught with colonoscopies.

Section V: Implementation

In the final weeks of his life my dad created a foundation, The Hollingsworth Colorectal Cancer Awareness Foundation, that's main purpose is to spread awareness of this tragic disease. We can use this to promote people getting screened and it being covered under insurance. This bill would require insurance to cover the full cost of colonoscopies.

Section VI: Severability Clause



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

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Section VII: Enactment Clause

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