



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F001**

**Committee: M**

**Delegation:** Montgomery - Trinity Presbyterian School

**Author(s):** Jake Yohn, Lauren Vermillion

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Death Penalty Abolishment

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

#### PREAMBLE:

Whereas, currently in the State of Alabama several death row inmates are executed each year. This bill would eradicate the practice of execution in Alabama.

#### SECTION I: DEFINITIONS

Death Penalty/Execution: Death as a punishment given by a court of law for very serious crimes: capital punishment.

Abolishment: Complete eradication of the practice of execution.

#### SECTION II: PROPOSITIONS

This bill would completely eliminate any practice of execution by the State of Alabama. Alabama currently holds the highest rate of death row inmates per capita. All criminals who are currently on death row will now serve life sentences.

#### SECTION III: JUSTIFICATIONS

The death penalty violates Section 15 of the Alabama Constitution which states "That excessive fines shall not be imposed, nor cruel or unusual punishment inflicted."

The State should not give itself the ability to choose who lives or dies.

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The death penalty has been proven to not deter crime or murder. According to the CDC, Alabama has the second highest murder rate per capita in the United States. Of the top 25 states with the highest murder rate, 20 of them have the death penalty. If the death penalty does not deter crime, we should not be taking away a human life.

It cost Alabama's taxpayers 10 times more to execute someone rather than them serving a life sentence. Execution is costly to the taxpayers and is immoral. It makes fiscal and logical sense to punish criminals through life in jail rather than death.

**SECTION IV: ENFORCEMENT**

The enforcement of this legislation will be overseen by the Alabama State Department of Corrections.

**SECTION V: SEVERABILITY CLAUSE:** Any laws or parts of law in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

**SECTION VI: 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 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F002**

**Committee: R**

**Delegation:** Montgomery - Trinity Presbyterian School

**Author(s):** Colton Criswell

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** A Law Banning the Use of Cell Phones in Vehicles

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section I: Definitions**  
2

3 Distracted Driving: Any activity that diverts attention from driving, including talking or texting on your  
4 phone, eating and drinking, talking to people in your vehicle, fiddling with the stereo, entertainment  
5 or navigation system—anything that takes your attention away from the task of safe driving.  
6

7 **Section II: Proposition**  
8

9 This purpose of this bill is to reduce the amount of cell phone usage while driving almost completely.  
10 Not only banning texting while driving, but also calling while driving (without the use of bluetooth or  
11 speakerphone.) A study found that texting while driving is 23 times more dangerous than when not,  
12 and calling or dialing numbers while driving is up to 6 times more dangerous than when not. The  
13 main purpose of this bill is not only to stop people from calling and driving, but reduce the amount of  
14 people already texting and driving. This bill will also raise the amount per ticket for cell phone usage  
15 while driving.  
16

17 **Section III: Justification**  
18

19 This bill will not only reduce the amount of cell phone usage while driving, but also make more  
20 money from tickets. The current fine for an offender's first offense of texting while driving is \$25.  
21 This law will raise that amount and also begin to fine offenders for calling while driving. Some  
22 exceptions to calling can be made.  
23

24 **Section IV: Implementation**  
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26 The law will be spread through means of advertisements and also be spoken in the form of warnings  
27 by officers on the offender's first offense. The fine for texting and driving shall also be increased to  
28 \$50 for the first offense and calling to \$25 on the second offense. After each new offense, the fine  
29 will be increased by \$25. This bill will be overseen by the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency.  
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**Section V: Conflicting Laws**

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

**Section VI: Enactment Clause**

This bill will become effective January 1, 2020 upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F003**

**Committee: N**

**Delegation:** Birmingham - Indian Springs

**Author(s):** Hudson Wang

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Alabama Educational Career Program to Reduce Poverty

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section 1: Definition  
2

3 This act will establish a program, which will be known as the Alabama Educational Career Program,  
4 that will manage and organize volunteers from a variety of jobs and positions who are willing to help  
5 teach skills to people in poverty. The ultimate goal of this program is to reduce the unemployment  
6 rate and thus reduce the poverty rate by arming those in poverty with the skills to have a career.  
7

8 Section 2: Proposition  
9

10 The state government will establish an Alabama Educational Career Program on March 1, 2019, in  
11 each local government, that is able to allocate representatives and funding, in the state of Alabama.  
12 Each local branch of this program will organize volunteers from such places as local colleges,  
13 universities, and trade schools; local shops, businesses and service centers; or local professionals,  
14 to teach classes and provide specific vocational training to those lacking jobs and in poverty. These  
15 local programs will use public spaces to hold classes and seminars. The classes will only be  
16 available to those living below the poverty line and will be free to all who register at their local town  
17 halls. The volunteers of these classes will not be paid, but will likely be awarded certificates by  
18 government of Alabama, and all certificate awardees would be recognized in the career program's  
19 publications and newsletters. The purpose of these classes can vary, from teaching life skills to  
20 teaching career development.  
21

22 Section 3: Justification  
23

24 One of the main reasons for the high poverty rate in Alabama is the low employment rate. This  
25 program will help more people in poverty learn skills, thus making it easier for them to get jobs,  
26 therefore reducing unemployment rate and poverty.  
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28 Section 4: Conflicting Laws  
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30 Any existing legislation that is in conflict with this bill is hereby repealed.  
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Section 5: Enactment Clause

This bill will be effective March 1, 2019, upon its enactment and approval by the governor otherwise becoming a law.



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F004**

**Committee: N**

**Delegation:** Birmingham - Indian Springs

**Author(s):** Virginia Slaughter, Kennedy Tyson

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Alabama Public School Foreign Language Act

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section I:**

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3 This act will be known and cited as the "Alabama Public School Foreign Language Act"

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7 **Section II:**

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9 This bill would require all public schools in the state of Alabama to teach and mandate all students,  
10 kindergarten through twelfth grade, to take a foreign language as part of their education.

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14 **Section III:**

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16 Currently, the State of Alabama requires for all high school students to have at least two foreign  
17 language credits in order to graduate. However, this does not account for elementary and middle  
18 schools. Many students in this state do not begin taking a foreign language until they enter high  
19 school. As time passes, there will be a higher need for everyone to be able to communicate with  
20 non natives of the United States.

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24 **Section IV:**

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26 1) The Alabama Department of Education will oversee this bill. In order to achieve this, public  
27 schools must include in their budget for staff and supplies. In addition, schools must also include  
28 periods of time set aside in weekly schedules and the space for the learning of a foreign language.  
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2) This would cost 162.5 million dollars annually for teacher salary and supplies out of Alabama's educational budget which is 6.708 billion dollars annually (1).

**Section V:**

All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

**Section VI:**

This bill will be effective at the beginning of the next school year upon its enactment and approval by the governor otherwise becoming a law.

1: Budget taken from State of Alabama Executive Budget for the Fiscal Year of 2019





# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F005**

**Committee: Q**

**Delegation:** Birmingham - Indian Springs

**Author(s):** Zexi Fu, Will Miller

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** The Alabama Educational Advancement Lottery Act

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section 1.** This Act shall be known and may be cited as the Alabama Educational Advancement  
2 Lottery Act.  
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6 **Section 2.** The definition of a lottery as applicable in this bill is the means of raising Alabama state  
7 revenue through a state-run program that sells lottery tickets and any other chance method as a  
8 means for the buyer to have a chance of redeeming winnings from the state. These means are not  
9 gambling, they are to be defined under the umbrella of what shall be called Charitable Games.  
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13 **Section 3.** Charitable Games, as used in this bill, are to be defined as any method used by the  
14 state to raise money as a means to benefit education, prison reform, public infrastructure, or any  
15 other instrument the state wishes to fund through Charitable Games. The Alabama Lottery will be  
16 run through a state-run program, to be called the Alabama Lottery Commission. The primary goal of  
17 the Alabama Lottery will be to fund public schools and advance education in Alabama.  
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21 **Section 4.** The Alabama Lottery Commission, as used in this bill, will be a state-run department that  
22 regulates the Alabama Lottery's activities and runs the Alabama Lottery. The Commission will have  
23 a commissioner and sub-departments as necessary to effectively and efficiently control and regulate  
24 the Alabama Lottery. The commissioner will be appointed by the governor, and that commissioner  
25 will serve a four-year term as head of the Alabama Lottery Commission. The commissioner will  
26 thereby have the power to appoint two vice-commissioners, who the governor must agree with as  
27 nominees and officially sign into office. The commissioner's activity and jurisdiction of the Alabama  
28 Lottery Commission will be monitored by the governor and his/her offices. The governor has the  
29 complete power to remove and replace any commissioner.  
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**Section 5.** Employees and commissioners will be paid with earnings from the Alabama Lottery and those wages will be determined by the Alabama House of Representatives. The Alabama Lottery and the Alabama Lottery Commission will be self-sustaining and will require no additional funding from the state outside of its own earnings except for the initial fund. The initial funds needed to establish the lottery will be provided by the state but will be repaid from the Lottery earnings once the Lottery is established. The Commission shall have the power to take funds necessary for the operation of the Lottery, payment of winnings, and payment of the Commission and staff from the Lottery fund. The allocation of the Alabama Lottery earnings will undergo an audit every 2 years to ensure their intended usage.

**Section 6.** The Lottery shall be the exclusive provider of lottery tickets or charitable gaming methods under this law, and nothing herein shall be construed to authorize or legalize other gaming methods or games of chance. Under no circumstance will the distribution of lottery tickets or charitable gaming methods be sold without the express written consent of the Alabama Lottery Commission, nor without also being licensed through the Alabama Lottery Commission as a vendor of said methods or tickets.

**Section 7.** Beginning January 1, 2020, an Alabama Lottery Commission will be established. It will promptly begin working and preparing for the unveiling of the Alabama Lottery on June 30, 2020.

**Section 8.** Any existing legislation that is in conflict with this bill is hereby repealed.

**Section 9.** This bill will be effective January 1, 2020, upon its enactment and approval by the governor otherwise becoming a law.



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F006**

**Committee: N**

**Delegation:** Montgomery - Catholic

**Author(s):** Titus Franklin

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** After-School Education

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section 1: As of the school year of 2024-2025 (five school years from now), all public school will be  
2 required to have teachers to stay for a minimum amount of thirty (30) minutes after school for study  
3 sessions with students that need help with assignments and additional tutoring. Teachers will be  
4 required to stay after school three(3) days a week, not including weeks that are shortened. This bill  
5 will help students bring up their grades and become more successful in the long run.  
6

7 Section 2: Teachers that are sick that day(s) will not be required to make up this time. Teachers that  
8 fail to do this will receive a warning at first. After this offense, the principal will decide the course of  
9 action what should happen and afterward would be reported to the Board of Education.  
10

11 Section 3: On average teacher would have to stay about fifteen (15) minutes before or after school  
12 to prepare for the next day and/or preparation for a parent-teacher conference. Teachers planning  
13 period is about thirty (30) during the school day. Teachers are usually required to stay after school  
14 for about fifteen (15) minutes which would be located in their contract so there would little to no pay  
15 for what they should get for that extra fifteen (15) minutes  
16

17 Section 4: This Bill will get the fundings from the state, donations that were given to the state,  
18 sponsored donations, donations from companies and then it will be upon the state to pay for this.  
19 This bill will be overseen by the Department of Education.  
20

21 Section 5: Any laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.  
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23 Section 6: This act shall become effective as of 2024-2025 after its passage and approval by the  
24 Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.  
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# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F007**

**Committee: M**

**Delegation:** Montgomery - Catholic

**Author(s):** Zachary Izer, Cody Harris

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Abolishing Solitary Confinement for Juveniles

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section 1: Terms

2  
3 Solitary confinement: the isolation of a prisoner in a separate cell as punishment

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5 Juvenile: of, for, or relating to young people under the age of 18

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7 8th Amendment: Constitutional amendment stating that there will be no use of excessive  
8 punishment or sentencing of a prisoner

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12 Section 2: Purpose

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14 A bill to abolish and remove solitary confinement as a punishment for anyone under the age of 18.

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18 Section 3: Justification

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When implemented, solitary confinement can truly affect a juvenile’s young mind. Placing juveniles in solitary confinement as punishment happens throughout the United States, including Alabama. There were 4 inmate suicides in Alabama last year, and the 4 inmates that did commit suicide were placed in solitary confinement. A juvenile’s brain is very much underdeveloped, so this punishment has a great effect on the young mind. In the Supreme Court case Miller v. Alabama, the Supreme Court debated whether solitary confinement was an excessive punishment for 14 year old Evan Miller, who beat and killed another teen. The Court supported Miller’s placement in solitary confinement even though that could be considered going against the 8th Amendment to the Constitution. Solitary confinement can lead to many mental health problems, such as hallucinations, schizophrenia, insomnia and paranoia, post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), distortions of time and perception, and increased risk of suicide. This bill is suggesting to remove solitary confinement as punishment for all juveniles because of the increased risk of mental health disorders and illness.

Section 4: Funding and Oversight

The Alabama Department of Corrections will oversee the implementation of this bill. Funding for prisons would be reduced because of the need to pay for this excessive punishment. A year in solitary confinement costs an average of 75,000 dollars, which is three times the average cost of an inmate’s incarcerations.

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, 2020 after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F008**

**Committee: R**

**Delegation:** Montgomery - Catholic

**Author(s):** Julienne Pharrams, Aniya Lowery

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Mental health screenings for gun permits

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section 1: Terms

2  
3 Mental Health- a person's condition with regard to their psychological and emotional well-being.

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7 Section 2: Proposal

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9 We move to make the purchasing of or the carrying of an already purchased gun illegal without  
10 proof of a current mental health screening. You will be able to have screening done by a  
11 psychiatrist. You must receive a doctor's note signed by the psychiatrist who screens you to present  
12 at the time you attempt to acquire a permit. If you already have a permit it will be rendered invalid 30  
13 days after March 10th, 2019 until you acquire the mental health screening. At this time a new permit  
14 will be issued.

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18 Section 3: Consequences

19  
20 Not having a mental health screening will render your current permit invalid. The legal charging and  
21 sentencing will be the same as if you never had a permit. If you distribute guns without proof of  
22 screening you will lose the license to sell guns and must pay a fine.

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26 Section 4: Funding

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28 You will be required to pay for your screening. Health insurance may be used to pay for your  
29 screening if your health insurance has psychiatric coverage. The County Sheriff's department will  
30 oversee this process.

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

Section 6: This act shall become effective March 10th, 2019 after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F009**

**Committee: Q**

**Delegation:** Birmingham - Vestavia Hills

**Author(s):** Nathaniel Bass

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Protection and Relocation of Historical Monuments Act

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

#### Section One: Definitions

Historic Preservation Tax Credit program- \$100,000,000 in available tax credits for historical preservation in Alabama.

Alabama Historical Commission- Administers the national historic preservation program at the state level, reviews National Register of Historic Places nominations, maintains data on historic properties that have been identified but not yet nominated, and consults with Federal agencies during Section 106 review.

The Daniel Foundation- offers grants in four program areas: Civic and Community Improvement, Education, Health, and Arts and Culture. Applications are limited to 501 (c)(3) organization that are located in Alabama.

The Gwyn Turner Endowed Fund- Administered by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, in partnership with Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation. Nonprofits and governmental agencies can obtain funding for preservation planning, heritage education, workshops, conferences and special interventions. Grants range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 and require a 1:1 cash match.

NEH We the People Challenge Grants Program- Designed to help institutions and organizations secure long-term improvements in and support for humanities activities that explore significant themes and events in American history. Grants, which range from \$300,000 to \$1 million, may be used to support construction and renovation, purchase of equipment, acquisitions, and conservation of collections.

NTHP Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation- This grant provides up to \$10,000 for consultants to assist with many aspects of preservation, for preservation conferences and for innovative preservation education programs.

NTHP Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors- This program provides grants for up to \$10,000 for consultants to assist with many aspects of interior preservation, for preservation



33 conferences and for innovative preservation education programs. Individuals and businesses may  
34 apply for projects involving a National Historic Landmark.

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36 NTHP Preservation Services Fund- This fund provides up to \$5,000 for rehab plans and specs,  
37 feasibility studies or historic structures reports; heritage education, and conferences.

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41 **Section Two:** With funding from the Historic Preservation Tax Credit program, protection will be  
42 provided for all historical monuments in Alabama, and the relocation of culturally insensitive  
43 monuments to The Historical Preservation Site (within Brierfield Iron Works Park). Along with the  
44 Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program, funding can be found through the following programs and  
45 foundations: The Daniel Foundation, The Gwyn Turner Endowed Fund, NEH We the People  
46 Challenge Grants Program, NTHP Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation, NTHP Cynthia  
47 Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors, and the NTHP Preservation Services Fund. Applicants  
48 must contact The Alabama Historical Commission for a review of any monument within state lines,  
49 and an appropriate course of action will be determined.

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53 **Section Three:**

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55 The protection of historical monuments will be done through:

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57 **I. Prohibiting improper removal or destruction of monuments**

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59 Requests for monument removal can be made to the Alabama Historical Commission.

60  
61 Once requests are approved, the monuments will be placed in Brierfield Iron Works Park, at a  
62 revitalized location for monuments.

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66 **II. Creation of Historical Preservation Site**

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68 Revitalize 100 acres of the Brierfield Iron Works Park for the relocation of historic monuments.

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72 **III. Funding**

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74 **1. Alabama Historical Commission and the Historic Preservation Tax Credit  
75 program**

76  
77 From the tax credit program, taxpayers can receive up to \$5,000,000 in tax credits per project.

78  
79 The Daniel Foundation offers grants in four program areas: Civic and Community Improvement,  
80 Education, Health, and Arts and Culture.

81  
82 The Gwyn Turner Endowed Fund is administered by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

83 Grants range from \$1,000 to \$5,000.

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85 NEH We the People Challenge Grants Program provides grants, which range from \$300,000 to \$1  
86 million.

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88 NTHP Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation This grant provides up to \$10,000.

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90 NTHP Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors This program provides grants for up to  
91 \$10,000.

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93 NTHP Preservation Services Fund this fund provides grants up to \$5,000.

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97 **Section Four:**

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

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103 **Section Five:**

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

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# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F010**

**Committee: S**

**Delegation:** Birmingham - Vestavia Hills

**Author(s):** Anna Kate Boles

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Sufficient sleep for teens is important

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section 1:**

2  
3 State of Alabama High School shall be defined as a State funded school consisting of grade levels  
4 nine (9) through twelve (12).  
5

6 **Section 2:**

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8 All State of Alabama High Schools shall begin no earlier than 10 am CST, Monday through Friday.  
9

10 **Section 3:**

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12 The purpose of this Bill is to give teens more time to sleep. Teens need much more sleep than what  
13 an average teen gets on a school night. The lack of sleep in a highschoolers' life shows through their  
14 test taking. Schools that start as early as 8 am have shown to have lower test scores than schools  
15 starting at 10 am.  
16

17 **Section 4:**

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19 All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed and replaced.  
20

21 **Section 5:**

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23 This Act shall become immediately effective upon the Governor's signature.  
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# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F011**

**Committee: R**

**Delegation:** Birmingham - Vestavia Hills

**Author(s):** Maya Bridgwaters

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Internet Privacy

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 SECTION 1: DEFINITIONS  
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5 Internet: a global computer network providing a variety of information and communication facilities,  
6 consisting of interconnected networks using standardized communication protocols  
7  
8  
9

10 Personal Data: Recorded information about an identifiable individual that may include his or her (1)  
11 name, address, email address, phone number, (2) race, nationality, ethnicity, origin, color, religious  
12 or political beliefs or associations, (3) age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, (4)  
13 identifying number, code, symbol, (5) finger prints, blood type, inherited characteristics, (6) health  
14 care history including information on physical/mental disability, (7) educational, financial, criminal,  
15 employment history, (8) others' opinion about the individual, and (9) personal views except those  
16 about other individuals.  
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20 Company: commercial business  
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24 Provider: a person or thing that provides a service  
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28 Consumer: a person who purchases goods and services for personal use  
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SECTION 2: PROPOSITIONS

This bill would require telecommunication providers, telecommunication companies, and Internet service providers to ask permission of the consumer before collecting personal data.

Without the permission of the consumers, companies or providers cannot use collected data to market, sell, or share.

Companies or providers cannot restrict or deny consumers service who opted out of data sharing agreements.

Failure or refusal to comply with the terms set in this bill will result in a fine, which will be paid to the state, and termination of any state contract.

SECTION 3: JUSTIFICATION

This bill is modeled after the proposed state bills in Connecticut, Illinois, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Washington, and Wisconsin. Internet and telecommunication providers have been known to collect data on consumers to market and distribute. However, this act is an invasion of the public's privacy.

After current suspicions of popular companies like Google and Facebook selling data, Market Watch states, over 90% of people request an internet service provider who would not monitor or share their data. Lastly, a MIT study review states, that Americans spend 24 hours a week online. Alabama should be one of the first to lead the country in a pressing issue that affects a everyday commodity.

SECTION 4: SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

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

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SECTION 5: ENACTMENT CLAUSE

This bill will become effective January 1, 2020 upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F012**

**Committee: P**

**Delegation:** Birmingham - Vestavia Hills

**Author(s):** Linden Cundiff

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Black Belt Business Incentive

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 SECTION 1: DEFINITIONS

2  
3 Black Belt: The Black Belt is a fertile plain across central Alabama and northeastern Mississippi.  
4 The Black Belt traditionally includes Barbour, Bullock, Choctaw, Dallas, Greene, Hale, Lowndes,  
5 Macon, Marengo, Pickens, Perry, Sumter, Wilcox, and surrounding counties (referring to context  
6 and not agriculturally).

7  
8 Minority: a relatively small group of people, differing from others in race, religion, language, or  
9 political persuasion.

10  
11 Corporate Income Tax: For most traditional corporations, Alabama's corporate income tax is  
12 charged at a flat rate of 6.5% of taxable net income.

13  
14 SECTION 2: PROPOSITIONS

15  
16 Businesses placing businesses and employing Minority in the Alabama "Black Belt" will not be  
17 required to pay Corporate Tax to the state of Alabama for 5 years following opening of business.

18  
19 Businesses must open with at least 30% Minority employees and will be required to maintain a  
20 minimum of 20% Minority employment following one year of opening to remain eligible for tax  
21 exemption.

22  
23 Following 5 years of exemption from tax businesses will be required to begin and continue to pay  
24 Corporate Tax.

25  
26 Businesses must have at least 10+ employes to qualify for exemption.

27  
28 Establishments will only be eligible if located in Bible Belt and following qualifications. Chain  
29 companies (e.g. Publix, Walmart, etc.) are eligible but tax exemption will only apply to stores located  
30 in Bible Belt.

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Businesses will not be required to provide additional benefits to employees. Although additional benefits for employees will be recommended to establishments it will not result in further tax exemptions created by this bill.

Existing establishments that meet tax exemption qualifications will receive tax exemption for 2 years following enactment of bill.

### SECTION 3: JUSTIFICATION

Historically, the Alabama Black Belt was named such as a result of its rich, black, soil. Because of this physical attribute the area was sought after for agricultural purposes and became known throughout the state and referred to with this nickname. Throughout time as natural causes and overuse caused the soil in the area to decline and result in a loss of worth in the land the economic and employment scene began a steady decrease. Thus, contextually the term “Black Belt” in Alabama has come to represent and refer to the area of middle Alabama with a majority of minority and impoverished population. In fact nine out of the 10 poorest counties in Alabama—Barbour, Dallas, Greene, Hale, Lowndes, Macon, Perry, Sumter, and Wilcox—are in the Black Belt. The Black Belt also contains some of the highest unemployment figures in Alabama and encouraging employment and establishment in this area would improve these figures drastically.

As well as a need, the bill also possesses precedents of the same type in Alabama. For example, In August 2004, Alabama governor Bob Riley signed an executive order creating the Governor's Commission for Action in Alabama's Black Belt. However, this order lacked funding and while doing good in the region, eventually declined. Fortunately, by implementing the Black Belt Business Incentive, the bill will not only encourage businesses to move in to the Black Belt and employ Black Belt residents but will also not require government funding. As well as this, the bill would also result in a long-term increase of government income as establishments pass the 5 year incentive.

### SECTION 4: SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

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

### SECTION 5: ENACTMENT CLAUSE

This bill will become effective January 1, 2019 upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.





# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F013**

**Committee:** \*Special Order\*

**Delegation:** Birmingham - Vestavia Hills

**Author(s):** Will Nickolson

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Pencils before Pistols

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

#### Section I: Definitions

Public School - Any (public) elementary or secondary educational institution.

Law Enforcement Officer - Any duly appointed and acting federal, state, county or municipal law enforcement officer, peace officer or investigating officer, or any military or militia personnel called out or directed by constituted authority to keep the law and order. Those qualified and approved under subsection (a) of § 16-1-44.1 also apply under this definition. Such term does not include a peace officer on strike or a peace officer not on duty.

Class A Felony Offense - No less than ten (10) years and no more than life or ninety-nine (99) years.

Class D Felony Offense - Punishable by a prison sentence of not more than five (5) years, or less than one (1) year and one (1) day.

Class A Misdemeanor Offense - Up to one (1) year and a fine up to \$6,000.00.

#### Section II: Proposition

This bill will hereby ensure the high level of safety inside public schools in Alabama. Currently, under Alabama Law, any citizen of Alabama with a concealed carry permit classified under Section 13A-11-75 may bring a firearm into a public school. To ensure maximum safety in public schools, this ability of non Law Enforcement Officers to bring firearms into a public school under subsection (e) of § 13A-11-72 will be hereby void.

#### Section III: Justification

In 2018, many mass school shooting have occurred, and many innocent lives have been lost. Parkland, Florida is one example, along with Santa Fe, Texas. To maximize public school safety for students and teachers, firearms must only be allowed into schools for possession by Law Enforcement Officers. By decreasing the amount of people allowed to bring guns into a school, this

33 will decrease the probability of someone possibly endangering the lives of those inside the public  
34 school.

35  
36 **Section IV: Penalties**

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38 The act of any citizen, exempting school security personnel and school resource officers qualified  
39 under subsection (a) of § 16-1-44.1, possessing one, or more, deadly weapons on or within the  
40 limits of a public school is hereby prohibited and will carry the penalties as follows:

41  
42 1) Unintentional Offenses: In the case that the deadly weapon was brought into a Public School  
43 unintentionally, the penalty shall be treated as no more than a class A misdemeanor offense, unless  
44 decided otherwise by the Judicial System.

45  
46 2) Intentional Offenses: In the case that the deadly weapon was brought into a Public School  
47 intentionally, the penalty shall be treated as no less than a class D felony offense, unless decided  
48 otherwise by the Judicial System.

49  
50 **Section V: Severability Clause**

51  
52 Any existing orders, ordinances, or rules promulgated or enforced contrary to the terms of this  
53 section are null and void and any future order, ordinance, or rules shall comply with this section.

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55 **Section VI: Effective Date**

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

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# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F014**

**Committee: P**

**Delegation:** Birmingham - Vestavia Hills

**Author(s):** Stella Ross

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** The E-cigarette Tax Act

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

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5 SECTION I: DEFINITIONS  
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9 E-Cigarette: A cigarette-shaped device containing a nicotine-based liquid that is vaporized and  
10 inhaled, used to simulate the experience of smoking tobacco.

11  
12 Nitrosamines: A cancer causing subject that is found in e-cigarettes and cigarettes.

13  
14 Vaping: The action or practice of inhaling and exhaling the vapor produced by an electronic  
15 cigarette or similar device.  
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19 SECTION II: PROPOSITIONS  
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23 There must be a \$1.00 tax placed on a e-cigarettes to discourage teenagers from the usage of this  
24 material. In the state of Alabama, the tax on cigarettes is \$0.68 a pack. There is no additional tax for  
25 a e-cigarettes in Alabama even though it is just as harmful and addictive as cigarettes. E-cigarettes  
26 will be taxed \$1.00, an extra \$0.32 more than cigarettes, due to the fact that they are more harmful  
27 than regular cigarettes and disproportionately affect youth. Current federal and state regulations do  
28 not protect the youth from the harmful e-cigarettes. The revenue from this tax will contribute to the  
29 Alabama General Fund.  
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SECTION III: JUSTIFICATION

Vaping is an extreme problem among today’s youth. It has reached the severity to where some will even try to vape on school property. Vaping has become a social norm in society for teenagers. The vaping age in Alabama is 19, however, many teens under this legal age have still managed to obtain an e-cigarette. If the tax on e-cigarettes is raised significantly, it will discourage young teenagers from buying this product. Vaping is a dangerous act that can lead to severe sickness of children. Studies have shown that e-cigarettes contain twice as much nicotine than a regular cigarette. Vaping has been linked to the development of heart disease, and it contains nitrosamines, a chemical that has been known to cause severe forms of cancer. If enacted, this bill will discourage youth to purchase and use e-cigarette products. Consequently, this will prevent the harmful effects of e-cigarettes on the youth’s health.

According to Johns Hopkins Medicine, in 2015, the U.S. surgeon general reported that e-cigarette use among high school students had increased by 900 percent, and 40 percent of young e-cigarette users had never smoked regular tobacco. According to a Dr. Susan Walley, Children’s of Alabama physician, and chair of the American Academy of Pediatrics Section on Tobacco Control, teens that use e-cigarettes during their childhood are more likely to become addicted to illegal drugs and alcohol later in life. Instead of using the vape as a substitute for cigarettes, teenagers are mistreating its purpose, and they are using it for their own social pleasure. By increasing the tax on all e-cigarettes and e-cigarette material, it will make it more costly and therefore more challenging for young people to use this harmful device. Passage of this bill will result in an increase in health among all teenagers.

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 January 1, 2020 upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F015**

**Committee: S**

**Delegation:** Birmingham - Vestavia Hills

**Author(s):** Julia Weingarten

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Restaurant Allergy Manager Act

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section 1: A certified manager- forced to abide in accordance with established requirements or  
2 standards.

3  
4 Section 2: One or more allergy certified managers are required to be on staff at all restaurants in the  
5 state of Alabama. The law would make it necessary to have a licensed professional at every  
6 resturant or place of serving.

7  
8 Section 3: This act will create a safer environment for those with allergies. It will eliminate most  
9 doubt on cross-contamination and how/ where products are handled. Massachusetts, Maryland,  
10 Michigan, Rhode Island and Virginia have laws that make it safer for individuals with allergies to eat  
11 in resturants. Michigan and Illinois require a allergy food specialist to be on duty at all times.

12  
13 Section 4: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

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15 Section 5: This act will become effective immediately upon the passage and approval by the  
16 Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.

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# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F016**

**Committee: P**

**Delegation:** Birmingham - Vestavia Hills

**Author(s):** Ariel Zhou

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** The Gas Tax Act

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

#### SECTION I: DEFINITIONS

Gas Tax: sales tax imposed on the sale of gasoline.

Infrastructure: the basic physical and organizational structures and facilities.

#### SECTION II: PROPOSITIONS

This bill will increase the current gas tax by \$0.03 per gallon to add \$60 million to the infrastructure budget.

#### SECTION III: JUSTIFICATION

Under the Alabama Constitution, the money collected from the state gas tax must go to infrastructure. However, the gasoline tax of 18.4 cents per gallon has not changed since 1993, but gas prices have more than doubled, and the cost of road construction continues to rise. Unless the gas tax is raised, funding will be inadequate for maintaining growing construction and economic development needs.

Currently, 1,200 bridges await repair and 15 percent of Alabama's major urban roadways are in poor condition. With the lack of infrastructure upgrades, Deficient roads and bridges cost the average Alabama driver \$1,600 annually due to the unsafe circumstances. Sustainable infrastructure is crucial to connecting the state's rural areas to the urban ones and to further economic opportunities.

A lack of investment in public infrastructure costs billions per year due to lost productivity brought on by traffic and shipment delays. Every year, hundreds of deaths and injuries are due to deteriorating

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33 infrastructures. As prices continue to rise, failing conditions of infrastructure will become more  
34 deadly.

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38 **SECTION IV: SEVERABILITY CLAUSE**

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

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44 **SECTION V: ENACTMENT CLAUSE**

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46 This bill will become effective January 1, 2020 upon its enactment and approval by the governor or  
47 otherwise becoming a law.

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# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F017**

**Committee: M**

**Delegation:** Birmingham - Mountain Brook

**Author(s):** Mary Raines Alexander

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Civil Asset Forfeiture Reform Act

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section I: Definitions**  
2

3 Civil Asset Forfeiture- A legal process that enables a government to seize property and other assets  
4 of one who is suspected of a crime, not convicted or charged.  
5

6 Legalize- To make something permissible by law  
7

8 Revenue- The income of a company or organization that is typically substantial  
9

10 Adjudicate- To make a formal judgment or statement about a matter  
11

12 Municipality- A city or town that maintains corporate status and/or a local government  
13

14 Levying- To impose  
15

16 **Preamble:**  
17

18 With asset forfeiture only having to be backed up by 'reasonable satisfaction' or suspicions which  
19 are not 'beyond reasonable doubt', this led to 25% of the 1,110 cases of asset forfeiture in 2015 to  
20 be of those who were never charged with a crime, had no evidence against them and were rather  
21 robbed of their possessions due to suspicion only. Also, due to civil asset forfeiture being a civil  
22 case, a lawyer is not appointed to the victim if they attempted to challenge the issue. Meaning, they  
23 would ultimately be forced to either walk away from the case or pay for a lawyer in a case where, if  
24 they did win, in the end, would lead to no profit. This causes a continuous cycle to occur where the  
25 police then maintain the incentive to continue to abuse the law, seize innocent people's property,  
26 and enrich themselves rather than the welfare of the people. To add, a recent study by  
27 FreedomWorks recorded that Alabama's civil asset forfeiture law is among the worst in the nation.  
28 Alabama's top spot above the other forty-nine states in America was earned because 100% of  
29 property seized during asset forfeiture is kept by the police, and is considered the primary source of  
30 revenue for the police; there are no limits as to whom they can take from and how much.  
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**Section II: Proposition**

The bill proposed hereby calls for the reformation of civil asset forfeiture law to end the years of abuse of this law within Alabama. Currently, within Alabama, police organizations are allowed to seize or forfeit one's property and possessions without charging that person with a crime, thus, leaving many innocent and ordinary citizens of Alabama robbed of their property, possessions, money, values, etc. Once enacted, this bill would call for the mandatory tracking of the properties seized by the police through a database managed at a state level which records and inputs the possessions forfeited leading to a more efficient system and allows items to return to the proper owner after an investigation. When registered, the date, time, type of property or possession you seized, the name of the person it was seized from, who seized it, and where it was seized, should be inserted into the database. Thereby allowing the possessions to be tracked by the state. Also, this bill calls to alter the thought process of asset forfeiture basics and order the police to have confirmation from a higher positioned authority, which leads to deeper suspicion with the suspect at hand and can stop innocent people's items from being seized. Not only would this bill leave a new and improved asset forfeiture law within Alabama, but it would also demolish the looming threat of possible legalized robbery of one's possessions and property within Alabama.

**Section III: Justification**

Though it should be stated that Alabama is among many states that have not passed a similar law and in fact only three states have passed a bill pertaining to civil asset forfeiture, which provides Alabama, for a change, an opportunity to create a leading representation to other states. These changes could be the impetus for a nationwide movement to begin the process of significant reforms.

This bill would ultimately lead Alabama into a position where the rigged system of asset forfeiture could become obsolete which would then create a more respective police force due to its extinction of the legalized robbery which victimizes innocent citizens. Thus, only targeting those who are guilty of a crime and/or suspected based on official confirmation. Furthermore, the police would also be monitored as to where the property and possessions go, through the state level database, which ultimately restricts the continuation of the stealing of peoples items who are innocent. Moreover, the outcome of the enactment of this bill not only leads to what has explained above, but it also allows for more jobs to be offered by the state due to the needed management of the database.

**Section IV: State Provisions**

The funding needed for this bill can be supplied by the assets pertaining to cases which have been fully adjudicated. These funds are shared with the municipalities.

**Section V: Sanctions**

Failure to comply said bill and/or benefit themselves through stealing the property may result in levying finds.

**Section VI: Severability Clause**

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

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**Section VII: 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 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F018**

**Committee: P**

**Delegation:** Birmingham - Mountain Brook

**Author(s):** Caroline Allen

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Alabama Rural Hospital Tax Credit Act

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1  
2  
3 **Preamble:**  
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5 In the last eight years, seven rural hospitals in Alabama have closed, giving it the fourth highest rate  
6 of hospital closure nationwide. Nearly all of Alabama's rural hospitals are operating with deficits and  
7 are on the brink of closure with 88% operating without enough patient revenue to cover costs. Such  
8 closures exacerbate economic disparities in the state, leading to higher rates of unemployment and  
9 income declines. In addition, the closures prevent rural residents from seeking necessary medical  
10 treatment and care, leaving the sick without any proper form of medical assistance.  
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13  
14 **Section I: Definitions**  
15

16 Eligible hospital: Hospitals in rural counties that have been deemed by the Alabama Office of  
17 Primary Care and Rural Health to be operating without enough patient revenue to cover costs  
18

19 Enrollment period: The period of time in which participating taxpayers must enroll in the tax credit  
20 system on an annual basis  
21

22 Participating taxpayer: Taxpayers who have enrolled in the tax credit system during the enrollment  
23 period established by the Alabama Department of Revenue.  
24

25 Rural county: a county having a population of less than 50,000 according to the United States  
26 decennial census of 2010 or any future such census  
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28 Tax credit: amount of money taxpayers may subtract from taxes owed to the State of Alabama.  
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**Section II: Proposition**

This bill would implement a tax credit system for donations towards eligible hospitals in rural counties. Participating taxpayers will receive a tax credit for 100% of their contribution towards any such eligible hospital as long as total contributions do not exceed 60% of the individual's total tax liability. A taxpayer's cumulative general tax credit, however, may not exceed 75% of total tax liability.

Eligible hospitals shall receive a cap on contributions of 4 million dollars annually with a statewide cap of 60 million dollars annually. Participating taxpayers may choose which hospital(s) to donate to based off of the list compiled by the Alabama Office of Primary Care and Rural Health during the enrollment period unless the hospital has reached the annual cap. Taxpayers must designate the amount they donated and which hospital(s) they donated to on their requisite annual tax forms in order to receive the credit during the annual enrollment period.

**Section III: Justification**

Funding will come from tax credits from on individual contributions. The act will be overseen by The Alabama Department of Revenue and any implementing agencies. The Alabama Office of Primary Care and Rural Health under The Alabama Department of Public Health will compile a list of rural hospitals ranked by greatest to least financial risk and display it on their public website.

**Severability Clause**

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

**Effective Date**

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 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F019**

**Committee: Q**

**Delegation:** Birmingham - Mountain Brook

**Author(s):** Hunter Anderson

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Statewide Agricultural Zoning Act

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

#### Section I: Definitions

Agriculture: the cultivation of land and breeding of animals and plants to provide food, fiber, medicinal plants, and other products

Urbanization: the process in which there is an influx of people moves into cities and urban areas

Counter-Urbanization: a demographic and social process whereby people move from urban areas to rural areas

Zoning: municipal or local government laws that dictate how real property can and cannot be used in certain areas

Area Zoned for Agriculture: an area in which the zoning permits agricultural activities

#### Section II: Proposition

This bill will hereby ensure that all land within the state of Alabama will be zoned for agriculture. The conditions and permissions of an agricultural district as defined by Section 701 of the 2015 Jefferson County Zoning Resolution will be put in place in addition to the already existing zoning terms of each area.

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**Section III: Justification**

In the United States, counter-urbanization, which is vital in repopulating the field of agriculture, has come to a halt due to the inconvenience of daily life in rural areas. Since urbanization is ongoing, the field of agriculture has begun to diminish to a mere 1.6% of the United States workforce. This bill will encourage local farming since Alabamians will not have to leave the convenience of urban or suburban life. In addition to assisting in the revival of agriculture, this bill will give more people access to healthier food options and provide them with more job opportunities. This bill will lower the obesity rate in Alabama which as of 2018 has the fourth highest overweight and obesity rates in the country. In addition, unemployment rates will decline upon the enactment of this bill because the unemployed will have the ability to work in agriculture which in many circumstances is a self-employed profession. Therefore, this bill will revive the agricultural workforce, encourage local farming, reduce obesity rates, and reduce unemployment rates in Alabama.

**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: 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 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F020**

**Committee:** \*Special Order\*

**Delegation:** Birmingham - Mountain Brook

**Author(s):** Jane Grey Battle

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** The Tax Fairness Act

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

#### Section I: Definitions

Grocery Tax: A consumption tax on the sale of groceries that is formed by the combination of state sales tax as well as local sales taxes. More than 90% of Alabama's population lives in areas with a cumulative grocery sales tax of 9% or more.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Formerly known as the Food Stamp Program, a federal aid program that provides food-purchasing assistance for low-income and no-income people living in the United States. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program provides about \$1.25 billion dollars in food benefits to a monthly average of 850,804 people in Alabama.

Food: Food as defined in 7 U.S.C §2011, et seq., for the purposes of the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program regardless of where or by what means food is sold. However, food items that are of low nutritional value will not be considered food for purposes of this bill. In the event that the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program definition no longer exists, the Legislature shall provide a new definition of food by general law.

Low Nutritional Value Food: Chewing gum, candy, soft drinks and hot/cold beverages served in unsealed cups through a vending machine.

Sales Tax: The tax levied in Section 40-23-2, Code of Alabama 1975, on the gross sales or gross receipts from the sale of tangible personal property.

Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement (SSUTA): SSUTA was established to promote a basic level of uniformity among state sales tax practices with nearly half the states abiding by SSUTA definitions.

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**Section II: Proposal**

All items of food, except items of food that are of low nutritional value, will be exempt from Alabama state sales tax reducing taxes on food by 4%.

**Section IIa: Clarifications to the Proposal**

Local governments may continue to collect sales tax on food at the same rate collected previously; provided, however, no local government may levy a new sales tax (or a tax in the nature of a sales tax) to be collected only on the sale of food.

The exemption will not apply to prepared food (including food to be eaten in the store, hot foods ready to eat and food marketed to be heated in the store), alcoholic beverages, dietary supplements, drugs, over-the-counter drugs, or tobacco, and ice used for refrigeration. The exemption will also not apply to low nutritional value food items.

**Section III: Justification**

Regardless of income, food is a basic necessity for every Alabamian. The grocery tax is a regressive policy that disproportionately harms low-income citizens. According to the Economic Research Service of the USDA, U.S. households in the lowest income quintile (bottom 20%) spend about 30%-40% percent of their before-tax income on food, compared to the highest income quintile households (top 20%), which spend only 7% to 9% percent of their before-tax income on food. Therefore, the grocery tax causes an excessive tax burden on poor Alabamians.

Alabama is the only state in the country that taxes groceries at the same sales tax rate as other goods. This bill is modeled after similar grocery tax reduction policies implemented in Georgia and Louisiana. After passage of these bills, the average wealth of low-income citizens grew and food insecurity dropped in both of these states. It is likely that these results will follow in Alabama as well.

Furthermore, the grocery tax has been isolated by multiple authors as the largest driver of growing food insecurity in Alabama. A 2013 study found that a \$10 increase in food costs on a typical grocery visit for a household receiving benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program raises the prevalence of food insecurity by 2.7%.

Food insecurity is a factor in many problems facing our state including education, workforce development and health. According to Children’s Health Watch, children from homes with persistent food insecurity show smaller gains in both reading and math, a lower chance of graduating from high school, poorer health and a significantly higher chance of being hospitalized.

In addition, by continuing the taxation of specific food items with low nutritional value this bill will incentivize the consumption of healthier foods. If this bill is passed it would become one of the first policies that serves to tame Alabama’s rising obesity epidemic.

**Section IV: Consequences**

The obvious and immediate consequences of this bill would be lower tax revenue and the need to provide resources to Alabama grocers for successful implementation. The 4% sales tax on all food sold in Alabama is approximately \$350 million in annual revenue to the Education Trust Fund. This



83 bill proposes to retain the state sales tax on foods with a low nutritional value which helps Alabama  
84 retain a portion of the current revenue while taking an important step forward toward tax fairness.  
85 With regard to implementation, the state should consider adopting the Streamlined Sales and Use  
86 Tax Agreement, which will align Alabama with other states and significantly reduce implementation  
87 issues.

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89 **Section V: Payment**

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91 Eliminating the grocery tax would immediately create a reduction in revenue that supports the  
92 Education Trust Fund budget. The difference created in the short term can be mitigated by (1) the  
93 projected increase in Trust Fund revenue of \$216 million this year and (2) reducing or eliminating  
94 the non-education related expenditures paid for through the Education Trust Fund budget, including  
95 examples like: the Alabama Forestry Foundation, the Alabama Sports Festival, the Soil and Water  
96 Conservation Committee Program, Black Belt Adventures, Black Belt Treasures, the Civil Air Patrol,  
97 Resource Conservation and Development Programs, the Humanities Foundation, the Motorsports  
98 Hall of Fame, the Trails Commission, and the Alabama Trails Foundation. In the long term, this bill  
99 will lower the cost of healthcare and public health expenditures, costs which make up a large part of  
100 Alabama's general fund budget.

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102 **Section VI: Severance Clause**

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

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106 **Section VII: Enactment Clause**

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108 This Act shall become effective on the first day of the third month following its passage and approval  
109 by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F021**

**Committee: N**

**Delegation:** Birmingham - Mountain Brook

**Author(s):** Adrienne Belser

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Technical and Trade Skills in Public High Schools Act

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

#### Section I: Definitions

Technical Skill: The abilities and knowledge needed to perform specific tasks. They are practical, and often relate to mechanical, information technology, mathematical, or scientific tasks

Trade skills: Skill of, relating to, or requiring workers or labor with skill and training in a particular occupation, craft, or trade

Elective: A course of study chosen by the student rather than compulsory

Stakeholder Industry: A manufacturing company that would benefit from a better-trained workforce (e.g., Automotive manufactures, Telecom, Alabama Power, etc.)

Survey Course: Introduction to a variety of topics

#### Section II: Purpose

Once enacted, this bill will create the Trade and Technical Skills introduction course and elective. Starting in the 10th-grade Trade and Technical Skill classes will be available to all students attending Alabama public high schools, along with an option to specialize in a skill or area of interest for the next two years of school.

Introduction to Trade and Technical Skills will be a survey course for technical and trade skills, and the other two year-long electives, Trade, and Technical Skills will be a more in-depth study of the students' skill of choice.

It will be up to the individual school systems to decide if the 10th-grade-course Introduction to Trade and Technical Skills will be mandatory for students. In Introduction to Trade and Technical Skills, students will be given a brief introduction to many technical and trade skills such as, but not limited

33 to carpentry, electronics, telecommunication & networking, robotics & automation, plumbing,  
34 welding, agriculture, and how to work on a production line.

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36 If a student chooses to follow a career path in one of the technical or trade skills reviewed in  
37 Introduction to Trade and Technical Skills, they can sign up for a year-long elective focused solely  
38 on the skill they want to pursue, while continuing with their other core classes. And upon their  
39 completion of two years of technical or trade skill training, they will earn a regular diploma with a  
40 named trade or technical skill mastery (e.g., General Diploma with Mastery in Robotics &  
41 Automation).

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### 45 **Section III: Justification**

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47 Unfortunately, there many factors that may prevent a student from going to college, such as price,  
48 distance from home, housing, or family issues, so being able to join the workforce straight out of  
49 high school will be very beneficial to the individual as well as the state of Alabama. Not only would  
50 taking the Technical and Trade Skills elective help students to explore possible career paths, but  
51 this will also help improve the employment rates of the state of Alabama.

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53 Students that choose not to go to college that graduated from the Technical and Trade Skills  
54 Program would also benefit the workforce because of the large need for a better-trained workforce  
55 in Alabama, and a well-trained workforce would allow the state of Alabama to compete globally.  
56 Having a well-trained workforce would benefit many stakeholder industries. The funding for this bill  
57 will come from a partnership between the Alabama State Department of Education and stakeholder  
58 industries.

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### 62 **Section IV: Severability Clause**

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

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### 68 **Section V: Enactment Clause**

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70 This will become effective beginning of next school year upon its enactment and approval by the  
71 governor or otherwise becoming a law.

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# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F022**

**Committee: R**

**Delegation:** Birmingham - Mountain Brook

**Author(s):** Bickley Bowron

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** A Response to Record High Threats

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

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3 Threat: a declaration of an intention or determination to inflict punishment, injury, etc., in retaliation  
4 for, or conditionally upon, some action or course

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6 Vulnerable: capable of or susceptible to being wounded or hurt, as by a weapon

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8 Professional: following an occupation as a means of livelihood or for gain

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10 Compensate: to counterbalance; offset; be equivalent to

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12 Manufacturing: the making of goods or wares by manual labor or by machinery, especially on a  
13 large scale

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17 Section II:

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19 In Alabama we are one of the worst states when it comes to threats per millions of people. The main  
20 objects of these threats: schools. As of right now, Alabama does not require a trained professional  
21 in school buildings to possibly divert these threats. This leaves schools underprepared and  
22 vulnerable to violent attacks.

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26 This bill would require a state certified professional in all public schools. This professional is  
27 required to be trained by the state in a separate police academy that deals with only school threat  
28 related drills and classes. The program will last 6 months. The trained professional will also go to  
29 the police academy prior to enrolling into the academy and the state will recognize the professional  
30 as a police officer.

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Section III:

The funding for this bill will come from the the Department of Public Safety's budget which will be increased to compensate. This budget increase will come from an added tax on the manufacturing and purchasing of firearms from 10% to 12%.

Section IV:

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

Section V:

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 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F023**

**Committee: S**

**Delegation:** Birmingham - Mountain Brook

**Author(s):** Brynn Hannon

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** A Bill for the Education of Student Mental Health

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

#### Section I: Definitions

Mental Illness- any of a broad range of medical conditions (such as major depression, schizophrenia, obsessive-compulsive disorder, or panic disorder) that are marked primarily by sufficient disorganization of personality, mind, or emotions to impair normal psychological functioning and cause marked distress or disability and that are typically associated with a disruption in normal thinking, feeling, mood, behavior, interpersonal interactions, or daily functioning.

School-Based Mental Health Services (SBMH)- the collaboration between the Alabama Department of Mental Health and its providers and the Alabama State Department of Education and Alabama's local education agencies is to ensure that children and adolescents, both general and special education, enrolled in local school systems have access to high-quality mental health prevention, early intervention and treatment services.

#### Section II: Proposition

This act proposes the establishment of a curriculum that raises awareness about mental disorders. The goal is to help teach students how to handle the prospect of a mental disorder, whether it be in a friend, family member, or possibly even themselves. This course will cover all the more common issues such as depression, eating disorders, and social confidence. It will also speak on how to manage, cope and handle mental disorders. The course will be completed with a mental illness screening and serves for half of a credit required for graduation.

#### Section III: Justification

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In the United States, there are 18.1% of the country suffering from a mental illness, 45% of those illnesses go untreated and arguably because of the lack of education and knowledge about the disease and treatments. Through this act and through the education and screenings that will come with it, students will have more opportunities for the treatment of their mental illnesses. By raising awareness and proposing coping strategies, teenagers will have the potential to overcome life's issues and live more successfully.

**Section IV: Funding**

The funding should come from the School-Based Mental Health Services, which is the cooperation of the Alabama Department of Mental Health and Alabama State Department of Education and local education agencies. As a last resort and saving factor, taxes should be increased depending on the district and community to pay for the creation of the course.

**Section V: Enactment Cause**

This bill will become effective in the next school year following its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F024**

**Committee: Q**

**Delegation:** Birmingham - Mountain Brook

**Author(s):** Nicole Hatton

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Alabama State Lottery to Fund ALDOT and Other Organizations Bill

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

#### Section 1: Definitions

ALDOT: Alabama Department of Transportation

Allocation: The process of distributing something, in this document referring to money.

Board: A group of people chosen as the decision making body of an organization.

Lottery: A means of raising money by selling numbered tickets and giving prizes to the holders of numbers drawn at random.

Trusted Organization(s): An organization which has been known and tested for honesty and proper allocation of profit.

#### Section 2: Proposal

This bill, after being enacted, would permit a state lottery in Alabama, the profits from which would go directly to the ALDOT State Road and Bridge funds allocated within the state of Alabama. Furthermore, other trusted organizations also would later be chosen by a new board within the lottery to receive funding.

#### Section 3: Justification

This legislation would help improve state roads, as which are currently in disrepair, especially in less affluent areas. It will also create new roads, including interstates and highways. About 94.1% of all Alabamians drove or rode in cars in 2016, so this would be beneficial to the majority of the population. This bill would impact not only car owners, but also bus and other public transportation drivers, to which a smoother or more direct transport of customers would be ideal. As well, this affects students within the state schools system and senior citizens in retirement homes, where buses are used for transportation often.



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Unlike Alabama, the state of Georgia has a government owned lottery, which in the 2018 fiscal year donated \$1.144 billion to education statewide. Not only that, but commissions to retailers totaled at \$271.6 million, and \$2.768 billion to players.

If Alabama were to implement a state lottery, then roads and other necessary administrations throughout the state would be better funded. The goal of this bill is to bring more money to state roads, small businesses, trusted organizations, and Alabama citizens overall through a state lottery.

In addition to assisting Alabama citizens' roads, the funding from the lottery would go to organizations chosen by the lottery board. This board would not only be beneficial to make decisions on where the profit goes, but would also help create more jobs within Alabama. These jobs would be held by board members and employees needed to run the lottery.

This lottery would also benefit small businesses and workers, as the ticket sales bring in a new commission that could significantly boost their profits. Furthermore, the lottery benefits those who happen to win, and brings healthy competition and morale to residents, as well as a sense of pride, knowing that their money is used for the greater good.

**Section 4: Severability Clause**

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

**Section 5: Enactment Clause**

This bill shall become effective three months past its approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F025**

**Committee: Q**

**Delegation:** Birmingham - Mountain Brook

**Author(s):** Amy Beth Hudson

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** A Bill to Humanely Decrease the Number of Stray Animals

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

#### Section I. Definitions

Stray Animals- A domestic animal which has wandered from its owners or is in a public place without its owner present.

Spay/ Neuter- A veterinary procedure which sterilizes animals

Euthanasia- A procedure through which domestic animals are killed using certain chemicals.

Euthanasia Rate- The percentage of animals in shelters which are euthanized in a given amount of time.

Breeder's Permit- A permit issued by the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries for the legal holder to not have their animals spayed or neutered and to breed their animals.

#### Section II. Proposition

To reduce the number of stray animals in the state of Alabama, all dogs and cats will be spayed or neutered. An animal owner can forego the spay/neuter procedure and breed their animals only if they obtain a Breeder's Permit. Alabama animal shelters are currently legally obligated to take in any stray animal they encounter. These stray animals should then be spayed or neutered by local veterinarians. In addition, shelters and animal owners currently owning animals should have their animals spayed/ neutered within a month of the enactment of this bill. If the animal owner presents substantial proof that they cannot afford the operation, then the operation will be paid for by a fund created through the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industry, called the Animal Welfare Fund. This fund will be created by taxing the holders of Breeder's Permits. Breeders will be taxed 7% on their profits from the sale of their animals or work the animals do. Individuals with a Breeder's Permit are subject to mandatory inspections by the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industry. These inspections should occur once a year to ensure the animals are treated humanely. Any funding required for these inspections will be provided through the Animal Welfare Fund. Animal owners not in possession of a Breeder's Permit who do not spay or neuter their animals or

33 breed them will be fined \$500 for each animal. This fine will contribute to the Animal Welfare Fund.  
34 An unlicensed breeder with more than three offenses will be charged with a Class B Misdemeanor.  
35 This offense will be filed under cruelty to animals. In accordance to Alabama Class B Misdemeanor  
36 statutes, the offender can then be subject to up to six months of jail time and a fine of up to  
37 \$3,000.00

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39 **Section III. Justification**

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41 The amount of stray animals in the state of Alabama is unidentifiable, but it is a serious and  
42 important issue which plagues our state. Alabama must reduce this number and save the lives of  
43 the stray animals in our state. Thousands of animals, usually dogs and cats, are homeless or  
44 wandering in the state of Alabama. An Alabama animal shelter, the Greater Birmingham Humane  
45 Society, took in 9,341 stray animals from January to November of 2018. That's nearly 10,000 stray  
46 animals collected in eleven months. Even worse, those nearly 10,000 animals were taken in from  
47 Jefferson county alone. Alabama has 67 counties. Not all of them are as populated as Jefferson  
48 County, but each contributes to the staggering statewide total. We must find a way to reduce the  
49 number of stray animals in our state, or the number will climb. The great number of stray animals is  
50 not only a tragedy for the animals' sakes, but the strays can be a burden to taxpayers who must  
51 support the overflowing shelters. Even in shelters, these stray animals may not be safe. Alabama  
52 has the highest rate of euthanasia in dogs and cats in the entire United States. As of 2018, Alabama  
53 shelters euthanized 33% of the dogs and cats they take in. These animals are euthanized for a  
54 variety of reasons, but the most common is that a stray animal has received an untreatable injury.  
55 The amount of stray animals in Alabama should be reduced to prevent stray animals from having to  
56 suffer exposure, injury, or even euthanasia.

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58 **Section IV. Severability Clause**

59 "All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act or provision of this act are hereby repealed."  
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62 **Section V. Enactment Clause**

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64 Should this bill be passed and signed by the governor, it will take effect on July 1, 2019.  
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# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F026**

**Committee: P**

**Delegation:** Birmingham - Mountain Brook

**Author(s):** Esme Huh

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Elimination of Sales Tax on Grocery Items Act

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Preamble:** Because of sales taxes in Alabama, people of poorer income classes cannot get the  
2 necessities of life. Sales taxes are exceedingly high in the state of Alabama because of combined  
3 local and statewide rates at or above 9%. Hence, food and clean drinking water, sanitary items, and  
4 other groceries are taxed so much that they become unaffordable by people who have lower  
5 income. Eradicating Alabama's state sales tax would significantly change the overall price of  
6 grocery items, and it would help to ensure that grocery items are affordable for all people. These  
7 taxes would be reimbursed by raising property taxes.  
8

9 **Section I:** Definitions:

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11 Income: money received, especially on a regular basis, for work or through investments  
12

13 Sales tax: a tax on sales or on the receipts from sales  
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15 Property tax: a tax levied on real or personal property calculated from property value  
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17 Property value: the value of a property determined from district and size.  
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19 Grocery Items: grocery items include food, clean water, sanitary items, and other basic  
20 necessities  
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25 **Section II:** Proposal:  
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27 The bill proposed hereby calls for the elimination of sales tax on all grocery items including clean,  
28 drinking water. This bill is to remove state sales tax on these items not including local taxes. These  
29 lost sales taxes will be supplemented by higher property taxes.  
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31 This bill is meant to shift the distribution of taxes so that they are more fairly split up because of the  
32

33 income classes. This act would tax the different income classes to shift them more equally while still  
34 fairly.

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38 **Section III: Justification:**

39

40 Sales tax is a form of tax which affects everyone the same no matter their income. Sales tax on  
41 grocery items and clean water can add up to 9%, one of the highest rates in the nation. Therefore,  
42 not everyone can afford grocery items, a necessity of life, due to high sales tax.

43

44 Alabama has the second lowest rate for property taxes, but people of Alabama most affected by  
45 widespread hunger due to poverty are those that are the least likely to own property. Consequently,  
46 the people who make higher income are paying low property taxes in certain areas while the people  
47 who make lower income are paying absurdly high sales tax.

48

49 Alabama is one of only six states which tax grocery items at the same rate as all other sales. These  
50 taxes are high; most people in Alabama are paying a combined sales tax rate of 9%. Of the 9%, 4%  
51 of the sales tax is Alabama state sales tax, so this bill should eliminate this tax. This bill will not  
52 remove the local sales taxes which vary based on county. By removing the 4% state sales tax,  
53 sales taxes will be almost cut in half which can notably alter the price of grocery items.

54

55 In the past year, two billion dollars worth of sales tax was used to fund public schooling in Alabama,  
56 so these sales taxes are important for our state's youth. However, schools could still be funded with  
57 the same amount without statewide sales tax by raising property taxes.

58

59

60

61 **Section IV: Procedural or administrative provisions:**

62

63 In order to replace the lost tax dollars from removing statewide sales tax, I propose to raise property  
64 taxes. No matter the income, every person needs the basic necessities of life, which are grocery  
65 items, so they must pay sales tax, but property can be bought ranging within income. Property taxes  
66 in Alabama are the second lowest in the country at 0.43%. While property taxes are independent  
67 from income, income is a large deciding factor in property value, the determining factor of property  
68 taxes. These taxes should fund schools and other government run programs accordingly from the  
69 loss of sales tax.

70

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73 **Section V: Severability Clause:**

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75 All laws and parts of this law in conflict with this acts or provisions of this act are hereby repealed

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79 **Section VI: Enactment Clause:**

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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 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F027**

**Committee: N**

**Delegation:** Birmingham - Mountain Brook

**Author(s):** Amelia Tynes

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Testing High School Students on Health Topics

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 SECTION I: DEFINITIONS  
2  
3  
4

5 Public School: a school that is maintained at public expense for the education of the children of a  
6 community or district and that constitutes a part of a system of free public education commonly  
7 including primary and secondary schools.  
8

9 SECTION II: PROPOSITIONS  
10  
11  
12

13 The State of Alabama will require all Public High Schools to test students on Health topics required  
14 by the state to be taught in at the High School level. The State of Alabama requires High schools to  
15 teach the following Health Topics: Alcohol or other Drug Use Prevention, Emotional and Mental  
16 Health, Foodborne Illness Prevention, HIV Prevention, Human Sexuality, Injury Prevention and  
17 Safety, Nutrition and Dietary Behavior, STD Prevention, Physical Activity and Fitness, Pregnancy  
18 Prevention, Suicide Prevention, Tobacco Use Prevention, and Violence Prevention. Instead of only  
19 being taught these topics, students at the high school level will be tested on these Health topics in  
20 accordance with the school's Health Education Course(s).  
21  
22  
23

24 SECTION III: JUSTIFICATION  
25  
26  
27

28 Educating High School Students on Health Topics has produced a positive effect on the overall  
29 health of High School Students in the State of Alabama. Research shows that Sexual Education  
30 through Health Education in High Schools specifically has helped adolescents in Alabama further  
31 protect their health and well-being. In addition, focus on Health Topics shows students how to  
32

33 maintain an overall healthy lifestyle. Testing of Health Topics ensures students will further retain  
34 important information gained through Health Education. This bill seeks to benefit the Health  
35 Education of students through testing of Health Topics.

36  
37 SECTION IV: SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

38  
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40  
41 Any laws or parts of law in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

42  
43 SECTION V: ENACTMENT CLAUSE

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46  
47 This bill will become effective immediately upon its enactment and approval by the governor or  
48 otherwise becoming a law.

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# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F028**

**Committee: M**

**Delegation:** Birmingham - Mountain Brook

**Author(s):** Claire Lauterbach

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** An Act to Make Alabama Solitary Confinement a Last Resort

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section I: Definitions**  
2

3 disciplinary segregation: Otherwise known as solitary confinement, is a form of imprisonment  
4 distinguished by living in single cells with little or no meaningful contact to other inmates, strict  
5 measures to control contraband, and the use of additional security measures and equipment  
6

7 **Section II: Proposal**  
8

9 This bill places limitations on the types of offenses prisoners must commit before being subject to  
10 possible disciplinary segregation, as overwhelming evidence points to the financially draining  
11 aspects of solitary confinement as well as the intense psychological effects of such punishment on  
12 those in correctional facilities. In order to significantly curb the range of individuals with the potential  
13 to be subject to such correction, this bill dictates that the only individuals subject to consideration for  
14 solitary confinement are those who display violent actions that could prove to be a harm to  
15 themselves or others, or those who stand to be in danger of being harmed by others in the facility.  
16 Any other nonviolent form of misconduct should be addressed with alternative forms of punishment,  
17 as disciplinary segregation should be used only as a safety measure for those in the prison, as  
18 these nonviolent prisoners make up a majority of the percentage of prisoners in solitary confinement  
19 in the status quo.  
20

21 **Section III: Justification**  
22

23 Currently in the United States, the number of prisoners are placed in solitary confinement every  
24 year is growing rapidly: from 1995-2005, the number of people held in solitary confinement  
25 increased by 40%. Out of these individuals, a staggering number are put into solitary confinement  
26 for nonviolent infractions. For example, in New York, over half of the infractions that led to  
27 segregation issued by the Department's Adjudication Unit in the fourth quarter of 2015 were for  
28 nonviolent and lower level infractions. In Nebraska, Individuals found guilty of lower-level rule  
29 violations accounted for 91 percent of all rule violations resulting in solitary confinement. Some of  
30 the violations that resulted in the most DS sanctions included "disobeying an order" "swearing,  
31 cursing, or use of abusive language or gestures". Solitary confinement has been proven to have  
32

33 several adverse effects on the mental health of prisoners who endure it, including lack of exercise  
34 and social interaction that remains a major benefit to rehabilitation during incarceration. Limited  
35 mental stimulus can also lead to a degraded mental health. Another crucial reason to limit the use of  
36 disciplinary segregation is its negative effect on facilities themselves, first in safety. Colorado has  
37 decreased its use of segregated housing by 85 percent and prisoner-on-staff assaults are the  
38 lowest they have been since 2006. Another debilitating aspect of solitary confinement is the  
39 financial burden it places on prisons. In 2013, the estimated daily cost per inmate at the federal  
40 administrative maximum (supermax) facility was \$216.12 compared to \$85.74 to house people in  
41 the general prison population. A similar action in Alabama would be in the best interests of not only  
42 the prisoners, but staff and facility as a whole, for both safety and monetary benefits.

43

44 **Section IV: Severability Clause**

45

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

47

48 **Section V: Enactment Clause**

49

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

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# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F029**

**Committee: N**

**Delegation:** Mobile - Saint Luke's

**Author(s):** William Rossler

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Bill to Reform Common Core Curriculum

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Preamble**

2  
3 This bill will help teach and prepare public school kids by including three new classes that will help  
4 develop them for life.

5  
6 **I. Definition**

7  
8 The financial class will teach students life skills including, buying a house, buying a car, and filing  
9 taxes. The cooking class will teach preparing food and healthy cooking. Home economics will teach  
10 health and hygiene, child development, and home management.

11  
12 **II. Action**

13  
14 Public schools are to implement three new common core classes that are to be taught before the  
15 student graduates, which includes a financial class, cooking class, and home economics.

16  
17 **III. Justification**

18  
19 The addition of these three classes will allow students to be prepared for life, and actually, learn  
20 valuable information for when they are on their own.

21  
22 **IV. Cost**

23  
24 To pay for the bill, money will be taken from the Alabama Department of Education. The estimated  
25 amount of money needed \$850,000.

26  
27 **V. Enforcement Clause**

28  
29 The Alabama Department of Education will uphold all parts of the bill listed above in all of their  
30 public schools.

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**VI. Enactment Clause**

Schools should be prepared to enforce this new policy by the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year.

**VII. Severance Clause**

All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby null and void.



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F030**

**Committee: M**

**Delegation:** Mobile - Saint Luke's

**Author(s):** Micah Powers

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** a bill to add an on staff chaplain at juvenile detention centers.

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Preamble:

1  
2 For the benefit and restoration of youth and the prevention of recidivism, the Alabama DYS will  
3 introduce the full-time hiring of chaplains as staff. One chaplain will be present at each of Alabama's  
4 14 juvenile detention centers.

5  
6  
7  
8 Section I: Definitions

9  
10  
11 Recidivism- the tendency of a convicted criminal to re-offend.

12  
13  
14  
15 DYS- Department of Youth Services- the portion of Alabama government created to house and  
16 rehabilitate juvenile offenders and promote public safety.

17  
18  
19  
20 Chaplain- a clergyman officially attached to a branch of the military, to an institution, or to a family or  
21 court, or a person chosen to conduct religious exercises.

22  
23  
24  
25 Section II: Action

26 At each juvenile detention center, a chaplain will be appointed. Before the chaplain is appointed, he  
27 or she must have recommendations from the following offices including but not limited to, a judicial  
28 official, a state official (mayor, congressman, senator), and three other clergy members or like  
29 officials.

30  
31 Section III: Justification

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“The mission of the Alabama Department of Youth Services is to enhance public safety by holding juvenile offenders accountable through the use of institutional, educational, and community services that balance the rights and needs of victims, communities, courts, and offenders.” It is also the purpose of the DYS to try to help incarcerated minors become functioning members of society. In the restoration of a criminal mind, one must develop and some strong truth. A Chaplain in the military is often trained to perform functions of many religious backgrounds. The same would be required of the juvenile detention center chaplains so they may help each individual choose to obey the law while providing the mental restoration that goes hand in hand with the belief in a Deity. Most religions also provide a sense of hope, which is extremely helpful for juveniles addicted to drugs or alcohol to any extent.

Section IV: Amendment clause

Nothing will need to be amended upon the institution of this bill.

Section V: Cost and funding

This bill will be required to raise the DYS budget by \$980,000 in order to pay the salaries of the chaplains.

Section VI: Enactment clause

This bill will go into effect immediately upon its passage and signed by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming a law.



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F031**

**Committee: R**

**Delegation:** Mobile - Saint Luke's

**Author(s):** Eva Burkhardt

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Protection of Child-Rape Victims

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 A Bill to Protect Child Rape Victims

2  
3  
4

5 The Definition of Rape

6

7 Rape is forced unwanted sexual intercourse. It is sexual assault. In the state of Alabama, it is  
8 considered first-degree statutory rape when someone of the age sixteen or older to have a sexual  
9 relationship with a minor under the age of twelve. A violator of this degree faces ten to ninety-nine  
10 years in prison time. It is considered second-degree statutory rape when someone of sixteen or  
11 older engages in sexual intercourse with someone between twelve to sixteen years of age, with the  
12 aggressor being at least two years older. Violators face two to twenty years in prison.

13

14 II. Action

15

16 This bill would completely remove victims of child rape from their situation, regardless of the  
17 financial stability, visible safety, or social status of the abuser/provider.

18

19 III. Justification

20

21 Child rape victims that report their abuse are often sent back into the same household/situation due  
22 to the blindness of danger that the predator creates. Regardless of warnings, child predators are still  
23 given the chance to abuse again because they feigned a safe environment to the authorities the first  
24 time.

25

26 IV. Funding

27

28 The tax money that was once used to fund the abortion clinics could be rerouted to house, clothe,  
29 and feed those who are now protected rape victims.

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V. Enforcement

Local and state police who are made aware of the situation will call child protective services and the child will be removed from the situation immediately, with no return.

VI. Severance Clause

All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby null and void.





# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F032**

**Committee: Q**

**Delegation:** Mobile - Saint Luke's

**Author(s):** Grant Schaff

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Alabama Deer Management Baiting Law

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Preamble: This law is to help lower the deer population by baiting deer this is done by selling baiting  
2 licenses to hunters.

3  
4 I. Definition - deer baiting is the use of corn or other attractants to attract deer to a field to be hunted  
5 to help manage the deer population.

6  
7 II. Action. I place Alabama deer management baiting law to take action from October 15, 2019 -  
8 February 10, 2020, and to repeat until there is a stable population of deer. There will have to be a  
9 pruches of a Baiting hunting Licenses to be able to hunt with bait. The state will have to set a price  
10 for this licenses.Chronic Wasting Disease, as applied to deer, is typified by chronic weight loss  
11 leading to death.

12  
13 III. Justification. The reason for this law is to help stabilize the population of deer in the state of  
14 Alabama and help fight disease such as Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), which is spread by deer.

15  
16 IV. Amendment Clause. none

17  
18 V. Cost. there would no cost to the State

19  
20 VI. Enforcement. Conservation officer would Enforcement this law by selling Baiting Licenses and  
21 checking hunter that are baiting for there baiting licenses.

22  
23 VII.Enactment Clause- This bill will go into effect October 15, 2019 - February 10, 2020, and will  
24 repeat until there is a stable population of deer. And there has a price set on the Baiting Licenses  
25 like from \$30-\$50. This is for private land only and also two doe and two bucks is the bag limits for  
26 using the baiting hunting Licenses.

27  
28 VIII.Severance Clause. All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby null and void.

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# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F033**

**Committee:** \*Special Order\*

**Delegation:** Mobile - Saint Luke's

**Author(s):** Kasey Hernandez-Sexton

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** A Bill to Tax Single-Use Plastic Bags

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Preamble: Whereas, environmentally damaging single-use plastic bags are free of charge; plastic  
2 bags will be charged \$0.10.

3  
4  
5  
6 Section I: Definitions

7  
8  
9  
10 Single-use plastic bag - plastic shopping bags

11  
12  
13  
14 Toxic chemicals - additives that were used to shape and harden the plastic

15  
16  
17  
18 Section II: Action

19  
20  
21  
22 A statewide tax of \$0.10 shall be placed on every single-use plastic bags.

23  
24  
25  
26 Section III: Justification

27  
28  
29  
30 Plastic bags are harmful to the environment and are rarely recycled. According to Waste  
31 Management, only 1% of plastic bags are recycled. Most plastic bags are sent to a landfill, but they

32

33 do not biodegrade. Instead, plastic bags spend over 500 years to degrade into tiny, plastic particles.  
34 These particles release toxic chemicals that make their way into our food and water supply. By  
35 placing a tax upon plastic bags, consumers will be less inclined to buy plastic bags and will be  
36 encouraged to bring their own reusable, eco-friendly bag.

37

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40 Section IV: Cost

41

42

43

44 This bill requires no funding.

45

46

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48 Section V: Enforcement

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51

52 The vendor will enforce the law and give the taxes to the Department of Treasury.

53

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56 Section VI: Severance Clause

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60 All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby null and void.

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# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F034**

**Committee: S**

**Delegation:** Mobile - Saint Luke's

**Author(s):** Sophia Abel

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** A Bill to Decriminalize the Possession of Marijuana

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2  
3 Second-degree marijuana possession: someone in knowing possession of marijuana and that  
4 marijuana is for their own personal use.

5  
6 Citation: a summons  
7  
8  
9

10 Section II: Action

11  
12 Unlawful possession of marijuana in the second degree will be punished with a citation.  
13

14 Section III: Justification

15  
16 Currently, second-degree marijuana charges are recognized as a misdemeanor in Alabama. In  
17 Alabama, most marijuana-related offenses are possession. In 2016, 92 percent of all marijuana  
18 arrests in Alabama was possession. In 2016 alone, Alabama spent an estimated \$22 million dollars  
19 enforcing the prohibition against marijuana possession.  
20  
21  
22

23 Section III: Cost

24  
25 This bill requires no funding.  
26  
27  
28

29 Section VII: Enactment Clause  
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This law will go into effect immediately preceding it's passing.

Section VIII: Severance Clause

All law and parts of laws in conflict with this acts or provision of this act are hereby declared null and void.



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F035**

**Committee: S**

**Delegation:** Montgomery - Saint James

**Author(s):** Emily Headley

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Ban All Uses of Smoking Devices in Alabama

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Ban All Uses of Smoking Devices in Alabama

2  
3  
4  
5 The epidemic of smoking continues to spread like wildfire, whether it be vaping or ordinary  
6 cigarettes. Smoking is the cause of many diseases that can be extremely harmful to a person, such  
7 as lung cancer or heart disease. Many teenagers enjoy vaping and/or juuling whenever they can,  
8 especially in Alabama. Using smoking devices at a young age can cause just as much harm if not  
9 more to a person, such as stunted growth of the body and lungs.

10  
11  
12  
13 Putting a stop to smoking in Alabama would be very helpful for everyone exposed to the smoke,  
14 and would also be helpful for the environment because smoking is addictive because of nicotine,  
15 however, there would need to be ways to help smokers cope with the withdrawal. Therapy and  
16 medication would be the best answer for this.

17  
18  
19  
20 Lung cancer-a cancerous disease often caused by smoking that affects the lungs.

21  
22  
23  
24 Heart disease-a disorder of the blood vessels of the heart that can lead to heart attack.

25  
26  
27  
28 Nicotine-a toxic colorless or yellowish oily liquid that is the chief active constituent of tobacco. It acts  
29 as a stimulant in small doses, but in larger amounts blocks the action of autonomic nerve and  
30 skeletal muscle cells.

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Withdrawal- the process of ceasing to participate in an activity, such as taking drugs.

If passed, this bill should be put into effect on January 1, 2020, in order to stop the use of smoking devices quickly yet reasonably.

The ways of funding for this would be the discontinuation of making smoking devices in order to save money and resources. If people ceased to buy smoking devices simply because they are no longer available, it would save money for themselves as well.



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F036**

**Committee: S**

**Delegation:** Montgomery - Saint James

**Author(s):** Haley Brightwell

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Lowering the Legal Drinking Age

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section I:** Definitions

2  
3 Minimum- the least quantity or amount possible

4  
5 Adult- individual who has reached the age of maturity and responsibility

6  
7 **Section II:** Proposal

8  
9 This bill would lower the current minimum legal drinking age (MLDA). The current MLDA is 21 years  
10 old and this bill would change it to 18.

11  
12 **Section III:** Justification

13  
14 18 is the age at which an individual is considered an adult. At the age of 18, there are several  
15 privilages that everyone earns as they are coming of age. Firstly anyone can now smoke. According  
16 to deserthopetreatment.com, "consuming moderate amounts of alcohol does not necessarily cause  
17 harm, and there may be notable health benefits, such as lowering the risk of a heart attack. On the  
18 other hand, any degree of tobacco use is harmful" Smoking is just as or even more dangerous than  
19 drinking, and therefore drinking should have the same minimum age as smoking. At the age of 18,  
20 you can vote in elections. If you can take part in choosing the leader of the nation, you should be  
21 trusted enough to drink alcohol. At 18, you can legally get married; however currently if you married  
22 at 18 then you would not be able to have any alcohol which is typically part of a wedding reception.  
23 If we are allowed to chose our future at the age of 18 and get married then we should be able to  
24 make the decision to drink or not. Once again, after turning 18 anyone can be convicted and sent to  
25 prison. If we are able to be convicted as an adult, we should be treated like one in a way that we  
26 can choose whether we would like to drink or not. At 18 years old, anyone can enlist in the army. If  
27 someone is old enough to be drafted into the army and give their lives for their country, they should  
28 be able to choose whether or not they would like to drink alcohol. Allowing people at age 18 may  
29 also lessen the amount of underage drinking. This is because if people are allowed to drink at 18,  
30 they are less likely to obtain alcohol illegally and consume it illegally; therefore there would be less  
31 people in our prisons, and would free up some space for actual criminals which would solve another  
32



33 problem in our state. Similarly, by lowering the drinking age, people will feel more comfortable  
34 drinking in a bar where they can be monitored more carefully than a house or a dorm. Along with  
35 this, lowering the age for legal drinking would take the thrill out of breaking the law to drink alcohol,  
36 so there will be less over drinking in young adults. Alcohol can also have some positive medical  
37 effects. It can lower the risk of a heart attack and getting diabetes. Lastly, lowering the drinking age  
38 would benefit the economy greatly. More people would be able to buy alcohol in restuarants and  
39 bars. This would increase revenue for companies and business which would increase their taxes  
40 paid to the government.

41  
42 **Section IV: Funding**

43  
44 This law does not require any funding.

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46 **Section V: Severability Clause**

47  
48 Any law or parts of law in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

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50 **Section VI: Enactment Clause**

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52 This bill will become effective Jan 1, 2020 upon its enactment and approval by the governor or  
53 otherwise becoming a law.

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# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F037**

**Committee: Q**

**Delegation:** Montgomery - Saint James

**Author(s):** Kendall Hardaway

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** A Lottery in Alabama

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

#### Section I: Definitions

Lottery - a means of raising money by selling numbered tickets and giving prizes to the holders of numbers drawn at random

Revenue - a state's annual income from which public expenses are met

Education Trust Fund (ETF) (AL) - Funds the support, maintenance and development of public education in Alabama, debt service and capital improvements relating to educational facilities, and other functions related to educating the state's citizens

General Fund (AL) - Funds the ordinary expenses of the executive, legislative, and judicial departments of state government, for other functions of government, for debt service on certain general obligation bond issues, and for capital outlay

Supports state programs such as child development and protection, criminal justice, conservation efforts, economic development, public health and safety, mental health, Medicaid, legislative activities, and the court system

Expenses - the cost required for something; the money spent on something

#### Section II: Proposition

This bill would be proposing a lottery in the state of Alabama.

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**Section III: Justification**

A lottery in Alabama could be a highly effective mechanism for gaining more state revenue. Alabama is currently one of the 7 states in the U.S. without a lottery. The state of Alabama is currently losing income to states that do authorize lotteries, such as our neighboring states of Georgia, Tennessee, Florida and most recently Mississippi. Imposing a lottery would also be a simple way to gain money and fund our state's Education Trust Fund which is another crucial problem area in the state of Alabama, aside from our lacking general fund. The state of Alabama is currently ranked around 46th or 47th place for the quality of education the U.S. This is an area that could definitely use an increase in funding as well as attention.

The following percentages list the destination of the proceeds that the lottery will bring in:

40% : The Education Trust Fund in Alabama

30% : Lottery Winnings

15% : Expenses For Ticket Production, Set-Up, and Vendors

10% : Taxes towards The Alabama General Fund

5% : Other; Miscellaneous

Future Amendments can be made to this bill regarding the destinations of the lottery's produced income.

**Section IV: Funding**

Funding needed for the startup of a lottery in Alabama will be taken from the General Fund, but will be reimbursed over time.

**Section V: Severability Clause**

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

**Section VI: Enactment Clause**

This bill will become effective and began production and organization immediately after its enactment and approval by the governor.



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F038**

**Committee: S**

**Delegation:** Huntsville - YMCA Heart of the Valley

**Author(s):** Christopher Leary, Tristian Albrecht

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Decriminalization of Medicinal Marijuana

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

#### SECTION I: DEFINITIONS

Henceforth- From this (or that) time on

Physician- medical practitioner, medical doctor, or simply doctor is a professional who practises medicine

census-an official count or survey of a population, typically recording various details of individuals.

Marijuana-The common street term for cannabis.

Psychiatrist-medical specialty devoted to the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of mental disorders.

#### SECTION II: PROPOSITIONS

This bill will henceforth make Marijuana legal for Medicinal purposes. However you will need a medical license in order to buy, sell, and possess the drug. You can get a license from your Physician, or a Psychiatrist you've seen for at least up to 3 months. For anyone with existing possession charges for Marijuana they could be up for parole as long as they meet with a state approved Physician or Psychiatrist and qualify for a license. Anyone caught driving or operating machinery under the influence of the drug will be handled under the template of current DUI laws.

#### SECTION III: JUSTIFICATION

The reason you should pass this bill is it has health benefits for certain diseases. Different compounds in marijuana have different actions in the human body. For example, delta-9-

33 tetrahydrocannabinol commonly known as THC seems to cause the "high" reported by marijuana  
34 users, and also can help relieve pain and nausea, reduce inflammation, and can act as an  
35 antioxidant. Cannabidiol or CBD can help treat seizures, can reduce anxiety and paranoia, and can  
36 counteract the "high" caused by THC. The second reason you should pass this bill is it would  
37 drastically decrease the number of people imprisoned for possession or consumption of the drug.  
38 Many prisons face an overpopulation problem today. For example, a Franklin county prison built to  
39 hold 10,000 people currently holds double that number. This is causing rushed parole of prisoners  
40 and one of these many people is O'Neal Spencer, a convicted murder and is serving a life  
41 sentence. 46% of inmates in Alabama are in there for nonviolent drug related charges as shown by  
42 the BOP in a census done on the 24th of November 2018. With that many people out of jail and  
43 prison it would solve the overcrowding issue, making it safer to be inside prison for both the convicts  
44 and the officers. Additionally, with fewer financial resources tied up into the prison system, it frees  
45 up funding. This additional money could be invested in infrastructure, schools, roads, ect.

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47 **SECTION IV: SEVERABILITY CLAUSE**

48  
49 Any laws or parts of law in conflict this bill are hereby repealed.

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53 **SECTION V: ENACTMENT CLAUSE**

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55 This bill will become effective January 1, 2020 upon its enactment and approval by the governor or  
56 otherwise becoming a law.

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# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F039**

**Committee: R**

**Delegation:** Huntsville - YMCA Heart of the Valley

**Author(s):** Hensley Beatty, John Carlo Ortiz

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** TO SECURE THE SAFETY OF ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN THE STATE OF ALABAMA

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

#### SECTION I: DEFINITIONS

Armed Guard: An individual specifically hired and designated to the safety and overall well-being of the school in which they are employed by

Jurisdiction: the extent of the power to make legal decisions and judgments.

Deputize (Deputization): to appoint someone as a substitute, like a police deputy authorizing a civilian to make an arrest.

#### SECTION II: PROPOSITIONS

Every school under the jurisdiction of the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) must employ the proper number of Armed Guards according to the following criteria.

These Armed Guards must be equivalent to five to eight percent of the whole school staff/faculty body, but not account as part of this percentage by which the number of Armed guards is determined. There should be an equal proportion of one Armed Guard for every main entrance to the school. If the number of Main entrances exceeds the separate five to eight percent, and therein requires the number of Armed Guards in a greater quantity than 5-8%, the number of Armed Guards must be adjusted accordingly by the criteria and discernment of the Sentry Program.

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All Armed Guards must meet the initial and perpetual criteria held by the Sentry Program. This includes special training by the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA). ALEA and ALSDE will install instructions for training requirements, stress evaluations, mental-health tests and drug screenings. This criteria for the position of a school specifically holds no degree of deputization to these armed guards.

The funding for training of these Armed Guards is to come from the school in which they are employed by. The general funding for the Armed Guards salaries and equipment will be through the Education Trust Fund: The primary source of funding for the Sentry Program. In light of the FDA's call to limit certain flavored e-cigarette components, any additional deficits could be resolved by raising the taxes on all e-cigarettes in the state of Alabama \$0.38.

**SECTION III: JUSTIFICATION**

The purpose of this Bill is to ensure the safety of all students under the jurisdiction of the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE). In the many needs of all public schools in the state of Alabama, safety should be the first priority.

In nearly two decades, there have been over one hundred and thirty school shootings, in forty three out of fifty states, Alabama included, and on average one per month. Close to 250 teachers and/or students have arrived to school expecting to do their job or to learn. Instead they would be shot and killed.

The means as to how this bill would ensure the safety of all students and staff/faculty members would be to reduce the number of school intruders and violent shootings to the lowest number possible.

**SECTION IV: SEVERABILITY CLAUSE**

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

**SECTION V: ENACTMENT CLAUSE**

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This bill will become effective January 1, 2020 upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.





# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F040**

**Committee: N**

**Delegation:** Dothan - Northside Methodist

**Author(s):** Grace Jayroe

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Alabama's Strengthened Anti-Bullying Act

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Preamble: While Alabama law has met many of the recommendations of the United States  
2 Department of Education in enacting both legal and policy regulations on the handling of bullying in  
3 Alabama schools, there remain a few areas that could be strengthened. Current Alabama law  
4 defines bullying and protected groups, requires specific district policies, outlines the process of  
5 requirements to report specific incidents of bullying, and creates policies for prevention and staff  
6 training. This bill seeks to strengthen and standardize consequences to bullying and encourage  
7 parent/guardian engagement in resolving bullying incidents.  
8

#### 9 Section I: Definitions

10  
11 Bullying: is a continuous pattern of intentional behavior that takes place on or off school property, on  
12 a school bus, or at a school-sponsored function that places a student in reasonable fear of harm to  
13 his or her person or damage to his or her property and/or has the effect of substantially interfering  
14 with the educational performance, opportunities, or benefits of a student.  
15

#### 16 Section II: Parent Notification

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18 Each Alabama school district will enact a policy to notify parents or legal guardians when a student  
19 has committed an offense of bullying or is a victim of bullying. The Alabama Department of  
20 Education will ensure that all school districts have created and implemented this policy by the  
21 beginning of the 2019-2020 school year.  
22

#### 23 Section III: Consequences

24  
25 Punishments for acts of bullying identified and investigated by school districts will be standardized  
26 across the state to the following minimums:  
27

28 First Offense – two days of after school detention which may include labor for the school and a  
29 minimum of two counseling sessions with the local school counselor.  
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31 Second Offense – a week of after school detention which may include labor for the school and a  
32

33 required weekly counselling session with the local school counselor for the duration of the academic  
34 semester or the next 8 school weeks, whichever is longer.

35  
36 Third Offense – the offending student will be transferred to the nearest other school, effectively  
37 separating the bully from his victim. Mandatory counseling will continue for the remainder of the  
38 academic year.

39  
40 School districts may increase these penalties for any offense as warranted.

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42 Section IV: All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

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

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# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F041**

**Committee: S**

**Delegation:** Huntsville - YMCA Heart of the Valley

**Author(s):** Alan Clara Moguel

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Increase Alabama's School Psychologists

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 SECTION I: DEFINITIONS  
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5 Psychologist: an expert or specialist in psychology  
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9 Psychology: the scientific study of the human mind and its functions, especially those affecting  
10 behavior in a given context  
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14 School Psychologist: a type of psychologist that works within the educational system to help  
15 children with emotional, social, and academic issues  
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19 Guidance Counselors: a person who is employed, usually in a school, to offer advice on problems,  
20 help troubled students and assist students in making career or college plans.  
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24 School district superintendent: a person who serves as the overall senior leader of the school  
25 district. He or she has responsibilities such as supervising school principals and district staff,  
26 working with school board members, and managing fiscal operations.  
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30 Ammunition: a supply or quantity of bullets and shells  
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SECTION II: PROPOSITIONS

Alabama students need mental health care. This bill proposes to provide more mental health care by hiring additional school psychologists.

The bill proposes that each school system should have one school psychologist per 1,000 students. This will be funded by a 2% tax on gun ammunition.

Those in charge of the school districts will be responsible for hiring certified school psychologists with sufficient experience in the field of education.

School systems will no longer be allowed to have just one psychologist for the entire district. Instead, they will be responsible for offering more mental health care which will be provided by additional school psychologists. This will allow students with mental health needs to receive the necessary time and attention.

The superintendent will be responsible for supervising the legal compliance of this bill once it is approved.

SECTION III: JUSTIFICATION

Recent research shows that in Alabama school systems there is only one school psychologist per school district.

Social, economic, and political factors have altered the school environment for the students. In settings like this, school psychologists are necessary to provide compassion and guidance to ensure that students' emotional issues are addressed appropriately.

There are many reasons why school psychologists are so necessary. The principal reason is the

83 current climate in society. Everything that happens around students affects them. School  
84 psychologists would be responsible for helping the students with disabilities, behavioral problems,  
85 and other emotional issues.

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89 School psychologists have extensive training in child development. They would be able to work  
90 together with the students, teachers, guidance counselors, and social workers to make the school a  
91 healthy and secure place for the students. They are trained for crisis-intervention situations. In  
92 today's society, violence and crime have extended to the schools. School psychologists are  
93 specialists that are ready to provide counseling and emotional support to children touched by  
94 tragedies. School psychologists help create a safe and positive environment conducive to learning.  
95 Children go to school to learn and get ready for life, and school psychologists are prepared to help  
96 them. That is the reason that more school psychologists should be required by each school system.

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100 School psychologists and guidance counselor's responsibilities should not be confused. Guidance  
101 counselors' duties are more academic in nature. They help students choose classes which help  
102 them advance towards their goals. They often help students to figure out what their educational and  
103 vocational goals should be by administering aptitude tests and evaluating what they want to do with  
104 their life. They are busy with many students who are worried about their academic future. School  
105 psychologists will take care of behavior problems, disabilities, and other emotional issues that do  
106 not allow students to focus on their classes, or their future.

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110 SECTION IV: SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

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

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118 SECTION V: ENACTMENT CLAUSE

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122 This bill will become effective January 1, 2020 upon its enactment and approval by the governor or  
123 otherwise becoming a law.

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# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F042**

**Committee: Q**

**Delegation:** Huntsville - YMCA Heart of the Valley

**Author(s):** Sydney Glenn, Colton Collier

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** The Alabama Lottery Corporation

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 SECTION I: DEFINITIONS  
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5 Enactment- the process of passing legislation.  
6

7 Postsecondary- is a reference to any education beyond high school.  
8

9 Pursuant- in accordance with (a law or a legal document or resolution).  
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11 Supplant- supersede and replace.  
12

13 Audits- an official inspection of an individual's or organization's accounts, typically by an  
14 independent body.  
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18 SECTION II: PROPOSITIONS  
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20 The Legislature perceives that the operations of a state lottery are unique activities for state  
21 government and that a corporate structure will best enable the lottery to be managed in an  
22 entrepreneurial and business-like manner. Also it is the intent of the Legislature that the Alabama  
23 Lottery Corporation shall be accountable to the Governor, the Legislature, and the people of the  
24 state through a system of audits, reports, and disclosures as required by this act.  
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28 The Legislature perceives that the operation of a state lottery will keep revenues generated from  
29 ticket sales within the state.  
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Net proceeds of the state lottery shall be used exclusively for the purposes set out in education. Such net proceeds shall be used to supplement, not supplant, existing resources for educational purposes, projects and programs. It is the intent of the general assembly that if there exist net proceeds of the state lottery in excess of those allocated to provide financial assistance to citizens of this state to enable such citizens to attend postsecondary educational institutions located in Alabama, then such excess net proceeds shall be allocated first to early learning programs. It is further the intent of the general assembly that the scholarship and grant programs established under this part shall not create an entitlement to financial assistance to enable attendance at a postsecondary institution for any student.

SECTION III: JUSTIFICATION

There is created a special joint committee to study the manner in which financial assistance for Alabamians to attend postsecondary institutions located in Alabama shall be provided from net lottery proceeds of the state lottery established pursuant of the Constitution of Alabama.

Even though the lottery isn't in Alabama it's not stopping people from driving to the closest state that does have a lottery. Many people are stopping by their nearest gas station to buy a lottery ticket, for people in Alabama they have to travel even farther and some are willing to put in the miles to get their chance at the jackpot.

Lotteries in some states fund education and other projects. When somebody wins the lottery, the taxes that comes out of the winnings go to the schools and programs. In Alabama funding from the lottery will help the state become a role model nationwide for helping make college degrees and certificates a reality for students throughout Alabama. The lottery is committed to the strategies that drive its success and help achieve its core mission of maximizing funds for education in Alabama.

Funding will come from the sales of the lottery tickets and scratch offs. All of the start up costs will come from taxing Tobacco. The reason for taxing tobacco is because if people are addicted to it they will buy it no matter what but hopefully with the cost going up some people will stop smoking all together.

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SECTION IV: SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

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

SECTION V: ENACTMENT CLAUSE

This bill will become effective January 1, 2020 upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.





# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F043**

**Committee: R**

**Delegation:** Huntsville - YMCA Heart of the Valley

**Author(s):** Jaydon Jackson, Cameron Balentine

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Gun permits for rifles,shotguns,and handguns

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

#### SECTION I: DEFINITIONS

Gun-weapon in a metal tube which bullets,shells,or others missiles are propelled by explosive force.

Permit-to give consent to someone to do something

Age of majority-19

License- a permit from an authority to use or own something , do a particular thing, or carry on trade.

Rifle-a gun, especially one fired from shoulder level, having a long spirally grooved barrel intended to make a bullet spin and thereby have greater accuracy over a long distance

Handgun-a gun designed for use by one hand, especially a pistol or revolver.

shotgun-a smoothbore gun for firing small shot at short range.

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SECTION II: PROPOSITIONS

Require individuals to procure a rifle,shotgun,or handgun permit.

There will be additional rules for obtaining gun permits. It is mandatory to get a gun permit for shotguns, rifles, and handguns in the state of Alabama when the age of majority is reached, and no felonies or mental health issues have been diagnosed.

Permits will be renewed every 2 years and within those 2 years to retain a permit, instances of unnecessary types of violence, including acts of anger or felonies must not be present. In cases of violence related to self defense, permits will not be stripped. Citizen's will also be responsible for renewing their license. If one of the aforementioned instances occur, permit renewal will be denied.

It is Mandatory to have a permit for rifles, handguns, and shotguns. This bill does not remove permits from those who already have gun permits unless they have demonstrated any type of mental health issues or been convicted of a violent crime.The average price for the permit is \$20 in the state of Alabama which will remain the same.

SECTION III: JUSTIFICATION

This bill is needed because Alabama does not currently require permits for shotguns, rifles, or handguns.There is no mandatory background check for private sell of these guns. The rate of unnecessary gun violence in this country is increasing in a rapid fashion. If gun permits were able to prevent even one instance of gun violence, then this bill would have been successful.

SECTION IV: SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

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

SECTION V: ENACTMENT CLAUSE

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This bill will become effective January 1, 2020 upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F044**

**Committee: R**

**Delegation:** Huntsville - YMCA Heart of the Valley

**Author(s):** Chantler Jones, Jamiya Moody

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** An act to implement required hearing testing for obtaining an Alabama driver license

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 SECTION I: DEFINITIONS

2  
3 Impaired - When a person facilities are reduced so that his or her ability to see , hear , walk , talk ,  
4 and judge distances is below the normal level as defined by the state .

5  
6 Device - Audiometers are conducted by audiologist , you will wear earphones and hear sounds  
7 directed to one ear at a time . Audiologist presents a range of sounds of various tones and ask you  
8 to indicated each time you hear a sound .

9  
10 DMV - Department/Divisions of motor vehicles .

11  
12 SECTION II: PROPOSITIONS

13  
14 Person must pass a standard hearing test with audiometer.

15  
16 for the audiometer test we will raise the price for license and permits by 2 dollars .

17  
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19  
20 We will put one in each dmv and it will also provide jobs for audiologists.

21  
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23  
24 The audiometer is approximately 400 dollars and there are 67 counties in Alabama. That means we  
25 would need a one time payment of 40,000 dollars from the Department of Public Safety to put  
26 audiometers in each license location in Alabama .

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30 We will put one audiometer machine in at least 1 dmv in each county and raise the price by 2  
31 dollars. If only 500 people got their license, that would be 21,500 dollars. The extra money made will  
32

33 be given to the Department of Public Safety to modernize and build new DMV's and that could also  
34 cut back on the time spent in DMV places.

35  
36 SECTION III: JUSTIFICATION

37  
38 We are wanting this bill to become a law because we believe it will reduce accidents and it  
39 will make the roads safer and it will reduce the number of tickets and license suspensions. Simple  
40 problems such as not hearing an ambulance coming or a horn when switching lanes will be  
41 eliminated. This bill will also be productive because there is no test in alabama for hearing when you  
42 get your driving test and that is one of the senses necessary to be a safe driver.

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44 SECTION IV: SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

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

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50 SECTION V: ENACTMENT CLAUSE

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52 This bill will become effective January 1, 2020 upon its enactment and approval by the governor or  
53 otherwise becoming a law.

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# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F045**

**Committee: S**

**Delegation:** Hoover - Spain Park

**Author(s):** Parker Stone

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Restrict Alcohol Drinking Age Until 25

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2  
3 Addiction - the fact or condition of being addicted to a particular substance, thing, or activity.

4  
5 Alcohol - a colorless volatile flammable liquid that is produced by the natural fermentation of sugars  
6 and is the intoxicating constituent of wine, beer, spirits, and other drinks.

7  
8  
9  
10 Section II: Proposal

11  
12 This bill will make drinking alcohol illegal until of the age of 25 in the state of Alabama. The only  
13 issue with this is the people who already are at the age of 21. By the time of this bill, those who are  
14 21 will be able to keep their license they were issued, but they need to have a person who is at least  
15 25 to be with them.

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19 Section III: Justification

20  
21 By passing this bill there will be fewer accidents and other problems that can be saved if raised at  
22 the age of 25. Science says our brains aren't fully developed until the age of 25. Teen brains also  
23 process information with the part of the brain that is the emotional part. This is why they aren't ready  
24 to rationalize drinking. According to "Mental Health Daily," "The fact that our brains aren't developed  
25 until the mid 20's means that 'legal adults' (those age 18+) are allowed to make adult decisions,  
26 without fully mature brains."

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30 Section IV: Consequences

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If this bill is passed there will be lower accidents and addiction rates for this age. This would provide a safer environment for many people because you're more mature and rational when you reach the age of 25 and your brain is fully developed. This will lower violence and prevent alcohol-related fatalities. 1,825 college students between the ages of 18 and 24 die from alcohol-related unintentional injuries, including motor-vehicle crashes according to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism in 2015. Also according to the 2015 National Survey on Drug Use and Health 13.4% of people aged 12 to 20 experienced binge drinking in the previous month.

Section V: Enforcement

The age of drinking will be enforced by law enforcement and will check to be sure if you are over the age of 25 by inspecting licenses. Also it will be enforced by establishments that sell alcohol by inspecting licenses.

Section VI: Payment

There will be no additional payment for this, except for the payments of the license when renewed.

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 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F046**

**Committee: P**

**Delegation:** Huntsville - YMCA Heart of the Valley

**Author(s):** Daquan Lewis

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Minimum Wage Increase

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 SECTION I: Minimum Wage- The wage permitted by the law under the fair labor standards act or by  
2 special agreement.

3  
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6 SECTION II: Upon inaction of the Legislature the minimum wage in alabama will be raised from  
7 \$7.25 to \$12.00

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11 SECTION III: Minimum wage in the state of Alabama is \$7.25. The living wage for a single adult is  
12 \$11.14. Add one child, and the living wage increases to \$22.23. In Alabama the average income is  
13 \$61,512(2017). Compared to the median US family income, that's \$12,379 less. Raising the  
14 minimum wage would not only increase the wages of people working there, it would allow more  
15 people to own homes. The average home in alabama costs \$129,000 and home values increased  
16 by 6.8% over the last year. Additionally, the poverty level would decrease. The current poverty level  
17 in alabama is 17.2%. Alabama is the 6th poorest state and the poverty level in alabama is larger  
18 than the national average. 55% of Alabama's students are eligible for free lunch or reduced lunch.  
19 Raising minimum wage would reduce the number of citizens dependent on assistance.

#### 20 21 22 SECTION IV: SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

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

#### 26 27 28 SECTION V: ENACTMENT CLAUSE

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31 This bill will become effective January 1, 2020 upon its enactment and approval by the governor or  
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33 otherwise becoming a law.

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# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F047**

**Committee: R**

**Delegation:** Huntsville - YMCA Heart of the Valley

**Author(s):** Antonio Nava-Flores, Juan Ramos-Larios

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** 24 Hour Gun Purchase Wait Time!

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

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Section I: Clarification:

The types of guns included in this bill are:

-Hand guns

-Rifles

-Shot guns

-Automatic Weapons

A cooling off period is a mandatory delay before purchasers may obtain their weapons.

Section II: Proposition

This bill proposes a 24 hour gun purchase wait time. The 24 hour wait time is needed as a cooling off period.

Section III Justification:

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Alabama has two gun laws. Current Alabama legislation prohibits selling guns to high risk individuals and also prohibits the selling of guns to individuals with domestic violence convictions.

According to the Alabama Public Health Department, 70% of suicides in the state are by firearms. Alabama has a higher percent of suicide by firearms than the United States' average of 50%. Compared to the nation, Alabama has one of the highest rates of deaths by firearms.

Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Missouri have 8-10.2 firearm deaths per 100,000 people.

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

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



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F048**

**Committee: N**

**Delegation:** Hoover - Spain Park

**Author(s):** Selma Maric

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Integration of Alabama Public Schools

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

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#### Section I: Definitions

Segregation: action or state of splitting someone apart from another group

Integration: intermixing a group of those who were previously segregated

Equal School: A school that includes students from all backgrounds to receive an equal education

#### Section II: Proposal

This bill will dismember city school systems in order to achieve the point in where no school in any district in Alabama is segregated, making all schools integrated.

#### Section II: Justification

Segregation is illegal in any form in the state of Alabama, but segregation still exists, especially in schools. Many students go to the school that they are closest to, but this forms a more racially segregated classroom. Using different school zones that pull students equally, will form a more equal classroom.

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#### Section IV: Consequences

All schools will be forced to be integrated, which will include transferring of students to other schools in order for levels of education to be equal for everyone. There may be refusal in which students and their parents do not want to go to certain schools.

#### Section V: Enforcement

This bill will be enforced by the government, because the state education system is responsible for the previous zoning. The city school systems will be dismembered, so they will no longer be in charge of rezoning.

#### Section VI: Paymenta

There is no cost for integrating schools in the state of Alabama. Though, some people may have to pay transportation purposes if they are rezoned to a new school: for example, buses, more gas for cars, or trains.

#### 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 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F049**

**Committee: Q**

**Delegation:** Hoover - Spain Park

**Author(s):** Grace Norman

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Everyone deserves a home

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2  
3 Homeless- people that struggle financially and lack a house or at risk of becoming homeless

4  
5 Section II: Proposal

6  
7 This bill will transform old abandoned buildings such as malls to be remade and used as homeless  
8 shelters, supplying food, shelter, medical care, and help with searching for jobs.

9  
10 Section III: Justification

11  
12 The people that struggle with housing are at danger because they lack shelter and many still need  
13 places to sleep but the cost of building a brand new shelters are too much to keep making new ones  
14 for the needy.

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16 Section IV: Consequences

17  
18 Better health and living situations for homeless and a help for them to find jobs

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20 Section V: Enforcement

21  
22 No problem

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24 Section VI: Payment

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26 Raising gas taxes by 2 cents- \$10 per alabamian citizen - \$800 million

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28 Donations

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30 Gov't funding

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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 its otherwise becoming law.



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F050**

**Committee: N**

**Delegation:** Huntsville - YMCA Heart of the Valley

**Author(s):** Wesley Betterton, Anna Vickery

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Industry Involvement in training trade school students

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1  
2  
3 SECTION I: DEFINITIONS

4  
5 School- An institution in which learning is performed Experience- practical contact with and  
6 observation of facts or events.Trade- a skilled job, typically one requiring manual skills and special  
7 training.  
8  
9

10  
11 SECTION II: PROPOSITIONS

12  
13 This bill will hereby provide job training to fulfill the need for trade workers at the upcoming Toyota  
14 and Mazda plant in Limestone county. This training would be accomplished with current high school  
15 students. Training would be paid for by the Toyota and Mazda plant. The training would be held at  
16 local trade schools. Once the high school student has successfully completed requirements to enter  
17 the program, they will enroll at the trade school, also paid for by the company. After completing the  
18 specific program, employment with Toyota and Mazda will be offered.  
19  
20  
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22 SECTION III: JUSTIFICATION

23  
24 The Toyota and Mazda plant will create four thousand jobs and many of these will be trade jobs.  
25 These new jobs will help the economy and bring in more money to the state of Alabama. According  
26 to the 2018 Alabama Workforce Report, manufacturing jobs are some of the highest demanded jobs  
27 in the state, They also generally pay more than other trade jobs.  
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SECTION IV: SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

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

SECTION V: ENACTMENT CLAUSE

This bill will become effective January 1, 2020 upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F051**

**Committee: S**

**Delegation:** Hoover - Spain Park

**Author(s):** Jannah Blain

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** RESPECT: Accepting

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2  
3 Conversion therapy is a practice that can be used voluntarily or involuntarily on LGBT people. This  
4 practice consists of religious enforcement and oftentimes abusive behavior to force the individual to  
5 conform to being either cisgender and/or heterosexual. Emotional and physical pain is inflicted.  
6 Cisgender meaning to identify as the gender assigned at birth.  
7

8 Section II: Proposal

9  
10 This bill will make conversion therapy illegal for minors.  
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12 Section III: Justification  
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Conversion therapy is fraud. LGBTQ+ people are born with the same identity they express. Often times conversion therapy consists of praying and other times parts of beating and ,humiliation. Conversion therapy with minors could be the cause of suicide, depression, anxiety, and drug use. There's a ban on conversion therapy in 14 states, Alabama not being one of. LGBTQ+ youth who've been highly rejected, opposed to having had faced little to no rejection, are more than 8 times more likely to commit suicide, 6 times more likely to report high levels of depression, 3 times as likely to use illegal drugs, and 3 times as likely to be at high risk for STDs and HIV. Being rejected by family and caregivers makes LGBTQ+ youth 120% more likely to experience homelessness. In the United States, 20% of the homeless population is LGBTQ+ and 58% of that population will be sexually exploited through prostitution. This rate is much higher than the 33% of the heterosexual homeless population that is being prostituted. Alex Cooper was 15 years old when she opened up about her sexual orientation to her parents and her parents signed off their parental rights to have Alex sent to a conversion therapy camp. Alex was forced to stand up and face a wall for up to 18 hours. The truly horrific detail of this particular practice was how she had to wear a backpack that had rocks added each time she resisted. This all was meant to make Alex understand the physical burden of being gay. There were two other gay boys at Alex's camp. They were forced to fight each other in pursuit of being more masculine and if they didn't hit hard enough, the owner would step in and do the punching for them. Alex felt like they "got some weird joy out of torturing children"

#### Section IV: Consequences

If conversion therapy is banned for minors, the homelessness and suicide rate will decrease. LGBTQ+ youth will be able to live their lives with less fear than with the threat of conversion therapy.

#### Section V: Enforcement

This bill will be enforced by state troopers and local police departments in the state of Alabama.

#### Section VI: Payment

There is no additional cost for banning minor conversion therapy.

#### Section VII: Conflicting Laws

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

#### Section VIII: Enactment

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



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F052**

**Committee: P**

**Delegation:** Hoover - Spain Park

**Author(s):** Camille Chase

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Mind The Gap

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2  
3 GDP (Gross Domestic Product): The monetary value of all finished goods and services

4  
5 Equal Pay Act of 1963: Prohibits discrimination on account of sex in the payment of wages by  
6 employers engaged in commerce or in the production of goods for commerce.

7  
8 Gender Pay Gap: the average difference between employed men and women. The average pay  
9 gap in Alabama as of 2016 was a 26% difference.

10  
11 Non-binary: not relating to, composed of, or just involving two things (involving gender)

12  
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15 Section II: Proposal

16  
17 This bill will help create equal pay for all genders by compelling companies with at least 25  
18 employees to provide certification to the state that its pay policies are based on education, skills and  
19 performance, not gender. If there is no certification, companies will face up to a \$400 fine for each  
20 day they do not comply.

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24 Section III: Justification

25  
26 Companies are legally required to pay employees the same under the Equal Pay Act of 1963.  
27 However, companies still find loopholes to pay female/non binary employees less than males, such  
28 as length of employment or diligence.

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#### Section IV: Consequences

The payment of all people will become equal if they are performing comparable tasks with similar diligence. Companies will pay fines for each day they do not comply.

#### Section V: Enforcement

The Alabama Department of Labor will review the company reports and determine if the reports are reliable.

#### Section VI: Payment

Companies will pay their own fines. However, paying all equal employees the same amount could add up to \$12 trillion in global GDP. The services of the Department of Labor will be paid for with fines from companies not in compliance.

#### 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 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F053**

**Committee: R**

**Delegation:** Hoover - Spain Park

**Author(s):** Lydia Faris

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Preservation of a minor's life

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I- Definitions

2  
3 Licensed dealer- A person who is licensed pursuant to engage in the business of dealing in firearms.

4  
5 Open Carry- Openly carrying a firearm in public

6  
7 Conceal carry- Carrying a concealed firearm in public

8  
9 Minors- People under the age of 18

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12  
13 Section II: proposal

14  
15 This will repeal Alabama 13A-11-57 code

16  
17 states if the minor has permission to possess a pistol from a parent or legal guardian who is not  
18 prohibited from possessing a firearm under state or federal law

19  
20 This will repeal Ala. Code § 13A-11-83.

21  
22 shall not apply to the purchase, possession or sale of pistols as curiosities or ornaments or to the  
23 transportation of such pistols unloaded and in a bag, box or securely wrapped package, but not  
24 concealed on the person

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28 Section III: Justification

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30 This is a problem due to the fact accidental fires are an occurrence. In fact, they occur twice as  
31 much as they are reported. The reason this happens is because they often do not become classified

32

33 as accidental shooting (what did it classify under? Purposeful shooting). Kids under the age of 18  
34 should not use any form of a gun unless it is used within the boundaries of the facilities that have  
35 programs that require the use of guns (hunting, shooting range etc). Minors should not be able to  
36 open or conceal carry a gun with them anywhere else. Also, a report done by Chelsea Parsons and  
37 Anne Johnson states that young people between the age of 15-24 are victims of gun violence than  
38 older Americans.

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42 Section III: Enforcement

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44 There is no specific enforcement

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48 Section VI: payment

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50 This bill will have no additional cost

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54 Section VII: Conflicting Laws

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

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60 Section VIII: Enactment

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62 This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the governor or its  
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# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F054**

**Committee: M**

**Delegation:** Hoover - Spain Park

**Author(s):** Cassandra King

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** A Higher Standard

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2  
3 Racial profiling- the use of race or ethnicity as grounds for suspecting someone of having committed  
4 an offense.

5  
6 Police brutality- The term police brutality refers to the use of unnecessary, or excessive force by  
7 police officers when handling civilians. Examples of police brutality can include the use of pepper  
8 spray, nerve gas, or batons, though it does not have to be physical abuse or attack.

9  
10 Fear- an unpleasant emotion caused by the belief that someone or something is dangerous, likely to  
11 cause pain, or a threat.

12  
13 Ignorance- lack of knowledge or information.

14  
15 Justice- the establishment or determination of rights according to the rules of law or equity.

16  
17 Section II: Proposal

18  
19 This bill will strengthen the punishment of police officers who commit these hate crimes. The  
20 minimum sentence guidelines will be tripled for an officer on duty. A Class B felony minimum is no  
21 less than 2 years, it will be tripled to a minimum of 6 years for an officer on duty. . This will hold  
22 members of the police more accountable and to a higher standard.

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24 Section III: Justification

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Stricter punishments of police officers is a necessary action against the harming of minorities. It will decrease the number of people of color who are victims. It will prevent acts like Rodney King and events like the Algiers Motel incident. In time, my bill will show children of color that the police are there to protect them too. As a state we put our trust in police officers to protect the public. When they not only fail to do so, but actively commit crimes while on duty, they must be held to a higher standard.

#### Section IV: Consequences

Stricter punishments spotlights this issue and will help prevent young men and women from brutal force by people who should protect them.

#### Section V: Enforcement

This bill will be enforced by government officials.

#### Section VI: Payment

This is no additional cost for strengthening punishment in 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 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F055**

**Committee: Q**

**Delegation:** Hoover - Spain Park

**Author(s):** German Krumins

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** SUN-roads

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1  
2  
3 Section I: Definitions

4  
5 Solar Roadways - New type of roads that absorb energy from the sun to the through the solar  
6 roadway structure.  
7

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10 Section II: Proposal

11  
12 A proposal of 116.4 miles of solar roadways should be implanted on the areas covering 280, 65,  
13 20/59, 459. Construction will create jobs. Each road will begin after consecutive 2.5-year  
14 increments, with 5 years to finish each region. Construction will begin in 2022. Each solar Roadway  
15 will cost \$25.5 Million Per Mile an in a total of \$2 Billion Construction. Due to Trump's statement, \$1  
16 Billion will be contributed by The US Government.  
17

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19  
20 Section III: Justification

21  
22 Alabama's Roadways are not the best in the country with an infrastructure rating of C-. In the  
23 meantime, the United States of America has a rating of D- overall. Meanwhile, Birmingham, the  
24 most populous area in Alabama includes 7 out of 10 of the most traffic-heavy areas, with sometimes  
25 people getting stuck in traffic for hours stuck in traffic, of which that time could be put towards good  
26 use or productivity. With this in mind the United States and Alabama, are expected to increase  
27 heavily in population, resulting in more traffic and pollution. Roads also consist of Asphalt which  
28 costs \$11 million per mile. This will solve all of the issues stated in the definitions. For instance the  
29 reconfiguration of lanes when traffic is coming in or out of the city. The Roadways also stop the  
30 freezing of roads and can identify animals, humans, or fallen trees. by glaring when someone or  
31 something is standing or fallen on a roadway. The Roadways will pay off over 20 years because  
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33 they are 3 times less to repair.

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37 Section IV: Consequences

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39 This will be just an advanced form of roads so the road laws will remain constant.

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43 Section V: Enforcement

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45 This bill will still be enforced by regular state police by ensuring safety on the roads as usual.

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49 Section VI: Payment

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51 This will be paid by a higher gas tax for the first 5 years. Then the tax will return to normal and more  
52 money will be brought in. Solar Roadways are beneficial over time.

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56 Section VII: Conflicting Laws

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

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62 Section VIII: Enactment

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

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# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F056**

**Committee: P**

**Delegation:** Hoover - Spain Park

**Author(s):** Victor Lam

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** God is not a loophole: stop businesses from taking advantage of the government

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2  
3 Act of God - a natural hazard outside human control, where no person is held responsible for  
4 changes to what is affected

5  
6  
7  
8 Section II: Proposal

9  
10 This bill will prohibit companies, businesses or other entities from using an "Act of God" as a  
11 defense for liability and damages in civil or criminal lawsuits when a said entity was responsible in  
12 full or in part for the "act of God" taking place.

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16 Section III: Justification

17  
18 Entities can blame an "act of God" on damage to their company property even though those entities  
19 are the reason for those damages. Entities that ask for protection from catastrophic events due to  
20 climate change are the companies that exacerbate climate change from emissions the company  
21 makes.

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25 Section IV: Consequences

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27 This bill will prohibit the use of an "act of God" by companies, businesses or other entities.  
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#### Section V: Enforcement

This will be enforced by the federal government.

#### Section VI: Payment

There is no additional cost to prohibiting the use of “act of God” by companies, businesses or other entities.

#### 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 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F057**

**Committee: S**

**Delegation:** Huntsville - HOPE Christian Academy

**Author(s):** Alyssa Picard

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Break The Cycle

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

#### Section I: Definitions

Abuse: treat a person with cruelty or violence, especially regularly or repeatedly.

Perpetration: to commit a crime

Mandatory Reporters: people who have regular contact with vulnerable people and are therefore legally required to ensure a report is made when abuse is observed or suspected.

Mental Health Service Providers: therapist, counsellors, psychiatrist, and psychologist.

Incarceration: the state of being confined in prison; imprisonment.

#### Section II: Proposition

Due to the proven relationship between childhood abuse victims and adult perpetration; following a report by a mandatory reporter, a mental health service provider will be required to provide a minimum of one year therapy and support services for all victims of physical, sexual, and mental abuse under the age of 18. These services can include: group therapy, family counselling, and one-on-one counselling. This treatment will not be dependant on the victims' cooperation and is free of cost to family or caretakers of the victims.

#### Section III: Justification

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Behaviorally, the consequences of abuse range from poor peer relations all the way to extraordinarily violent behaviors. The U.S National Library of Medicine records that more than 56% of all incarcerated males suffered from some abuse in their formative years. Psychologists have identified many early warning signs such as increased aggression in elementary school, signs of depression, and early incidence of delinquent behavior. With this bill, we will theoretically be able to break the cycle of abuse victims carrying out abuse or other criminal behaviors by providing the treatment needed to establish coping skills and prevent further incidences.

**Section IV: Funding**

Funding will be at the cost of the offender, if they are unable to provide such funds they will be obtained through government grants such as 'National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative.'

**Section V: Conflict and Severability**

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

**Section VI: Enactment**

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 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F058**

**Committee: Q**

**Delegation:** Cherokee County Student Y-Club

**Author(s):** Jackson Garmany

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Protection of Confederate Statues act

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I. Definitions  
2

3 Confederate statue- this term used in this act will refer to any statue, monument, or memorial on  
4 state land that memorializes the Confederate States of America or its former leaders.  
5  
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8 Section II. Propositions  
9

10 This act will protect Confederate statues on public land from destruction. It will now be unlawful for  
11 government officials to order the removal of Confederate statues on state land. Any current plans in  
12 the works to remove Confederate statues, monuments, or memorials or state land will be terminated.  
13  
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15

16 Section III. Justification  
17

18 It is necessary to protect Confederate statues from removal on state grounds. While the  
19 Confederacy may not be the brightest time in Alabama's history, we cannot simply ignore it and  
20 pretend it never happened. By making moves to destroy Confederate representation, we are  
21 making moves to erase it from history all together. It is important to remember Alabama's time in the  
22 Confederate States of America so that we, as Alabamians, can learn from our history.  
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26 Section IV. Severability Clause  
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28 All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.  
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Section VI. Enactment Clause

This act 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 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F059**

**Committee: M**

**Delegation:** Cherokee County Student Y-Club

**Author(s):** Kaitlyn Meats

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** An Act to amend Section 15-19-6 of the Alabama Code concerning the disposition of youthful offenders after adjudication

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

#### DEFINITIONS

Youthful Offender - In Alabama, a defendant younger than 21 who is facing a criminal charge.

Misdemeanor - a non-indictable offense, regarded in the US as less serious than a felony.

Adjudication - a judicial decision or sentence.

Correctional Treatment - the treatment of offenders through a system of penal incarceration, rehabilitation, parole, and probation, or the administrative system by which these are effectuated.

#### Section I: JUSTIFICATION

About two thirds of minors in a juvenile detention center are in there for misdemeanor crimes like shoplifting, fighting in school, and truancy. Multiple studies find that placing non-violent youth offenders in detention centers actually increases their chances of committing a violent crime later on in life. We should be working to help provide minors with help and guidance not detainment where their chances of reoffending would be much higher.

#### Section II: PROPOSITION

This proposal seeks to amend Section 15-19-6 of the Alabama Code concerning the disposition of youthful offenders after adjudication. These changes will prohibit judges from sentencing first-time juvenile offenders of misdemeanor crimes to detention centers or jail. Instead of incarceration, minors will be sentenced to recovery/rehabilitation programs including, but not limited to, house arrest, probation, community service, counseling, or any other recovery or rehab program or combination of programs deemed by the judge to be beneficial in rehabilitating the minor.

Alabama Code § 15-19-6 Subsection (d) currently reads

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*“(d) If the underlying charge is a misdemeanor, a person adjudged a youthful offender may be given correctional treatment as provided by law for such misdemeanor.”*

Alabama Code § (d) will be changed to read as follows:

(d) If the underlying charge is a misdemeanor, a person adjudged a youthful offender shall not be assigned imprisonment but shall be assigned one of the following options for rehabilitation:

(1) Place the offender on house arrest for a time period not to exceed 2 years, and/or

(2) Assign the offender community service for a time period to be specified by the adjudicator, and/or

(3) Place the offender on probation for a period not to exceed 2 years under the supervision of the appropriate probation agency, and/or

(4) Assign the offender to a mandatory counseling and/or rehabilitation/recovery program.

**SEVERABILITY CLAUSE:** “All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this acts 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 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F060**

**Committee: N**

**Delegation:** Cherokee County Student Y-Club

**Author(s):** AnnaBrooke Rainey

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** to Mandate Kindergarten Attendance

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section I: Purpose:**  
2

3 This bill will make attendance in Kindergarten mandatory. Alabama already requires all districts to  
4 offer six hours of full-day kindergarten. However, attendance is not mandatory for Kindergarten  
5 students.  
6

7 **Section II: Justification**  
8

9 Studies have shown that those who attend kindergarten regularly:

- 10  
11 -develop communication skills that assist with reading and writing.  
12  
13 -gain confidence and a feeling of self-worth.  
14  
15 -develop responsibility and independence.  
16  
17 -learn social skills such as listening and respecting other people's ideas.  
18  
19 -build self-awareness and respect for others.  
20  
21 -learn to be creative.

22  
23 **Section III: Consequences**  
24

25 Currently, parents/guardians are held responsible for student attendance in grades 1 through 12.  
26 This proposal would simply extend the school attendance mandate to include Kindergarten, making  
27 parents/guardians legally responsible for abiding by Alabama's current compulsory education laws.  
28

29 **Section IV: Funding**  
30

31 Alabama already distributes funds based on a teacher-student ratio and provides funding for full-day  
32

33 kindergarten that is equal to that which is provided for first through third grade.

34

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

37

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

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# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F061**

**Committee: S**

**Delegation:** Montgomery - LAMP

**Author(s):** Patrick Cain

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** The Alabama Citizens Mental Health Protection and Prison Reform of the Mentally Ill

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section 1:** Definitions  
2

3 Mental Illness-any of a broad range of medical conditions (such as major depression,  
4 schizophrenia, obsessive compulsive disorder, or panic disorder) that are marked primarily by  
5 sufficient disorganization of personality, mind, or emotions to impair normal psychological  
6 functioning and cause marked distress or disability and that are typically associated with a  
7 disruption in normal thinking, feeling, mood, behavior, interpersonal interactions, or daily  
8 interactions.  
9

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12 Physician- a person skilled in the art of healing, specifically: one educated, clinically experienced,  
13 and licensed to practice medicine.  
14

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16  
17 Prescription-written direction for a therapeutic or corrective agent specifically, one for the  
18 preparation and use of a medicine; a prescribed medicine; something (such as a recommendation)  
19 resembling a doctor's prescription  
20

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22  
23 **Section 2: Purpose**  
24

25 This bill will provide and ensure the mentally ill citizens of Alabama are cared and provided for as it  
26 relates to the treatment and incarceration of the diagnosed mentally ill in the State of Alabama. This  
27 bill would allow family members of the mentally ill to have more diverse and feasible treatment  
28 options available for their mentally ill family member. As a direct result the mentally ill prison  
29 population in should drastically decrease. Instead of prison reform at the end of the time-line for the  
30 mentally ill citizens of Alabama, how about mental health reform at the front of the time-line.  
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**Section 3: Justification**

For the last several years, prison reform has been discussed and debated by the Alabama legislature. In fact, in 2018, the Alabama legislature approved an additional \$85 million dollars for the state prison system over the next two years. Of course, the state of Alabama was faced with a federal court order to improve mental health care for the mentally ill inmates. A federal judge ruled in 2017 that the mental health care in Alabama’s prisons was “horrendously inadequate”, and violated the Constitutional prohibition on cruel and unusual punishment.

This bill will allow for mental health reform so the mentally ill individuals and their families can receive more diverse and readily available treatment options other than just commitment for a few days to a mental health facility. The purpose is to help mentally ill patients and their families before an individual commits a crime and is then incarcerated. Reforming the mental health laws in Alabama will in turn effect the population of the mentally ill incarcerated and may reform the prisons.

**Section 4: Severability Clause**

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

**Section 5: 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 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F062**

**Committee: Q**

**Delegation:** Montgomery - LAMP

**Author(s):** Jenny Baek

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** AN ACT TO RESTRICT RACIAL GERRYMANDERING IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE DISADVANTAGING OF CERTAIN DEMOGRAPHICS IN STATE VOTING DECISIONS

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

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2 Section 1: Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, shall be defined as follows:

3  
4 GERRYMANDERING – to divide or arrange (an area) into political units to give special advantages  
5 to one group

6  
7 REDISTRICTING – to revise legislative districts

8  
9 Section 2: This act will prevent propositions of district revisals that appear to follow racial lines, and  
10 this is done in order to prevent disadvantaging the voting ability of a demographic characterized by  
11 race or color.

12  
13 Section 3: This act will assert that if redistricted borders in Alabama are found to be drawn along  
14 racial lines prior to an election, they will be held in violation of Section 2 in the Voting Act of 1965,  
15 which states: “No voting qualification or prerequisite to voting, or standard, practice, or procedure  
16 shall be imposed or applied by any State or political subdivision to deny or abridge the right of any  
17 citizen of the United States to vote on account of race or color.”

18  
19 Section 4: Said persons will also be held in violation of constitutionality based on the 14th  
20 Amendment’s “Equal Protection Clause,” which states: “No state shall make or enforce any law  
21 which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state  
22 deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person  
23 within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.”

24  
25 Section 5: The act will be able to directly identify racial gerrymandering and accordingly penalize  
26 such action based on a set of points.

27  
28 Section 6: If state districts are found to be gerrymandered along racial lines, then a remedial map  
29 must be drawn prior to the decision. If the body that is given the task fails to comply, then they will  
30 be susceptible to impeachment.

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Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section 8: This act shall take effect May 1, 2019.



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F063**

**Committee: N**

**Delegation:** Auburn

**Author(s):** Alma Sorek, Jinny Lee

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** A Bill to Establish Comprehensive Sex Education

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

BE IT ENACTED BY THE ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE

SECTION 1. Definitions Consent- the ability to give permission for sexual activity; cannot be given if under the influence of drugs or alcohol Contraceptives- device or medicine that serves to prevent pregnancy; includes, but is not limited to, condoms, birth control pills, birth control implants, diaphragms, etc. Abortion- termination of a pregnancy before birth LGBTQ- an acronym standing for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer Sex education- instruction in human sexuality Medically accurate- factual and truthful, in accordance with the latest professional research Public school- a school that is maintained at public expense for the education of the children of a community and that constitutes a part of a system of free public education STI- sexually transmitted infection Abstinence- refraining from sexual activity, usually until marriage Sexual assault- nonconsensual sexual activity HIV/AIDS- an STD, the name of which standing for Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome

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SECTION 2. Proposition: This bill will ensure that all Alabama students are given complete and medically accurate sex education. All Alabama public schools will be required to teach sex education to students in grades 8 and above. In addition, information presented must be medically accurate and up to date. Education must cover the following topics in an accepting and nonjudgmental manner: what constitutes and how to give consent, sexual assault, various contraceptives (condoms, birth control pill, etc), STDs and how to prevent them (including HIV/AIDS), and abortion. Educators must be affirming towards LGBTQ students. Instruction would be required to include a condom demonstration. SECTION 3. Justification Current Alabama law requires that any sex education taught is to be abstinence- only. Many objective studies show that abstinence only education is not only not effective in delaying sexual activity, students who have had abstinence-only education are more likely to have unwanted pregnancies and STDs. One such study is “Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage: An Updated Review of U.S. Policies and Programs and Their Impact”, published in the Journal of Adolescent Health, which concluded that “abstinence is often not effective in preventing pregnancy or STIs as many young people who intend to practice abstinence fail to do so.” SECTION 4. This bill will take effect at the beginning of the school year following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law. SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F064**

**Committee: R**

**Delegation:** Dothan - Northside Methodist

**Author(s):** Olivia Webb

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** The Hands Free Law

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section 1: Definitions

2  
3 Standalone electronic device: A device other than a wireless telecommunication device that stores  
4 audio or video data files to be retrieved on demand by a user.

5  
6 Text-based communication: includes, but is not limited to, a text message, instant message, e-mail,  
7 or Internet data on a wireless telecommunication device or standalone electronic device.

8  
9 Section 2:

10  
11 Any person operating a motor vehicle on any Alabama road is hereby prohibited from holding or  
12 otherwise using his or her body to support a wireless communication device or standalone  
13 electronic device. This includes making or receiving calls and sending or receiving text-based  
14 communications on any device.

15  
16 Section 3:

17  
18 Any person operating a motor vehicle on any Alabama road is hereby prohibited from using a  
19 wireless telecommunication device or standalone electronic device to watch, record, or capture a  
20 photograph or video while operating a motor vehicle.

21  
22 Section 4:

23  
24 A driver with a learner's permit or intermediate license may not use their phone in any way,  
25 including with hands free devices, while operating a motor vehicle in the state of Alabama.

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27 Section 5: Consequences:

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29 1<sup>st</sup> Offense – Official Warning from the officer

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2<sup>nd</sup> Offense – Fine of \$100

3<sup>rd</sup> Offense – Fine of \$300

Subsequent Offenses – Suspended driver's license

Section 6:

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act 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 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F065**

**Committee: Q**

**Delegation:** Montgomery - Montgomery Academy

**Author(s):** Tristan Dumas, William Dillon

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Paper Pollution Reduction Act

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section 1:

2  
3 Paper recycling: the processes of reprocessing waste paper for reuse.

4  
5 Section 2:

6  
7 Alabama currently has the thirteenth highest amount of air pollution in the country. Paper product  
8 companies produce the most air pollutants in Alabama, with 12.1 million pounds of air pollutants a  
9 year or 42 percent of the total. Chemicals that are released into the air and water from most paper  
10 mills include carbon monoxide, ammonia, nitrogen oxide, mercury, nitrates, methanol, benzene,  
11 volatile organic compounds and chloroform (exposure to these gases can cause immediate lung  
12 and eye damage and with prolonged exposure, death). The production and use of paper has a  
13 number of adverse effects on the environment which are known collectively as paper pollution. Pulp  
14 mills contribute to air, water and land pollution. Discarded paper is a major component of many  
15 landfill sites, accounting for about 35 percent by weight of municipal solid waste (before recycling).  
16 There are 83 paper mills across Alabama in 10 counties.

17  
18 Section 3:

19  
20 One way to greatly reduce the amount of pollution in the state of Alabama would be the destruction  
21 of two thirds of all paper mills in Alabama. The 10 counties will decide which paper mills are  
22 destroyed. Paper recycling centers will be installed in the mills' place overseen by the Alabama  
23 Department of Environmental Management. Control over the plants will return to the previous  
24 owners after construction is complete. All workers of the destroyed mills will be provided with  
25 government support for 2 years and priority as workers at the recycling plant.

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27 Section 4:

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

This bill will go into effect immediately and construction of recycling plants will be complete on January first 2021 after its approval by the governor.



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F066**

**Committee: P**

**Delegation:** Montgomery - Montgomery Academy

**Author(s):** Anna Perry, Ellie Stevens

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Impose Tax on Sodas in AL

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section I: Definitions** fifth highest rate- refers to the percentage of the amount of

2  
3 Soda - carbonated drink with more than 2 grams of sugar per ounce

4  
5  
6  
7 Section II: Proposition

8  
9 36.3% of adults and 18.2% of children between the ages of 10 and 17 are suffering from obesity.  
10 This is the fifth highest rate in the nation for adults and ninth highest for children. If a tax were put on  
11 sodas it would help discourage the mass consumption of sugary drinks. The money from this tax  
12 would go to pre kindergarten education programs such as the Alabama Department of Early  
13 Childhood Education. A tax of 3 to 5% of regular cost (before tax) should be imposed on all  
14 carbonated drinks with more than 2 grams of sugar per ounce.

15  
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17  
18 Section III: Justification

19  
20 According to Harvard University, about \$190 billion are spent annually in the U.S. to treat health  
21 issues related to obesity, and sugary drinks like sodas play a huge role in the obesity epidemic. A  
22 20 year study of 120,000 people showed an undeniable link between sugary drink consumption and  
23 weight gain. The amount of sugar suggested by the American Heart Association is 24 grams for  
24 women and 36 grams for men per day. There are 21 grams of sugar in an 8 ounce can of Coca  
25 Cola. If a higher tax was placed on these harmful drinks, they would become more difficult to obtain,  
26 and so people would consume less of them. Also, this money is needed in pre-kindergarten  
27 programs. Pre-kindergarten programs help build a foundation for a for a better future in school.  
28 These programs allow children to form better social, academic, and even emotional skills. These  
29 skills help children do better in school. Children who go through these programs are shown to do  
30 much better in school. These programs will reduce future crime and it will boost the economy.

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

Section V: This bill will become effective beginning the next fiscal year upon enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F067**

**Committee: P**

**Delegation:** Montgomery - Montgomery Academy

**Author(s):** JiHyun Kim, Abby Baird

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Raising taxes on Cigarette product

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

#### Section I : Proposition

Currently in state of Alabama , we are facing the issue of widespread nicotine addiction. This is harmful to humanity and the environment but mostly in the context of cigarettes. According to Alabama Public Health, secondhand smoke kills over 750 nonsmoking Alabamians each year. Even though minors are prohibited from buying electronic smoking devices, more than 25% of high school students used e-cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, and cigars. By raising taxes on cigarettes, minors will no longer have easy access on buying any smoking devices. Also, for adults, raising tax will prevent them from losing money for any smoking-related health care and smoking-related losses in productivity.

#### Section II : Justification

This bill is meant to discourage smoking in the state of Alabama because while outlawing smoking completely may seem efficient on paper, a very large percentage of Alabamians are smokers and it would be near impossible to just outlaw it completely. However, by raising the taxes on nicotine products significantly, not only would this discourage smoking but also the state would be making money off of these taxes which can in turn be used to educate the people about nicotine addiction.

#### Section III : Action

Since 2015, taxes on cigarettes are 67.5 cents per pack but taxed should be raised from 67.5 cents to 2 dollars which is about 29% of average price of one cigarette pack.

#### 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 on April 1st upon its enactment and approval by the governor or

33 otherwise becoming a law.

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# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F068**

**Committee: S**

**Delegation:** Mobile - Davidson

**Author(s):** Ruth Delmas

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Initiating the End: Alabama's Opioid Dependency

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2  
3 A. Opioids- a class of drugs that include heroin, fentanyl, and pain relievers

4  
5 B. Naloxone- a narcotic used to try to reverse the effects of an overdose

6  
7 Section II: Proposition

8  
9 All public medical schools in Alabama shall be required to institute classes on addiction prevention  
10 and the importance of accurate prescriptions. Families of people struggling with addiction are to be  
11 given Naloxone and instructed on how to administer it upon the release of their dependent from the  
12 hospital or rehabilitation center.

13  
14 Section III: Justification

15  
16 Alabama's 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District has the highest opioid prescription rate in the country. This  
17 crisis has not been contained to a few counties, but rather has spread and afflicted every edge of  
18 Alabama. According to Attorney General Steve Marshall, Alabama has the highest painkiller  
19 prescriptions per capita. Naloxone, an opioid antagonist, can effectively reverse the effects of an  
20 opioid overdose. Providing families and laypersons with Naloxone kits and instructions can help  
21 reduce mortality rates related to opioids.

22  
23 Section IV: Funding

24  
25 Funding for this bill shall come from the Alabama Department of Public Health's funds.

26  
27 Section V: Enactment Clause

28  
29 This bill will go into effect at the beginning of fall term in 2020 for public universities to give them  
30 ample time to prepare for the dependency prevention classes.

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# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F069**

**Committee: M**

**Delegation:** Mobile - Davidson

**Author(s):** Natalie Stout, Claire Cesarini

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Adding to Alabama's Moral Turpitude Conviction List

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Preamble: WHEREAS in the state of Alabama there are 14 felonies that are recognized as ineligible  
2 convictions for regaining voting rights. This contrasts to over a dozen felonies that never restrict  
3 felons voting rights. Be it resolved that certain felonies unhindered voting rights be moved under the  
4 Moral Turpitude crimes which will require an appeal to the Board of Pardons and Paroles to restore  
5 voting rights.  
6

#### 7 Section I: Definitions

8  
9 Felony- A crime regarded as more serious than a misdemeanor and usually punishable by  
10 imprisonment.  
11

12 Ineligible Convictions- Any criminal conviction under the Moral Turpitude Act that is ineligible for an  
13 expedited process to restore voting rights without a full pardon of offenses.  
14

15 Misdemeanor- A nonindictable offense.  
16

17 Moral Turpitude- This establishes which felony convictions are considered to be crimes of Moral  
18 Turpitude, which results in the loss of voting rights, some of these crimes are eligible to apply to  
19 restore the right to vote.  
20

#### 21 Section II: Propositions

22  
23 Domestic violence to be added to list of Alabama's Moral Turpitudes.  
24

25 Attempted murder to be added to list of Alabama's Moral Turpitudes.  
26

27 All past offenders of crimes listed must appeal to Board of Pardons and Paroles in order to reobtain  
28 voting rights.  
29

#### 30 Section III: Justification

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Convicted felons of crimes such as driving while suspended, DUI's, possession of marijuana, fraudulent use of a credit card, indecent exposure, and misdemeanors automatically regain their right to vote after their sentence. These felonies and misdemeanors should not be treated on equal moral ground as domestic violence and attempted murder. With crimes as serious as domestic violence and attempted murder, those felons should not automatically regain their right to vote. By being moved to the Moral Turpitude list, it makes the process of reobtaining voting rights more thorough.

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 immediately upon enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F070**

**Committee: R**

**Delegation:** Montgomery - Carver High School

**Author(s):** Clinton Ryan

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** School Safety

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1  
2  
3 Section I: Definitions

4  
5 Metal detectors--an electronic device that gives an audible or other signal when it is close to metal.

6  
7 Education Trust Fund-- The Education Trust Fund (ETF) is the largest operating fund of the State.  
8 Revenue is used for the support, maintenance and development of public education in Alabama,  
9 debt service and capital improvements relating to educational facilities, and other functions related  
10 to educating the state's citizens.

11  
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13  
14 Section II: This bill will provide for increased school security through increasing the number of metal  
15 detectors, security guards, and security cameras on school campus.

16  
17  
18  
19 Section III: The bill will also ensure that doors that do not auto-lock are replaced with doors that  
20 auto-lock when closed.

21  
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24 Section IV: Funding for this bill is coming from the education trust fund budget.

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28 Section V: This bill will go into effect on October 1st 2019  
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Section VI: All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this law are hereby repealed





# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F071**

**Committee: S**

**Delegation:** Montgomery - Brew Tech

**Author(s):** Jada Burroughs

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Stop Secondhand Smoke

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

**Preamble:** Exposure to secondhand smoke from burning tobacco products causes disease and premature death among nonsmokers. There is no risk-free level of secondhand smoke, and even brief exposure can cause immediate harm. Exposure to secondhand smoke causes an estimated 41,000 deaths each year among adults in the United States. Secondhand smoke also causes 7,333 annual deaths from lung cancer, as well as 33,951 annual deaths from heart disease. Enacting this bill can reduce the number of people affected by secondhand smoke.

#### Section I: Definitions

vehicle: a thing used for transporting people or goods, such as a car, or truck

secondhand smoke: smoke inhaled involuntarily from tobacco being smoked by others

smoking: the inhalation of the smoke of burning tobacco encased in cigarettes, pipes, and cigars

#### Section II: Explanation

Smoking will

hereby be prohibited in vehicles to reduce secondhand smoke of others in surrounding areas and vehicles, as well as occupants of the same vehicle. This ban will cause smoking in vehicles to become a punishable traffic offense.

#### Section III: Action

Anyone seen or found smoking by police officers while located in a vehicle will receive a traffic violation as well as a traffic ticket.

#### Section IV: Cost and Funding\

This requires no funding. It will be added to the list of traffic violations that police officers should look for when on patrol.

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**Section V: Repealing Clause**

All Laws or Parts of Laws in Conflict with this act are hereby repealed.



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F072**

**Committee: Q**

**Delegation:** Mobile - St. Paul's

**Author(s):** Perry Courtney

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** A Stop to Straight-party Voting

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2  
3 Straight-party voting: This is also known as straight-ticket voting. It is the practice of voting for every  
4 candidate that a political party has on a general election ballot.

5  
6  
7  
8 Section II: Proposition

9  
10 For the purpose of this bill, the option of straight-party voting will no longer be on the State's ballot.  
11 One will have to actually decide between the candidates running for the specific office.

12  
13  
14  
15 Section III: Justification

16  
17 Currently, one can simply select to vote for all Republican or all Democratic on our state ballot. This  
18 makes it where this will no longer be an option, instead one will actually have to go through the  
19 entire ballot choosing between candidates. This will hopefully help people actually be educated on  
20 who they voting for instead of simply letting political parties define their decision.

21  
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23  
24 Section IV: Enactment Clause

25  
26 This act should be enforced on the next statewide election date. This insures all counties and the  
27 state to be aware of the change and adequately prepare the ballots with the change.

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Section V: Severability Clause

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



# ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

## YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F073**

**Committee: S**

**Delegation:** Hoover - Spain Park

**Author(s):** Erin Oliver

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** A Womans Decision Shouldn't BE Persuaded.

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2  
3 Abortion- The process of ending a pregnancy due to removing an embryo or fetus before it can  
4 survive outside the uterus.

5  
6 Trap Laws- Trap laws are laws that are used like loop holes that trap women and younger girls into  
7 going through with a pregnancy they did not want.

8  
9 Pro Choice- means that you want people to make their own choices not based off religion and you  
10 side with abortion in the case.

11  
12 Pro Life- means that you want to life and your against or not siding with abortion.

13  
14 Reproductive Age- The age at where a woman is able to go through the process of pregnancy.

15  
16 Section II: Proposal

17  
18 This bill will prohibit and block trap laws that are against abortion. It will take the any laws that are  
19 used to persuade women into consenting to not going through abortion.

20  
21  
22  
23 Section III: Justification

24  
25 The right of women being able to go through this process without trap laws preventing them is  
26 important because if they are not able to do this willingly, it can cause much harm and damage on  
27 them emotionally and physically. It can especially affect females that are not in reproductive ages  
28 and not ready to give birth.

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30 Section IV: Consequences

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If this law was to be passed, may women and young girls will be happier and even safer to some extent. It will also make the free rights of women and their beliefs

#### Section V: Enforcement

State governors and hospitals will enforce this law and bill on each hospital to prevent each of state from having trap laws.

#### Section VI: Payment

There is no additional cost for protecting the rights of women, their choices, an their beliefs. This bill will also probably give hospitals the chance to make more money rather than lose it.

#### 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 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F074**

**Committee: R**

**Delegation:** Hoover - Spain Park

**Author(s):** Elle Taylor

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Gun Regulating: Keeping Guns Out Of the Wrong Hands

#### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

##### Section I: Definitions

1  
2 Firearms- a rifle, pistol, or other portable gun

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4 License- an authorization to use licensed material

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6 Permit- give authorization or consent to do something

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8 Permit to carry- the practice of carrying a concealed weapon in public places

##### 9 10 Section II: Proposal

11 This bill will...

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13 Regulate the accessibility of guns

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15 Lead to the decrease of gun violence

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17 Require further permits/licensing to acquire sed firearm(s)

##### 18 19 Section III: Justification

20 The state of Alabama does not require background checks prior to the purchase of a gun. According  
21 to a report in 2014, Alabama is ranked the easiest state in the US to purchase a gun. This is  
22 because Alabama currently does not require licensing of owners, a permit to purchase, or the  
23 registration of firearms. In addition, this would also explain how the number of suicidal deaths  
24 caused by firearms is a whopping 70%-- that? 20% higher than the national average of 50%. Our  
25 state is also ranked 4th in the context of states with the most gun deaths. By requiring those  
26 individuals who would like to purchase a gun to obtain an owner's license, a permit to purchase,  
27 further background checks, and in addition require them to register their guns, we can decrease the  
28 rate of gun deaths, and increase our state's safety. Let it be stated that the 2nd Amendment right to  
29 bear arms will not be violated, due to the fact that we are not proposing the prohibition of guns, but  
30 the restriction in order to increase safety in our state.

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Section IV: Consequences

These requirements will not only increase the stability and well-being of the state, but keep firearms out of the hands of the mentally ill.

Section V: Enforcement

Sed persons will not be able to purchase a firearm without first obtaining a license to purchase, own, and register their weapon.

Section VI: Payment

Payment will not be required to come from the state's budget, but from the person looking to obtain the requirements needed for a firearms. Law enforcement will enforce these requirements.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

This bill will override all conflicting laws upon signing

Section VIII: Enactment

This enactment 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 2019

February 22, 2019

**Delegate Bill #F075**

**Committee: Q**

**Delegation:** Montgomery - Brew Tech

**Author(s):** Kyle Adams, Catherine Beauchamp

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

**Title:** Right to Vote: Lowering the voting age in Alabama.

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Preamble:** With Alabamians receiving many of the rites of adulthood --such as full employment,  
2 driving, and most notably taxation-- at the age of sixteen, it leaves many with the burning question,  
3 "Where is their representation?". From the roots of the American Revolution there was a fight for 'no  
4 taxation without representation'. Overwhelmingly in the United States, tax-paying 16 and 17 year  
5 olds do not retain the right to vote. This bill aims to lead change with Alabama by allowing 16 and 17  
6 year olds the right to vote.  
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#### 10 **Section 1:**

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14 State Elections: The process of electing state officials within a state.  
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18 Municipal/ Local Elections: The process of electing local officials within a town or city.  
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22 Voter Registration: The requirement for citizens and residents to check in with their county's Board  
23 of Registrars specifically for the purpose of being allowed to vote in elections.  
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27 Minor Voters: Registered voters that are 16 and 17 years of age.  
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31 Prospective Voters: Citizens that meet the qualifications to vote and are wishing to pursue a voter  
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33 registration to allow them the opportunity to vote.

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**Section 2:**

In order to increase participation and interest in state and local elections, the State of Alabama will extend the voting right to individuals aged 16 and 17 for both state and municipal elections. Minor voters will be enabled to exercise the same voting rights currently allocated to citizens of Alabama 18 years and older. Prospective voters that are at least 16 years of age will be allowed to register to vote and participate in primary and general elections for the state as well as in its municipalities.

County Commissions will retain the power to return voting ages for municipal elections back to 18 years of age in their respective counties.

**Section 3:**

The enforcement of this bill will be headed the Chief Election Officer of Alabama (The Alabama Secretary of State) and carried out by those in the State Department. No new funding will be allocated as primary changes needed will be to adjust voter registration forms. For any funding needed for the state department to change practices in accordance with this act, the Secretary of State budget may be accessed.

**Section 4:**

The success of lowering the voting age to 16 can be seen in practice in Takoma Park, Maryland where it resulted in four times the registered voters under 18 voting when compared to registered adults. In Denmark, a study concluded that allowing 16 and 17 year olds to vote in elections establishes a lifelong habit of voting.

People at the age of 16 and 17 have also accepted many 'adult' responsibilities through owning businesses, working as caregivers, and volunteering hours of work in their communities. In 2011 in the United States people under 18 paid more than \$730 million in income tax according to the Tax Foundation. About 250,000 people under age 18 are tried, sentenced, or incarcerated as adults every year in the U.S. showing that younger people are expected to know right from wrong.

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Young people have also exhibited maturity in both voting and educating themselves on the political process. Researchers concluded that voting at a lower age “does not appear to have a negative impact on input legitimacy and the quality of democratic decisions”. Young people are also participating in politics. Participation in running for offices, managing campaigns, and forming Political Action Committees all show an advanced knowledge of politics. This understanding and experience in the real world simply supports the preparedness of 16 and 17 year olds to vote.

**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 after 90 days upon its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law. This period of time will allow for the State Department to make necessary arrangements to change its practices in accordance with this act.