



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S001

Committee: 4

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Ellie Lipp

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: A bill to provide insurance to children on the autistic spectrum for specific therapies.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I. Defintions
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3 Autistic Spectrum Disorder: refers to a group of complex neurodevelopment disorders characterized
4 by repetitive and characteristic patterns of behavior and difficulties with social communication and
5 interaction. The symptoms are present from early childhood and affect daily functioning.
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7 Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA): A type of therapy, focusing on social and physical behavior, that
8 is specially tailored to each child. This therapy focuses on positive reinforcement and fosters basic
9 skills as well as complex tasks.
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11 Speech Therapy: providing guidance to speak and communicate clearly.
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13 Occupational Therapy: a form of therapy for those recuperating from physical or mental illness that
14 encourages rehabilitation through the performance of activities required in daily life.
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16 Physical Therapy: the treatment of disease, injury, or deformity by physical methods such as
17 massage, heat treatment, and exercise rather than by drugs or surgery.
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19 Health Insurance: Health insurance is a type of insurance coverage that pays for medical and
20 surgical expenses incurred by the insured. Health insurance can reimburse the insured for
21 expenses incurred from illness or injury, or pay the care provider directly.
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23 Section II. Proposition and Justification
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Alabama is currently one of six states in the continental United States that does not insure therapies for children on the autistic spectrum. This bill requires all small group and large group health insurance plans written or based in Alabama, all groups written in other states but insuring Alabama residents, and all self-insured governmental plans to provide coverage for those diagnosed on the autistic spectrum. This coverage would include psychiatric care, psychological care, rehabilitative and habilitative care (mainly Applied Behavioral Analysis), and therapeutic care. These treatments must be provided by a state-licensed professional.

Section III. Involvement

For participants in the groups listed above, a tax increase of initially \$0.30 monthly, subject to be modified in the future, would be activated. The Department of Education, the Department of Mental Health, and the Department of Public Health would collaborate to oversee this change. There is a total of approximately 82,000 diagnosed children with disabilities in this state. A significant number of those are on the autistic spectrum. Through the course of their public education, it is estimated the state will spend approximately 3.2 million dollars on each student. If these students are exposed to therapies such as ABA, they will develop social skills earlier and ultimately have the refined skills to work in a normal classroom setting. Additionally, they will be more likely to gain employment once out of the education system, causing them to be less dependent on the state.

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 1st, 2018 upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S002

Committee: 4

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Nik Dworek, Nik Dworek

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: A Smarter and Greener Alabama

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Preamble:** While Alabama tops the polls in college football, it ranks low pretty much everywhere
2 else. Alabama needs a change. Alabama needs to migrate its power production towards safe and
3 renewable energy. The safest of all renewable energy comes from an element called thorium. A
4 substance which is both safer and more efficient than any other power source on the grid. A slow
5 migration to thorium could not only boost the economy with jobs but also ensure alabama with clean
6 and renewable energy.
7

8 **Section 1 (Defintions):**

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10 Carbon Tax: is a fee for making users of fossil fuels pay for climate damage their fuel use imposes
11 by releasing carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, and for motivating switches to clean energy.
12

13 **Section 2 (Explanation):** Alabama is ranked 46th in the nation in unemployment and 42nd in
14 education. Alabama needs to stop the continued festering and lackluster it has now. If Alabama
15 were to impose a gradual carbon tax on these dangerous and polluting energy producers and
16 provide economic opportunites to those who use such technologies as thorium power, Alabama
17 would be set for success. Nuclear power alone produces 3 to 4 times more jobs than any fossil fuel
18 industries and is significantly safer than all other terrestrial sources. A sect of nuclear power called
19 LFTR is the way to go. It uses thorium which is a stable and common substance. It produces energy
20 at such a greater efficiency and lower cost by at least a 3-4 cents per kilowatt. Alabama would
21 generate revenue via lottery and carbon tax to compensate the extremely low interest rate loans for
22 power companies which use thorium power. and the excess funds would fund a Georgia Hope
23 Scholarhsip type program giving kids a future which a college opportunity.
24

25 **Section 3 (Action):**

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27 1.This Bill would impose a carbon tax that starts with \$15 per metric ton of CO₂ emitted from Fossil
28 Fuels and would annually increase around \$3 per year until it would reach \$150 dollars per metric
29 ton. This would allow companies to be pressured to use thorium energy sources eventually but also
30 give them sufficient time to move to those sources in enough time.
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2. On the other side, this bill would allow companies who do infact migrate to Thorium energy to be able to recieve loans at an extremely low interest rates (>1%) to build and run the plants. Since the point of these loans is to encourage companies to shift to thorium, interest rates are extremely low.

3. Legalize a state wide lottery in order to maintain the finacial integrity of this state provided opportunity. Model the Lottery after Georgia lottery except the state gets 40% of the winnings rather than 25%(in Georgia).

4. All excess funds will be funneled into an Alabama Hope program for the state to help Alabama jumpstart its education.

Section 4

This bill shall be enacted January 1st of 2018.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S003

Committee: 4

Delegation: Birmingham - Indian Springs

Author(s): Dewey Wilbanks, Bin Cho, Henry Giattina

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Title: A bill to allow the recreational use, possession, sale, and cultivation of Marijuana by adults

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1
2 Section 1 : Definitions

3
4 Recreational - relating to or denoting activity done for enjoyment when one is not working.

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6 Marijuana - preparation of the Cannabis plant intended for use as a psychoactive drug or medicine.

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8 Cultivation - is the act of caring for or raising plants.

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10 Section 2

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12 Allow the recreational use of Marijuana for adults over the age of 21.

13
14 Allow the state to tax the sale of marijuana.

15
16 Allow the state to regulate the industry of marijuana sale and growth.

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18 Allow the sale, by businesses, of recreational marijuana after obtaining a state license, and possibly
19 a local license.

20
21 Allow the cultivation, or growth, of marijuana by individual adults and businesses.

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23 Each individual will be able to possess up to 6 plants .

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27 Section 3

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29 This destroys the black market for drugs in the United States

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Reduces crime, because there is no longer a need for independent sellers

Increases tax revenue for the state

Section 4

Selling without a license is punishable by misdemeanor

Possessing more than six plants is punishable by a fine

Section 5

This bill will go into effect at the beginning of 2018, if passed.

Section 6

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



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S004

Committee: 1

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Sarah Chitty

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: An Act to Create Majors in High School

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

Southern Regional Education Board (SREB): A non-profit organization that works with states to improve public education at every level, from early childhood through doctoral education.

Go Alliance: An interstate cooperative that strives to increase high school graduation rates, broaden access to education beyond high school, and boost postsecondary degree completion — particularly for those who would be the first in their families to enroll. Go Alliance research and services focus on college access policy as well as campaigns and programs to motivate and help students prepare for postsecondary education.

Career Cluster: a grouping of occupations and broad industries based on commonalities. Career clusters connect what students learn in school with the knowledge and skills they need for success in college and careers. Each career cluster identifies different pathways from secondary school to two- and four-year colleges, graduate school, and the workplace.

Section II: Proposition

For the purpose of this bill, a requirement for all state funded high schools to provide a major for students to focus on throughout their high school years. After mentoring from parents, guidance counselors, and teachers, students will choose one out of the sixteen career clusters at the end of their eighth grade year. Once entering the tenth grade, students will narrow down their focus by selecting academic majors within their chosen clusters. Career Clusters include Agricultural Education; Architecture and Construction; Arts, AV Technology and Communications; Business Management and Administration; Education and Training Careers; Finance; Health Science Education; Hospitality and Tourism; Human Services; Information Technology; Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security; Manufacturing; Marketing; Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics; and Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics. Students will take a minimum of one course in their major every semester, in addition to original state-mandated requirements in core subjects. Students will have the ability to easily switch majors without any detrimental effect to graduation or college entry. The program will tailor academic instruction around the needs and

33 desires of the students in order to encourage them to do well in school. These students are
34 significantly more likely to enroll in college and earn a degree than their peers according to studies
35 done with similar programs in South Carolina and Florida. Overall, 81 percent of students from
36 these high schools enrolled in college, compared with 72 percent of comparison students. During
37 the study period, 25 percent of students earned a college degree (typically an associate's degree),
38 as compared with only 5 percent of comparison students. Alabama's high school graduates are
39 continuously falling below the national average when it came to college readiness. Only fourteen
40 percent of alabama high-schoolers met the ACT's benchmark for college readiness in all four
41 subjects. With establishing majors, students stay interested until graduation and stand out in the
42 hypercompetitive college admissions process. Requiring students to choose a major emphasizes
43 real-life experiences and enhances students ability to grow as students and individuals.
44

45 **Section III: Funding/Control**

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47 Alabama is already joined fifteen other states in the "Go Alliance" program provided by the Southern
48 Regional Education Board. Go Alliance members participate in collaborative programs that allow
49 states to accomplish together what they might not be able to do individually. Go Alliance staff
50 facilitate resource-sharing between member states, which can result in significant financial savings.
51 As well as preparing teachers and counselors, SREB has received grants and funds to help
52 facilitate states for more efficient education systems. Along with help from SREB, money would
53 come from Alabama's education fund.
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55 **Section IV: Severability Clause**

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57 Any laws or parts of law in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed
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59 **Section V: Enactment Clause**

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61 This bill will become effective January 1st, 2018 upon its enactment and approval by the governor
62 or otherwise becoming a law.
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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S005

Committee: 4

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): John Darby

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Helping Health Care

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

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3 Certificates of Need (CON) - a legal document required in 12 states and some federal jurisdictions
4 before proposed acquisitions, expansions, or creations of healthcare facilities are allowed.

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6 Section II:

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8 The practice of Certificate of Need Moratoria is hereby repealed in the state of Alabama. 38 states
9 in the US have already repealed or placed stringent restrictions on the power of CONs. The federal
10 mandate for CONs was repealed in 1987.

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12 Section III:

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14 CONs were created to help guard against an inflation of health care prices in the case of a rapid
15 expansion in health care providers. CON programs, however, have shown to reduce price
16 competition between facilities and are frequently administered in an inconsistent manner. By
17 keeping the number of health care facilities low, health care providers are not pushed to offer
18 competitive prices and the consumer is hurt. CONs may also be administered on the basis of
19 political influence or other outside factors, rather than on the basis of an area's need or lack thereof.

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21 Section IV:

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23 This bill shall become effective January 1st, 2018, after its passage and approval by the Governor
24 or its otherwise becoming a law.

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26 Section V:

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

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S006

Committee: 2

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Louise Doss

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Drone Search and Seizure

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Author:** Louise Doss

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3 **Title:** Drone Search and Seizure

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7 **Section I:**

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11 Drone (UVA): An unmanned aerial vehicle aircraft without a human pilot aboard. The flight of UAV's
12 may be controlled either autonomously by onboard computers or by the remote control of a pilot on
13 the ground or in another vehicle.

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17 Warrant: A specific type of authorization; a writ issued by a competent officer, usually a judge or
18 magistrate, which permits an otherwise illegal act that would violate individual rights and affords the
19 person executing the writ protection from damages if the act is performed.

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23 Probable cause: Sufficient reason based upon known facts to believe a crime has been committed
24 or that certain property is connected with a crime. Probable cause must exist for a law enforcement
25 officer to make an arrest without a warrant, search without a warrant, or seize property in the belief
26 the items were evidence of a crime

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30 The Fourth Amendment: The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and
31 effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall
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33 issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the
34 place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized
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40 **Section II:**
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42 Alabama law enforcement agencies are hereby required a warrant in order to use drones as a
43 means for information and data collection in a criminal investigation.
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49 **Section III:**
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51 To protect citizen's fourth amendment rights, any information acquired by a drone without a warrant
52 is not admissible in, and may not be disclosed in any legal proceeding or court. Drones may not be
53 used to establish reasonable suspicion or probable cause to believe that an offense has been
54 committed. The use of authorized drone must be specific to the period for which warrant is valid. In
55 no event may a warrant provide for the operation of a drone for a period of more than 30 days.
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61 **Section IV:**
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63 This act shall become effective on October 1, 2017, after its passage and approval by the Governor
64 or its otherwise becoming a law.
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70 **Section V:**
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72 All laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S007

Committee: 2

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Andrew Shelfer, Jackson Lightfoot

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Senior Citizen Driver's Re-testing

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2
3 Elder/Senior Citizen: Any person at or above the age of 75

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5 Driver's Permit: a permit allowing any 15 year old to drive in a car with a parent or legal guardian.

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7 Fatalities: an event resulting in a death

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11 Section II: A bill to require all senior citizens at or above 70 years of age to re-take a driver's written
12 test. This test would include the basic driving laws enacted today, as well as an eyesight test.
13 Senior citizens that do not take this test will have their liscense expire.

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17 Section III: All elderly drivers at or above the age of 70 are ill-prepared to be driving. According to
18 the Insurance Information Institute, drivers age 65 and older accounted for 17 percent of all traffic
19 fatalities in 2013. These elder drivers are to take a simple driving test to refresh their knowlege on
20 the current traffic laws that they may be unaware of. These tests will cost little to no money as they
21 are already offered to any 15 year old testing for a driver's permit.

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25 Section IV: This act shall become effective January 1, 2018, after its passage and approval by the
26 Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.

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

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S008

Committee: 4

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Ellen Waller

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Mental Health Evaluations and/or Counseling for All Animal Cruelty Offenders

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section I:**
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3 Sociopathy: a mental condition in which a person consistently shows no regard for right and wrong
4 and ignores the rights and feelings of others. They show no guilt or remorse for their behavior.
5 Individuals with sociopathy often violate the law, becoming criminals and/or have problems with
6 drug and alcohol use
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10 **Section II:**
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12 In recent years, scientists have concluded that a history of animal cruelty can indicate a capacity for
13 criminal violence and psychiatric disorders, specifically sociopathy, within an individual. Early
14 intervention may prevent such disorders from progression, thereby helping both the individual and
15 potential victims. This bill states that all violators of animal cruelty laws in Alabama will be ordered to
16 receive a mental health evaluation by a licensed psychologist or therapist named by the court, in
17 addition to fulfilling the appropriate penalties established for the committed offense. If said
18 evaluation necessitates mental health counseling, then the court shall order such treatment for a
19 period of time prescribed by the licensed psychologist or therapist.
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23 **Section III:**
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25 The violator will be required to pay the cost of the mental health evaluation and any required
26 counseling. The violator will also be required to submit the results of the mental health evaluation to
27 the court. If violator is subject to counseling, he/she must provide the court with documentation of
28 attendance.
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Section IV:

All laws and parts of law in conflict with this act or any provision of this act 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 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S009

Committee: 1

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Matthew Bullock

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Reforming Teacher Tenure

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Preamble: Improve Alabama's school systems by adding more accountability to the teachers who
2 teach Alabama's youth.

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4 Section I: Definitions

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6 Teacher tenure - is a policy that restricts the ability to fire teachers, requiring a just cause rationale
7 for firing.

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9 Section II: Proposition and Justification

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11 The intention of this legislation is to repeal and reform Alabama's tenure policy as stated in Alabama
12 code 16-24-60 through 16-24-68. This piece of legislation will seek to reach a goal to improve the
13 overall education of Alabamian children. The tenure laws were originally adopted in the early 1900's
14 as a protection that prevented teaching jobs from being used as political patronage, and allowed
15 teachers to challenge dismissals or demotions, once commonplace, based on gender, marital
16 status, pregnancy, religion, ethnicity, race, sexual orientation, or political ideology. By 1968, tenure
17 laws in Alabama devolved to protect the poor or lazy teacher. If teachers want to be considered as
18 professionals, like doctors or attorneys, tenure must be reformed. In order to keep one's job, it
19 would be based on merit to rid the incompetency and add legitimacy to this job field. One issue with
20 the current tenure law in the state of Alabama is that it can take up to three years to successfully fire
21 a tenured teacher. These are the current steps:

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23 1). A tenured teacher performs poorly or acts inappropriately, to such a degree that constitutes a
24 cause for dismissal.

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26 2). The principal of the school requests the teacher's dismissal to the superintendent.
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3). The superintendent reviews the principal's request, decides that there is good and just cause for the teacher's dismissal, and formally initiates the dismissal process by sending written notice—which must, among other things, detail the reasons for dismissal and the facts supporting those reasons—to the teacher and the board of education.

4). The board of education holds a trial-like “hearing,” with one lawyer arguing the case for the principal and superintendent (who bear the burden of proof) and another lawyer arguing the case for the teacher, through the presentation of evidence, the delivery of arguments, and the calling and cross-examining of witnesses (who can be compelled to testify by subpoena).

5). The board of education votes on the dismissal of the teacher.

6). The teacher can contest the decision by filing an appeal with the state superintendent of education, who refers the appeal to the executive director of the Alabama Bar Association.

7). The executive director of the Alabama Bar Association compiles a list of potential hearing officers, all retired judges, and administers the selection of a single hearing officer whom both sides find agreeable to adjudicate the appeal.

8). The hearing officer holds another “hearing.”

9). The hearing officer rules on the appeal, affirming or reversing (or substituting the hearing officer's own judgment for) the judgment of the board of education.

10). The teacher contests the decision by filing an appeal with the Alabama Court of Civil Appeals.

11). The Alabama Court of Civil Appeals receives written briefs and hears oral arguments from both sides.

12). The Alabama Court of Civil Appeals rules on the appeal.

13). The teacher contests the decision by filing a request to appeal with the Alabama Supreme Court.

14). The Alabama Supreme Court grants the appeal and hears oral arguments from both sides.

15). The Alabama Supreme Court rules on the appeal.

The reforming of this bill will come to change the tenure policy within the state of Alabama, and the steps at which are taken to fire a tenured teacher. It will allow the local district to no longer be required to go through the state. However, this bill will continue to ensure that teachers cannot be fired wrongly or promptly unless within reason. These are the proposed steps:

1). If a tenured teacher continues to receive complaints to the principal and staff of poor performance or inappropriate actions, to a certain extent that constitutes a viable cause for termination.

2). The principle begins the dismissal of the teacher by sending a written notice to both the teacher and superintendent. The letter needs to contain information referring to one's reasons for

83 termination and facts/claims supporting such reasons.

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85 3). The superintendent reviews the letter, and allows a week for the teacher to respond in writing in
86 order to ensure there is a beyond reasonable doubt to terminate the teacher.

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88 4). The teacher can contest the termination by filing an appeal with the board of education.

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90 5). The board of education will hold a public hearing in order to decide whether there is reasonable
91 suspicion of needed dismissal.

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93 6). The board of education will vote on the appeal, and a decision will be reached.

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95 This not only saves time and money it also gives more power to the schools to allow them to know
96 that they have the best teachers for their students.

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98 Tenure will continued to be kept, however, the length of time it takes to get tenure will increase to
99 eight years, and the local district will review whether the teachers merit over the eight years was
100 excellent; trust is given to the local district to decide whether or not they feel that this teacher is
101 deserving for this due process. Tenure will only be offered for eight straight years at one school, or
102 within the same school system. However, if time is taken off for medical issues, pregnancy, or any
103 other far withstanding circumstances it can be reviewed when time has come to earn tenure for that
104 individual.

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106 Section III: Enactment

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108 This bill will take effect for the 2017 - 2018 school year and on respectively, unless postponed for
109 amendment it can be pushed back till future school years.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S010

Committee: 2

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Butler Hartley

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Stricter Punishments for Repeat Drunk Driving Offenses

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

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3 DUI: Driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, a crime ranging anywhere from a
4 misdemeanor for a first offense, to a felony for four or more convictions.

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8 Driving Under the Influence: Operating a motor vehicle with a Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) of .08%
9 or greater.

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13 Look Back Period: Alabama code that counts a repeat DUI as only a first offence if another DUI has
14 not been charged within the last five years.

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18 Section II: Each state has their own variation of a look back period for different lengths of time.
19 These look back periods are intended to lessen the crime of a DUI and be more lenient and
20 forgiving. For example, if someone is charged with a DUI in 2013 and 2017, then they will be treated
21 as repeat offenders and and subject to a minimum five days jail time (up to one year), a fine of
22 \$1100-\$5100, and a one year license suspension. But, if they were charged with a DUI in 2012 and
23 2017, then they would only be charged as a first offense, which includes no mandatory jail time, a
24 fine of \$500-\$2000, and a 90 day license suspension. While seeming more lenient because so long
25 has passed since they made that mistake may seem like a kind and forgiving thing to do, you must
26 also remember that drunk driving is an incredibly dangerous and selfish thing for anyone to do. Not
27 only does the offender run the risk of hurting themselves, but they often end up hurting innocent
28 people as well. If a person commits a crime once, they are infinitely more likely to commit the same
29 crime again. Having a stricter punishment for the crime helps to serve as yet another deterrent to
30 this deadly crime. A person who already has one strike will be much more careful if they know they
31 can't be charged with a slap on the wrist first offense. Eliminating the look back period will help to
32

33 reduce drunk driving and make the roads safer for everyone.

34

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37 Section III: Action

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39 The look back period on drunk driving offenses will be removed and DUI's cannot be removed from
40 your criminal record.

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

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46 Section V: The bill will become effective immediately upon its enactment and approval by the
47 governor or otherwise becoming a law.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S011

Committee: 2

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Paul Jones

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: An Act to Reduce the Legal Drinking Age

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section 1:

2
3 Alabama currently requires one to be the age of 21 years of age in order to purchase or consume
4 alcohol. At the age of 18 one is officially considered an adult, and with that comes a wide variety
5 responsibilities. Such responsibilities to those of 18 years of age include voting for the leaders of our
6 state as well as stricter federal consequences and eligibility for the draft. Given this newly attained
7 responsibility, a state like this should certainly grant the privilege of alcohol consumption to those
8 18 years of age and older.
9

10 Section 2:

11
12 All present consequences of alcoholic purchases by underage individuals will remain.
13

14 Section 3:

15
16 All additional momentary gains acquired by the state will go toward funding for public education
17 within Alabama.
18

19 Section 4:

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21 Shall this bill be passed, it will go into effect by January of 2018.
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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S012

Committee: 2

Delegation: Montgomery - Catholic

Author(s): James Sadie

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Changing the Age of Majority from 19 to 18

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section 1:** Definitions
2

3 Age of majority- threshold of adulthood as recognized or declared by law
4

5 Minority- Person whose age falls below the age of majority
6

7 **Section 2:** A bill to change the Age of Majority in the State of Alabama to the age of 18. Minors will
8 now be all people of the State of Alabama under the age of 18.
9

10 **Section 3:** Justification
11

12 18 year olds in the State of Alabama have the option to serve in the military without parental
13 consent, the ability to move out of their home and become an independent, and vote in elections.
14 Not to mention you can serve as a juror and be tried as an adult in the court systems. However,
15 they cannot do the simple things such as open up a checking or savings account, open a brokerage
16 account, or purchase or rent a place to live by yourself. These are all things that eighteen year olds
17 are capable of doing and many of these things are necessities to young high school graduates who
18 have to have a parent's consent despite being an independent.
19

20 **Section 4:** Funding
21

22 No funding is required seeing as the state would only have to change the law and change all areas
23 that would be affected through the passing of this legislation.
24

25 **Section 5:**
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27 All laws or parts of law in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
28

29 **Section 6:**
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31 This bill would go into effect immediately upon passage and signing from the governor of the State
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33 of Alabama.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S013

Committee: 2

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Kathyryne Letzer

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Banning of Radar Detectors

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 SECTION I: Definitions

2
3 Radar detector- an electronic device used by motorists to detect if their speed is being monitored by
4 police or law enforcement using a radar gun

5
6 Law enforcement officer- a government employee who is responsible for the prevention,
7 investigation, apprehension, or detention of individuals suspected or convicted of offenses against
8 the criminal laws

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11
12 SECTION II: Proposition

13
14 The use of radar detectors by non-law enforcement agents is hereby banned in the state of
15 Alabama. Having a radar detector in the car will be a violation of Alabama state law, and the
16 prosecution does not have to prove that the device was functional. The only legal way to possess a
17 radar detector in the state of Alabama is if the device is not connected to a power source and is not
18 readily accessible by the driver or passengers in the vehicle. If a radar detector is found in a driver's
19 vehicle, the driver will receive a fine of approximately \$140. The officer may take the radar detector
20 if he believes it will be used as evidence, but the officer must return the device back to the owner
21 after the conclusion of the trial. The possession of a radar detector may also be used to justify an
22 elevated punishment in speeding cases.

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25
26 SECTION III: Justification

27
28 Drivers typically use radar detectors in order to detect law enforcement officers shooting radar
29 before the law enforcement officers have a chance to detect them and their speed. Therefore, if a
30 driver is speeding and is able to detect law enforcement officers beforehand, he or she is able to
31 slow down and avoid receiving a speeding ticket or other punishment. Because of this, radar
32

33 detectors prevent law enforcement officers from being able to fully enforce driving regulations fairly
34 among all individuals because drivers using radar detectors are able to avoid speeding tickets
35 unlike other drivers not in possession of radar detectors. Radar detectors should be illegal in
36 Alabama because law enforcement officers should be able to freely enforce driving laws and
37 regulations for the safety of all drivers and passengers through the state.
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41 SECTION IV: Severability Clause

42
43 Any laws or parts of law in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.
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47 SECTION V: Enactment Clause

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49 After being signed by the governor, this bill will take effect on January 1, 2018.
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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S014

Committee: 2

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Jackson Lightfoot

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Making Roads Safer

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2
3 Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV): a state agency that administers vehicle registration and driver
4 licensing

5
6 Restatement Process: the steps necessary in order for a citizen of Alabama greater than or equal to
7 the age of 80 to be able to legally drive

8
9 Section II: Intention

10
11 The purpose of this bill is to create safer roads by requiring all citizens equal to or above the age of
12 80 who wish to drive a motor vehicle to retake and pass the Vision Screening, Knowledge, and
13 Road Test in order to continue driving.

14
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17 Section III: Restatement Process

18
19 When this law is taken into effect in January of 2019, every driver license administered to a person
20 at least 80 years or older will be expired until they renew it. Alabama law provides a grace period of
21 60 days after expiration date of a driver license for the purpose of driver license restatement and the
22 driver license shall be valid for this time period. The requirements necessary to restate a driver
23 license are identical to the process of earning an Alabama driver license. In order for the driver
24 license of any citizen equal to or above the age of 80 to be valid, the citizen must pass the Vision
25 Screening and Knowledge test and Road test at any Alabama DMV. Upon receiving a passing
26 grade on the Vision Screening and the Knowledge test and the Road test, the citizen must provide a
27 photo and written signature to fully renew their driver license. Upon failing the Vision Screening or
28 the Knowledge test or the Road test, the citizen will not be legally allowed to drive a motor vehicle.
29 Once all steps are completed, a temporary license will be given and a permanent license will be
30 delivered by mail. A fee of \$36.25 will be required to restate the license. After the driver license is
31 restated, the license will expire 4 years after the issuing date. After a person with at least 80 years
32

33 of age has successfully completed the new test and received their license, the license will be
34 expired and need to be renewed in four years from the date issued. This bill will be enacted on
35 January 1st, 2019, in order to give the state an adequate amount of time to make the necessary
36 ramifications to make this bill a law.

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Section IV:

Any and all conflicting laws are overruled by this bill.

Section V:

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



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S015

Committee: 3

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Perry Martin

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Amending the punishment for cockfighting in the state of Alabama

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 SECTION 1: Definitions

2
3 Cockfighting- the sport of setting two cocks to fight each other. Fighting cocks often have their legs
4 fitted with metal spurs.

5
6 Class C Felony- With a Class C Felony conviction, the sentence is no less than two years and no
7 more than twenty years. If firearm or other deadly weapon is used, the minimum sentence is ten
8 years. Fines are no more than \$5000.

9
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11
12 SECTION II: The State of Alabama is currently ranked 45th out of the 50 states based upon our
13 animal protection laws. This is largely due to the fact that Alabama still treats cockfighting as a
14 misdemeanor. Currently in Alabama, "Any person who keeps a cockpit or who in any public place
15 fights cocks shall, on conviction, be fined not less than \$20.00 nor more than \$50.00." All but 10
16 states consider cockfighting as a felony, but Alabama is among the states who lag behind. This bill
17 intends to intensify and reform the punishment for involvement in cockfighting.

18
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21 SECTION III:

22
23 This bill will amend the punishment for owning, instigating, or spectating fighting cocks from a
24 misdemeanor and a \$20.00 to \$50.00 fine into a Class C Felony and a fine of not less than \$250.00
25 and no more than \$500.00.

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29 SECTION IV: All laws or any part of a law that come in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

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SECTION V: This bill will become effective immediately upon its enactment and approval by the Governor and its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S016

Committee: 3

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Jane perry Starling

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: No More Judge Override

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2
3 Capital punishment- the legally authorized killing of someone as punishment for a crime

4
5 judicial override- when a judge overrules a jury's decision in a capital punishment case

6
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9 Section II:

10
11 Alabama is currently the only state where judges can overrule jury verdicts of life to impose capital
12 punishment. This practice goes hand in hand with the fact that Alabama has the highest per capita
13 death sentencing and execution rate in the United States. This bill proposes that judges cannot
14 have the power of judicial override because political campaign pressure encourages unfairness and
15 arbitrariness into override decisions. By making judicial override illegal, the state cannot only save
16 money, but also encourage justice in the Alabama judicial system. Once this bill has been passed,
17 cases that involved judicial override have the opportunity to be retried.

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21 Section III:

22
23 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this bill will hereby be repealed upon passage.

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29 Section IV: This act shall become effective immediately upon its passage and upon approval of the
30 Governor.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S017

Committee: 4

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Carolyn Wahlheim

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Inland Wetland Preservation and Protection

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2
3 Inland Wetland- An area covered by water all or part of the year with plants adapted to grow in an
4 area that is occasionally oxygen deficient and soils saturated long enough to produce oxygen
5 deficient conditions. An inland wetland is a freshwater area that is not considered in a coastal area.
6

7 Section II:

8
9 There will be a new program to inspect and regulate inland and freshwater wetlands in Alabama.
10 The program will be managed by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management which
11 already regulates Alabama's natural resources and environmental areas. This program will
12 specifically focus on inland and freshwater wetlands in order to maintain their biodiversity and many
13 benefits to Alabama and the environment.
14

15 Section III:

16
17 This program will be run and funded by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management
18 (ADEM).
19

20 Section IV:

21
22 This bill will become effective at the beginning of the state's next fiscal year upon its enactment and
23 approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.
24

25 Any laws or parts of law in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.
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27 Section V:
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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S018

Committee: 2

Delegation: Montgomery - Catholic

Author(s): Cheyenne Hayes

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Rapists Aren't Parents

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section I: Definitions**

2
3 **Parental Rights-** the right to physical custody, which means reasonable visitation with a child and
4 regular contact.

5
6 **Putative Father-** a man whose legal relationship to a child has not been established but who is
7 alleged to be or claims that he may be the biological father of a child who is born to a woman to
8 whom he is not married at the time of the child's birth.

9
10 **Section II: Purpose**

11
12 To deny or restrict custody or visitation of the parental rights of anyone convicted of sexual assault
13 which led to conceiving a child during the attack. The putative father will not have rights to the child
14 before birth. Consent of the putative father will not be required for abortion or adoption.

15
16 **Section III: Proposition**

17
18 1. If a child was conceived as a result of an act that led to the parent's conviction for sexual assault,
19 then all rights of a putative father to custody, visitation, or other contact with a child conceived shall
20 be terminated immediately upon conviction of sexual assault. The biological mother, of a child
21 conceived as a result of sexual assault, may petition the court to reinstate the parental rights, which
22 may include supervised visitation to the putative father.

23
24 (a) A person whose parental rights have been terminated by court order, either voluntarily or
25 involuntarily, the child can be legally adopted without the putative father's consent. Because of the
26 existence of aggravated circumstances, reasonable efforts to unify the family are not required.

27
28 2. In cases of statutory rape (where both parents are minors), parental rights may be decided in
29 family court. The court shall terminate the parent-child legal relationship of the respondent if the
30 court finds by clear and convincing evidence, and states the reasons for its decision.

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(a) Adoption will be evaluated by the courts in the absence of aggravated circumstances, reasonable efforts may be required if the court or department determines it is in the best interests of the child, efforts to unify family may be required.

3. Paternity of the child shall be established by voluntary acknowledgment of paternity or blood, genetic or other types of paternity test acceptable to the court.

Section IV: Justification

The general assembly hereby declares that the purpose of this statute is to protect the victim of a sexual assault and to protect the child conceived as a result of the offense by creating a process to seek termination of the parental rights of the perpetrator of the sexual assault and by issuing protective orders preventing future contact between the parties.

Section V: Funding

This bill will need no funding in itself. The termination of parental rights will not relieve the parent of paying child support unless waived by the mother. The putative father is liable for child support of the child conceived who is unemancipated and 18 years of age or younger. The cost of the genetic testing shall be borne by the parent who was convicted of the offense.

Section VI: Repealing Clause

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

Section VII: Enactment Clause

This act 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 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S019

Committee: 3

Delegation: Birmingham - Vestavia Hills

Author(s): John Bowers

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Repeal the Voter ID Act also known as HB 19

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2
3 HB19: Requirement of government-issued photo identification to vote.

4
5 Section II:

6
7 The Alabama State Legislature will hereby repeal the Voter ID Act of 2011.

8
9 Section III:

10
11 HB19 sought to eliminate voter fraud, but there is little evidence that supports the fact of any major
12 voter fraud occurring that could have significant impact on elections, and it places an undue burden
13 on people who don't have the means to acquire photo identification especially after the shutdown of
14 DMVs.

15
16 Section IV:

17
18 All laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

19
20 Section V:

21
22 This act will be effective next election cycle ensuing its passage and approval by the Governor, or
23 otherwise becoming law.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S020

Committee: 3

Delegation: Birmingham - Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Joey Compton

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: A Five-Star Film Policy

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section 1: Definitions**

2
3 tax credit: an amount of money that can be offset against a tax liability

4
5 **Section 2: Proposition**

6
7 Alabama will offer the following tax incentive plan to increase film production and economic growth:

8
9 -A 20% transferable tax credit, +5% if production includes Alabama promotional logo in credits (or
10 other negotiated placements), and +5% if screenplay for which production is based is owned to
11 Alabama companies 12 months prior to the start of production.

12
13 -The tax credit mentioned above is nonrefundable, however it can be transferred once in tranches of
14 at least \$100,000 to multiple taxpayers.

15
16 -Also, the tax credit mentioned above excludes bond, finance fees, workers compensation, and
17 insurance.

18
19 -Post production expenditures may only qualify if processing footage shot in Alabama.

20
21 -\$300,000 shall be the minimum amount of money spent on a project and \$50,000 for certain local
22 independent productions determined by the Alabama Film Office (AFO).

23
24 -No annual or per production cap on spending.

25
26 -Sales tax exemption for production expenditures spent in Alabama.

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-Heightened scrutiny with regard to the use of all Alabama businesses; a Alabama vendor must have a physical operation, employees, and must be engaged in procurement activities related to the production expenditure. Travel agencies and insurance companies don't have to be headquartered in Alabama, but must be Alabama businesses.

Section 3: Justification

Birmingham has the Sidewalk Film Festival. Gulf Shores maintains beautiful beaches. Alabama is the most biologically diverse place in America outside of California. Why is Alabama still behind a multitude of states in film production? Alabama's film industry has certainly improved over the past few years, but film in Alabama is still lackluster. Alabama faces tough competition around the South to land major movie deals with production companies, and a superior film policy could do the trick. States like Georgia have recently experienced serious economic growth and Alabama can be the next with a more beneficial film policy. This comprehensive film policy is aimed at convincing production companies that Alabama is finally ready for the big screen.

Section 4: Conflicts

All laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section 5: Enactment Clause

After being signed by the Governor, this bill will become effective immediately.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S021

Committee: 3

Delegation: Birmingham - Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Julia Freeman, Katie Larson

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Infidelity Issues: A plan to provide grounds for impeachment for Governors who commit adultery while in office.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Title: Infidelity Issues: A plan to provide grounds for impeachment for Governors who commit adultery while in office.

Section 1: Definitions: - Adultery - Voluntary sexual intercourse between a married person and a person who is not his or her spouse.

Section 2: - An Alabama bill that legalizes adultery as grounds for impeachment from the Governor's office. Governor's with substantial evidence indicating adultery will be investigated, and Governor's found guilty of adultery will be impeached and asked to leave office, effective immediately.

Section 3: -The organizations that will be required for all parts of my legislation are listed below - Alabama House of Representatives The Alabama House of Representatives bring the formal charges against the Governor. -Alabama Senate The Alabama Senate will act as the court for the case of impeachment and will decide if the governor is guilty.

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

Section 5: - This shall become effective beginning of next school year after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S022

Committee: 4

Delegation: Birmingham - Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Patrick Thomley

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: The Potty Purge

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section 1: Definitions
2

3 Toilet: a fixed receptacle into which a person may urinate or defecate, typically consisting of a large
4 bowl connected to a system for flushing away the waste into a sewer or septic tank.
5

6 Death Squad: An elite government special forces squadron hand picked by the Alabama Governor to
7 enforce the rule of the Potty Purge by any means necessary. This includes the destruction of any
8 "toilets" (see above) happened upon by the squadron.
9

10 Section 2:
11

12 Let it be known that forsooth the law of the common man of the state of Alabama shall hereby
13 forsooth require that from July 1st to July 31st all "toilets" shall be declared illegal forsooth. That's
14 right folks. For the entirety of the month it shall be every man for themself as far as dropping the
15 anchor goes, ifyaknowwhatimean. Death Squads will patrol the streets and wilderness areas of
16 Alabama enforcing the law of the Purge by any means necessary. That's pretty much it, shouldn't
17 be too much of a problem.
18

19 Section 3:
20

21 As far as funding goes, I feel like anyone can just volunteer themself to be a soldier in the Death
22 Squad. I mean, who wouldn't want to spend their summer destroying bathrooms in a martial-law
23 type situation? These soldiers won't get any money, but they'll develop relationships that'll last their
24 whole lives, and that's what really matters.
25

26 Section 4:
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28 All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
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30 Section 5:
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This act shall become effective starting on July 1st, 2017, and shall become ineffective starting on July 31st, 2017 after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S023

Committee: *Special Order*

Delegation: Birmingham - Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Olivia Westfall

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Abolition of Death by Electrocution Act of 2017

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section 1:

2
3 Capital Punishment: synonym for death penalty; the legally authorized killing of someone as a
4 punishment for a crime

5
6 Execution by Electrocution: inmate is strapped to a wooden chair and electrocuted by electrodes
7 that are attached to head and legs

8
9 Lethal Injection: the process of execution through the insertion of three injections:

10
11 Sodium thiopental - first injected to render the inmate unconscious in under 30 seconds

12
13 Pancuronium bromide - injected second; acts as a muscle relaxer that causes complete muscle
14 paralysis

15
16 Potassium chloride - injected last; stops the heart and causes death by cardiac arrest

17
18 Eighth Amendment: "Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel
19 and unusual punishments inflicted."
20

21 Section 2:

22
23 The practice of death by electric chair has a long history and its constitutionality has been highly
24 controversial in the Supreme Court of the United States. Execution by electrocution was first
25 introduced by dentist Alfred P. Southwick as an alternative to hanging in the 1880s. Southwick
26 experimented on over 100 stray dogs, electrocuting them and observing the success rate of their
27 executions. The original proposal allowed for only two "jolts" to the prisoner: one jolt to the head,
28 rendering the prisoner unconscious, one to the the legs, which burns the rest of the prisoner's vital
29 organs until death by electrical over-stimulation of the heart. These jolts were supposed to be quick
30 and therefore painless. However, in the very first use of the electric chair in the case of *In Re*
31 *Kemmler*, the executioners first left the chair on for 17 seconds before inmate William Kemmler was
32

33 pronounced dead. But, after noticing that Kemmler was still breathing, the executioners left the chair
34 on for two-and-a-half minutes before Kemmler finally died from electrical over-stimulation.

35
36 Alabama has its own recorded history with execution by electrocution. Starting in 1927, Horace
37 DeVauhan was executed in Kilby State Prison in Montgomery using the electric chair coined “Yellow
38 Mama” because of the bright-yellow paint the chair was painted with. The chair was built by another
39 inmate and was never replaced with an official electric chair. Yellow Mama was used to execute
40 prisoners from 1927-2002, killing 135 prisoners in just half of that time period. As of 2014, death by
41 electric chair is considered optional in the state of Alabama, meaning that lethal injection is used in
42 all execution cases unless the inmate requests it.

43
44 This bill would completely ban execution by electrocution in the state of Alabama. Alabama is one of
45 only six states to have death by electric chair as an option, and even though it is only an option, the
46 fact that Alabama is one of those six that allows the practice brings a negative light to the state.
47 Banning this practice completely would be a step in the right direction for capital punishment cases
48 and would call for a closer look at how the Department of Corrections operates in Alabama.

49 50 Section 3:

51
52 Death by electric chair is widely considered an inhumane practice and has been banned completely
53 in all but six states: Florida, South Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, and finally the state of
54 Alabama. The strongest argument against the electric chair is that the practice is “cruel and unusual
55 punishment,” which is a direct violation of the U.S. Constitution’s Eighth Amendment. Several
56 electric chair cases, such as *Francis v. Resweber*, were brought to the Supreme Court because the
57 electric chair failed to kill the inmate altogether. In *Furman v. Georgia* in 1976, the Supreme Court
58 ruled that all death penalty methods were unconstitutional unless they were altered in order to follow
59 the Eighth Amendment.

60
61 Lethal injection is a painless, very simple method of execution. As highlighted in Section 1, two
62 injections are made before the final injection that stops the heart: the first shot knocks the prisoner
63 unconscious, and the second paralyzes all of the muscles in the body. Therefore, the procedure is
64 bloodless, painless, and very quick, which is the opposite of execution by electrocution. For
65 example, on April 22, 1983, Alabamian John Evans was sentenced to death by electric chair. An
66 electrode on the chair broke, causing the first electrocution to fail. After trying three times, Evans
67 finally died. The entire process took fourteen minutes and left Evans’ body completely charred and
68 smoldered.

69 70 Section 4:

71
72 This bill would require no extraneous funds. The only action that would need to be taken following
73 the passage of this bill would be to destroy any remaining electric chairs in Alabama prisons. If any
74 museum or historical institution was interested in purchasing “Yellow Mama” for its historical value,
75 the state of Alabama would be allowed to sell the chair for a negotiable price.

76
77 Section 5: All laws or part of laws in conflict with this act or any provision of this act are hereby
78 repealed.

79
80 Section 6: This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the
81 Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S024

Committee: 4

Delegation: Cherokee County Student Y-Club

Author(s): LaShana Estes, Tyleigha Reyes

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Cruelty to Animals

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section 1: Definitions**
2

3 **Confine** - keep or restrict someone or something within certain limits of (space, scope, quantity, or
4 time).
5

6 **Section 2: Requirements** No person shall leave or confine an animal in any unattended motor
7 vehicle under conditions that endanger the health or well-being of an animal due to heat, cold, lack
8 of adequate ventilation, or lack of food or water, or other circumstances that could reasonably be
9 expected to cause suffering, disability, or death to the animal.
10

11 **Section 3: Consequences** First conviction: fine not exceeding \$100 per animal.
12

13 If the animal suffers great bodily injury, a fine not exceeding \$500, imprisonment in a county jail not
14 exceeding 6 months, or by both.
15

16 Any subsequent violation of this section, regardless of injury to the animal, punishable by a fine not
17 exceeding \$500, imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding six months, or by both.
18

19 **Section 4: Funding and Oversight** Department of Agriculture
20

21 **Section 5:** All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
22

23 **Section 6:** This act shall become effective immediately upon/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 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S025

Committee: 2

Delegation: Cherokee County Student Y-Club

Author(s): TyLeigha Reyes

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: An Act to Repeal Alabama HB 56, titled the Beason-Hammon Alabama Taxpayer and Citizen Protection Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

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Section 1: Definitions

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6
Illegal Immigration - the migration of people across national borders in a way that violates the immigration laws of the destination country.

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Section 2: Requirements

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12
This bill will repeal **Alabama HB 56**, titled the **Beason-Hammon Alabama Taxpayer and Citizen Protection Act**, an anti-illegal immigration bill, signed into law in the U.S. state of Alabama in June 2011. As of 2011, it is regarded as the nation's strictest anti-illegal immigration law.

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14
Section 3: Justification

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18
States should not be setting immigration policy and enforcing immigration laws. Immigration is a national responsibility. Enacting state laws which are unconstitutional and contrary to federal laws will only create more problems than it solves.

19
20
Section 4: Funding and Oversight

21
22
Not Applicable

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

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Section 6: This act shall become effective immediately upon/after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S026

Committee: 3

Delegation: Cherokee County Student Y-Club

Author(s): Jezzia Smith

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Reconstruction of the Gulf Coast Act of 2017

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2
3 Subsidy-state government aid that comes from taxpayer money given in the forms of a grant or a
4 loan

5
6
7
8 Loan- sum of money given by the government that is expected to be paid back; no interest will be
9 applied to the loan value

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12
13 Grant- form of endowment given by the government for a specific purpose that does not
14 require reimbursement to the government

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17
18 Festivals- varied, uncommon events, unconnected with work, that celebrate elements significant in
19 the life of a given community, that are often related to the culture and religion of local communities,
20 that often consist of many different social and cultural events, that are often regular-annual or
21 biannual- events connected with art and culture that sometimes are combined with competitions.
22 Such would include: Hangout Music Festival, Orange Beach Festival of Art, Gulf Coast Jam,
23 Ballyhoo Festival, Gulf Coast Music Fest, Fairhope Outdoor Art Show, Ten Sixty Five, Arts Alive
24 Festival, Jubilee, Mobile International Festival, Festival of Flowers, Mobile Chocolate Festival, etc.

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28 Gulf Coast Region- Mobile Alabama, Theodore Alabama, Baldwin Alabama, Gulf Shores Alabama,
29 Orange Beach Alabama, and Fairhope Alabama

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Section II:

This act is to allow subsidization to large companies and event sponsors that would like to create a festival in the Gulf Coast Region of Alabama.

Section III:

If the form of the loan is the chosen source of subsidy, a loan of \$25,000 or less should be repaid in a two year time span, a loan of \$25,000 to \$50,000 should be repaid in a three year time span, and a loan of \$50,000 to 105,000 should be repaid in a five year time span.

\$105,000 is the largest loan that is available.

There will be no interest on a loan, but it must be repaid or offender will be tried.

If the form of a grant is the chosen source of subsidy, the largest allotment will be \$50,000.

Section IV:

Alabama's State General Fund will cover the cost of the subsidization process as well as the subsidy.

Section V:

This will be based on an application process voted on by the state legislature that will determine availability and amount of the subsidy provided from the General Fund for the Festivals. The amount given will be chosen based on the outcome of each separate application process. Then the subsidy will be given in the form of either a loan or a grant.

Not all subsidies will be full coverage of the event, they may be partial.

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

Section VII: This act to becomes effective upon passage and approval of the Governor or its

83 otherwise becoming law.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S027

Committee: 3

Delegation: Huntsville - Way Home

Author(s): Sean Campbell

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Felon Enfranchisement Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Preamble: In the State of Alabama and various others, former prisoners that have served their
2 sentence are not allowed to vote in federal and state elections. This is an atrocious law that is
3 based upon the principle that nobody can change. Former prisoners are treated as second class
4 citizens even after they have served their sentence, and this must stop. This bill will allow prisoners
5 who have served their sentence, excluding those convicted of voting fraud and treason, to vote in
6 federal and state elections.
7

8 Section 1: Definitions 9

10 Felon: a person who has committed a felony.
11

12 Incarcerated: imprisoned.
13

14 Vote: to enact, establish, or determine by vote.
15

16 Election: the selection of a person or persons for office by vote.
17

18 Voter Fraud: the illegal interference with the process of an election.
19

20 Treason: a violation of allegiance to one's sovereign or to one's state.
21

22 Section 2: Any former felon who is not currently incarcerated are now permitted to vote in state and
23 federal elections, excluding those former felons convicted of voter fraud and/or treason.
24

25 Section 3: This bill shall go into effect 90 days after passage.
26

27 Section 4: The actions of this bill shall take precedence over any current existing laws.
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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S028

Committee: 4

Delegation: Huntsville - Way Home

Author(s): Andrew Miller

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: The Refugee Medical Professional Utilization Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 I. Definitions
2

3 a. **Refugee:** A man, woman, or child from a foreign nation, seeking asylum within the United States
4 from domestic turmoil in their home country, who has been legally granted this status by the federal
5 government.
6

7 b. **Medical Professional:** Doctors, nurses, nurse practitioners, or physician's assistants that have
8 obtained appropriate college and medical school education for their respective positions.
9

10 c. **Housing:** An apartment, house, trailer, or other sort of dwelling of livable condition.
11

12 d. **Settlement Waiver:** A document to be created that will allow the families of refugee
13 professionals to purchase or rent property within the state of Alabama.
14

15 e. **ADECA:** The Alabama Department of Economics and Community Affairs
16

17 II. Introduction
18

19 a. This bill suggests a course of action to provide much needed temporary medical professionals for
20 rural areas through the utilization of federally vetted and approved refugees with a professional
21 medical background who wish to gain permission from the state government to live in Alabama.
22

23 III. Provisions
24

25 a. Refugees wishing to enter the state under this legislation must register an application with the
26 Alabama Department of Economics and Community Affairs.
27

28 b. The Alabama Department of Economics and Community Affairs will be granted the power to
29 accept or deny applicants at will to receive a settlement waiver, which must be presented along with
30 their Refugee I-94 Record of Arrival and Departure to any relator or landlord within the state. The
31 application process will require all members of the refugee family in question above the age of 18 to
32

33 make a 75% or higher score on the United States citizenship test. The application shall also be
34 required to be filled out in English.

35
36 c. Each waiver will designate a specific rural county within the state where refugee medical
37 professionals will be allowed to establish employment. The waiver is invalid outside of the
38 designated county.

39
40 d. Once every six months, the family must file a report with the ADECA with information as to their
41 income, employment, and housing. The family or refugee's report may be re-evaluated if they fail to
42 show proof of possessing housing of some sort, current employment, or make below an average of
43 \$30,000 a year.

44
45 e. Those entering the state under this law may choose to receive either a state tax credit of \$10,000
46 or a 0% 30-year mortgage on a house worth less than \$150,000.

47
48 IV. This bill will go into effect on June 1, 2017, after it's signing by the governor or otherwise coming
49 into law.

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51 V. All laws or acts in conflict with this law are hereby repealed.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Lobbyist Bill #S029

Committee: 4

Delegation: Mobile - Davidson

Author(s): Olivia Presnall

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Amending the Use Tax on Feminine Hygiene Products

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2
3 Tax- a compulsory contribution to state revenue, levied by the government on workers' income and
4 business profits or added to the cost of goods, services, and transactions.

5
6 Feminine (menstrual) Hygiene Product- are personal care products used by
7 menstruating women for menstruation. Sanitary napkins, tampons, menstrual cups pantliners, and
8 period panties are the major categories of feminine hygiene products.

9
10 State Consumer Use Tax-The sales tax is imposed on retail transactions. It applies to all retail sales
11 of tangible personal property, and in some states services, in the state. The use tax is imposed
12 on consumers of tangible personal property that is used, consumed, or stored in this state.

13
14 Tangible- perceptible by touch

15
16 Section II: Proposition

17
18 The consumer use tax will be amended to have feminine hygiene products deemed as
19 a "necessities" (non-luxury items), for example in 5 states (Maryland, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania,
20 Minnesota, and New Jersey) have no tax on feminine hygiene products. Alabama even has "tax
21 holidays" in the summer when everyday items normally subject to sales tax (clothes, computers, art
22 supplies, and books) are duty free for a day or weekend—yet feminine hygiene products
23 are still taxed.

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25 Section III: Justification

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By making feminine hygiene products a "necessity" in our legislation women become more equal than before. Women that are forced to pay a tax on medical, hygienic necessities and thereby disadvantaged. Women pay approximately \$140 in menstruation related taxes annually. That involves tampons, pads, etc., and even cramp medication. By eliminating taxes on feminine hygiene products women will no longer be disadvantaged for menstruating.

Section IV: All laws acts or parts contained therein in conflict with any provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section V: This bill will go into effect within one year after being signed by Governor.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S030

Committee: 2

Delegation: Mobile - Davidson

Author(s): Brooklyn Massey

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Firearm Safety Act of 2017

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Preamble: To protect Alabama children by requiring all firearms to have locking mechanisms. These
2 provisions to be detailed further in the sections of the bill.

3
4 Section I Definitions

5
6 weapon- firearm

7
8 Section II: It is unlawful to *store* or *keep* any firearm:

9
10 Unless such weapon is secured in a locked container or equipped with a tamper-resistant
11 mechanical lock or other safety device, properly engaged so as to render such weapon inoperable
12 by any person other than the owner or other lawfully authorized user. For purposes of this section,
13 such weapon shall not be deemed stored or kept if *carried* by or under the control of the owner or
14 other lawfully authorized user.

15
16 Section III:

17
18 Firearms dealers must conspicuously post at each purchase counter the following warning in bold
19 type of not less than one inch in height: "IT IS UNLAWFUL TO STORE OR KEEP A FIREARM,
20 RIFLE, SHOTGUN OR MACHINE GUN IN ANY PLACE UNLESS THAT WEAPON IS EQUIPPED
21 WITH A TAMPER-RESISTANT SAFETY DEVICE OR IS STORED OR KEPT IN A SECURELY
22 LOCKED CONTAINER." Dealers must also provide the warning in writing to the transferee of any
23 firearm in bold type not less than one-quarter inch in height.

24
25 Section IV:

26
27 Any handgun or large capacity weapon sold in Alabama without a safety device designed to prevent
28 discharge by unauthorized users is considered *defective* and the sale of such a weapon shall
29 constitute a breach of warranty and an unfair or deceptive trade act or practice.
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Section V:

Alabama deems unfair or deceptive the transfer or offer to transfer any handgun that does not contain a mechanism which precludes an average five year old child from operating a handgun when it is ready to fire. Such mechanism may include, but is not limited to, a raised trigger resistance, alteration of the firing mechanism so that a child's hands are too small to operate it, or the requirement of multiple motions in order to fire the weapon. It is also an unfair or deceptive trade practice to transfer or offer to transfer a handgun that does not contain a load indicator or magazine safety disconnect.

Section VI:

An entity responsible for the manufacture, importation or sale as an inventory item or consumer good of these weapons that does not include or incorporate a locking device shall be individually and jointly liable to any person who sustains personal injury or property damage resulting from the failure to include or incorporate such a device.

Section VII:

All laws, acts, provisions, or parts of laws contained in the Constitution of the State of Alabama in conflict with any provision of this act are hereby repealed.

Section VIII:

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



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S031

Committee: 3

Delegation: Mobile - Davidson

Author(s): Lydiapaige Moffett

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Paid Maternity-Paternity Leave

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2
3 Paternal Leave- A period of paid absence from work; entitled to men and women

4
5 Maternity Leave- A period of absence from work granted to a mother before and after the birth of
6 her child.

7
8 Section II: Employers in the state of Alabama must grant their employees paid paternity leave to
9 spend time with their new born or newly adopted child.

10
11 Section III: Offers four weeks of paid leave before the birth of the child at full salary to mothers and
12 fathers with an additional 20 weeks of paid leave to both parents after the birth of the child. The
13 additional 20 weeks of paid leave will be at 55% of the full salary.

14
15 Section IV: Alabama's state disability Insurance will cover the cost of funding.

16
17 Section V: This bills also applies to adoptive parents.

18
19 Section VI: All laws in or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

20
21 Section VII: This act is to become effective upon passage and approval of the Governor or its
22 otherwise becoming a law.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S032

Committee: 4

Delegation: Montgomery - Brew Tech

Author(s): Rion Chon

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: The Alabama Irrigation Assistance Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section 1:** A corporate tax is an assessment levied by a government on the profits of a company. A
 2 subsidy is a sum of money granted by the government or a public body to assist an industry or
 3 business so that the price of a commodity or service may remain low or competitive. The
 4 Enviromental Protection Agency (EPA) is an agency of the United States governement whose
 5 mission is to protect human and enviromental health. The National Association of State
 6 Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit association with its mission
 7 being, "to represent the state departments of agriculture in the development, implementation, and
 8 communication of sound public policy and programs which support and promote the American
 9 agricultural industry, while protecting consumers and the environment."

10
 11 **Section 2:** Farmers seeking to build irrigation systems will receive a government subsidy covering
 12 fifty percent of the building expenses. The irrigation systems should include irrigation reservoirs and
 13 pumping plants. The subsidy can only be used in the construction of the irrigation system. Farmers
 14 must show proof of land ownership and purchase of irrigation system.

15
 16 **Section 3:** Pumping plants will pump fresh water from nearby streams during periods of high
 17 stream flow into newly constructed reservoirs. Irrigation systems will be examined by the EPA. This
 18 legislation will be screened by the USDA and regulated by the NASDA.

19
 20 **Section 4:** This legislation will work with the Alabama Farmers Federation to provide information to
 21 interested parties. Alabama has over 2.7 million acres of cropland. Less than 200,000 acres are
 22 irrigated. In exchange for the government subsidy, there will be a 4 percent corporate tax on
 23 recipients of the subsidy. There will also be a .001 percent tax increase on all exchanges until the
 24 profit from the increased crop production offsets the government investment.

25
 26 **Section 5:** This legislation will go into effect on January 1, 2018.

27
 28 **Section 6:** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
 29
 30
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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S033

Committee: 1

Delegation: Montgomery - Brew Tech

Author(s): India Richardson

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Alabama Education Standards Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **I. definitions:**
2

3 IEP- Individualized Education Program. creates an opportunity for teachers, parents, school
4 administrators, related services personnel, and students (when appropriate) to work together to
5 improve **educational** results for children with disabilities.
6

7 GPA- a calculated average of the letter grades you earn in school following a 0 to 4.0 or 5.0 scale.
8

9 **II. Proposal:**
10

11 **The purpose of this law is to raise the required and standard GPA in the Alabama Public**
12 **Schools system to 2.3 (78% percentile rate).** With the exception of Special Education students,
13 the students that attend any public high school in Alabama will be responsible to obtain a newly set
14 standard of maintaining **no less than a 2.3 GPA.**
15

16 This bill will also call for the creation of tasks forces which will also call for new jobs. There will be a
17 task force for each school system in Alabama, and in each team the members will have diferent
18 roles that will include GPA moniterers, teacher aids, and etc. At the end of every 9 weeks, the task
19 force will send the school districts a list of students that are at risk of not maintaining the GPA or are
20 failing.
21

22 Students that are not maintaining the required GPA will be interviewed and notified that they will be
23 put on academic probation. This academic probation will include: close monitoring on the students
24 grades weekly, meeting with the guidance counselor at least twice a week, and will recieve an
25 option of having extra tutoring.
26

27 If the student placed on probation still shows no sign of progress,the student will then be qualified to
28 be required to **test for IEP.** This w
29

30 ill be a basic test of the knowledge they should be obtaining in high school.If the test is failed, the
31 student and his/her parent or gaurdian will be suggested to place their child in the IEP program. If
32

33 passed, the student will continue in their regular classes, but will still meet with the guidance
34 counselor and seek for tutoring until the GPA requirement is met.

35
36 This testing will show if the student truly is struggling with learning and needs help, or if the failure to
37 maintain the required 2.3 GPA is due to a lack of inspiration and motivation.

38
39 **II. Justification**

40
41 Currently, Alabama's overall school system is ranked 42 in the nation. As well as being ranked
42 50 for the worst test scores. These rankings are not a true reflection of the students potential in
43 Alabama. A major issue is that the bar is set too low. There may not even be a bar. The students of
44 Alabama have little to no expectation when it comes to education. There is no defined standard, so
45 the purpose of this bill is to set one.

46
47 **III. Funding:**

48
49 Not much money will be needed, but federal Grants (US department of Education) will be provided
50 to fund the cost of the IEP program and the salaries of the task force members.

51
52 **III. Action:**

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54 This will take action beginning in the 2018 school year. It will be introduced in June to the school
55 system in the summer of 2017. It will be effective beginning in August.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S034

Committee: 1

Delegation: Montgomery - Brew Tech

Author(s): Austin Smith

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Equity in Education

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section 1- Definitions

2
3 Equity: fairness or justice in the way people are treated

4
5 Funding: a sum of money or other resources whose principal or interest is set part for a special
6 objective

7
8 Diversity: the inclusion of different types of people in group or organization within school

9
10 Priority school: Among the lowest five percent of Title I schools in the State based on both
11 achievement and lack of progress of the "all students" group; a Title I-participating or Title I-eligible
12 high school with a graduation rate less than 60 percent over a number of years or, a currently-
13 served Tier I or Tier II SIG school.

14
15 SIG: School Improvement Grants

16
17 Title I: federally funded education program

18
19 Section 2- Purpose

20
21 If enacted, this bill would make sure that low income areas have the same access to resources and
22 funding for the priority schools in Alabama.

23
24 Section 3- Justification

25
26 The reason Alabama's school systems have so many priority schools is because they are
27 underfunded. The per pupil spending is sub-par compared to other school systems that exhibit
28 success, such as Massachusetts, New York, or Vermont. Under this bill, the students of Alabama,
29 specifically in the priority schools, are accommodated with the proper resources to adhere to our
30 student's success.

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Section 4- Funding

The way it will be funded is through the \$6.3 million budget approved by the Alabama Senate or by increasing property taxes to \$1.

Section 5- Repeal Clause

Moreover, any laws that go against this bill will be repealed.

Section 6- Enactment clause

This bill will take into action at the beginning of the next fiscal school calender, which is in October 2017.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S035

Committee: 3

Delegation: Montgomery - Montgomery Academy

Author(s): Anna kate Lindsey

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Judiciary Ethics Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 SECTION 1. Any Alabama circuit or appellate court judge found in violation of the Canon of Judicial
2 Ethics by the Court of the Judiciary shall no longer be eligible to hold state positions, whether
3 elected or appointed.
4

5 SECTION 2. The Canon of Judicial Ethics encodes the principles that govern the judiciary
6 members' conduct. State positions include any Alabama state government offices, whether elected
7 or appointed.
8

9 SECTION 3. The Judicial Inquiry Commission will oversee the fulfillment of this bill.

10
11 SECTION 4. This bill will go into effect January 2, 2018. SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this
12 legislation are hereby

13
14 declared null and void.
15

16 Introduced for Congressional Debate by Anna Kate Lindsey.
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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S036

Committee: 2

Delegation: Montgomery - Trinity Presbyterian School

Author(s): Miller Johnson

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Including Blood Types on all Driver's License and Identification Cards

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Whereas, currently in Alabama, there is no blood type present on any Drivers License or
2 Identification Cards, our Emergency Responders do not have the information needed if responding
3 in an emergency.

4
5 Section I:

6
7 Blood Type: a classification of blood based on the presence and absence of antibodies and also
8 based on the presence or absence of antigenic substances on the surface of red blood cells

9
10 Driver's License: a current issued document permitting a person to drive a motor vehicle

11
12 Identification Card: permitted document to a person who is not a legal licensed driver in the United
13 States

14
15 Section II: Every driver and non-driver, who possesses a State Issued Drivers license or
16 Identification Card, will be required to verify their blood type upon application for State Issued I.D.,
17 and that blood type will be an item of information on the State issued document in the State of
18 Alabama. In addition, this Bill will add a Section (d) to the Alabama Code section 32-6-1, which is
19 for all non-drivers in the State of Alabama.

20
21 Currently, if there is a fatal emergency, such as a car wreck, Emergency Responders are
22 sometimes unable to promptly carry out their task at hand due to confusion of blood type. With this
23 bill, Emergency Responders would be able to gain needed information more promptly and
24 potentially save lives.

25
26 Section III: How

27
28 On all new licenses, permits, or identification cards, blood type will be added. In order to receive a
29 new card, a notarized form, downloaded from from the Alabama Department of Motor Vehicles
30 website and signed by a doctor, verifying the blood type of the applicant.

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Section IV: The Department of Motor Vehicles will oversee the implementation and the renewal of this policy.

Section V: All Laws or parts of Laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

Section VI: This bill will go into effect upon January 1, 2018, upon passage and signing by the Governor, or it's otherwise becoming Law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S037

Committee: 4

Delegation: Montgomery - Montgomery Academy

Author(s): Hannah Hale

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Hunting Of Whitetail Deer Or Feral Swine By Means of Bait

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 PURPOSE: Hunting of whitetail deer or feral swine by means of Bait Under existing law, by
2 regulation of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, as it relates to hunting deer
3 on private lands, there is a rebuttable presumption that any bait or feed located beyond 100 yards
4 from the hunter and not within the line of sight of the hunter is not a lure, attraction or enticement to,
5 on, or over the areas where the hunter is attempting to kill or take the deer. This bill would allow the
6 taking of whitetail deer or feral swine by means of bait.
7

8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT 9

10 To amend Sections 9-11-244 and 9-11-245 of the Code of Alabama 1975, relating to hunting; to
11 allow the taking of whitetail deer or feral swine by means of bait.
12

13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA: 14

15 Section 1: Sections 9-11-244 and 9-11-245 of the Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as
16 follows:
17

18 No person at any time shall take, catch, kill or attempt to take, catch or kill any bird or animal
19 protected by law or regulation of the State of Alabama by means, aid or use, directly or indirectly, of
20 any bait such as shelled, shucked or unshucked corn or of wheat or other grain, salt or any other
21 feed whatsoever that has been so deposited, placed, distributed or scattered as to constitute for
22 such birds or animals a lure, attraction or enticement to, on or over the area where such hunter or
23 hunters are attempting to kill or take them; provided, that such birds or animals may be taken under
24 properly shocked corn and standing crops of corn, wheat or other grain or feed and grains scattered
25 solely as a result of normal agricultural harvesting and provided further, migratory birds may be
26 hunted under the most recent provisions established by the regulations promulgated by the
27 Commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources within the limits of the
28 federal regulations. This section shall not apply to whitetail deer or feral swine.
29

30 Section 1(b): " A landowner or an agent, servant, employee, or another person authorized by the
31 landowner in writing may lawfully bait the landowner's property for white tail deer or feral swine in
32

33 accordance with the act adding this subsection. Placement of bait may not be on the ground but
34 must be in a container, tub, trough-type feeder, or timed mechanical feeder.

35
36 Section 2: "No person shall at any time make use of any pitfall, deadfall, baited field, cage, trap, net,
37 pen, baited hook, snare, poison, explosive, or chemical for the purpose of injuring, capturing, or
38 killing birds or animals protected by law or regulation of this state. This section shall not prevent the
39 trapping of animals classified as fur-bearing animals by a duly licensed fur catcher. It shall be legal
40 to use a scaffold for gun hunting of all legal game species except wild turkey and to use a scaffold
41 for bow hunting of all legal game species."

42
43 Section 3: This act shall become effective immediately following its passage and approval by the
44 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S038

Committee: 3

Delegation: Montgomery - LAMP

Author(s): Adam Peck

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: HELPING ALABAMA'S POOR AND BALANCING THE BUDGET

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2
3 Section 40-18-15: Alabama Tax code allowing for deductions from state tax based on amount of
4 federal income tax paid,

5
6 Over the counter drugs: drugs that have been found to be safe and appropriate for use without the
7 supervision of a health care professional such as a physician, and they can be purchased by
8 consumers without a prescription,

9
10 Groceries: Food purchased for home consumption includeing most staple grocery food items and
11 cold prepared foods packaged for home consumption,

12
13 Class III Property: All agricultural, forest, and residential property, and historic buildings and sites as
14 stated in Alabama Code Section 40-8-1.

15
16 Section II:

17
18 Over the past few years the Alabama government has raided its education fund and cut funding to
19 vital government programs in order to make up for it's budget shortfalls. This, however, has still
20 failed to provide a balanced budget for the state of Alabama, which currently has a debt of \$68.3
21 billion. In the next coming Fiscal Year many project the budget to be short as much as \$200 million
22 even after these budget cuts and not counting any increases needed in funding to any agencies.

23 This bill presents a tax plan for Alabama that will in total raise around \$1 billion in state revenue.

24
25 Section III:

26
27 Be it enacted by the state legislature that:

28
29 Section 40-18-15 of the Alabama Tax Code be eliminated.

30
31 The tax on Tobacco products under Section 40-25-2 of the Alabama Tax Code be increased from

32

33 67.5 cents a pack of cigarettes to \$1.12.5 per pack.

34

35 Amend Section 40-23-4 of the Alabama Tax Code to provide exemptions for over the counter drugs
36 and groceries.

37

38 Increase the tax on Class III Property by one cent multiplied by the value of the property.

39

40 Section IV.

41

42 All costs to implement and enforce this bill will come from the Alabama Department of Revenue.

43

44 Section V.

45

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

47

48 Section VI.

49

50 This bill shall take effect on the first day of the next Fiscal Year, October 1, 2017, after its passage
51 and signing by the Governor of Alabama or its otherwise becoming law.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S039

Committee: 1

Delegation: Montgomery - Jeff Davis

Author(s): reginald robnson, Dominic Terry

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Cocurricular School Activities

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section 1: Definitions

2
3 Cocurricular School Activities: Refers to activities programs, and learning experience
4 that complement, in some way, what students are learning in school.

5
6 Section 2

7
8 Cocurricular activities have become scarce subjects in terms of Alabama schools culturally limiting
9 the advantages of the student. Therefore all schools within Alabama should have at least ten (10)
10 Cocurricular activities available for the attending students.

11
12 Section 3

13
14 The experience of engaging in cocurricular activities will help the students succeed in furthering
15 their educational and social skills. These activities will help students on expanding their resumes
16 with accomplishments such as community service, volunteering experience, and even on a more
17 personal level of self-improvement. By participating in cocurricular activities it will benefit the
18 students by altering their perspectives on the world.

19
20 Section 4

21
22 This act shall become effective immediately upon/after its passage and approval by the Governor or
23 its otherwise becoming a law.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S040

Committee: 1

Delegation: Montgomery - Jeff Davis

Author(s): Kavarius Thomas, Kelly Pitts

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Advancing Sex Education Courses

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section 1: Definitions

2
3 Advancing: make or cause to make progress.

4
5 Sex Education: the instruction on issues relating to human sexuality, including emotional relations
6 and responsibilities, human sexual anatomy, sexual activity, sexual reproduction, age of consent,
7 reproductive health, reproductive rights, safe sex, birth control and sexual abstinence.

8
9 Abstinence: the fact or practice of restraining oneself from indulging in something.

10
11 Contraceptive: a device or drug to prevent pregnancy.

12
13
14
15 Section 2: Proposition

16
17 Schools should educate imply to teens about the consequences of sex. High school students must
18 take a half credit course on nothing but sex education and abstinence. To let sex education
19 teachers recommend students to the school nurse to provide contraceptives at least once a month to
20 students for protection.

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24 Section 3: Justification

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In 2011, Alabama was ranked 1 out of 51 (the 50 states and the District of Columbia) in teen birth rates among females aged 15-19. Teen parents can not support their new born properly with balancing it with school and work. In 2013, Alabama is ranked third in clamydia cases, second in gonorrhoea cases, and the state is only ranked 23rd in syphilis cases. Having so this many people not protecting themselves during intercourse causes tourist and potential future residents to not consider Alabama as a place to live.

Section 4: Enactment Clause

This bill will become effective 2 months upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming law.

Section 5: Funding

Raise sale taxes by 2% in order to fund sex education courses in Alabama to help prevent sexually transmitted and teen pregnancy.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S041

Committee: 1

Delegation: Montgomery - Jeff Davis

Author(s): Tamera Riley, Dajuan Hickonbottom

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Alabama Achievement Exam (AAE)

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 I. Definitions

2
3 Achievement- A thing done successfully, typically by effort, courage, or a skill.

4
5 Exam- A formal test of a person's knowledge or proficiency in a skill.

6
7 II. Proposition

8
9 Public school students, beginning at the end of the students 5th grade year continuing until the
10 student graduates, will be required to take a end of the year state exam to monitor each child's
11 individual progress. Failure to pass atleast 50% of this test will result in grade retainment. The way
12 the student scores will provide the basis for how that students next year's classes will be set up. By
13 doing so kids on or around the same learning level will be placed in the same classes.

14
15 III. Cost

16
17 Funding will come from the Department of Education

18
19 IV. Justification

20
21 Student math and reading skills have been declining, in order to monitor students better in an effort
22 to improve these scores this test will be administered.

23
24 V. Conflicting Clauses

25
26 Any laws or part of laws that conflict with this bill shall be immediately repealed.

27
28 VI. Enactment Clause

29
30 This bill will become effective the following school year after its passage and approval from the
31 Governor and will began with students moving from elementary into middle school.

32



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S042

Committee: 1

Delegation: Montgomery - LAMP

Author(s): Breck Bowen

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: The option of year round school to be implemented in the Montgomery County school system.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Definitions

2
3 (1).Year round schooling: a reorganized calendar of the traditional 180 day school year. Instead of
4 having a long summer break, year-round schools break the academic year up with several medium-
5 sized (two-three weeks long) vacations, often referred to as a balanced calendar.
6

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8
9 (2).Student/teacher burnout: a mental collapse caused by sustained periods of stress or being
10 overworked, leaving the affected in a lessened state of motivation, happiness, and/or passion.
11

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14 (3).Multi-tracking: groups of students at the same year-round school who have different academic
15 calendars, used to reduce overcrowding
16

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18
19 (4).Single-tracking: Schools in which the entire student body is on a homogenous year-round
20 calendar (regarding dates; class choice variations still exist).
21

22 II.Due to the increasing awareness of the ill effects of student/teacher fatigue, summer learning loss,
23 inability to earn real-world experience due to immediate and unwavering academic pressures, and
24 the antiquated ideals that prevail in the previous schooling schedule, the option of year round school
25 will be implemented in Montgomery County
26

27 III. A 180 day school day will remain in place. The cycle of breaks will consist of forty-five day
28 sessions followed by fifteen day breaks. To deal with overcrowding, a multi-tracking schedule will be
29 adopted, as opposed to a single-tracking approach.
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IV. This bill will be enforced and funded by the Alabama department of education.

V. This bill will take effect immediately after passage and its approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law

VI: Any laws and parts of laws that conflict with this law are hereby repealed.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S043

Committee: 4

Delegation: Montgomery - LAMP

Author(s): Larry Luster

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Legalizing Abortion with Educational and Insurance Stipulations

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section I:** Definitions

2
3 Abortion- The termination of a pregnancy by either medical or surgical means, by removing the
4 fetus from the uterus before the pregnancy has reached full term

5
6 Trimester- A period of three months, used to denote progress in a pregnancy

7
8 **Section II:**

9
10 First and second trimester abortions (both surgically and medically induced) are hereby legalized in
11 the State of Alabama. Third trimester abortions are hereby outlawed in the State of Alabama.

12
13 **Section III:**

14
15 All licensed abortion clinics are required to provide educational media to patients both in the form of
16 posted visual infographics and printed reading material. All doctors are required to verbally inform
17 their patients of the risks involved in the procedure prior to conducting the procedure.

18
19 **Section IV:**

20
21 An abortion cannot be conducted for an individual under the age of 18 without parental consent via
22 signed documentation and a parent must be present for the procedure.

23
24 **Section V:**

25
26 Health and sex education classes are required to include a unit on abortion and contraceptive
27 measures besides abstinence.

28
29 **Section VI:**

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All insurance companies are required to cover abortion procedures as a non-elective procedure.

Section VII:

Violation of this law will be classified as a Class A felony. The penalty for violating any section of this law is a fine of \$10,000, and a minimum of 10 years incarceration.

Section VIII:

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

Section IX:

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



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S044

Committee: 2

Delegation: Montgomery - Saint James

Author(s): T Diebel

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: A Bill to Outlaw Civil Asset Forfeiture

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **SYNOPSIS:**

2
3 Civil Asset Forfeiture is the process of police authorities seizing possessions and “assets” that were
4 obtained illegally. These assets are claimed by the police to be involved in a crime, and can include
5 property such as houses, cars, or piles of money. Police are able to seize these assets and keep
6 them in possession. To get their possessions back, the owners of the property must prove that
7 those objects were not a part of the crime in question.
8

9 Unlike in Criminal Forfeiture, a person does not have to be charged or even found guilty of a crime
10 to have their assets taken from them, most of the time permanently. Instead, the state accuses and
11 finds property itself guilty, as seen in cases such as United States v. 434 Main Street, Tewksbury,
12 Mass. where a house was put under trial.
13

14 Citizens do not receive proper court treatment during Civil Asset Forfeiture. Unlike in trials where
15 actual people are put on trial, the government is not required to provide a lawyer where property is
16 put up for trial. Therefore, property owners have to either pay for a lawyer or try to get their seized
17 possessions back themselves, which rarely happens.
18

19 **Section I:**

20
21 Law enforcement agencies shall no longer take assets from citizens without finding the
22 accused guilty of crime. Every law enforcement agent must prove, in a court with the full due
23 process of law, the item in question is involved in a crime. If a case goes to trial and the accused is
24 found innocent, the assets shall be mandated to be released to the owners.
25

26 **Section II: Definitions**

27
28 “Asset” is the property of a citizen or the accused.
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30 **Section III: Penalties**

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If the forfeited property is not returned to the accused within 30 days after the decision is made by the court, the person who seized the evidence shall be fined and the property shall be returned by officer who seized it, federal or local.

Section IV: Exceptions

If the property is involved in a criminal case involving another accused person, then the object will be legally in the possession of the court to be used as evidence in the criminal case. The asset will then be returned to its rightful owner directly after the case has been concluded.

Section V:

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

Section VI:

This bill should take effect on the first day of the first month following its passage and approval by the Governor or upon the act otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S045

Committee: 3

Delegation: Hoover - Spain Park

Author(s): Grace Friedman

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Child First Adoption

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2
3 ADOPTEE. The person being adopted.

4
5 MOTHER. A female person who is the biological mother of the minor or is treated by law as the
6 mother.

7
8 FATHER. A male person who is the biological father of the minor or is treated by law as the father.

9
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11
12 Section II: Proposal

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14 Change Code of Alabama, Section 26-10A-28.

15
16 Under current law, relatives looking to adopt to a child that's mother and/or father has been deemed
17 unfit to have custody have to take steps before being allowed to petition for adoption. This system
18 gives an unfair advantage to biological parents who are unfit to be parents and puts the child's well
19 being at risk. Under current law, non-relative prospective parents have a shorter waiting period
20 before adoption than relative counterparts. This law is in place to give biological parents more time
21 to get themselves deemed fit to be parents. This bill will reform the code to no longer make relatives
22 have a longer waiting period than any other prospective adoptive parent. This still gives the
23 biological parents the same amount of chances and does not change the Department of Human
24 Resources requirements to deem a parent unfit, only the requirements for relatives looking to adopt.

25
26
27
28 Section III: Justification

29
30 The purpose of the Foster System and of adopting is to provide the child with the safest and best
31 environment. Current law favors the biological parents over the wellbeing of the child, leaving a
32

33 problematic scenario in which a child could be neglected. By giving relatives the same requirements
34 as the requirements of non-relative prospective parents, allows the biological parent to still maintain
35 a connection to the child while keeping the best interest of the child as the priority.
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39 Section IV: Expected Outcome

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46 Section V: Enforcement

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The Department of Human Resources and Children’s Affairs will be responsible for maintaining the
new code.

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53 Section VI: Payment

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The Department of Human Resources and Children’s Affairs will be responsible for maintaining the
budget that is used for enforcement.

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60 Section VII: Conflicting Laws

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

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67 Section VIII: Enactment

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

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S046

Committee: *Special Order*

Delegation: Montgomery - Saint James

Author(s): Claudia Hubbard

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Establishing Levels of Expulsion

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2
3 student- a person enrolled in a college or university

4
5 conviction- a formal declaration that someone is guilty of a criminal offense including conviction by
6 judge, from a jury trial, or by virtue of pleading guilty as charged

7
8 Honor Code- a set of rules or ethical principles governing an academic community based on ideals
9 that define what constitutes honorable behavior within that community

10
11 Section II:

12
13 So that colleges and universities can be more aware of incoming students, levels of expulsion will
14 be established. When a student is expelled from college, the level of expulsion will be listed on the
15 student's transcript.

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17 Section III:

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19 Level I- Criminal: Convictions only

20
21 Level II- Academic

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23 Level III- Honor Code Violation

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25 *subject to change as seen fit by the overseeing department

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27 Section IV:

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As a way of implementing this bill, all colleges will inform incoming students of the intended use of of this information and the students in term will sign an acknowledgement showing they are aware of the policy.

Section V:

All laws, acts, provisions, or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed upon passage of this bill.

Section VI:

This bill will become effective one year after signing date.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S047

Committee: *Special Order*

Delegation: Hoover - Spain Park

Author(s): Kenya Harris

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Repeal for Revision

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

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3
4
5 War On Drugs - an American term usually applied to the United States government's campaign of
6 prohibition of drugs, military aid, and military intervention, with the stated aim being to reduce the
7 illegal drug trade during the 70s and 80s.

8
9 ADOC - Alabama Department of Corrections

10
11 Mandatory Minimums - sentencing laws set minimum sentences for certain crimes that judges
12 cannot lower, even for extenuating circumstances.

13
14 "Safety Valve" - a law that authorizes the sentencing court to give an offender who would otherwise
15 receive a mandatory minimum sentence less time in prison than the required minimum. Some safety
16 valve laws give judges wide discretion to avoid an ill-fitting mandatory minimum. Other safety valves
17 authorize judges to depart from the minimum if the offender or his offense meets certain special
18 requirements.

19
20 Judge's discretion - the power of the judiciary to make some legal decisions according to their
21 discretion.

22
23 Prosecutorial discretion - is the authority of an agency or officer to decide what charges to bring and
24 how to pursue each case.

25
26 Subsidy - a sum of money granted by the government or a public body to assist an industry or
27 business so that the price of a commodity or service may remain low or competitive.

28
29 Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986 - a law of the War on Drugs passed by the U.S. Congress. Among
30 other things, they changed the system of federal supervised release from a rehabilitative system
31 into a punitive system. The 1986 Act also prohibited controlled substance analogs. The bill enacted
32

33 new mandatory minimum sentences for drugs, including marijuana.

34
35 Fair Sentencing Act of 2010 - was an Act of Congress that was signed into federal law by U.S.
36 President Barack Obama on August 3, 2010 that reduces the disparity between the amount of crack
37 cocaine and powder cocaine needed to trigger certain federal criminal penalties from a 100:1 weight
38 ratio to an 18:1 weight ratio and eliminated the five-year mandatory minimum sentence for simple
39 possession of crack cocaine, among other provisions.[1] Similar bills were introduced in several
40 U.S. Congresses before its passage in 2010, and courts had also acted to reduce the sentencing
41 disparity prior to the bill's passage. Further controversy surrounding the 100:1 ratio was a result of
42 its description by some as being racially biased and contributing to a disproportionate number of
43 African Americans being sentenced for crack cocaine offenses.

44
45 Mass incarceration - the process of an accumulation of the imprisonment population boom during
46 the 80s and 90s.

47
48 Habitual offender law - After three consecutive offenses, offenders can be sentenced to life in
49 prison. Alabama's repeat offender law -- often known as the three-strikes-and-you're-out law does
50 not figure in the length of time between convictions or the severity of prior offenses.

51
52 Truth in sentencing - requirements that restrict management tools such as good time credits and
53 parole.

54
55 1994 crime bill - A crime control bill whose provisions implemented many things, including a "three
56 strikes" mandatory life sentence for repeat offenders, money to hire 100,000 new police officers,
57 \$9.7bn in funding for prisons, and an expansion of death penalty-eligible offences. It also dedicated
58 \$6.1bn to prevention programmes "designed with significant input from experienced police officers"

59
60 Alabama Sentencing Reform Act of 2003 - The stated purpose of the Act was to "manage [the]
61 criminal justice system in the manner best able to protect public safety and make the most effective
62 and efficient use of correctional resources." This legislation directed the sentencing commission to
63 begin implementing voluntary sentencing guidelines based on historical data, abolish parole and
64 good time credits, eradicate unwarranted sentencing disparity, make available alternate punishment
65 options, address prison overcrowding, incapacitate dangerous and violent felons, and ensure truth in
66 sentencing while maintaining judicial discretion.

67
68 Prevailing Wage - the hourly wage, usual benefits and overtime, paid in the largest city in each
69 county and are established by the Department of Labor & Industries, for each trade and occupation
70 employed in the performance of public work.

71 72 73 74 Section II: Proposal

75
76 This bill will address the extensive and often complex issues concerning prison reform. It will do so
77 by amending four aspects of the Department of Corrections

78
79 One: Repealing mandatory minimums for nonviolent crimes and promoting Safety Valve sentencing
80 laws.

81
82 Two: Repealing the habitual offender law or "Three Strikes" law which does not figure in the length

83 of time between convictions or the severity of prior offenses.

84

85 Three: Repeal Truth in Sentencing laws which set the basis for the passing of the Alabama
86 Sentencing Reform Act of 2003 and will require the Alabama Sentencing Commission to reconvene
87 and reevaluate the existing sentencing model.

88

89 Four: Discourage Private businesses from employing inmates by providing incentive to provide
90 these jobs to the citizens of Alabama and penalize businesses who continue to employ inmates by
91 making them follow all of the following requirements:

92

93 Pay a fifteen percent tax for the facility upkeep in which the products are being made.

94

95 Inmates must be paid the prevailing wage for the industry and the area.

96

97 The hiring of inmates cannot displace civilian workers or occur in an industry with a surplus of labor
98 in the market.

99

100 Wage deductions, for room and board, taxes and victims' compensation, cannot exceed 60 percent
101 of inmates' pay.

102

103 Inmates must get the same government benefits as outside workers, including workers'
104 compensation insurance.

105

106 Local labor groups and competing businesses must be notified in advance of a business' plans to
107 locate operations in a prison.

108

109 Inmates' participation must be voluntary.

110

111 Finally, critics maintain that mandatory minimum sentences are not cost-effective. The certainty of
112 arrest, prosecution, conviction, and punishment has a greater deterrent effect than the severity of
113 punishment. If a one-year sentence for a crime has the same deterrent effect as a five-year
114 sentence, the additional four years of imprisonment inflict unnecessary pain on the offender being
115 incarcerated and, to borrow from economics, impose a "deadweight" loss on society. Mandatory
116 minimum sentences, therefore, waste scarce criminal justice resources. The question that is not
117 whether approval or denial of mandatory minimums, but whether the greater evil lies within the
118 prosecutorial discretion or judicial discretion.

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122 Section III: Justification

123

124 There are 319 million people living in the United States of America, this accounts for 4.4 percent of
125 the world's population, yet 25 percent of the incarcerated people in the world reside in the United
126 States. As incarceration rates began to climb and eventually skyrocket during the seventies and
127 eighties in America. This all became apparent through the coinage of the term "War on Drugs" done
128 so by President Richard Nixon followed by the subsequent actions by President Ronald Reagan.

129 This military intervention would lead to mass incarceration rates both due to the rising use of newly
130 introduced drugs such as crack cocaine and the various civil rights and progressive movements at
131 the time. As a result of the high imprisonment rates, aggressive legislation that offered federal
132 subsidies were written into law. One of which was the Anti Drug Abuse Act of 1986 which enacted

133 mandatory minimum sentences that unequivocally amounted a quantity of five grams of crack
134 cocaine to 500 grams of powder cocaine as the same crime therefore requiring the same period of
135 time in prison. This was eventually amended by the Fair Sentencing Act of 2010 as it became
136 evident that the disparity was racially biased and contributing to a disproportionate number of
137 African Americans being sentenced for crack cocaine offenses. Not only did it affect this minority
138 group, but it also directly affected persons of low socioeconomic status. The 1986 Drug Act paved
139 the way for the 1994 Crime bill which implemented many laws that would eventually trickle down to
140 state governments. These implementations included but was not limited to "three strikes"
141 mandatory life sentence for repeat offenders, money to hire 100,000 new police officers, \$9.7bn in
142 funding for prisons, and an expansion of death penalty-eligible offences. It also dedicated \$6.1bn in
143 prevention programmes "designed with significant input from experienced police officers" the
144 majority of these funds were used for punitive.

145
146 This recap of history is only to show that Alabama's overcrowded prisons and expanding DOC
147 budget is a result of the aggressive legislation of the 80s and 90s. This proposal's origins' are
148 practical. This is the solution to Alabama's overcrowding disaster and will save taxpayers money.
149 Taxpayers money will account for the \$15,000 that it costs for every individual of the 24,000 that are
150 incarcerated. The ADOC is the second highest cost of the general fund and will continue to
151 increase. Especially since the habitual offender law was passed in 1977, there has been a 840
152 percent increase in inmates. This 840 percent increase is part of the steadily rising increase of the
153 ADOC budget at a rate of five percent each year. This is exemplified through last year's budget
154 proposal of \$394 million which Governor Bentley then pushed to \$400 million including an extra
155 20.8 million to compensate for overtime because there is not enough people staffed. The truth in
156 sentencing repeal will loosen the requirements that restrict management tools such as good time
157 credits and parole. This would save taxpayers money by downsizing prison population. The claim to
158 penalize private businesses is so that Alabama citizens do not miss a job opportunity because a
159 private business wants cheap labor.

160 161 Section IV: Expected outcome

162
163 -The expected outcome of this bill will decrease the amount of persons in prison for nonviolent
164 crimes. As well as remove aggressive laws that were a result of President Reagan's crusade on the
165 War on Drugs in America that no longer offer any federal subsidy and only help to increase
166 incarceration rates. As well as take jobs out of prisons and give them to citizens of Alabama.

167 168 Section V: Enforcement

169
170 -The enforcement of this bill for the private businesses and inmate labor is in the provided incentive
171 and penalize through various requirements. If violated or acting in accordance with the laws that are
172 repealed, Violators will be held to the standard of Alabama Law and be penalized as such through
173 the Department of Law Enforcement and the Department of Corrections.

174 175 176 177 Section VI: Payment

178
179 -This bill will not cost anything, the only effect it will have on taxpayers or money as a whole is that it
180 will positively result in a decline in the use of the General Fund in the ADOC's budget. The General
181 Fund amounts to 87 percent of the ADOC's budget. It will potentially stop or at the least, decrease
182

183 the rising amount of money budgeted for the ADOC.

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187 Section VII: Conflicting Laws

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189 -This Bill will override all conflicting laws upon the governor's signing and through the reconvention
190 of the Alabama Sentencing Commission.

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194 Section VIII: Enactment

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

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S048

Committee: 3

Delegation: Montgomery - Trinity Presbyterian School

Author(s): Tucker Bryan

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: An Act To Abolish Judicial Override

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Preamble: Whereas, the State of Alabama allows for judicial override, this act will outlaw the ability
2 for a judge to overturn a jury's verdict.
3

4 Section I: Definitions

5
6 Death Penalty: the punishment of execution, administered to someone legally convicted of a capital
7 crime.
8

9 Judicial Override: a practice that allows judges to reject sentencing decision from capital juries,
10 effectively enabling judges to override jury verdicts of life and instead impose to death penalty
11 unilateral.
12

13 Section II: Justification

14
15 Only three U.S. states allow judicial overrides: Alabama, Delaware, and Florida. Alabama is unique
16 in allowing judges to override jury sentence of life in prison with capital punishment. In Alabama,
17 there are more people sentenced to death than any other state. The Sixth Amendment provides the
18 right to a trial by jury; therefore, having inmates being sentenced to death without the approval of a
19 jury is a gross miscarriage of justice.
20

21 Section III:

22
23 This bill proposes that Alabama outlaw the practice of judicial override and instead allow jury
24 verdicts on sentencing to stand.
25

26 Section IV:

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

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This bill will go into effect January 1, 2018, upon passing and signing by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S049

Committee: 3

Delegation: Montgomery - Trinity Presbyterian School

Author(s): Mckenna Franklin, Anna Ruth Steelman

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Governor Advisor Funds

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Preamble: Whereas, currently the governor is paying his advisers from outside sources, instead the
2 money should come out of the governor's budget funds. There needs to be more accountability
3 within the office and finances of the Governor of Alabama.
4

5 Definitions: Governor Advisers- people hired to help the governor while in office
6

7 Explanation In 2015, Governor Bentley was found have inappropriate interactions with his senior
8 political adviser and was also paying her with outside funds. The compensation money these
9 advisors are given should come from the governor's budget funds and not outside sources. This will
10 allow for more of a checks and balances approach, or accountability, to the office and those who
11 advise the Governor.
12

13 Cost/Funding/Oversight: The paid fee for advising should be set by the amount of time spent
14 advising the governor and that amount should be the same across the board. The payment will be
15 set in Congress per special order request in the allocation of funds for the State Budget. Oversight
16 of this plan will be per the office of the Governor and the State Finance Committee.
17

18 Repealing Clause All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
19

20 Enactment Clause: This bill will go into effect January 1, 2018 on upon signing by the Governor or
21 its otherwise or becoming law.
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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S050

Committee: 4

Delegation: Montgomery - Trinity Presbyterian School

Author(s): Madison Johnston

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Smoke Hash, No Cash

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Title: Smoke Hash, No Cash

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4

5 Preamble: Whereas currently in the state of Alabama, an individual can get welfare, such as food
6 stamps or Medicaid, government money if this individual meets the required minimum revenue, I
7 move to add a required drug test to receive these benefits.

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13 Definitions:

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17 welfare: statutory procedure or social effort designed to promote the basic physical and material
18 well-being of people in need,

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22 drug test: a technical analysis of a biological specimen, for example urine, hair, blood, breath,
23 sweat, or oral fluid/saliva—to determine the presence or absence of specified parent drugs

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27 health benefits: provided to employees for sickness, accidental injury, or accidental death. These
28 benefits include payment of hospital and medical expenses as well as income payments

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food stamps: a voucher issued by the government to those on low income, exchangeable for food.

explanation:

Those who are currently receiving government assistance must visit the department once a month to collect funding, or receive assistance or compensation via mail. Currently, they are able to just walk in, pick up their funding, and leave, or apply and get their assistance via mail or direct deposit. I move, people who are receiving government assistance must take a drug test every other month when before receiving their funding.

The first time that a person tests positive, they will stop receiving funding for 3 months so they can become clean, and will thereafter test each month for their government assistance . If this individual needs help, they will receive a list of rehabilitation centers or counselor who they may go to get the help that they need.

If this same person fails a drug test the second time, they will no longer be able to receive government money.

This is to limit the amount of drug usage, and to make sure the tax payers money is going towards necessities, not illegal activities, such as drugs or drug paraphernalia, or being sold for those purposes.

This will not only lower the use of illegal drugs, but it will give tax payers the satisfaction that their money will go towards something that will benefit those who receive this money.

Actions/Costs and Funding:

Those who are on welfare receive a \$23,310 yearly salary, this is about \$1,943 a month. To send in urine or a saliva to a lab to be tested for drugs costs \$50. The funding for this each of these tests will come out of the funding received that these people receive, only lowering their salary \$50 a for one month, or split \$25 between the 2 months. Those on welfare will now receive about \$1,893 a month instead of \$1,943.

The Alabama Department of Human Resources, along with each county office will work together to make this new requirement work for the advantage for the State of Alabama.

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Repealing Clause:

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

Enactment Clause:

This bill will go into effect January 1, 2018 upon passing and signing by the Governor or it's otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S051

Committee: 3

Delegation: Montgomery - Trinity Presbyterian School

Author(s): Caleb Kreitz

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Making the Punishment fit the Crime

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Whereas, In Alabama, prostitution, pimping, and pandering are class A misdemeanors,**
2 **punishable by up to one year in jail and a fine of up to \$6,000. The punishment for conviction**
3 **of prostitution should remain the same. However, the punishment for conviction of pimping**
4 **and/or pandering should be a class C felony.**

5
6 **Section 1: Definitions:** Pimping (also called profiting from prostitution)— involves accepting
7 money (or anything else of value) made as a result of prostitution.

8
9 Pandering (also called advancing prostitution)— is committed by someone who knows that
10 someone else is buying or selling sex and, causes another to commit prostitution, assists another in
11 committing prostitution, finds or solicits “johns”, finds or provides prostitutes or a place for
12 prostitution, or operates a house of prostitution.

13
14 Prostitution— the practice or occupation of engaging in sexual activity with someone for payment.

15
16 **Section 2: Explanation:** In Alabama prostitution, pimping, and/or pandering are equally punished
17 under current law. By punishing pimping and pandering more severely it will help eliminate the
18 cause and motivation for furthering prostitution. Pimping consist of receiving the money a prostitute
19 makes either directly or indirectly. Pandering consist of encouraging or forcing a person to engage
20 in prostitution. Pimping and pandering often go together. When someone forces or convinces
21 someone to be a prostitute for them (pandering) and proceeds to take some of her income
22 (pimping). The main victim due to manipulation and greed is the prostitute. Alabama should not see
23 a person committing prostitution on the same level as someone manipulating prostitutes for
24 personal gain.

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Prostitution strongly affects communities. Prostitution affects the community by contributing to the objectification of women. Men who participate in buying a prostitute view women as mere sex objects and not human beings. This terrible attitude towards women accounts for the high incidence of violence and murder perpetrated against prostitutes. By punishing those who exploit, facilitate, or knowingly benefit from the sex trade and not the victims of the sex trade will indirectly lower the rates of prostitution in Alabama.

Section 3: Action: Conviction of pimping an/or pandering will be a class C felony. With this conviction, the sentence is no less than two years and no more than twenty years. If firearm or other deadly weapon is used the minimum sentence is ten years. Fines are no more than \$5000.

Section 4: Cost and Funding: All cost and oversight will be will be covered by the Alabama Department of Corrections and local Law Enforcement operating budget, due to the nature of this change in law will be part of normal training and daily operations.

Section 5: Repealing Clause: All Laws or Parts of Laws in Conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section 6: Enactment Clause: This bill will go into effect January, 1 2018, after it's passage and signing by The Governor, or it's otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S052

Committee: 4

Delegation: Montgomery - Montgomery Academy

Author(s): Carter Chandler, Carson Roth

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: A Bill to Fully Legalize Euthanasia and Physician Assisted Suicide

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **SECTION 1.** Euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide will be fully legalized in Alabama.
2 Individuals with terminal illness(es) and/or extremely low quality of life due to illness(es) will be
3 granted the right to legally end his/her own life. Individuals under the age of 18 will need
4 parent/guardian consent in order to legally use this right. Individuals above 18 are free to make their
5 decision independently.
6

7 **SECTION 2.** Euthanasia is defined as the painless killing of a patient suffering from an incurable
8 and painful disease or in an irreversible coma.
9

10 Physician Assisted Suicide is defined as the voluntary termination of one's own life by administration
11 of a lethal substance with the direct or indirect assistance of a physician.
12

13 **SECTION 3.** The Alabama Department of Public Health will oversee the enforcement of this law.
14

15 **SECTION 4.** This law will go into effect on January 1, 2018 **Section 5.** All laws in conflict with this
16 legislation are hereby declared null and void.
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20 *Introduced for Congressional Debate by Carson Roth and Carter Chandler*
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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S053

Committee: 1

Delegation: Montgomery - Montgomery Academy

Author(s): Fred Tippett

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Improved Sex Education Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **SECTION I:** Public schools in Alabama will now require all eighth grade students to take a
2 comprehensive, objective sex education course for half a semester in place of their physical
3 education course. The course will include education on STDs, contraceptives and their success and
4 fail rate, and sexual orientations.

5
6 **SECTION II:** STDs are sexually transmitted diseases, like HIV/AIDS, syphilis, and chlamydia.
7 Contraceptives are methods or devices, such as abstinence, condoms, IUDs, or birth control pills,
8 intended to prevent impregnating and the spread of STDs. An objective course will not show any
9 emphasis on any particular form of contraceptive, nor any bias toward any sexual orientation.

10
11 **SECTION III:** This bill will be enforced by the Alabama Department of Education and will not require
12 any additional funding, as the physical education teachers will teach the course, therefore no new
13 teachers will need to be hired.

14
15 **SECTION IV:** This bill will take affect at the beginning of the next school year after its passing.

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17 **SECTION V:** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.
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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S054

Committee: 2

Delegation: Montgomery - Montgomery Academy

Author(s): John Wakefield

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: To amend Concealed Carry

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

PURPOSE: AN ACT TO AMMEND THE CONCEALED CARRY LAW TO ADD A WEAPONS PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENT. INTRODUCED BY: John Wakefield

Montgomery Academy

The Montgomery Academy

Montgomery, Alabama BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE(YOUTH LEGISLATURE) OF

THE STATE OF ALABAMA: Section 1. Definitions- a weapons proficiency test tests the takes ability

to use a firearm accurately. Section 2. All Alabama sheriffs offices will be required to add and

administer a weapons proficiency test to the concealed carry permit requirements. This test will

consist of 3 rounds of 10 shots each at a target that is at 25 feet. To pass the test the test taker

must hit the target at least 20 out of the 30 shots. Section 3: All persons possessing a concealed

carry permit before the enactment of this bill will be allowed to keep their concealed carry permit.

Section 4. To fund this bill all test takers must pay \$50. Section 5. This bill will be enacted on

January 1st, 2017. Section 6. All laws and parts of laws in conflict are herby declared null and void

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S055

Committee: 3

Delegation: Montgomery - Montgomery Academy

Author(s): Caroline Sellers, Darry Freeman

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: A Bill to Reform Pensions

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section 1.** Beginning October 1, 2018, the retirement plan for Alabama State employees shall be
2 changed to provide a separate segregated account for each employee based on his or her
3 accumulated account balance.
4

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6
7 **Section 2.** For every person employed by the State of Alabama any retirement benefits shall be
8 based on a separate segregated account that shall be funded based on an amount equal to 10% of
9 such employee's annual salary. Each employee may elect to defer a portion of his or her salary not
10 to exceed the maximum amount allowable by the IRS.
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14 **Section 3.** Each employee's account shall be managed by such employee and once the account is
15 funded, the State of Alabama shall have no further responsibility for the retirement plans savings of
16 any employee.
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20 **Section 4.** At such time as no employees are beneficiaries of any pension or defined benefit plan
21 sponsored by the State of Alabama, the Retirement Systems of Alabama shall cease to exist and
22 any assets held thereby shall be transferred and paid over to the General Fund of The State of
23 Alabama.
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27 **Section 5.** This act shall become effective upon passage and approval by the Governor or
28 otherwise becoming law and all laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and
29 void.
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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S056

Committee: 3

Delegation: Montgomery - Montgomery Academy

Author(s): Talya Whyte

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Parental Rights for Foster Care Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT

2
3 SECTION 1. The parental rights of drug addicted and alcohol addicted parents with children in
4 foster care due to their addiction will be terminated two months from the date the children were
5 placed in foster care unless the guardian takes action to end their addiction (i.e. therapy or A.A.
6 meetings) within that time period if the children are being considered for adoption by an eligible
7 family.

8
9 SECTION 2. Parental rights are defined as rights to:physical custody--reasonable visitation and
10 regular contactlegal custody--the ability to make major decisions about the child's health, education,
11 and religious upbringing.Drug addiction is defined as the compulsive drug seeking and use of mind-
12 altering substances despite harmful consequences. Alcohol addiction is defined as a chronic
13 disease in which your body and mind become dependent on alcohol.

14
15 SECTION 3. The Department of Human Resources would oversee the fulfillment of this bill.

16
17 SECTION 4. This bill will take effect January 1, 2019.

18
19 SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void. Introduced for
20 Congressional Debate by Talya Whyte.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S057

Committee: 1

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Anne Mitchell Welch

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Boarding School In-State College Tuition Protection Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I:

2
3 Boarding School: a school providing living accommodations for some or all of its students

4
5 In-State Tuition: when a student applying for higher education lives in a certain state and goes to
6 their respective state school, they are provided the education at a lower cost.

7
8 Out-of-State Tuition: when a student applying for higher education lives in a certain state and goes
9 to a state school outside of their home state, they have to pay for their education at a higher cost.

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12
13 Section II: As of right now, if a student who is from another state goes to a boarding school in
14 Alabama, graduates, and wants to go to a state school, they are forced to pay out of state tuition
15 because they are not technically from Alabama. Considering that there are currently six boarding
16 schools in the state of Alabama, this bill affects many people across the state. The average tuition
17 for an out-of-state university right now is \$25,515. This does not even include room and board, and
18 considering that these students' parents live outside of Alabama, they will have to pay for some sort
19 of living. The average in-state tuition for an in-state university right now is \$14,187. The difference
20 between these two tuitions is \$11,328. If these students are given the in-state tuition, they would
21 save almost a year's worth of tuition for these schools.

22
23
24
25 Section III: In order to receive in-state tuition, a boarding school student will have to have completed
26 two or more years in any Alabama boarding school, one being their senior year. There will be no
27 need for extra funding for this bill. The Alabama Department of Education will oversee this, and this
28 will apply to all state schools funded by the state of Alabama. Allowing these students to pay in-
29 state tuition will possibly increase the amount of students that attend these amazing colleges. These
30 students spend more time in the state than they do outside of the state through the school year, and
31 some even consider them as residents of the state of Alabama. By paying the tuition fees at their
32

33 respective boarding schools, these students already contribute to Alabama revenue.

34

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

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41 Section V: This bill will become effective the next college school year upon its enactment and
42 approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S058

Committee: 4

Delegation: Montgomery - Montgomery Academy

Author(s): James Torbert

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: The Mental Health Support Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

The Mental Health Support Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. Beginning January 1, 2019, all public high schools in the state of Alabama are required to have one "Mental Health Counselor" per every 200 students. Furthermore, all public high school students are required to take one state regulated mental health and drug abuse class offered by their high school. Mental Health Counselors will also be encouraged and funded to bring in outside forms of stress relief, such as therapeutic dogs.

SECTION 2. "Mental health counselor" is defined as an individual who helps patients work through personal issues like anger management, depression, suicidal thoughts, relational problems, stress, or addiction. They provide psychotherapy, assessment, diagnosis, substance abuse treatment, and crisis management. All mental health counselors are required to have an advanced degree (minimum of master's degree) in mental health fields, including but not limited to, psychology, behavioral sciences, or counseling. Mental Health and Drug Abuse Classes are taught by the Mental health counselors already hired by the school. This allows the counselors to not only educate the students but also bond with the students. These classes are designed to educate the students about drug abuse, as well as ways to cope with and help others with mental illnesses.

SECTION 3. The Department of Mental Health and the Department of Education will oversee the fulfillment of this bill. The funding for this bill will come from a sin tax. The sin tax will be an extra 3.5% charge on all tobacco and alcohol products in the State. Any extra funding will come from the Department of Mental Health.

SECTION 4. This bill will take effect on January 1, 2019.

SECTION 5. All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by James Torbert.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S059

Committee: 4

Delegation: Hoover - Spain Park

Author(s): Katherine Voorhees

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Outlaw Offshore Drilling in Alabama Waters

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section I: Definitions**

2
3 Offshore drilling - the process of extracting oil from below the seabed

4
5 Marsh - a wetland without trees

6
7 Estuary - where the river meets the sea

8
9 Global climate change - the changes occurring to Earth's climate

10
11 Biodiversity - diversity of life, such as the number of species of plants and animals

12
13 Deepwater Horizon oil spill - a large oil spill that occurred off the coast of Louisiana on April 20, 2010

14
15 Alabama waters - the stretch of ocean water from the coast of Alabama to 125 miles out to sea

16
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18
19 **Section II: Proposal**

20
21 Because of the dangers that offshore drilling presents to Alabama's environment, this bill would,
22 once enacted, outlaw offshore drilling within 125 miles of Alabama's coast. Oil companies would
23 have to discontinue their operations in these Alabama waters, and the oil rigs within 125 miles of
24 Alabama's coast will be decommissioned. Oil companies would no longer have permits for offshore
25 drilling in Alabama waters, and they would be fined for continuing to drill for oil in Alabama waters.

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29 **Section III: Justification**

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31 The dangers of offshore drilling present a serious risk for Alabama's environment. One of the risks

32

33 of offshore drilling is an oil spill. In 2010 one of the largest marine oil spills occurred in the Gulf of
34 Mexico off the coast of Louisiana. At its peak, the damaged oil well was leaking 60,000 barrels per
35 day. This oil spill damaged Louisiana's beaches, marshes, and estuaries, and an estimated 1,100
36 miles of shoreline were polluted. Furthermore, the economy suffered because fishing closed and
37 because tourism slowed down. The risk of an oil spill such as this one is one reason to outlaw
38 offshore drilling.

39
40 The threat that oil spills present to estuaries is especially concerning. Estuaries provide several
41 benefits, including habitat for animals, nurseries for young animals, fisheries, recreation for people,
42 water purification, and buffering from storms. One example of an estuary in Alabama is the Mobile-
43 Tensaw River Delta, which provides multiple benefits for its community. If estuaries are damaged by
44 oil spills, the entire community suffers.

45
46 Oil spills are also concerning because of how they affect animals. When oil gets in an animal's
47 feathers or fur, the feathers' or fur's ability to keep the animal warm is impaired, and the animal can
48 die of hypothermia. An animal can also die if it eats oil. Furthermore, oil can cause damage to an
49 animal's liver and sight.

50
51 Offshore drilling also contributes to air pollution. Air pollution is one of the causes of global climate
52 change, which includes the increased warming of the earth. Global warming creates several
53 potential problems, including a loss of biodiversity. Therefore, outlawing offshore drilling is the
54 safest option for the environment.

55 56 57 58 **Section IV: Consequences**

59
60 After this bill is passed, the economy may initially suffer as oil companies leave Alabama waters.
61 However, offshore drilling tends to have a negative effect on beaches, so once offshore drilling is
62 gone, beaches will improve, and tourism will benefit. The environment will be better protected, so
63 industries such as fishing will be better protected. Alabama's contribution to global climate change
64 will decrease, and the risk of oil spills that affect Alabama coasts will decrease.

65 66 67 68 **Section V: Enforcement**

69
70 The Alabama Department of Environmental Management will enforce this bill. If this bill is passed,
71 on the day it is signed into law oil companies will have one year to stop drilling for oil within 125
72 miles of Alabama's coast before their permits are revoked and their oil rigs are decommissioned. If
73 a company's oil operations are not discontinued within one year, the company will be fined
74 \$2,500,000. If a company's oil operations are not discontinued within two years, the company will be
75 fined \$5,000,000. After this bill is enacted, if an oil company starts a new operation of offshore
76 drilling or builds a new oil rig within 125 miles of Alabama's coast, the company will be fined
77 \$10,000,000.

78 79 80 81 **Section VI: Payment**

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The Alabama Department of Environmental Management will redirect part of their current budget to pay for enforcement of this law. Any money raised from the fines for drilling within 125 miles of Alabama’s coast (see enforcement) will also go to the payment of this bill.

Section VII:Conflicting Laws

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

Section VIII:Enactment

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



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S060

Committee: 2

Delegation: Hoover - Spain Park

Author(s): Riley Hiers

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Proper Compensation for the Wrongfully Convicted

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Author: Riley Hiers

2
3 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

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5 Title: Proper Compensation for the Wrongfully Convicted

6
7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

8
9 Section I: Definitions

10
11 Conviction - a formal declaration that someone is guilty of a criminal offense, made by the verdict of
12 a jury or the decision of a judge in a court of law.

13
14 Compensation - money awarded to someone as a recompense for loss, injury, or suffering.

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18 Section II: Proposal

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20 This bill proposes to strengthen the Alabama wrongful conviction statute. Currently the statute
21 states that a minimum of \$50,000 for each year of wrongful incarceration be paid, however a
22 wrongfully convicted person can only receive compensation if the Legislature appropriates the
23 funds. This new proposal will raise the amount to a non-negotiable \$100,000 per year for any
24 person who undeservingly serves over one year in prison. Each of the people will be paid for a span
25 of twenty years (reaching a total of \$2,000,000). Anyone who is wrongfully incarcerated and serves
26 under one year will be eligible to receive compensation following the current statute, and will only
27 receive funds if the Legislature appropriates.

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Section III: Justification

This bill is necessary because people who are wrongfully convicted and placed on death row lose years of their lives that they will never be able to get back. After being exonerated, each of the wrongfully convicted deserve compensation, and much more than what is currently offered. And although the statute currently states that a person receives a minimum of \$50,000 per year for wrongful incarceration, this amount is usually never received because the Legislature must appropriate the funds. That is why I am proposing a rise in the amount that a person be paid for wrongful incarceration, and ensuring that the amount of money is actually paid.

Section IV: Consequences

Upon approval, this bill will ensure that any person who is wrongfully convicted in the state of Alabama receives compensation of \$100,000 a year for twenty years (this only applies to those who serve over one year of jail time). Anyone who serves below one year will follow the current statute. Any wrongful convictions prior to the passage of this bill will not be affected.

Section V: Enforcement

This bill will be overseen and enforced by the Department of Corrections.

Section VI: Payment

For any person who is exonerated, their \$100,000 per year will be paid for through a slight raise in property taxes of about \$0.02 per person. (If multiple people are deserving of compensation this two cent raise will be multiplied accordingly). Alabama currently has one of the nation's lowest property taxes, ranked 49th out of 50 states with only Hawaii below.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

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

Section VIII: Enactment

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



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2017

February 24, 2017

Delegate Bill #S061

Committee: 4

Delegation: Hoover - Spain Park

Author(s): Justin Clay

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: The Alabama Drought Relief and Mitigation Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section I: Definitions:**
2

3 **Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM)** - The department within the
4 Alabama state government that specifically deals with the creation and implementation of
5 environmental laws in Alabama.
6

7 **Conservation-** The action of conserving something, in particular.
8

9 **Drip Irrigation-** A low-pressure, low-volume watering system that delivers water to home
10 landscapes in a variety of methods, including dripping, spraying and streams. By keeping the roots
11 moist but not soaked, you use less water than other irrigation techniques.
12

13 **Biodiversity Hotspot-** A biogeographic region that is both a significant reservoir of biodiversity and
14 is threatened with destruction. The term biodiversity hotspot specifically refers to 25 biologically rich
15 areas around the world that have lost at least 70 percent of their original habitat.
16

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19 **Section II: Proposal:**
20

21 This bill creates a three pronged approach to addressing water use issues in the state of Alabama.
22 It does so by creating regulation for water use, increasing the ADEM budget and incentivizing water
23 conservation.
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25 **Section II: A - Regulation**
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27 **Outdoor Water Use Stages:**
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Stage 1: Odd/even water days (or similar plans) are made mandatory for all outdoor uses. No restriction on time of day. These schedules will be published by the ADEM upon the signing of this bill into law.

Stage 2: Stage 1 restrictions, PLUS watering using hand and hose sprinklers only between 5-7 a.m. and 7-10 p.m. Automatic irrigation system operation between 10 p.m.-5 a.m. No filling of swimming pools (although pools may be topped off). Only personal vehicles may be spray washed using an automatic shut-off nozzle.

Stage 3: Hand watering of gardens only. No car washing. Automatic irrigation systems may be used only between 12-5 a.m. on scheduled days.

Stage 4: Outside watering of gardens only with drip irrigation or saved shower water. New landscapes may be watered by permit only.

Stage 5: No outside water use except with saved shower water.

Indoor Water Use Regulations:

Every resident will be fined 200\$ for every hundred cubic feet of water, or 748 gallons, used above the excessive water use threshold established by the urban retail water supplier in a billing cycle.

Creation of Agriculture Water Use Regulations:

farmers will be required to use drip irrigation systems and to use automatic irrigation systems in order be more agriculturally efficient. These agricultural methods would be implemented statewide by January 1, 2021, farmers who refuse to update irrigation methods by the cutoff date will incur fines, these will be determined by the ADEM and the Alabama Department of Agriculture.

Section II: B: Budget:

Increase in Budget for ADEM for Drought Prevention:

there will be a \$6,000,000 budget set aside for the ADEM's use. This funding will be used to create more drought-preventing systems statewide. This will be restoring the ADEM's previous funding levels. By doing this, the ADEM can take steps to further prevent future droughts.

Section II: C: Incentives:

Household Water Conserving Devices:

The ADEM will start to offer incentives for households that purchase and use devices that use water more effectively. These items will be tax deductible and will be given a \$50 tax credit value.

There will be no limit to the amount of devices each household can buy. A list of devices will be published by the ADEM upon the recovery from the current drought.

83

84 All of this is meant to recover Alabama from its current drought, and implement systems that would
85 prevent any future droughts.

86

87 **All of these systems will be permanently implemented in the state of Alabama.**

88

89

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91 **Section III: Justification:**

92

93 -Alabama is currently in one of the worst droughts in the country, this is hurting our state and
94 straining our natural resources. These actions have to be put in place in order to help our state.

95

96 **Drought has economic consequences:**

97

98 Drought causes annual economic losses of \$6-8 billion, more than the losses caused by floods
99 (\$2.41 billion) or hurricanes (\$1.2-4.8 billion). (National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration).

100

101 **The effects of drought can be mitigated:**

102

103 Using recycled water (treated to almost drinkable standards) on landscaping would save the U.S.
104 enough fresh water in a year for everyone in New York City to take a 10-minute shower every day
105 for 4 1/2 years.

106

107 **ADEM is Dangerously underfunded:**

108

109 In 2008, ADEM received more than \$6 million in general fund appropriations, now the ADEM only
110 gets \$280,000 from the general fund, and is required to put over \$1 million back into the general
111 fund from fees collected from scrap tire disposal and solid waste disposal in the state.

112

113 **Biodiversity has its own value:**

114

115 Alabama is a biodiversity hotspot, this biodiversity is mostly seen in Alabama's rivers. These
116 ecosystems are greatly damaged by these droughts.

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120 **Section IV: Expected outcome:**

121

122 The expected outcome of this bill will first, get Alabama out of its current stage 4 drought, and
123 second, implement systems that will prevent future droughts and aid our environment. These
124 regulations will greatly reduce water waste and will lead to a better Alabama.

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128 **Section V: Enforcement:**

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130 The enforcement of this bill will come at the hands of the Alabama Department of Environmental
131 Management. This agency will be responsible for implementing these new systems and enforcing
132 them. Residents who fail to abide by these new standards will be prosecuted by the ADEM. The

133 ADEM will also be responsible for the incentives offered for water conserving devices.

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137 **Section VI: Payment:**

138

139 This bill will be paid for by an increase in funding to the ADEM from alabama's state tax revenue as
140 well as the fines gained by the enforcement of this bill. This bill will be paid for by making a 0.003%
141 tax cut to the general fund in order to restore the ADEM budget.

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145 **Section VII: Conflicting Laws:**

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

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151 **Section VIII: Enactment:**

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

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