



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S001

Committee: 2

Delegation: Montgomery - Trinity Presbyterian School

Author(s): Reid Davis, Mason Lawrence

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Reforming payday lending

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Whereas, currently in the State of Alabama, Payday lending is not regulated and lenders can chose
2 the amount of time the borrower has to pay the loan back.

3 4 **Section I:** Definitions

5
6 Payday Lending- A payday loan is a small, short-term unsecured loan.

7
8 Lender- an organization or person that lends money.

9
10 Borrower- a person or organization that takes out a loan under an agreement to pay it back later,
11 typically with interest.

12 13 14 15 **Section II:** Proposition

16
17 Under existing law, the term of a payday loan is between 10 and 31 calendar days. This bill would
18 set the term of all payday loans at minimum of 30 calendar days. Payday lenders can put any
19 regulation they want on a loan whether it be 10 or 31 days. The bill would benefit both the borrower
20 and the lender. The borrower would have more time to pay back the loan which increases the
21 chance that they would actually pay back the loan. The lenders would all operate under the same
22 rules and have a greater chance of getting the loans payed back on time. Overall, this bill would
23 protect the economic vibrancy of our communities by keeping more of our dollars in Alabama. A
24 more stable lending and repayment cycle means less money flows into the pockets of out of state
25 payday lenders.

26 27 28 29 **Section III:** Action

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31 By passing this bill, Payday lending would have a regulation of 30 days to pay the loan back. A
32

33 structured environment for lending and borrowing would reduce the rate at which interest grows and
34 fees pile up; thus reducing debt.

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38 **Section IV: Funding**

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40 There is no expenditure connected to this legislation.

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44 **Section V: Severability Clause**

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46 Any laws or parts of law in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed

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50 **Section VI: Enactment Clause**

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52 This act shall become effective immediately following its passage and approval by the Governor, to
53 its otherwise becoming a law.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S002

Committee: 1

Delegation: Montgomery - Jeff Davis

Author(s): NaSia Crosby

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Racial discrimination

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section1:

2
3 Racial discrimination -refers to discrimination against individuals on the basis of their race.

4
5 Section2:

6
7 State what you want to do- I want to enforce my bill to remove race from any form of application
8 such as for jobs, housing, school, loans etc.

9
10 Although certain jobs require a percentage of each race in a work place.Since 1990 white applicants
11 received on average 36% more callbacks than blacks and 24% more callbacks than Latino
12 applicants with IDENTICAL resumes.

13
14 Section3:

15
16 Consequences- The consequence would be a fine for \$10,000 against the company/organization.

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20 *Policies of racial segregation may formalize it, but it is still also exerted without being legalized and
21 also it means facing injustice. The levels of discrimination has not changed since 1990.*

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S003

Committee: 2

Delegation: Montgomery - Jeff Davis

Author(s): Kavarius Thomas, Jayden McCall

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Increase Teacher Pay and School Fund

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section 1: Proposition

2
3 This bill will raise gas and property tax to give teachers a pay increase and to increase the Alabama
4 school funding . Gas tax will be raised from 16 cents per gallon to 32 cents. Property tax will be
5 raised from 0.43% to 0.86%.

6
7 Section 2: Justification

8
9 Teachers make an average of \$45,610 yearly, to be such important members of society, they are
10 grossly underpaid. A pay increase, along with the extra funding money, helps to support the school
11 system and intices workers to get into the teaching career field due to the increase in pay.

12
13 Section 3: Funding

14
15 Gas and property taxes will be raised to fund the pay increase.

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17 Section 4: Enactment Clause

18
19 This bill will become effective immediatly after its enactment and approval by the govenor or
20 otherwise becoming law.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S004

Committee: 4

Delegation: Montgomery - Jeff Davis

Author(s): Aldrick Cade

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Forceable Rapist lose their right to be called the legal guardian

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section 1:**
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5 Forceable Rapist- one who forces another to have sex with them(usually a male).
6

7 Legal guardian- person who has legal authority(and the corresponding duty) to care for the personal
8 and property interestof another person
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12 **Section 2:**
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16 In the event that the famle becomes pregnant while being raped, the rapist will lose all legal
17 guardianship over the child.
18

19 Additionally, not only would we be putting the rapist behind bars, but we will also cut off his right to
20 file the child as his dependent and try and gain custody over the child opening the wounds back up
21 for the mother and in some cases the child.
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25 **Section 3:**
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29 The Forceable rapist will lose the right to make the choices for their minor under the age of 18, as
30 well prison time up to 20 years.
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Any benefits the minor has the Forceable rapist cannot and will not be authorized to possess.

Any property(not including money) gained by the forced rapist will be repossessed, and given back to the state for redistribution, the finances of the rapist will be turned over to the child for the support and upbringing of the child.

Section 4:

The Alabama Department of Human Resources will handle the oversight of this law being enforced.

Any funding that is needed will come from the general fund.

Section 5:

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

Section 6:

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



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S005

Committee: 4

Delegation: Montgomery - Jeff Davis

Author(s): Ornesha Whatley

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Lower Solitary Confinement Rates and Time Spent Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section 1:** Solitary- done or existing alone

2
3 Confinement-Restrain someone from leaving a place

4
5 Solitary Confinement-The isolation of a prisoner in a seperate cell as punishment.

6
7 Rate-The speed with which something moves, happens, or changes.

8
9 **Section 2:** The number of isolated individuals nationwide increased from under 60,000 in 1995, to
10 over 80,000 in 2005. States that reduced their use of isolation in prisons by 75% saw significant
11 decreases in prison violence. A year in solitary averages \$75,000, per prisoners about 3 times the
12 average cost of incarceration. Statistics show prisoners held for long periods in solitary confinement
13 reports twice the number of symptoms of stress and trauma. In order to solve this problem, the time
14 spent in solitary confinement can no longer be allowed to exceed 1 month at a time. We must train
15 officers on how to know when it's acceptable for a person to go into solitary confinement and inform
16 the public of the hazards of solitary confinement. Today, having one person in solitary confinement
17 over 31 days would be illegal.

18
19 **Section 3:** If a person violates this law, serious consequences follows. The person may be
20 suspended or terminated from their job. It all depends on the extremes of the violation.

21
22 **Section 4:** No funding is required for ths bill. However, it will save money for better items in the jail
23 house. The main thing we would need is time to inform all inside officers, and need reach all social
24 media platforms to inform the civilians. Money can be used to increase staff's salary.

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

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

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S006

Committee: 1

Delegation: Birmingham - Indian Springs

Author(s): John Slaughter, Isaac Zhou

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: A Bill to Amend Section 182 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section I:**
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3 Section 182 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901 identifies certain Persons as being unfit to vote
4 and disqualifies them from voting processes in the State of Alabama. Many of these Persons,
5 having committed an act of moral turpitude in the eyes of the State of Alabama, are allowed to apply
6 for a Pardon to regain their right to vote. However, many of the terms used to describe these
7 Persons outlined in Section 182 are outdated and no longer common practice and many Persons
8 described should be seen as befitting of their right to vote and should not have to apply for a Pardon
9 to regain that right given the advancements of liberty witnessed in the State of Alabama since the
10 creation of Section 182. The Felony Voter Disqualification Act of 2017 contains a comprehensive list
11 of Persons with felonies who are barred from voting. This bill will synthesize that list from the 2017
12 Act and the list contained in Section 182.
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16 **Section II:**
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18 The right to vote is an extension of the right to liberty outlined in the US Constitution. Currently, in
19 Alabama, a large portion of the state population is barred from voting because of Section 182 of the
20 Alabama Constitution. Many of those Persons in Section 182 are, in light of modern realization,
21 wrongfully mislabeled as being unfit to receive their right to vote. Although many of these outdated
22 terms are made illegal for the State of Alabama to enforce by barring Persons with those descriptive
23 terms from voting, there is still a need for an amendment to directly and explicitly make it clear to
24 the common population of Alabama what the requirements for voting are. In addition, certain
25 Persons need to be removed from the list of those barred from voting on the grounds that their
26 actions do not and should not affect their ability to vote morally.
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30 **Section III:**
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It should be conceded that many offenses listed in Section 182 are reasonable and that Persons who commit those offenses should have to petition the government to obtain their right to vote, except for those who commit treason or are sentenced to death. Those terms that should be left as they are includes the following: Treason, Murder, Arson, “assault with intent to rob”, Robbery, malfeasance in office, Bribery, Perjury and subornation of perjury, Forgery, Rape, and the various terms used to describe election fraud and conspiracy (Ala. Const.).

Section IV:

There are two terms that should be kept in Section 182 but should be revised to accommodate for modern legal language. As it is used in Section 182, “all idiots and insane persons” are barred from voting, but this should be revised to ‘all Persons declared morally incompetent in a court of law’ to accommodate for modern voting laws. The second is “assault and battery on the wife”, which should be revised to “Domestic Abuse” to encompass domestic abuse that occurs within all relationships and to all sexes (Ala. Const.).

Section V:

Of the offenses that should be removed holistically from Section 182 in the proposed Amendment, there are many that have already been made illegal through previous laws and amendments to enforce as an offense to keep someone from voting. Those offenses that should be left out of the amendment due to these reasons are the following: “living in adultery”, Sodomy, Miscegenation (intermarriage in terms of race), “crimes against nature”, being a vagrant, and being a tramp (Ala. Const.).

Section VI:

Of the offenses that should be removed holistically from Section 182 in the proposed Amendment, there are many that should be removed on the grounds that those offenses do not affect one’s ability to vote morally and truly. Those offenses that should be removed the preceding reason are the following: Embezzlement, Larceny, “receiving stolen property”, “obtaining property or money under false pretenses”, Burglary, Bigamy, and Incest (Ala. Const.). Those mentioned offenses that deal with theft, as long as those offenses are non-violent, should be removed on the basis that stealing something is not as great an act of moral turpitude as an act of violence and that stealing something does not prove that a Person is incapable of voting morally. Those mentioned offenses dealing with Bigamy (a form of polygamy) and Incest should be removed on the basis that one’s sexual and marital choice, although it may be illegal and morally wrongful, should not affect one’s ability to vote morally.

Section VII:

All violent, treasonous, and fraudulent criminal acts not listed here but are found in the Felony Voter Disqualification Act are still in effect and will be added to this Amendment on its passing into law.

83 These include Manslaughter, Assault, Kidnapping, Torture, Abuse, Sexual relations with children,
84 Conspiracy and various acts of Terrorism, and Trafficking of all kinds. All other non-violent criminal
85 acts that have been revised in or amended from Section 182 of the Alabama Constitution will also
86 be revised in and amended from the Felony Voter Disqualification Act.
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90 **Section VIII:**

91
92 All Persons who are serving time in prison, on Parole, or on Probation and who are allowed to vote
93 in accordance with this amendment are barred from voting until they have completed their sentence.
94 All those barred from voting permanently by this amendment may apply for a Pardon with the
95 Alabama Board of Pardons and Paroles in accordance with their guidelines.
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99 **Section IX:**

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101 Any existing legislation that is in conflict with this bill is hereby repealed.
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103 **Section X:**

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105 This bill will be effective immediately, upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise
106 becoming a law.
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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S007

Committee: 1

Delegation: Dothan - Northside Methodist

Author(s): Maggie Sparks, Caroline Horn

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Voting Rights of Felons Restoration Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section 1: Definitions

2
3 Felony: a crime, typically one involving violence, regarded as more serious than a misdemeanor,
4 and usually punishable by imprisonment for more than one year or by death. Examples include drug
5 trafficking, burglary, robbery, manslaughter, murder, and rape among others.
6

7 Section 2: The voting rights of convicted felons will be restored immediately upon their release from
8 prison after serving their sentence. Felons who have outstanding fines or continue to serve
9 probation will also have their rights restored.
10

11 Section 3: People who have been convicted of felony voter fraud will not have their rights restored
12 unless the conviction is overturned.
13

14 Section 4: Individuals convicted of a felony in the future will not lose their right to vote. All individuals
15 previously convicted of a felony will immediately have their voting rights reinstated upon passage of
16 this act.
17

18 Section 5: All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or provisions of this act are hereby
19 repealed.
20

21 Section 6: This bill will become effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the Governor
22 or its otherwise becoming a law.
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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S008

Committee: 5

Delegation: Montgomery - Catholic

Author(s): austin collett

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Safe Driver Raffle

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section 1- Definitions

2
3 Lottery - a form of gambling that involves the drawing of numbers for a prize

4
5 Traffic Ticket - A traffic ticket is a notice issued by a law enforcement official to a motorist or other
6 road user, indicating that the user has violated traffic laws and is thus required to pay a fine and/or
7 fight the offense in court

8
9 Safe Driver - A driver, who from Jan 1st to Dec 1st, has not committed any traffic violation or paid
10 any vehicle related fine to the state

11
12 Safe Driver Lottery - Official name of the proposed lottery

13
14 Section 2- Proposition

15
16 This bill's intent is to create a lottery for safe drivers. This bill would raise all traffic tickets by one
17 dollar to be allocated to the Safe Driver Lottery. The money collected from traffic tickets or other
18 fines related to motor vehicles would be divided up and distributed to the preallocated departments
19 as normal and the additional dollar would be set aside in an additional fund to be used as the pot for
20 the lottery. The Department of Motor Vehicles would then determine which drivers were classified
21 as Safe Drivers and put all those names in the drawing for three levels of prizes: five grand prizes of
22 \$10,000, five second place prizes of \$6,000 and ten third place prizes of \$4,000. The drawing would
23 be electronic similar to the Powerball but instead of numbers, names would be drawn. The winners
24 would be contacted via mail, with the directions to receive their prize at the nearest DMV location to
25 them. The drawings will be broadcast, names will be chosen for the prizes from smallest to largest,
26 names selected entirely random, with equal opportunity, and regardless of any other factor. The first
27 lottery will take place Dec 31st, 2020 and every Dec 31st thereafter. The cutoff for tickets would be
28 Dec 1st and the DMV would have one month to compile the names and data.

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30 Section 3- Justification

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According to statistics around 20% of all drivers in America will get a traffic ticket this year. If Alabama raised all traffic tickets by a single dollar, with the population of Alabama being roughly 4.9 million and assuming 20% of those people will get tickets, we would raise an additional \$980,000. That money, after being used for the lottery, would then be allocated to the needs of the State as determined by the Department of Finance.

Section 4- Funding

This bill would require little to no funding as most systems that are needed for the operation of the Safe Driver Lottery already exist such as driver databases. The only funding required would be for the purchase of a system to run the name-picking, but those costs would be paid for by the revenue created from the first year. Should more people be needed to ensure the effective running of this drawing seasonal part-time workers would be hired. Since the lottery would not begin until 2020 and the ticket cost increase would commence April 1st, 2019, the money put in a newly created lottery fund would be free to be used for the purchase of all required materials.

Section 5- Repealing Clause

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

Section 6- Enactment Clause

This act shall be effective beginning April 1st, 2019 after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S009

Committee: 3

Delegation: Montgomery - Catholic

Author(s): Christian Friday

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Upholding the Alabama State Abortion Policy of 2018

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions
2

3 abortion - the termination of an unborn human life by way of medication, vacuum aspiration, or any
4 other method used to extract and destroy a human fetus
5

6 Pre-fertilization birth control- medication that seeks to prevent pregnancy prior to the fertilization of
7 the female gamete. Such as but not limited to: birth control pills, plan b, condoms, etc.
8

9 Alabama Amendment 2 (2018) - an approved amendment in the recent 2018 election containing the
10 following text added to the Alabama state constitution:
11

12 (a) This state acknowledges, declares, and affirms that it is the public policy of this state to
13 recognize and support the sanctity of unborn life and the rights of unborn children, including the
14 right to life.
15

16 (b) This state further acknowledges, declares, and affirms that it is the public policy of this state to
17 ensure the protection of the rights of the unborn child in all manners and measures lawful and
18 appropriate.
19

20 (c) Nothing in this constitution secures or protects a right to abortion or requires the funding of an
21 abortion.
22

23 Section II: Proposal
24

25 As it is declared by the Constitution of the State of Alabama, the policy of the state is in support of
26 the sanctity of unborn life and the rights of unborn children. By the passing of this bill, the state of
27 Alabama would hereby legalize any and all acts of abortion and methods of performing it,
28 excepting extreme cases of the carrying mother's life being deemed at risk by a certified medical
29 doctor, or the mother's OB-GYN. This bill would also legalize the selling, prescription, and
30 distribution of any medication inherently designed to risk the proper development of an unborn
31 fetus, excepting those following the conditions as previously stated pertaining to abortions. This
32

33 does not apply to legal pre-fertilization birth control methods. Any statements in Alabama state law
34 pertaining to fetal viability in terms of allowing abortion are hereby repealed, as it is such that it is no
35 longer necessary for the state to define those circumstances. Those parties in violation of the
36 contents of this bill e.g. performing doctors, participating mothers, are considered to be committing
37 the felony of homicide, and Alabama law concerning homicide will be applied to violators.
38

39 Section III: Funding
40

41 This bill requires no funding from the state to be enacted, and businesses profiting from the practice
42 of abortion will not be compensated after the passing of this bill.
43

44 Section IV: Departments
45

46 The State of Alabama Law Enforcement Agency and the Department of Public Health will carry out
47 the contents of this bill, particularly the enforcement of the conviction of violators and the disposal
48 and removal of sale of medication inherently designed to risk fetal development.
49

50 Section V: Repealing Clause
51

52 All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
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54 Section VI: Enactment Clause
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56 This bill will become effective on the first calendar day of January 2020.
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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S010

Committee: 3

Delegation: Montgomery - Catholic

Author(s): Nicholas Brown

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: The Legalization of Recreational Cannabis

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section 1: Definitions
2

3 Recreational- relating to or denoting activity done for enjoyment when one is not working Cannabis-
4 the whole, unprocessed marijuana plant or its basic extracts
5

6 Section 2: Proposal
7

8 The intent of the bill is to legalize the production, transportation, and consumption of cannabis in
9 accord with regulations set by the Department of Agriculture. Yearly renewable licenses would be
10 open for purchase from the state at \$50,000 for the ability to grow cannabis on state approved
11 private farms in a specific process as dictated by the Department of Agriculture. Regulation and
12 transportation of cannabis from farms to cannabis shops will be the responsibility of the Department
13 of Agriculture with the assistance of the ALEA (Alabama Law Enforcement Agency).
14

15 Section 3: Justification
16

17 Legalizing cannabis would allow people in Alabama the ability to use cannabis as a recreational
18 drug for relaxation and also for medicinal purposes.
19

20 Section 4: Funding
21

22 The growth of cannabis would be done by private farms that have obtained a state-issued permit
23 that must be renewed yearly. The transportation of the substance would be handled by the ALEA at
24 a monetary rate determined by the Department of Agriculture. Money obtained through permits and
25 transportation costs will be distributed as needed between the Department of Agriculture and the
26 ALEA as dictated by the Alabama State Treasury. Any remaining profits shall be deposited into the
27 Alabama General Fund. The sale and distribution of the cannabis shall be handled by cannabis
28 shops. There would provide an increase in jobs in the Department of Agriculture and the ALEA.
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30 Section 5:
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All conflicting laws or sections within laws conflicting with this law are hereby repealed. The new laws set into place would set canibus under the same category as alcohol with regards to driving under the influence (DUI).

Section 6: EnactmentThe bill shall become effective May 1, 2019 after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S011

Committee: 1

Delegation: Montgomery - Catholic

Author(s): Jack Burt

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Removing Segregative Language From Our State Constitution

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I. Purpose

2
3 To amend Section 256 of the Alabama State Constitution.

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7 Section II. Definitions

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9 Amend- Modify formally, as a legal document or legislative bill.

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13 Section III. Explanation and Action

14
15 Alabama has long been associated with the former restriction of civil rights, as well as being at the
16 heart of civil rights reform. We claim to have come far since the days of the Jim Crow laws, but our
17 state still has racist language in its constitution, particularly in Section 256. The portion of Section
18 256 I propose for removal is as follows: " Separate schools shall be provided for white and colored
19 children, and no child of either race shall be permitted to attend a school of the other race."
20 Although this portion is made null by federal laws, an amendment to this section would be an
21 outward sign of social and civil progress of our state, and with its removal, Alabama's state law on
22 school segregation will finally be in stride with federal law.

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26 Section IV. Repealing Clause

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

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Section V. Enactment Clause.

Upon the passing of this bill by the Alabama State Legislature, the amendment will be put to a statewide vote on November 3, 2020 in the general election. If voted yes by the majority, it will be enacted immediately.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S012

Committee: 3

Delegation: Montgomery - Catholic

Author(s): Anna Sadie

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Requiring DHR to investigate reports of drug or alcohol abuse of pregnant women

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1
2
3 Section 1: Definitions

4
5 Department of Human Resources (DHR)- Alabama state agency that provides for the protection,
6 well-being, and self-sufficiency of children and adults

7
8 Drug abuse- the habitual taking of addictive or illegal drugs

9
10 Alcohol abuse- the habitual misuse of alcohol

11
12 Section 2: Explanation

13
14 A bill to require the Alabama Department of Human Resources to investigate any reports received
15 of women abusing drugs or alcohol while pregnant in order to enforce laws and protect the unborn
16 child.

17
18 Section 3: Justification

19
20 Currently in Alabama, if a pregnant woman is found to be abusing drugs or alcohol, the woman can
21 be charged with child abuse. Alabama is one of 23 states with a law like this. A pregnant woman
22 can only be charged or investigated for child abuse by law authorities. While the Alabama
23 Department of Human Resources investigates charges of child abuse with living children, they will
24 not investigate or even take reports involving pregnant mothers. As DHR workers and reporters
25 would be more likely to come into contact with pregnant women with a history of substance and
26 child abuse than law authorities, this bill will protect the unborn child and mother throughout
27 pregnancy and allow the already existing law involving pregnant mothers and child abuse to be
28 more fully enforced.

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30 Section 4: Funding

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There is no funding required in this law.

Section 5: Repealing Clause

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

Section 6: Enactment Clause

This bill shall become effective on January 1st, 2020 after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S013

Committee: 2

Delegation: Birmingham - Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Hampton Boles

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: State Mandated School Calendar Days and Exam Exemption Policies

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section 1:**
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5 Calender Day- A said day in which school is in session.
6

7 **Section 2:**
8

9 This bill will mandate that all public schools in the State of Alabama will be held to the same
10 calender days, absence policies, and exam exemption policies. In order to determine the mandated
11 policies, the governer will apoint an Education Policy Committee. The said commitee shall not be
12 permitted to set school calender day amounting below 170 and above 200. Regulation involving
13 exam exemption policies and absence policies can be set to any standard found suitable.
14

15 **Section 3:**
16

17 Schools across the State of Alabama varie greatly when compared on exam exemption policies,
18 absense policies, and calender days. These differences effect a students experince and the dificulty
19 level inside the school. This bill will nulify these differences.
20

21 **Section 4:**
22

23 All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
24

25 **Section 5:**
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27 This act shall become effective on June 1, 2019
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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S014

Committee: 3

Delegation: Birmingham - Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Julia Holmes

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: An Act to Prevent Teenage Suicide

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section One: Definitions**
2

3 Mandatory Reporting: legislative requirement for selected classes of people to report suspected
4 child abuse, neglect, and suicide to government authorities.
5

6 Mandatory Reporters (as this legislation refers to them): child care providers, caregivers, school
7 counselors, and school teachers.
8
9

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11 **Section Two: Justification**
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13 Suicide is the leading cause of death in adolescents, whereas its the tenth leading cause of death in
14 adults. Each day in the United States, there are over 3,000 suicide attempts by high schoolers
15 alone. Many of these students report feeling alone, with no support system at home or at school.
16 Seeing as most teenagers spend over eight hours each day in school, the system needs to be
17 altered in order to accommodate suicidal and depressed children. My proposal allows for these
18 students to lean on teachers for support, without leaving the teachers in legal trouble.
19
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21

22 **Section Three: Proposal for Action**
23

24 Should this bill be enacted, all public schools in Alabama will adapt the following procedures for
25 suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention.
26

27 *PREVENTION*
28

29 All public school personnel will receive at least two hours of suicide awareness and prevention
30 training annually. This training will allow for teachers to delineate the difference between talking
31 about depression and the threat of suicide. Mandatory reporter laws for school personnel will be
32 loosened in order to allow students to discuss depression, anxiety, mental illness, and suicide with

33 their counselors and teachers. Mandatory reporter laws will only allow for school personnel to
34 report students if there is an immediate threat to their well-being.

35
36 *INTERVENTION*

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38 Developmentally appropriate, student-centered education materials will be integrated into all K-12
39 Health Classes. Each school will be required to hire or train a staff member to become a mental
40 health professional. Students will be referred to this person, who will assess their risk before
41 notifying a parent.

42 *POSTVENTION*

43
44 A parent or guardian will be required to present documentation from a mental healthcare provider
45 that the student is no longer a danger to themselves or others. A designated staff member will
46 periodically check in with the student. This staff member will become his or her personal advocate
47 to other teachers in terms of deadlines and makeup work. In the event that an attempt was
48 successful, a crisis team of made up of school personnel will assess the situation and identify those
49 most affected. They will initiate support services in order to avoid suicide contagion.

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52 **Section Four: Funding**

53
54 All funding for any additional hired personnel will come from Alabama's General Fund.

55
56 **Section Five:**

57
58 All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

59
60 **Section Six: Enactment**

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62 This act will become effective at the beginning of the following school year after its passage and
63 approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S015

Committee: 5

Delegation: Birmingham - Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Claire Kankirawatana, Mary Morgan Trowbridge

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: A Bill to Ban Plastic Bags

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 A Bill to reduce the pollution produced by single-use plastic bags by implementing a fee then a ban.

2
3 **Section 1**

4
5 Plastic Bags: a bag made of a thin, flexible plastic material with handles, often supplied by a shop to
6 carry goods purchased there.

7
8 Landfill- a site for the disposal of waste materials by burial.

9
10 Carbon footprint- the amount of carbon dioxide and other carbon compounds emitted due to the
11 consumption of fossil fuels by a particular person, group, etc.

12
13 **Section 2**

14
15 It is estimated that 8 million metric tons of plastic finds its way into our oceans each year. It is also
16 estimated that around 100 billion plastic bags pass through the hands of U.S. consumers annually--
17 almost one bag per person every day. Not to mention that our very own Gulf of Mexico is not only
18 known for blue crab, shrimp, and redfish-- but plastic too. It is our responsibilities as Alabamians to
19 lower the percentage of plastic pollution on our beaches and in our landfills.

20
21 **Section 3**

22
23 We propose a solution to Alabama's pollution problem by banning the use of plastic bags in all retail
24 stores selling food or alcohol. The ban would be implemented at the start of the year 2020. All
25 shoppers and stores until then, effective immediately, are required to introduce a 10 cent fine per
26 plastic bag in hopes of disincentivizing their use in time for the ban. The money collected by the fine
27 will be used to clean up Alabama landfills and lakes.

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29 **Section 4**

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

Section 5

This bill shall become effective immediately upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law. The 10 cent fee will become effective immediately and the ban will become effective on January 1st, 2020.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S016

Committee: 3

Delegation: Birmingham - Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Cantrell Moore

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: No Questions Asked ii

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section 1: A bill to allow students enrolled in 9th-12th grades in the state to take a maximum of two
2 (2) Personal Days each academic semester, subject to certain restrictions. This bill shall amend
3 Alabama Code 16-28-2.1 regarding standards for mandatory attendance in public schools by adding
4 a new section (b) as follows:

5
6 Section 2: Definitions

7
8 Student: Any person enrolled in 9th, 10th, 11th or 12th grade in a school within the jurisdiction of the
9 State Board of Education.

10
11 Personal Day: Any school day identified by a Student as a day of excused absence.

12
13 Section 3: In adopting standards for mandatory attendance (as already required by Alabama State
14 Law) the State Board of Education shall adopt standards which allow Students enrolled in 9th-12th
15 grades to take a maximum of two (2) Personal Days each academic semester without violating the
16 mandatory attendance policy, subject to the restrictions in section 4 below.

17
18 Section 4: Personal Days shall not be taken on announced test days of any kind. Students may
19 divide each Personal Day into two Personal half-Days which may be taken on different calendar
20 days, provided that no particular class period is missed more than once for each Personal Day.
21 (Example, all four half days cannot be used to skip the first half of the school day, but two of them
22 can).

23
24 Section 5: Each local school board may establish policies, not in conflict with this bill, regarding
25 these Personal Days, including, but not limited to: makeup work, availability of Personal Days during
26 the first week of a semester or adjacent to other school holidays, availability of Personal Days
27 during summer school, and requirements that Students taking a Personal Day or Personal half-Day
28 meet with a guidance counselor within three (3) days of any such absence.

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30 Section 6: These organizations will be required for the bill to take effect:
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1. State School Board

Will be responsible for drafting the new mandatory standards and make sure they take effect properly.

2. Alabama Local School Boards

Each local school board will be required to implement the mandatory policies above and adopt additional policies consistent with Sections 4 and 5 above.

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

Section 8: This act shall come into effect at the beginning of the 2020-21 school year after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S017

Committee: 5

Delegation: Birmingham - Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Anna Phillips, Alia Walsh

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: RGGI's Guide to Reducing Carbon Emissions

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative ("RGGI" pronounced "Reggie"): a cooperative effort among the states of Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont to cap and reduce CO2 emissions from the power sector.

RGGI Model Rule: a set of proposed regulations that form the basis for each RGGI State's CO2 Budget Trading Program.

RGGI Quarterly Auction: the transfer of CO2 allowances that are offered for sale by the states and purchased by the winning qualified bidders in the quarterly auctions.

Power Sector: An energy-consuming sector that consists of electricity only and combined heat and power(CHP) plants whose primary business is to sell electricity, and heat, to the public

Secondary Market: used to refer to the market for any used goods or assets, or an alternative use for an existing product or asset where the customer base is the second market

Greenhouse Gas: a gas that contributes to the greenhouse effect by absorbing infrared radiation, e.g., carbon dioxide

CO2 allowances: Traded rights, representing 1t of CO2 which was not released into the atmosphere (non-emitted CO2).

RGGI CO2 Allowance Tracking System (RGGI COATS): the platform that records and tracks data for each state's CO2 Budget Trading Program. RGGI COATS also facilitates market participation by enabling:

The allocation, award, and transfer of CO2 allowances;

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The certification and providing of CO2 allowances for compliance-related tasks;

The registration and submittal of applications and reports for offset projects.

Section II: Propositions

Alabama will join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative's fifth three-year compliance period beginning January 1, 2021. The goal of joining REGGI is to reduce carbon emissions of power sectors.

Within the RGGI states, fossil-fuel-fired electric power generators with a capacity of 25 megawatts (MW) or greater ("regulated sources") are required to hold allowances equal to their CO2 emissions over a three-year control period.

Each state's CO2 Budget Trading Program limits emissions of CO2 from electric power plants, issues CO2 allowances and establishes participation in regional CO2 allowance auctions.

Power Sectors participate in an online auction where they purchase an allowance that limits the amount of carbon emitted. In addition to purchasing allowances at auction, entities are also able to trade allowances on secondary markets, via over-the-counter trades as well as exchanges such as ICE.

The RGGI COATS emissions and allowance tracking system enables the tracking of RGGI market and program data, including CO2 emissions from regulated power plants and CO2 allowance transactions among market participants.

Section III: Justification

This initiative is modeled after the cooperative effort of Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont. There have been three periods of compliance starting in 2009 and Rggi is currently in it's fourth period. Alabama can join Rggi and benefit from the already 40% power sector carbon emission cuts in other Rggi states.

A Clean Air Task Force (CATF) study investigated public health benefits arising from the RGGI states' shift to cleaner power generation. The study found that the RGGI states transition to cleaner energy is saving hundreds of lives, preventing thousands of asthma attacks and reducing medical impacts and expenses by billions of dollars.

Other independent reports have analyzed RGGI's economic impact. For example, two reports by the Analysis Group studied RGGI's first and second three-year compliance periods. They found that the effects of RGGI's first three years are generating in \$1.6 billion in net economic benefit and 16,000 job-years, and RGGI's second three years are generating \$1.3 billion in net economic benefit and 14,700 job-years. These figures do not include co-benefits such as public health improvements or avoided climate change impacts.

Section IV: Severability Clause

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

Section V: Enactment Clause

This bill will become effective January 1, 2021 upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S018

Committee: 1

Delegation: Birmingham - Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Abigail Ronson

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: A Bill to ban Straight-Ticket/Straight-Party voting

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

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3 Straight-Ticket/Straight-Party Voting: the practice of voting for every candidate that a political party
4 has on a general election ballot

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8 Section II: Propositions

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10 Straight-Party voting will no longer be an option on election ballots for any election in Alabama.

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12 Voters must vote for each candidate individually.

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16 Section III: Justification

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18 This bill was modeled after recent legislation in 43 out of the 50 states in America to ban straight-
19 party voting in an effort to eradicate it completely. Allowing voters the ease of voting filling in one
20 bubble for more than one candidate undermines the purpose of an election in that voters are absent-
21 mindedly voting without knowing the platforms of the people for whom they are voting. Straight-party
22 voting also gives an unfair advantage to popular, more well-known candidates at the top of the
23 ticket, which in turn, gives candidates at the lower-level of the ballot an unfair advantage. Because
24 some issues such as local land development or construction projects are not Republican or
25 Democratic issues, candidates with platforms on these issues are at a disadvantage.

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29 Texas recently passed legislation banning straight-ticket voting, which will take effect in the 2020
30 election. Additionally, in Harris County, Texas, many straight-ticket voters reported that they
31 accidentally voted entirely for the wrong party by using the straight-party voting procedure, an issue
32

33 that may have affected the outcome of the election. Moreover, the Secretary Of State's Office
34 reported that the same issue occurred in the 2016 Presidential Election. Forty-three states have ban
35 straight-party voting to better our democracy, and Alabama must follow suit.

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39 Section IV: Severability Clause

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

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Section V: Enactment Clause

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This bill will become effective on all ballots in Alabama following the Statewide Primary Election on
March 3rd, 2020, upon its enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S019

Committee: 3

Delegation: Birmingham - Vestavia Hills

Author(s): Jason Swinson

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: A Bill to Criminalize the Administration of Transgender Hormone Therapy, Sex Reassignment Therapy, and Puberty Blockers for Persons 18 years of Age and Younger.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section One: Definitions

Transgender hormone therapy: The administration of hormones that seek to alter the gender of individuals.

Puberty blockers: A group of medications designed to suppress or inhibit puberty.

Sex reassignment therapy: Also known as sex change surgery or sex reassignment surgery, gender reassignment surgery is a procedure that changes a person's external genital organs from those of one gender to those of the other.

Intersex: A general term used for a variety of conditions in which a person is born with a reproductive or sexual anatomy that does not seem to fit the typical definitions of female or male.

Precocious puberty: A condition in which a child's body begins changing into that of an adult too soon. Precocious puberty usually occurs before age eight in girls and before age nine in boys.

Section Two: Purpose

It is among the responsibilities of government to equally protect all children from unnecessary harm. Thus, this bill aims to prevent further mutilation and permanent damage done to children caused by doctors blatantly ignoring their Hippocratic oath. Currently, children are allowed ask for and receive treatments that cause permanent damage to their bodies before they are even at the proper age to vote in the form of transgender hormone therapy, puberty blockers, and sex reassignment surgery. The stated purpose for "treatments" is to treat gender dysphoria. Yet, these children, who believe they are a member of the opposite sex, almost always grow out of their gender dysphoria, as John Whitehall, Professor of Pediatrics at Western Sydney University states, "up to 90 per cent of children who question their sexual identity will orientate to their natal sex by puberty." He also

33 claims sexual abuse, along with parents treating their children as gender neutral or as the opposite
34 gender, are a leading cause of gender confusion in children, and, even in these cases, most
35 children will grow out of their gender dysphoria. These treatments appear unnecessary and harmful
36 for adolescents, yet, doctors are increasingly giving puberty blockers, hormone therapy, and sex
37 reassignment surgery, which permanently damage and deform these children. Puberty blockers,
38 intended to “allow the child more time to self-discover,” have not been proven to be reversible, and
39 recently, and researchers such as Paul W. Hruz, Lawrence S. Mayer, Paul R. McHugh in their
40 paper “Growing Pains” cast serious doubt on the claim that the effects of these claims of
41 reversibility, as did a 2018 review of available research by the American Academy of Pediatrics.
42 Simply, there is no evidence to indicate that a child will simply “resume” puberty after puberty
43 blockers stop being administered. If the child does not resume puberty, then the child is unlikely to
44 develop “normal reproductive functions,” and bone, muscle, and brain development would also be
45 impaired, to say nothing of the psychological consequences. Transgender hormone therapy causes
46 permanent, irreversible changes, usually makes those receiving them sterile, and causes
47 deformities. Private clinics can administer them at any age. Sex reassignment surgery, although
48 rare for persons under 18, still occur and seek to remove or “reform” a child’s genitalia. These
49 changes are generally irreversible. The claims that these “treatments” improve the mental health
50 and happiness of people with gender dysphoria are at best, spotty, and several studies directly
51 contradict those claims, instead finding that sex reassignment surgery and transgender hormone
52 therapy increases the mortality rate of those who have undergone the treatments. Other studies
53 analyzing the suicide rates before and after sex reassignment surgery and hormone therapy also
54 found rates neither significantly increased nor decreased after the treatment. While the government
55 doesn’t have an obligation to restrict these “treatments” for consenting adults, adolescents are
56 incapable of proper consent, as is the basis for the majority of pedophilia, drug and alcohol law.
57 Instead of making their own conscious choice, adolescents may either be pressured in by their
58 parents or peers, or, perhaps more commonly, confused by the combined processes of puberty and
59 adolescence and/or teachings that one can be a male “trapped” in a female body (and vice versa).
60 Given the massive negative consequences regarding transgender hormone therapy, puberty
61 blockers, and sex reassignment therapy, these choices are best left for individuals to make when
62 they can properly consent. Therefore, this bill aims to criminalize the administration of transgender
63 hormone therapy, puberty blockers, and sex reassignment therapy, for both private and public
64 practices until the age of 19.

68 **Section 3: Proposal**

70 The following practices will be banned and punishable by the following;

72 The administration of puberty blockers to persons 18 years of age or younger, excluding cases of
73 precocious puberty as defined in section 1, shall be punishable by revocation of medical license (if
74 applicable), up to a 20,000-dollar fine, and/or 1 year in state prison.

76 The administration of sex reassignment surgery to persons 18 years of age or younger shall be
77 punishable by revocation of medical license (if applicable), up to 250,000 dollars in fines and/or 15
78 years in state prison. Correction of intersex deformities would not be counted under sex
79 reassignment and could still legally take place.

81 The administration of transgender hormone therapy to persons 18 years of age or younger shall be

83 punishable by revocation of medical license (if applicable), up to 100,000 dollars in fines, and/or 10
84 years in state prison.

85
86 The ban affects both private and public clinics, and applies to all persons conducting above actions
87 in the state of Alabama. If a person commits these actions in the assumption that the client is 19 or
88 older, although the client is, in reality, 18 or younger, full penalties still apply. Current state and local
89 law enforcement will enforce this bill.

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93 **Section Four: Severability clause**

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

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99 **Section Five: Enactment Clause**

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101 This bill will become effective 1 month upon its enactment and approval by governor or otherwise
102 becomes a law.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S020

Committee: 2

Delegation: Hoover - Spain Park

Author(s): Skylar Billings

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Show Parents the Money

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

Maternity leave: a period of time taken off by the mother before and/or after the birth of a child.

Paternity leave: a period of time taken off by the father before and/or after the birth of a child.

Public companies: a public company is one that is permitted to sell its registered securities to the general public, it can also be called a public-traded company.

Private companies: a company owned either by non-governmental organizations or by a relatively small number of shareholders or company members which does not offer or trade its company stock to the general public on the stock market exchanges, but rather the company's stock is offered, owned and traded or exchanged privately.

The Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA): allows an employee 12 weeks of unpaid leave to take care of a newborn child or an adopted child, however, to take advantage of this Act you must work for a company that employs a minimum 50 employees within a 75-mile radius.

The Pregnancy Discrimination Act: makes it illegal for employers to fire, refuse to hire, or deny a woman a promotion if she is pregnant.

Investment fund: a fund that employees can put money into each month to set the money aside for a specific reason, in this case parental leave, which is tax exempt.

Section II: Proposal

The bill proposes that it be mandatory for all public and private companies to provide parental leave with partial funding by employer. This bill will apply to any persons having a legal child birth or adoption.

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With this proposal, each individual will be provided a total of 210 workdays, or 42 weeks, to use for a period of 8 years from time of birth or the child is 8 years of age.

The parent will be allowed by their company 45 workdays, or 9 weeks, per year for the first two years of the child's life. The parent will be allowed by their company 30 workdays, or 6 weeks, per year for the 3rd and 4th years of the child's life. Followed by 20 workdays, or 4 weeks, per year for the 5th and 6th years of the child's life. Finally the parent will be allowed by their company 10 workdays, or 2 weeks, per year for the 7th and 8th years of the child's life.

For families who have 2 or more children throughout their first 8 years of eligibility program, or through their career, their time will decrease. Their time allowed out of office will decrease to 20 workdays, or 4 weeks per year for the first two years of the child's life. Followed by 15 workdays, or 3 weeks, per year for the 3rd and 4th years of the child's life. Finally the employee will be allowed 10 workdays, or 2 weeks, per year for the 5th through 8th years of the child's life.

Days not used during this first 8 year program may be donated/gifted to other employees at the person's company who may need more days due to unforeseen circumstances with their own children also prior to the age of 8. The eligibility initially starts on the date of birth or date of adoption.

This bill will also ensure the individual will have the opportunity to be paid while on parental leave. This will be done by opening up an investment fund where the employee will choose to have a specific amount of money withheld each pay period and deposited into an account. The investment fund will be tax exempt. However, the only way this fund can be utilized is if you have a legal child of your own or an adopted child. If one enrolls in this fund and does not use the benefit, all employee invested funds can be accessed, however current tax rate will apply.

If this bill is passed, then it will be enacted immediately in order to start companies preparation for this new policy. However, the companies will have two years from the bills signing to be compliant.

Section III: Justification

Under the current federal Family Medical Leave Act, or FMLA, parental leave allows an employee 12 weeks of unpaid leave to take care of a newborn child or an adopted child, however, to take advantage of this act you must work for a company with 50 employees in a 75-mile radius. This act makes it very difficult for parents to stay home with a child without using up days designated as sick or vacation. These parents deserve to have another option that is not as selective. While having this proposed option, it ensures that parents are able to spend quality time with their child and not feel adversely affected in their career. Not only does this help with quality time between parents and children, but it ensures a safety net for single parents due to a tragedy or extraordinary circumstance. While we have the federal Pregnancy Discrimination Act protecting current pregnant women, Alabama's businesses do not currently have any protections for parents after the pregnancy. Throughout Alabama, mother's and father's are forced to choose between being successful in their job or spending quality time with their family.

Section IV: Consequences

The consequences of this bill is the ability for parents to have another option to take care of their

83 newborn or newly adopted children. This bill will make sure that parents have another option for
84 parental leave other than using sick days or vacation days.

85
86 **Section V: Enforcement**

87
88 The Alabama Department of Labor will enforce this bill.

89
90 **Section VI: Payment**

91
92 Employers will give the opportunity to employee's to open up an investment fund after they are
93 hired, when insurance is renewed, or if a parent finds out they are expecting. This investment fund
94 will be funded by the employee with a predetermined amount specified by the employee every
95 paycheck. The annual amount is limited to \$20,000 a year per child and the company must match
96 their payment by 25%, however the company can choose to match at a higher percentage.

97
98 **Section VII: Conflicting laws**

99
100 This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the Governor's signing.

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102 **Section VIII: Enactment**

103
104 This bill shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval by the Governor or its
105 otherwise becoming a law.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S021

Committee: 2

Delegation: Cherokee County Student Y-Club

Author(s): Abbie Reynolds

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Act to End Tipped Server Minimum Wage

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I

2
3 Definitions:

4
5 Tipped Worker- Any employee working in an occupation in which he or she customarily and
6 regularly receives more than \$30 a month in tips.

7
8 Tip Credit- The difference between the minimum wage (\$7.25) and the cash wage an employee is
9 paid during a pay period. Most tip credits are made up of tips from customers to employees during a
10 pay period.

11
12
13
14 Section II

15
16 This act would require that all employees of Alabama receive the minimum wage promised to them
17 by the Government, whether they are tipped or not. Employers of tipped workers have relied on
18 their customers to pay their employees the difference between tipped server federal minimum wage
19 and standard federal minimum wage for far too long, and it is time to put an end to this system of
20 exploiting customers and employees.

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24 Section III

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The minimum wage for tipped workers would be raised from the tipped worker federal minimum wage of \$2.13 to the standard federal minimum wage of \$7.25 an hour. Failure to comply with this law after the effective date will result in a fine of or in excess of \$1,000 to be paid to the Alabama Department of Labor, immediate pay for employee(s) affected, the possibility of inspection and investigation from the Department of Labor, and, in severe cases, a loss of Alabama business license.

Section IV

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

Section V

This act to become effective on October 1, 2019.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S022

Committee: 5

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Julia Baddley

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Rural Healthcare Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Preamble: Out of Alabama's 67 counties, 54 are considered rural. Many of these counties are
2 impoverished and struggle daily with healthcare availability. Six counties in Alabama do not even
3 have a medical center: Cleburne, Coosa, Henry, Lamar, Lowndes, and Perry. Alabama must evolve
4 and surmount this rural health care crisis by providing easier access to medical centers.
5

6 SECTION I: Definitions 7

8 Urgent Care Center- a walk-in clinic focused on the delivery of medical care for minor illnesses and
9 injuries in an ambulatory medical facility outside of a traditional hospital-based or freestanding
10 emergency department
11

12 Rural County- a geographic area that is located outside towns and cities; usually with low population
13 densities; there are 54 in Alabama
14

15 SECTION II: Proposition 16

17 In 2019, Alabama legislature will begin construction of urgent care centers in Alabama counties
18 lacking proper healthcare. These six counties without hospitals or medical clinics will be given one
19 urgent care center per 5,000 people. According to this ratio, 15 centers will be created: Cleburne
20 (3), Coosa (2), Henry (3), Lamar (3), Lowndes (2), Perry (2).
21

22 SECTION III: Justification 23

24 In 2016, Gadsden City in Etowah County had the lowest life expectancy rate in the United States.
25 Alabama also has a devastating infant mortality rate of 7.3%. Every person has a right to decent
26 healthcare, so it is time to support Alabama's rural counties. With six counties lacking healthcare,
27 nearly 77,000 Alabama citizens are suffering. Many citizens in rural counties do not have vehicles to
28 take them to hospitals, and those that do are forced to drive long hours to see a doctor. Residents
29 have at times resorted to visiting local veterinarians for checkups and X-rays. It is time for Alabama
30 to pave the way for a more ethical society.
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SECTION IV: Cost and Funding

Funding for this bill will come from an increase in the cigarette tax in Alabama. The original tax for a pack of twenty cigarettes will be increased from 67.5¢ to \$1.01. This action will set aside 30 million dollars to fund this program. The average urgent care center costs \$850,000 to \$1,000,000 to build, and with these 15 centers built, at least half of the budget will remain for maintenance.

SECTION V: Enactment Clause

This bill will go into effect after passing or being signed by the governor.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S023

Committee: 2

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Anna Elizabeth Byrne

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Sex Education in Alabama

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Sex Education in Alabama

2
3 Section I: Definitions

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

8
9 Std: a sexually transmitted disease

10
11 Abstinence: the fact or practice of restraining oneself from indulging in something, typically alcohol.

12
13 Abstinence-only state: A state that typically teaches abstinence from sex as the only way to prevent
14 pregnancy

15
16 Contraceptive: a device or drug serving to prevent pregnancy.

17
18 Section II: Explanation

19
20 Sex education is a course meant to prepare students to have safe sex in an effort to lower STD and
21 unwanted pregnancy rates, along with other negative side effects. Alabama's sex education,
22 however, does not prepare students at all for safe sex and is one of the reasons Alabama has some
23 of the highest teen pregnancies rates in the nation. Despite Alabama being an "abstinence-only"
24 state, the number of teenagers reportedly having sex is higher than the nation's average.

25
26 In Alabama Code Title 16. Education 16-40A-2, Alabama requires that abstinence be taught as the
27 only 100% effective way to avoid unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases and
28 requires that abstinence from sexual intercourse outside of lawful marriage is the expected social
29 standard for unmarried school-age persons. Alabama also requires an emphasis, in a factual
30 manner and from a public health perspective, that homosexuality is not a lifestyle acceptable to the
31 general public and that homosexual conduct is a criminal offense under the laws of the state. Sex
32

33 ed courses in Alabama can also allow religion to influence ideas taught.

34

35 Section III: Action

36

37 The requirements for sex education in Alabama need to be changed to ensure that students get the
38 proper education to guarantee their own health and safety. Sex ed in Alabama should be required to
39 teach about safe and effective contraceptives and birth controls in addition to recognizing
40 abstinence from sexual intercourse before marriage as one of many options and a personal choice
41 students should make on their own. Sex ed courses should be banned from teaching regarding
42 views influenced by religion, homosexuality as an unacceptable lifestyle, and abstinence as the
43 only form of preventing stds or unwanted pregnancies.

44

45 Section IV: Funding/Control

46

47 Funding will continue to come from the current state funding for sex education, which falls is
48 appropriated through the Alabama Legislature through the Education Trust Fund. No more or less
49 money should be needed as no new programs or classes are being added, but simply a revision to
50 the requirements for sex education.

51

52 Section V: Severability Clause

53

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

55

56 Section VI: Enactment Clause

57

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

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S024

Committee: 4

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Griffin Darden

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: An Act to Require the Processing of Rape Kits

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section 1: Definitions

2
3 Rape Kit- a package of items used by medical personnel for gathering and preserving physical
4 evidence following an allegation of sexual assault.

5
6 Section 2: Proposal

7
8 All Rape Kits currently in the possession of law enforcement agencies must be sent to Forensic
9 Biology laboratories for processing within 60 days of all relevant and required evidence being
10 collected. Rape Kits will be sent for processing to one of the four Forensic Biology laboratories in
11 accordance to their territorial jurisdiction.

12
13 Section 3: Funding and Enforcement

14
15 Funding and administration will be provided by the Alabama Department of Forensics Science.

16
17 Section IV: All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act or any provisions of it are hereby
18 repealed.

19
20 Section V: This act shall become effective 3 months after its passage and approval by the Governor
21 or its otherwise becoming a law.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S025

Committee: 2

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Ella Hartman

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: A Bill to Help Foster Children Integrate into Society after Aging Out of the System

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

Foster care: a system in which a minor is a ward of the state and has been placed in a private home or group home of a state certified caregiver.

Aging out of the system: when a minor turns 18, they are no longer a ward of the state, thus they are no longer in the foster care system.

Section II: Background

Minors in foster care by no means have an easy life. Many foster children have experienced extreme poverty, heartbreak, and neglect. There is a severe lack of strong role models and encouragement in these children's lives, thus it is easy for them to lose hope and allow the cycle to continue. Even with a strong foster care system, people who age out of foster care are at a notable statistical disadvantage than the general population which would be aided by this bill.

Section III: Proposition

This bill would create a program for minors in the foster system to better plan their future starting at the age 16 and being available until the age 20. This resource would encourage education, introduce job opportunities, and offer support and guidance to foster children who aging out of the system. Funding for this project would come from the general fund. This new program would require a program director and an additional 20 trained counselors to assist the minors and develop a plan .

Section IV: Justification

Allowing children to age out of foster care without guidance contributes to the amount of homeless, unemployed, and uneducated citizens in the Alabama. Upon turning 18, 20% of former foster children instantly become homeless. By the age 26, only 80% of the former foster children have earned at least a highschool degree or GED equivalent, where the general population has 94%. Additionally, at 26, 36% of the general public has earned a 4 year degree, where only 4% of former

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33 foster children have earned a 4 year degree at age 26. It is the responsibility of the entire
34 community and government to help these children properly integrate into society. They have been
35 entirely reliant on the state for their whole lives in many cases, so it is unrealistic and inhumane to
36 expect them to figure it out on their own. It would benefit the entire community if they were given an
37 extra resource to plan their future and better understand the responsibilities that come along with
38 being an adult.

39

40 **Section V: Implementation**

41

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

43

44 **Section VI: Enactment Clause**

45

46 This bill will become effective January 1, 2021 upon its enactment and approval by the governor or
47 otherwise becoming a law.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S026

Committee: 5

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Amanda Jones

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: An Act to Reduce the Number of Back Seat Passenger Injuries and Deaths by Requiring All Back Seat Passengers to Wear a Seat Belt

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1
2 Section I: Definitions

3
4 Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS): a U.S. nonprofit organization funded by auto
5 insurance companies, established in 1959 and headquartered in Arlington, Virginia

6
7 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA): an agency of the Executive Branch of the
8 U.S. government, part of the Department of Transportation. It describes its mission as "Save lives,
9 prevent injuries, reduce vehicle-related crashes."

10
11 Primary Belt Law: allow police to stop and ticket a motorist if the driver and passengers are not
12 buckled up.

13
14 Section II: Background

15
16 Throughout recent years, the common misconception that proper use of buckling devices in the
17 back seats of vehicles is optional has resulted in the death and injury to many passengers.

18 Recently, the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) released a new report based upon
19 extensive surveys and research wherein it was revealed that 28% of passengers do not buckle in
20 the back seat, for they presume it to be the safest spot in a vehicle thereby omitting the need for a
21 buckling device. Similar research from the IIHS also revealed that unrestrained rear-seat occupants
22 are approximately 8 times as likely to suffer a serious injury from a crash as compared to restrained
23 rear-seat occupants. Even still, more data has been released from other organizations, such as the
24 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), which has shown that, based upon data
25 from 2016, 966 deaths out of 22,441 fatalities involved unrestrained people in rear seats.

26 Nonetheless, the State of Alabama has yet to reform it's dated primary seat belt laws which only
27 require passengers younger than 15 riding in the back seat of a vehicle to wear their seat belt. As of
28 today, Alabama remains as one of twenty-two states that do not implement laws mandating that
29 passengers of all ages riding in the back seat of a vehicle must wear their seat belts.
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Section III: Proposition

As previously implemented in other states, Alabama’s new back seat regulations will remain as a primary enforcement law; however, it will require that all back seat passengers, regardless of age, must properly use a seat belt in order to ensure maximum safety when riding in a vehicle. Infractions of this law will result in new fines starting with the original \$25 for the first offence; however, repeated violations will result in increased fines such as \$50 fo the second offence and \$75 for the third and subsequent offences with an additional 2 point deduction on their driver's record.

Section IV: Severability Clause

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

Section V: Enactment Clause

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



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S027

Committee: 3

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Vale Lightfoot

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Legalize Syringe Exchange Programs

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2
3 Syringe Exchange Program: social service that allows injecting drug users to obtain hypodermic
4 needles and associated paraphernalia at little to no cost.

5
6 Section II: Proposition

7
8 This bill will legalize syringe exchange programs which will reduce the transmission of HIV and
9 other viruses.

10
11 Alabama has one of the highest rates of opioid use in the country. Alabama's 1st and 4th
12 congressional district are ranked among the five highest in the U.S. for the number of opioid
13 prescriptions, according to a recent Harvard study. By legalizing syringe exchange programs, the
14 transmission of HIV and other viruses will be reduced. In areas where these programs are legal,
15 studies have found a decreased rate of overdose deaths and public drug use. Alabama is 1 of only
16 15 states that have not legalized needle exchange programs.

17
18 Section III: Funding

19
20 The Alabama Department of Health will enforce this bill. It will be funded by the General Fund.

21
22 Section IV: Severability Clause

23
24 All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby declared null and void.

25
26 Section V: Enactment Clause

27
28 This Bill will become effective on January 1st after its passage and approval by the Governor.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S028

Committee: 3

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Lilly Martin

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: A Bill to Prohibit the Mentally Ill and Challenged From Trial as Adults

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1
2
3 Section I: Definitions

4
5 Insane: adj. in a state of mind that prevents normal perception, behavior, or social interaction;
6 seriously mentally ill

7
8 Insanity Defense: n. affirmative defense by excuse in a criminal case, arguing that the defendant is
9 not responsible for his or her actions due to an episodic or persistent psychiatric disease at the time
10 of the criminal act

11
12 Mental Illness: n. a condition characterised by the presence of symptoms such as delusions,
13
14 hallucinations, serious disorder of thought form, a severe disturbance of mood, or sustained or
15 repeated irrational behaviour, which seriously impairs, either temporarily or permanently, the mental
16 functioning of a person

17
18 Mental Challenge: n. subaverage intellectual ability equivalent to or less than an IQ of 70 that is
19 accompanied by significant deficits in abilities (as in communication or self-care) necessary for
20 independent daily functioning

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23
24 Section II: Background

25
26 According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness: "In a mental health crisis, people are more
27 likely to encounter police than get medical help. As a result, 2 million people with mental illness are
28 booked into jails each year. Nearly 15% of men and 30% of women booked into jails have a serious
29 mental health condition." Alabama has recently shut down a multitude of mental institutions solely
30 because they were not filled to capacity. Many patients were imprisoned.

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Section III: Proposition

This bill will prohibit all courts at the state level from trying individuals with mental illness or challenge as adults.

Section IV: Justification

This bill will require limited funding to refurbish the closed mental institutes and provide any necessary additional treatment. Adopting a rehabilitation over retribution mindset will keep mentally burdened individuals out prisons and, by extent, could drastically improve the state's prison's severe overcrowding issue. When an adolescent acts out, it is often regarded as a cry for help. There is no reason this logic should not be considered with adults, especially those experiencing mental challenges. Children are often given leniency by the courts, depending on the severity of their crimes, and an adult with a mental deficiency should be given the same opportunity.

Section V: Implementation

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

Section VI: Enactment Clause

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



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S029

Committee: 5

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Ella Nichols

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Increase Funding for Our Roads

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section 1:**

2
3 Infrastructure Report Card- The ASCE Committee on America’s Infrastructure, made up of 28
4 dedicated civil engineers from across the country with decades of expertise in all categories,
5 volunteers their time to work with ASCE Infrastructure Initiatives staff to prepare the Infrastructure
6 Report Card.

7
8 Infrastructure- the basic physical and organizational structures and facilities (e.g. buildings, roads,
9 power supplies) needed for the operation of a society or enterprise

10
11 ALDOT- Alabama Department of Transportation, demand excellence in transportation and be
12 involved in promoting adequate funding to promote and maintain Alabama's transportation
13 infrastructure

14
15 **Section 2 (Explanation):**

16
17 Alabama has earned a D on the “Roads” section of the Infrastructure Report Card. In our state,
18 drivers travel 65 billion miles every year on 102,200 miles of public roads. Travel recently, the
19 Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) rated nearly 50% of the interstate and state
20 highways fair, poor, or very poor. Maintenance of our state-maintained streets and highways roads
21 is a priority. Right now, congestion costs, accidents, and poor roads cost Alabama drivers over \$3
22 billion, taking at least \$300 or more per year out of each driver’s wallet each year. As travel
23 increases, these numbers will only go up. Therefore, it is necessary that our roads are in better
24 condition.

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26 **Section 3 (Action):**

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A law should be passed to increase funding to be spent on our roads. The goal is that the money spent on these improvements will be less than the yearly expenses that the state spends on congestion costs, accidents, and poor roads costs over time. The Alabama Department of Transportation will control and regulate this bill. This bill shall be funded by a readjustment of taxes.

Section 4:

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



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S030

Committee: 2

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Julia Rouleau

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Alabama Solar Panel Investment Tax Credit

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2
3 Tax Credit: an amount of money that can be offset against a tax liability.
4

5 Section II: Body/Purpose

6
7 The purpose of this bill is to create incentive for the people of Alabama to install solar energy
8 systems in their homes for a tax credit. Currently there is a federal solar tax credit of 30% that has
9 been in place since 2005 and is available to homeowners through 2021. Although, after 2019 the
10 tax credit decreases gradually until 2022 where the credit is dropped to 10%. However, this would
11 only happen if the federal program is not further extended. This bill would be an addition to the
12 federal tax credit and give a credit on state taxes for installing solar energy systems. The Alabama
13 state tax return incentive will be set at 15%. This bill promotes renewable energy and a healthier
14 environment for the people of Alabama.
15

16 Section III: Funding

17
18 This bill requires no funding from the state of Alabama.
19

20 Section IV: Severability Clause

21
22 Any laws or parts of law in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.
23

24 Section V: Enactment Clause

25
26 This bill will become effective for the 2020 Tax Season upon its enactment and approval by the
27 Governor or otherwise becoming a law.
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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S031

Committee: 5

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Vann Stewart

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Fighting Obesity With Gardening

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

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3 I. food desert - areas void of fresh fruit, vegetables, and other healthful whole foods,
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5 usually found in impoverished areas
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9 II. Alabama also has a high presence of food deserts, with nearly 90,000 people living without
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11 a way to access healthy food in the Birmingham area alone according to an al.com
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13 study. The purpose of this bill is to institute a program which would teach young people in
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15 these urban food deserts to grow their own, healthy food with community gardens, which is
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17 not only better for the environment than allocating money to simply purchase food for these
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19 residents, but also is a much more sustainable way to keep healthy food options available to
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21 citizens in food deserts. This program would occupy a young person's time, require them to
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23 be active, and, in addition to teaching them valuable skills to help reduce Alabama's obesity,
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25 which is currently the fifth highest of all states in America, teach them fundamentals such as
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27 responsibility and self-sufficiency, the truest of American virtues.
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III. This bill would be tasked by the Department of Economic and Community Development. In 2009, a study done by the National Government Association observed that home and community gardens costed an average of \$70 and produced an average of \$530 in return. This money would come primarily from donations, although a \$0.01 increase would be implemented on Alabama's low gasoline excise tax, seeing as, most often, residents of food deserts most at-risk for obesity can't afford to drive to get healthy foods. People to teach the youth and facilitate garden management would be acquired purely on a volunteer basis.

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

V. This bill will become effective at the beginning of the following fiscal year upon enactment and approval by the governor or otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S032

Committee: 4

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Ela Weintraub

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: A bill to prohibit the use of corporal punishment within public preschools

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I : Definitions

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3 Corporal Punishment- A physical punishment, such as caning, flogging, or hitting.

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7 Preschool, Nursery School, Child Care Centers- A school for young children, ranging between the
8 ages of 3 months to 6 years.

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12 Punishment- Imposition of a penalty as retribution for an offense.

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16 Depression- feelings of severe despondency and dejection.

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20 Section II: Starting at the beginning of the next school year, this bill will prohibit public Child Care
21 Centers from using corporal punishment against its students.

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25 Section III: According to Gershoff and Michael, Psychologists are great supporters of non-violent
26 punishment. Physical punishment may increase violent tendencies later in life. Studies have found
27 that children are more likely to act out, have depression, and grow up with low self-esteem if they
28 were punished violently as a child. Punishment also teaches fear in young children. A preschool
29 aged child is not able to separate their punishment from the teacher, therefore causing them to
30 become more anxious and unhappy during school. Most European Countries and U.S. States have
31 banned physical punishments. Positive and Negative reinforcements have been proven to be more
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33 effective in long-term situations when dealing with young children.

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37 Section IV: If a teacher fails to comply, they will be terminated immediately and are unable to be
38 rehired within Alabama for a minimum of five years.

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42 Section V: This act shall become effective on August 1, 2019; after its passage and approval by the
43 Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.

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47 Section VI: 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 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S033

Committee: 5

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Ben Harris

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: The Renewable Energy Advancement and Adoption Bill

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I – Definitions

Distributed Generation (DG)- electrical generation and storage performed by a variety of small, grid-connected devices referred to as distributed energy resources.

Distributed Generation Fixed Charge- A premium electric companies charge companies and industrial consumers for onsite Distributed Generation systems. These include higher monthly customer charges and standby charges.

Sun Tax- A higher premium utility companies charge individual consumers. In Alabama, this Premium was approved by the Alabama Public Service Commission at \$5 per kilowatt per month.

Alabama Public Service Commission- A commission established in 1915 to replace the State Railroad Commission. It's responsibilities now include regulating and setting rates that utility companies charge their customers for electricity and those companies that provide gas, water, and communications, as well as transportation common carriers such as trucking and air carriers. It effectively determines the rate of profits that most of these companies are allowed to earn.

Renewable Energy- energy that is collected from renewable resources, which are naturally replenished on a human timescale, such as sunlight, wind, rain, tides, waves, geothermal heat, and biomass.

Power Purchase Agreements (PPA)- a financial agreement where a developer arranges for the design, permitting, financing and installation of a renewable energy system on a customer's property at little to no cost. The developer sells the power generated to the host customer at a fixed rate that is typically lower than the local utility's retail rate.

Section 37-1-7 of the Alabama Law Code- States "The commissioners may be impeached and removed from office by the supreme court for the same causes and in the same manner as other state officers; and any commissioner who shall accept directly or indirectly any gift, gratuity, emolument or employment from any person, firm, corporation, company or association, owning or

operating in whole or in part in this state a utility, as defined in this title, during his continuance in office, except a pass for himself or any employee of the commission on official business, shall forfeit his office and may be impeached and removed from office therefor, or for any other cause of impeachment.”

Section II- Proposal

This bill will-

1. Overturn the Alabama Public Service Commission’s 2013 decision and prohibit Alabama Power or any other utilities company in Alabama from issuing any Distributed Generation Fixed Charges on renewable energy and the so called “Sun Tax” on individual’s consumption of Solar or other renewable energy.
2. Enable companies and individuals to pursue Power Purchase Agreements with corporations providing renewable energy technology It will also prohibit requiring any grid fees or similar taxes or additional fees on PPA systems.
3. Prohibit utilities from charging Distributed Generation Fixed Charges on Renewable Energy
4. Mandate the utilities maintain or increase current levels of funding for renewable energy
5. Launch an investigation into:
 - i. The ethics and financial history of the members of the Alabama Public Service Commission
 - ii. All decisions made in the last 30 years by the Alabama Public Service commission regarding green energy, Alabama Power Company policies, or any similar rulings
6. If any of the investigations from Subsection 5 find evidence of misconduct, then this bill will:
 - i. Remove any commissioner found guilty of ethics violations
 - ii. Overturn and/or hold new hearings on the same issues, under the new Alabama Public Service commission
7. Amend Section 37-1-7 (The Impeachment and Removal clause) of the Alabama law code to include “political or campaign contribution” after “emolument” and before “or” AND include “or any other energy company” after “utility” and before “as.”
8. The Alabama Ethics Commission will yearly review the finances and relevant behavior of the members of the Alabama Public Service Commission

Section III- Justification

Alabama was ranked in 2017 as the single worst state for renewable energy in the United States (Corporate Clean Energy Procurement Index). We ranked a dismal 1.82 out of 100 (the next lowest 13.60). Our energy sector is designed on an outdated model constructed in the early 1950s. This bill seeks to rectify our current clean energy crisis by modeling our energy sector after that of more modernized states. We will be able to save hundreds of millions of dollars a year on energy, reduce

83 the risk of blackouts or large-scale power outages, and lessen our environmental impact through
84 more clean and efficient energy production and consumption.

85
86 **Section IV- Funding and Enforcement**

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88 This Bill will require no additional funding. Any enforcement of this bill will fall into two categories.

89
90 1. The investigation will be conducted by the Alabama Ethics Commission. Any relevant agencies
91 will be compelled by law to comply with the requests of the Alabama Ethics Commission.

92
93 2. The remainder of this bill will be conducted by the Alabama Public Service Commission. Any
94 relevant agencies will be compelled to comply with the requests new Alabama Public Service
95 Commission.

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97 **Section V- Severance**

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99 Any laws or parts of law in conflict with this bill are hereby declared null and void

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101 **Section VI- Enactment**

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103 This bill will become effective immediately upon enactment and approval by the governor or
104 otherwise becoming a law. The investigation will commence immediately. The remainder of the bill
105 will take place at the beginning of the fiscal year in 2020 or until the conclusion of the Alabama
106 Ethics Commission concludes its initial investigation of the Alabama Public Service Commission,
107 whichever comes second.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S034

Committee: 1

Delegation: Birmingham - Mountain Brook

Author(s): Kary Utomi

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: A Bill to Repeal the Alabama Voter ID Law

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Preamble: The Alabama law of requirement of Voter ID is unjust in that it is disenfranchising
2 minorities and disrupts the democratic process
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6 Section I: This bill would repeal the law that makes it a requirement to have voter ID at the polling
7 station in order to vote
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11 Section II: Definitions
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15 Voter ID: Identification such as driver's license, non-driver ID, US passport, student or employee ID
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19 Minority (group): A category of people who experience relative disadvantage as compared to
20 members of a dominant social group
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24 Section III: In 2011 Alabama passed a voter ID law that requires voters have to have a photo ID in
25 order to be eligible to vote. The goal of this bill was to stop voter fraud but research suggest that the
26 kinds of in-person voter impersonation these laws target are rare. According to Justin Levitt of
27 Loyola Law School and US Election Project of the 834,065,926 ballots cast in the general election
28 from 2000-2014 just 35 of those are credible voter fraud allegations. voter ID laws only serve as
29 effective barriers that limit the legitimate participation of racial and ethnic minorities and other
30 disadvantaged groups. Research across the state shows that minority voters are less likely, as they
31 do not have the means, to obtain a voter ID. For minorities who have long been established to have
32

33 fewer resources, less education, and less social networks, adding photo identification requirements
34 creates an additional barrier to voting that is likely to have the largest impact on these groups.
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38 Section IV: All laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed
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42 Section V: If passed this bill will be enacted on January 1, 2020
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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S035

Committee: 1

Delegation: Montgomery - Saint James

Author(s): Joe Higgins

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: A Bill to Establish Automatic Voter Registration in the State of Alabama

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2
3 Voter: a person who has the right to vote

4
5 Automatic Voter Registration: law that automatically registers eligible voters who interact with
6 government agencies

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8 Opt-Out Policy: a policy under which individuals will be given the opportunity to opt-out at the point
9 of contact with the applicable agency

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11 Section II: Propositions

12
13 The purpose of this bill is to establish a system of automatic voter registration in the state of
14 Alabama in order to increase the number of registered voters.

15
16 This system of automatic voter registration would be an “opt-out” policy. Eligible voters would be
17 placed on the voter rolls when they interact with any state government agency unless they actively
18 decline to be registered. When someone interacts with any state agency, their relevant
19 information—including name, address, date of birth and signature—is shared electronically with the
20 state election agency. That registration application is then verified for eligibility (citizenship, age and
21 residency), compared to the information with what is already in the statewide voter registration
22 database, and if there is no existing registration, their information is added to the voter rolls. If there
23 is an existing registration, the voter's information will be updated.

24
25 Section III: Justification

26
27 Automatic voter registration (AVR) makes it much easier for eligible voters to become registered. 51
28 million Americans are eligible to vote but are not registered, meaning more than 24% of the eligible
29 population is not registered to vote. Voting is a guaranteed constitutional right, and many Americans
30 and Alabamians cannot enjoy the benefits of this right because they are not registered.

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As of right now, 15 states and Washington, D.C. have approved automatic voter registration, meaning that over 1/3 of Americans live in a jurisdiction that has either passed or implemented AVR. AVR laws could add roughly 50 million eligible voters to the voter rolls nationwide.

Alabama should join states like Georgia and West Virginia in modernizing our voter registration processes and expanding access to the ballot box.

Section IV: Severability Clause

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

Section V: Enactment Clause

This bill will go into effect immediately after being signed into law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S036

Committee: *Special Order*

Delegation: Hoover - Spain Park

Author(s): Madeline Martin

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Reforming the Alabama Prison System

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I : Definitions

Alabama Department of Corrections : The department within the Alabama state government that specifically deals with the construction and management of prisons within the state of Alabama.

Reform : make changes in (something, typically a social, political, or economic institution or practice) in order to improve it.

Prison : a building in which people are legally held as a punishment for a crime they have committed or while awaiting trial.

Mental Health Staffing : workers who specialize in mental health issues, and usually provide individual or group therapy, as well as referral opportunities for social rehabilitation and crisis intervention

Prison Staffing : is an officer responsible for the custody, safety, security, and supervision of inmates in a prisoner any other correctional facility.

Section II : Proposal

My bill proposes that we will reform all Alabama prisons. We will start by renovating the current prisons and then building two new prisons, one for women and the one for men. The current prison buildings are inadequate, overcrowded, and understaffed. Most prisons in Alabama have not been renovated since they have been open or in the last twenty years. Moreover, by the prisons being overcrowded, there is a strain on prison staffs being able to do their job. This is why we will increase the prison staff that being doubling the correctional staff and then tripling the mental health staff within prisons. In addition to the increase in the mental health staff, this bill proposes the mental health accommodations to be repaired. The accommodations would be repaired because the staff increase would allow for more trained officials to provide better mental health treatment and monitoring processes.

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Section III: Justification

The Alabama prison system is failing. Reforming prisons is not an easy task, but we have past the point of continuing to ignore the situation at hand. The prisons are insufficient to living in because of the overcrowding and the lack of supervision. By building two new prisons, we would help the overcrowding problem that plagues almost every prison in the state of Alabama. Also, we must increase our prison staff because with a lack of supervision crime is more common in prison. Less than two years ago at the Holman Prison, a maximum security prison, there was a riot. This riot resulted in the warden and a guard being stabbed, and a fire also was started. The Holman Prison was built to house 581 inmates, yet their capacity is now 1021 inmates. This riot could have been prevented if there were more space for prisoners and a larger staff. We cannot sit idly by and say that we will wait for crime to decrease and have less prisoners. We must address the large numbers of prisoners by increasing prison staffs.

Furthermore, our mental health accommodations are some of the worst in the nation. Unfortunately, many who are in our prison system have mental health issues and need assistance. Yet, there is a limited number of resources available. Not to mention most of these resources available are not sufficient in aiding these prisoners. The Alabama Department of Corrections in 2017, concluded that prisons do not know how to handle prisoners with mental health issues. Many time these prisoners will be placed in solitary confinement, and this worsens the prisoner's mental health state. There is also a lack of treatment and monitoring processes to prevent suicides and other risks. In the 2018 fiscal year for Alabama, there were forty attempted suicides, seven people killed, and six people committed suicide. We must increase the mental health staffing. This will allow for better treatment for mental health prisoners and help prevent suicides.

Reforming the Alabama prison system is not something simple; however, we cannot sit here and continue to watch this system fail. There is no other path to take, we must build the two additional prisons and increase the prison and mental health staff.

Section IV: Consequences

By building two new prisons, we would see a decrease in overcrowding, and by increasing the prison staffs, we will would see crime problems within prisons decrease. Both of these would result in more livable conditions for prisoners. By increasing the mental health staff and treatment, we would see a decrease in prison suicide and self-harm.

Section V: Enforcement

The enforcement of this bill will be carried out by the Alabama Department of Corrections. This plan should be completed by 2024.

Section VI: Payment

Alabama has the second lowest property tax of about 0.40%, and by raising this tax to 0.50% we would raise around 900 million dollars, and all of this money would be allocated to the reforming process. This tax would be a gradual increase of .02% per year.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

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

Section VIII: Enactment

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



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S037

Committee: 3

Delegation: Huntsville - YMCA Heart of the Valley

Author(s): Calvin Bryd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Sexual Orientation Conversion and Aversion Therapy

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Existing law provides for licensing and regulation of many professions in the healing arts, including
2 physicians and surgeons, psychologists, marriage and family therapists, educational psychologists,
3 clinical social workers, and licensed professional clinical counselors. This bill would prohibit a
4 mental health provider, as defined, from engaging in sexual orientation change efforts, as defined,
5 with a patient under 18 years of age. The bill would provide that any sexual orientation change
6 efforts attempted on a patient under 18 years of age by a mental health provider shall be considered
7 unprofessional conduct and shall subject the provider to discipline by the provider's licensing entity.
8 This also involve legal guardians, private, and public facilities

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10 Conversion Therapy: the pseudoscientific practice of trying to change an individual's sexual
11 orientation from homosexual or bisexual to heterosexual using psychological or spiritual
12 interventions.

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14 Aversion Therapy: is a form of psychological treatment in which the patient is exposed to a stimulus
15 while simultaneously being subjected to some form of discomfort

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17 Misdemeanor: a crime punishable by less than 12 months in jail. Community service, probation,
18 fines, and imprisonment for less than a year are commonly issued punishments

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20 Sexual Orientation: a person's sexual identity in relation to the gender to which they are attracted;
21 the fact of being heterosexual, homosexual, or bisexual.

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25 Section 1: Any person(s)who encourage, or who study, practice, display in anyway shape or form of
26 conversion therapy or Aversion therapy in the realm of sexual orientation is a form of child neglect
27 and endangerment to a minor who under the age of 18 which is A misdemeanor conviction

28
29 (A) School personal, including teachers, principals, Councilor, Staff, or any other administration, has
30 no right or grounds to practice, nor persuade students in any shape or form of conversation of
31 sexual orientation. The American School Counselor Association's position statement on
32

33 professional school counselors (LGBTQ) youth states: "It is not the role of the professional school
34 counselor to attempt to change a student's sexual orientation/gender identity but instead to provide
35 support to LGBTQ students to promote student achievement and personal well-being. Recognizing
36 that sexual orientation is not an illness and does not require treatment, professional school
37 counselors may provide individual student planning or responsive services to LGBTQ students to
38 promote self-acceptance, deal with social acceptance, understand issues related to coming out,
39 including issues that families may face when a student goes through this process and identify
40 appropriate community resources." Which comes to the conclusion that school administration will be
41 held accountable, or liable to sentencing if and only if proven guilty
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43 (B) Psychiatrist, or Doctors are not prohibited to prescribe medicine for the sole propose of
44 conversion of sexual Orientation or Aversion therapy in that realm with any person(s) that is under
45 the age of 18, any Medical personal within the facility will lose their license and be convicted. The
46 American Psychological Association convened a Task Force on Appropriate Therapeutic
47 Responses to Sexual Orientation. The task force conducted a systematic review of peer-reviewed
48 journal literature on sexual orientation change efforts and issued a report in 2009. The task force
49 concluded that sexual orientation change efforts can pose critical health risks to lesbian, gay, and
50 bisexual people, including confusion, depression, guilt, helplessness, hopelessness, shame, social
51 withdrawal, suicidality, substance abuse, stress, disappointment, self-blame, decreased self-esteem
52 and authenticity to others, increased self-hatred, hostility and blame toward parents, feelings of
53 anger and betrayal, loss of friends and potential romantic partners, problems in sexual and
54 emotional intimacy, sexual dysfunction, high-risk sexual behaviors, a feeling of being dehumanized
55 and untrue to self, a loss of faith, and a sense of having wasted time and resources.
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59 (C) Parents, or legal guardians who practice, facilitate or doesn't prohibit practice of any shape or
60 form of sexuality change efforts or Aversion therapy in the realm of sexuality will result in first
61 degree of child endangerment, and neglect, if and only if found guilty in the court of law. Minors who
62 experience family rejection based on their sexual orientation face especially serious health risks. In
63 one study, LGBT young adults who reported higher levels of family rejection during adolescence
64 were 8.4 times more likely to report having attempted suicide, 5.9 times more likely to report high
65 levels of depression, 3.4 times more likely to use illegal drugs, and 3.4 times more likely to report
66 having engaged in unprotected sexual intercourse compared with peers from families that reported
67 no or low levels of family rejection. This is documented by Caitlin Ryan et al. in their article entitled
68 Family Rejection as a Predictor of Negative Health Outcomes in White and Latino LGBT Young
69 Adults (2009) 123 Pediatrics 346.
70

71 (D) Camps, Church, Schools, or any type of private or public Facility doesn't have a that right of
72 prohibiting, enforcing, nor allow practice of Conversion, or Aversion of sexuality. If found guilty loss
73 of license if Facility is a camp and fined, if church, or school than the facility will be fined 50,000
74 failed to pay will result in spitting debt equally between employees. Money goes to program that will
75 in force these laws. The American Psychoanalytic Association issued a position statement in June
76 2012 on attempts to change sexual orientation, gender, identity, or gender expression, and in it the
77 association states: "As with any societal prejudice, bias against individuals based on actual or
78 perceived sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression negatively affects mental health,
79 contributing to an enduring sense of stigma and pervasive self-criticism through the internalization
80 of such prejudice.
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(E) The state doesn't have to give money nor fundraise even though it is state enforced through law enforcement, and Child protection Services



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S038

Committee: 4

Delegation: Hoover - Spain Park

Author(s): Chloe Annakin

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Statute of Limitations on Sexual Abuse

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

1
2 **Statute of Limitations:** a statute prescribing a period of limitation for the bringing of criminal legal
3 action.

4
5 **Felony Sexual Abuse:** Rape in the first and second degree, sexual torture, sodomy in the first and
6 second degree, sexual abuse in the first degree

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8 **Misdemeanor Sexual Abuse:** Sexual abuse in the second degree and Sexual misconduct

Section II: Proposal

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12 This bill will remove the statute of limitations for felony sexual abuse, as well as change the statute
13 of limitations for misdemeanor sexual abuse from 1 year to 5 years.

Section III: Justification

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17 The current statute of limitations on felony sexual abuse is 36 months, and the current statute for
18 misdemeanor sexual abuse is 12 months. These statutes not only limits the justice that victims
19 deserve but also gives more power to the perpetrator themselves. It often takes victims of sexual
20 abuse time to be able to come forward and have to relive what happened to them. Partly because
21 almost 9 out of every 10 sexual assault victims experience some level of distress, with 46%
22 experiencing severe distress. When survivors finally gather up the emotional and mental strength to
23 come forward, they shouldn't be turned away because of a time limit. According to RAINN (the
24 Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network), less than a third of rape incidents are reported to the
25 police.

Section IV: Consequences

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28
29 It is important to encourage victims to come forward and report these horrendous crimes. By
30 passing this bill, we are putting faith in our court system to bring justice to all victims, as well as
31 respecting the mental and physical toll of those affected by these criminal acts. This bill draws a
32

33 very clear distinction that sexual abuse is not tolerated, no longer how long ago it happened.

34

35 **Section V: Enforcement**

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37 This bill would be enforced by the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency.

38

39 **Section VI: Payment**

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41 No payment is necessary.

42

43 **Section VII: Conflicting Laws**

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

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47 **Section VIII: Enactment**

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

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S039

Committee: 5

Delegation: Hoover - Spain Park

Author(s): Trey Boyen

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Realizing The Future of Transportation

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2
3 Autonomous vehicle- A vehicle that is capable of sensing its environment and navigating without
4 any human input.

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6 Unintentional Injuries- An accident.

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8 Operator of the vehicle- The person who activates the autonomous driving system.
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12 Section II: Proposal

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14 This bill, if passed, will allow autonomous road vehicles to be tested and operated on roads in
15 Alabama as long as the driver of the vehicle has a valid drivers license, the vehicle can be taken
16 over by the driver at any moment, and the vehicle has passed any and all needed safety regulations.
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20 Section III: Justification

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22 Unintentional injuries are the 4th leading cause of death in the United States and 5th in Alabama.
23 This category includes motor vehicle accidents. In Alabama, there were 1,038 deaths in car crashes
24 alone in 2016. That is more than 40% of all deaths due to unintentional injury in Alabama. If
25 autonomous vehicles were legalized, the amount of car crashes would decrease dramatically, many
26 say by 94%. In addition to this, they could also potentially decrease traffic fatalities by 75%-80%.
27 Studies on autonomous vehicle crash statistics show that there have been zero instances where the
28 autonomous vehicle was at fault for a crash. Every crash was caused by a human driver, most of
29 which caused no injuries or deaths.
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31 The vehicle must be equipped with indicators that show the vehicle is in autonomous mode as well
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33 as an indicator that the driver must take over manually if the system fails. An autonomous vehicle
34 shall not be tested or operated in this state unless the autonomous vehicle is capable of operating in
35 compliance with the applicable motor vehicle laws and traffic laws of this state, unless an exemption
36 has been granted by the Department of Public Safety. A local government shall not impose any tax
37 or fee or impose any other requirement on an automated driving system or autonomous vehicle or
38 on a person who operates an autonomous vehicle.

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42 Section IV: Consequences

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44 The use of autonomous vehicles will be permitted in the state of Alabama as long as they pass all
45 viable safety standards and regulations.

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49 Section V: Enforcement

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51 Various standards of safety and special state traffic laws will be enforced by the Department of
52 Public Safety. Any future changes to state safety and traffic laws concerning autonomous vehicles
53 must continue to follow the existing process. The operator of the vehicle must not be under the
54 influence of any form of drugs or alcohol that could impair their driving ability.

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58 Section VI: Payment

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60 There is no payment needed.

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64 Section VII: Conflicting Laws

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

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70 Section VIII: Enactment

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

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S040

Committee: 3

Delegation: Hoover - Spain Park

Author(s): Whit Buchanan

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Mental Health Outreach Bill

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2
3 Public School: a school supported by public funds

4
5 Private School: a school supported by a private organization or private individuals rather than by the
6 government

7
8 Correctional Facility: a place of incarceration

9
10 Counselor: a person trained to give guidance on personal, social, or psychological problems

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12 Psychiatry: the study and treatment of mental illness, emotional disturbance, and abnormal
13 behaviors

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17 Section II: Proposal

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19 Require all public and private schools and correctional facilities to have at least one counselor on
20 staff with education or training in the field of psychiatry

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24 Section III: Justification

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26 Alabama has a public health issue on its hand. Mental health in Alabama has been largely ignored.
27 Care centers have been closing all over the state. Alabama ranks 36th in mental health related
28 issues meaning there is a high number of mental health cases. 22% of Adults in Alabama have
29 been diagnosed with depression. Mental health among youth and incarcerated persons has been
30 especially overlooked. In Alabama, 67% of youths who experienced major depressive episodes did
31 not receive treatment. We have a huge need to aid students who suffer from mental illness.
32

33 However receiving aid is difficult as Alabama ranks 48th in access to care. Also, people of lower
34 socioeconomic status have on average worse mental health. These people have less financial
35 means to access of mental health help. The Southern Law Poverty Center has stated that the State
36 of Alabama has failed to aid incarcerated persons who suffer from mental illness and many prisons
37 within the state Alabama do not have a full time psychiatrist on staff. With the requirement of a
38 counselor, a person within the schools of Alabama or within the correctional facilities of Alabama
39 can seek aid and treatment for mental illness. As a results, students and incarcerated persons who
40 are affected with mental illness or complications will receive necessary aid and will be better suited
41 to enter society. A healthier Alabama will be created with the passage of this bill.

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45 Section IV: Consequences

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52 Upon the passage of this bill, mental health of students and incarcerated persons will improve due
53 to access to care

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58 Section V: Enforcement

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63 The Department of Education will oversee the enforcement within public and private schools while
64 the Department of Corrections will oversee the enforcement within correctional facilities

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69 Section VI: Funding

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74 In order to supply schools and correctional facilities with funding, the property tax rate of \$3.33 per
75 \$1000 will be increased to \$3.40 per \$1000. This will raise \$6,834,270 in revenue and will be
76 allocated to the Department of Education and Department of Corrections

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81 Section VII: Conflicting Laws

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

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91 Section VIII: Enactment

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



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S041

Committee: 3

Delegation: Hoover - Spain Park

Author(s): Reagan Chavers

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Ending Alabama's Opioid Epidemic

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section I: Definition**

2
3 **Acute pain:** Pain from broken bones, bad backs, short illnesses, and surgeries) where pain is
4 relatively short term.

5
6 **Alabama's state medical licensing board:** Medical boards accomplish this by striving to ensure that
7 only qualified physicians are licensed to practice medicine and that those physicians provide their
8 patients with a high standard of care.

9
10 **Chronic pain:** Chronic pain is often defined as any pain lasting more than 12 weeks.

11
12 **Heroin:** A highly addictive analgesic drug derived from morphine, often used illicitly as a narcotic
13 producing euphoria - Heroin is considered as a type of opioid.

14
15 **Malpractice:** Improper, illegal, or negligent professional activity or treatment, especially by a medical
16 practitioner, lawyer, or public official.

17
18 **Medical license:** A medical license is an occupational license that permits a person to legally
19 practice medicine.

20
21 **Mme/day:** Morphine milligram equivalents (MME) per day.

22
23 **Opioids:** A class of drugs that includes heroin as well as prescription pain relievers such as
24 oxycodone, hydrocodone, morphine, and fentanyl. These drugs work by binding to the body's opioid
25 receptors in the reward center of the brain, diminishing pain as well as producing feelings of
26 relaxation and euphoria.

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28 **Overdose:** An excessive and dangerous dose of a drug.

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30 **Physician:** A person qualified to practice medicine.

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Prescription: An instruction written by a medical practitioner that authorizes a patient to be provided a medicine or treatment.

Settlement: an official agreement intended to resolve a dispute or conflict.

Substance abuse: overindulgence in or dependence on an addictive substance, especially alcohol or drugs.

Section II: Proposal

Physicians will not be allowed to prescribe more than 50 mme/day of opioids to a patient who will be living at home. Physicians will only be able to prescribe more than 50 mme/day if a patient is being cared for and supervised in the hospital. This part of the bill applies to both patients in acute pain and patients in chronic pain.

The bill will be prohibiting more than a seven-day supply of opioid medication for patients in acute pain. Physicians will not be allowed to write refills for the medications until the seven-day period has elapsed. For patients with chronic pain, they may receive a 28-day supply of medication at a time, in which they will need to check in with their primary physician before receiving another dose.

If any physician does not comply with this bill after it has been signed, they will be investigated by the state, and could have a possible charge of up to \$100,000. If a physician has made a reasonable offense according to Alabama's state medical licensing board, they can be revoked of their medical license, and possibly receive a 3 month jail sentence to a minimum security correctional facility in Alabama.

Section III: Justification

Patients who take more than 50 mme/day are **2x more likely** to become addicted to opioids. So if a patient needs more than 50 mme/day, it should be monitored at the hospital.

Higher doses of opioids are associated with **higher risk of overdose and death**. Even relatively low dosages (20-50 morphine milligram equivalents (MME) per day) increase the risk of overdose and death.

Surprisingly, **higher dosages haven't been proven to reduce pain over the long term**. One randomized trial found no difference in pain or function between a more liberal opioid dose (with the average final dosages being of 52 MME, and a lower dosage of 40 MME).

Alabama has the highest level of prescription opioid use in the nation. This isn't a new trend or one unique to Alabama, as most southeastern and rust belt states are sadly in similar shape. It's just that now we are experiencing the full impact, and it's clear we can and must address the opioid epidemic head-on.

About **42,000 people died from opioid overdoses** in 2016 in the US, more than any previous year on record, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Roughly **40 percent of those deaths involved a prescription opioid**. Though because of incomplete reporting, the number may be higher than this, Which means the opioid epidemic is bigger than anticipated.

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According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, nearly **80 percent of Americans using heroin reported misusing prescription opioids prior to using heroin**, according to research. (Opioids are a class of drugs that include the illegal drug heroin)

Fewer opioids will mean fewer chances to abuse them. Fewer chances for substance abuse will mean fewer overdose deaths, and fewer people getting involved in heroin.

Section IV: Consequences

The amount of people using prescription and non prescribed opioids will decrease in the state of Alabama and the opioid epidemic in Alabama will exponentially decrease. By holding physicians accountable for the amount they are prescribing, it will prohibit also corrupt practices.

Section V: Enforcement

It will be enforced by the state government and employers of anyone to whom this bill may apply (any physician who prescribes pain medication). Employers of these physicians will be forced to fire their physician, and write a malpractice complaint to Alabama's state medical licensing board. However, any employee or patient with knowledge of malpractice may write a complaint.

Section VI: Payment

There will be no cost to administer 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



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S042

Committee: 4

Delegation: Hoover - Spain Park

Author(s): Samad Gillani

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: All Counsel Equal Under the Law

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions
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3 Legal aid- A lawyer appointed to provide legal advice and represent criminals in court
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5 Section II: Proposal
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7 This bill will provide an opt-in program for law firms and private lawyers. When the firms/lawyers
8 join, they will be put into an index and arranged by their individual specialty law. When a trial arises
9 where the defendant cannot afford a lawyer, the index will be accessed to find the best lawyer to
10 fight this case. The average pay of a criminal defense lawyer in the state of Alabama is \$200 per
11 hour. A lawyer will prepare for an average case for 30 hours. That comes out to \$6000 for the
12 lawyers total. The average lawyer is in the 22%-24% tax bracket, making anywhere from \$40,000-
13 \$157,000. They would then pay around \$8,800-\$37,680 in income tax to the government. For every
14 case that the lawyer fights, they would write off the final cost of those cases in their tax filings. For
15 every firm that opts into the program, they will get to write off their share of the cost of the case in
16 their tax filings.
17

18 Section III: Justification
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20 It is stated in the U.S. Constitution that every person has the right to a fair trial, but that is not always
21 possible seeing that not every individual facing trial has the same financial status. If someone facing
22 trial does not have the capability to hire legal aid to assist them during the trial, legal aid will be
23 provided and paid for by the government. This legal aid is not always the best, and will often result
24 in incarceration. This bill will help out both parties involved, the law firm/lawyer and the person
25 awaiting trial, and will lead to a more fair trial.
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27 Section IV: Consequences
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29 Law firms and individual lawyers who provide legal aid in place of a government-appointed lawyer
30 will be granted tax breaks and will be given a better public image.
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People who can not afford legal aid will be provided competent legal aid at no cost to them, or the taxpayer.

Section V: Enforcement

The Alabama Department of Justice would handle appointing one of the lawyers who has chosen to opt into this program. The Alabama Department of Revenue will handle the tax breaks that the lawyers and the firms they represent will get for opting into this program.

Section VI: Funding

This bill requires no payout or tax raise from the government to go into action. The government is simply exchanging income tax revenue for public service.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

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

Section VIII: Enactment

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



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S043

Committee: 2

Delegation: Hoover - Spain Park

Author(s): Kaylor Hagerla

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Raising The Wage of Tipped Employees

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2
3 Tipped Employee- a person whose pay partially relies on the tip left by the customer in a form of
4 money.

5
6 Gratuity- a tip given to a waiter, taxicab driver, etc.
7

8 Section II: Proposal

9
10 With the enactment of this bill the minimum cash wage for tipped employees would be raised from
11 \$2.13 to half of minimum wage. The minimum cash wage will fluctuate with the state minimum wage.
12

13 Section III: Justification

14
15 The pay for a tipped employee's is never set in stone. Tipped employee's pay fluxuates with the
16 generosity of the consumer and the amount of customers they serve. Therefore if the customer
17 does not leave gratuity or their job does not see a lot of business that day, then their pay will be
18 affected. these workers jobs are relying on sources that they cannot control. An increase to half of
19 the minimum wage will show great change in the quality of living in Alabama. Thirty four states
20 already require more than the minimum cash wage required by the federal government or require
21 full minimum wage before tip. Alabama is one of the few who have kept their minimum wage at the
22 baseline of \$2.13. The most recent research has shown that an increase in wage has not shown
23 any sign of affecting the restaurant in any way. This slight increase in some states has also shown
24 no real change in employment rates. Research has shown that the only real change coming out of
25 this is a lower poverty rate and a higher take home pay. There must be some form of consistency
26 on which these people can live. This bill will provide major changes to the poverty level and the well
27 being of citizens throughout the state of Alabama. Alabama is the sixth poorest state in the nation
28 with a poverty level of up to 40% in some areas, and there must be actions taken towards
29 combating this. Over 9% of the Alabama workforce is made accommodation and food service
30 workers. This bill will affect a large majority of this large percentage of the state, and other tipped
31 employees outside of that industry. With this bill large steps will be made towards the stabilization of
32

33 economic vulnerability in the Alabama workforce.

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35 Section IV: Consequences

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37 Businesses who willfully violate minimum cash wage laws will be fined \$1,000 for every violation.

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39 Section V: Enforcement

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41 This bill will be enforced by the Department of Labor investigators within Alabama who are already
42 in place.

43

44 Section VI: Payment

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46 The only payment made will be through the businesses who employ tipped workers who must make
47 sure their pay maintains half of minimum wage.

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49 Section VII: Conflicting Laws

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

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53 Section VIII: Enactment

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

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S044

Committee: 3

Delegation: Hoover - Spain Park

Author(s): Alexis Jacob

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Say No To Unfair Punishment

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I: Definitions

Marijuana - Schedule I narcotic that is illegal under Alabama state law.

Schedule I Narcotic - a drug that is not medically accepted and that has high potential for abuse.

Decriminalize - Decriminalization is the lessening of criminal penalties in relation to certain acts.

Prohibition - In this bill, it's the Prohibition in the ban on the production, importation, transportation, and sale of marijuana.

Section II: Proposal

The state of Alabama needs to decriminalize the possession and use of marijuana in Alabama in order to help relieve the issue of overcrowding in prisons. In order to do this, this bill decreases the severity of the punishment for the possession of marijuana. Instead of an immediate jail sentence, a person can be fined up to \$250 for possession of up to 2 ounces of marijuana. Possession of more than 2 ounces of marijuana would be a Class C felony. The first and second offense would be considered a violation. A third offense will have a fine up to \$500 but still be considered a violation. A fourth offense will require a minimum of two months in jail. The maximum time a person can be sentenced to in jail is 5 months.

Section III: Justification

By decriminalizing marijuana in Alabama, this will assist the concern of the overcrowding issue in Alabama prisons. Out of all the individuals arrested for marijuana offenses from 2012 to 2016, almost 89 percent were arrested for possession. Alabama spent an estimated \$22 million to enforce the prohibition against marijuana possession in 2016 - enough to fund 191 additional preschool classrooms, 571 more K-12 teachers or 628 more corrections officers. The current Alabama law is causing more harm than good.

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Section IV: Consequences

This bill will decriminalize the possession and use of marijuana in the state of Alabama. This will in turn relieve some of the overcrowding in prisons all across Alabama. This will also save money for the state of Alabama to where they no longer have to spend money enforcing the prohibition against marijuana.

Section V: Enforcement

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

Section VI: Payment

There is no additional cost for decriminalizing the use and/or possession of marijuana.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

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

Section VIII: Enactment

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



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S045

Committee: 5

Delegation: Hoover - Spain Park

Author(s): Abby Jones

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Drone Delivery For Disaster Relief

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

2
3 drone: a remote-controlled pilotless aircraft

4
5 state of emergency: a situation of national danger or disaster in which a government suspends
6 normal constitutional procedures in order to regain control.

7
8 disaster stricken area: an area in which a major disaster has recently occurred

9
10 tax: a compulsory contribution to state revenue, levied by the government on workers' income and
11 business profits, or added to the cost of some goods, services, and transactions.

12
13 Section II: Proposal

14
15 This bill will raise funds for the Department of Emergency Management and allow for drones to be
16 bought and used to deliver supplies to disaster relief areas. This money will be raised through a tax
17 on gasoline. All money made from this tax will be delegated to the drones used to carry these
18 supplies, operators of drones and facilities to store the drones when not in use.

19
20 The bill would also prohibit the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) from issuing rules banning
21 drones' use to deliver supplies. The FAA will be allowed to regulate flying conditions and will work
22 with the DEM to create these regulations.

23
24 There will be one drone for every 100 square miles in the state. This would allow the DEM to
25 purchase and use 525 drones for emergency services. The drones will only be used after the
26 Governor or Federal Government has declared a State of Emergency. The Department of
27 Emergency Management will be in charge of deciding what supplies the drones can carry. They will
28 also be in charge of testing and determining the capacity of each drone.

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30 Section III: Justification

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Unmanned aerial systems have the potential to provide supplies and improve medical care for rural populations and for citizens in acute situations in need of immediate care and without immediate access to care providers or necessary supplies. Allowing the use of drones to move supplies will enable to deliver supplies to remote areas, emergency sites, or disaster stricken areas. Drones can reach places that cars cannot reach when disaster strikes; if a road is blocked from a natural disaster and officers will not be able to reach those affected until a further date, drones can help supplement supplies and services until officials can reach the site, and such technologies should be utilized where practicable.

Drones have been successfully used to carry blood, medical supplies, and medical supplies in other countries, including Rwanda, Tanzania, Switzerland, and Ghana. In the aftermath of Hurricane Maria, Puerto Rico has also begun testing drones' use for emergency medical supply delivery. The company Zipline has also been delivering medical supplies to multiple countries in Africa. They have the capacity to carry 500 deliveries a day over a range of 80 kilometers (roughly 50 miles). They can carry 1.8 kilograms (roughly 4 pounds) per load.

Section IV: Consequences

After this bill's passing the current tax on gasoline will be raised by \$0.05/gallon. This will raise roughly \$5 million dollars for purchase of the new drones. This bill will allow the DEM to deploy drones to disperse emergency services and supplies to disaster areas.

Section V: Enforcement

The Department of Revenue will be in charge of enforcing the tax of this bill. The Department of Emergency Management will be in charge of enforcing and implementing the dispersion of drones and emergency supplies.

Section VI: Payment

The \$0.05/gallon tax on gasoline will provide the payment for this bill.

Section VII: Conflicting Laws

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

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



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S046

Committee: 5

Delegation: Hoover - Spain Park

Author(s): Richard Keith

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: House and Health for the Homeless

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions
2

3 Homelessness: Homelessness is the circumstance when people are without a permanent dwelling,
4 such as a house or apartment.
5

6 Healthcare: the maintenance and improvement of physical and mental health, especially through
7 the provision of medical services.
8

9 Section II: Proposal
10

11 This bill will provide a standard home and healthcare to the homeless population of Alabama.
12

13 Section III: Justification
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15 This act seeks to target the poverty and homelessness issues in Alabama. There are around 18,000
16 people in Alabama ranging from young to old who are either experiencing homelessness or are on
17 the verge of doing so, costing the state millions in terms of care for these people. By putting these
18 people in homes constructed for this specific purpose, and providing the same level of healthcare as
19 a regular middle class citizen, we would save money in the long term via insurance, and we would
20 also serve to bring these members of the community back to a functioning level. This bill would
21 cause some initial economic downturn, but in the long term homelessness would almost disappear,
22 and the Alabamian economy would be all the better for it.
23

24 Section IV: Consequences
25

26 The homeless population in Alabama will sharply decline, and the long term economic health of the
27 state will be ensured.
28

29 Section V: Enforcement
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31 This bill and it's contents will be handled, managed, and enforced by the Alabama department of
32

33 Human Resources.

34

35 Section VI: Payment

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37 Currently, a homeless person costs the taxpayer 35,578\$, but when placed in supportive housing,
38 this cost drops by around 50% on average. Healthcare averages in terms of deductibles cost the
39 average person 4,328\$, and we use that standard to figure the healthcare for this bill as well.

40 Supportive housing costs on average 12,800\$, with the additional cost of healthcare at 4,328\$, a
41 sum total of 17,128\$. This would be paid for by a sales tax increase of 2% statewide on general
42 goods.

43

44 Section VII: Conflicting Laws

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

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48 Section VIII: Enactment

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

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S047

Committee: 4

Delegation: Huntsville - HOPE Christian Academy

Author(s): Morgan Gillon

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: What makes a knife, a Bowie?

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Purpose:** Whereas, Alabama Code 13A-11-50 provides an ambiguous definition of a bowie knife.
2 This act will clarify the legal definition of a bowie knife.

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6 **Section I: DEFINITIONS**

7
8 For purposes of this article, the following words, terms and phrases shall have the following
9 respective meanings, unless clearly indicated otherwise:

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12
13 **CLIPPED POINT:** A knife having the appearance of having the forward third of the blade "clipped"
14 off. The clip can be either straight or concave.

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18 **BOWIE KNIFE:** A single edged knife with a blade length between 5-12 inches in length, and a
19 clipped point.

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22
23 **MACHETE:** A broad, thin bladed knife with a blade length longer than 12 inches. That is used
24 primarily for agricultural, camping, and surveying purposes.

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28 **KITCHEN KNIFE:** A knife intended for use in food preparation, with a blade 6-12 inches in length,
29 and 1-2 inches in width. Without a clipped point.
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Section II: JUSTIFICATION

Pursuant to Alabama Code 13A-11-50 a bowie knife shall be hereby defined as follows: “Any single edged knife with a blade length between 5 and 12 inches, and a clipped point. This shall hereby exclude a machete from being considered a bowie knife.”

Section III: PROPOSITION

The purpose of this article is to clarify the definition of a bowie knife pursuant to Alabama Code 13A-11-50. Currently in the state of Alabama an individual is prohibited to carry a bowie knife, or knife of like kind or description concealed when not on their personal property. The currentcode states: “Except as otherwise provided in this Code, a person who carries concealed about his person a bowie knife or knife or instrument of like kind or description or a pistol or firearm of any kind or an air gun shall, on conviction, be fined not less than \$50.00 nor more than \$500.00, and may also be imprisoned in the county jail or sentenced to hard labor for the county for not more than six months.” Meaning a 10 inch kitchen knife carried in a backpack to cooking class could be construed as a concealed bowie knife.

Section IV: FUNDING AND CONTROL

Funding for the documentation and procedures involved in the enactment of this bill shall be drawn from the general fund.

Section V: CONFLICT AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

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

Section VI: ENACTMENT CLAUSE

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



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S048

Committee: 5

Delegation: Huntsville - HOPE Christian Academy

Author(s): Simon Hancsak

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: The Accountability Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 SECTION I: DEFINITIONS-

2
3 Private school: Includes only such schools that are established, conducted, and supported by a
4 nongovernmental entity or agency offering educational instruction in grades K-12, or any
5 combination thereof, including preschool, through on-site or home programs.
6

7 Church school: Includes only schools that offer instruction in grades K-12, or any combination
8 thereof, including preschool, through on-site or home programs, and are operated as a ministry of a
9 local church, group of churches, denomination, and/or association of churches which do not receive
10 any state or federal funding.
11

12 Public school: A school that is maintained at public expense for the education of the children of a
13 community or district and that constitutes a part of a system of free public education commonly
14 including primary and secondary schools.
15

16 First aid: help given to a sick or injured person until full medical treatment is available.
17

18 First Responders: someone designated or trained to respond to an emergency.
19
20
21

22 SECTION II: PROPOSITIONS-

23
24 Mandatory first aid training in all schools (public/private/church schools) for the state of Alabama will
25 be implemented as an advanced placement course in middle school and/or a required high school
26 course. First aid will be taught by local first responders who have been certified and will be
27 compensated for teaching by the (ALSBE) Alabama State Board of Education with a minimum of
28 \$594 a class, as per average cost of one college course.
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Schools unable to comply with this bill will be advised to ensure their student body attends multiple courses over the span of a month at an adequate medical or educational institution.

SECTION III: JUSTIFICATION-

This bill is the first of its kind for the state of Alabama and would serve as a lifesaving tool in many ways or situations during said students lifetime.

The National average response time is a round seven minutes for EMT's and other local first responders according to a study done by the American College of Emergency Physicians in 2017- to make this clear the bill is not meant to be a deterrent from calling 911 but rather a solution to a situation that could otherwise be prevented.

Regarding the need for employment of first responders, the applications of this bill could provide future generations with opportunities with an interest in careers within the medical field or as first responders themselves.

SECTION IV: FUNDING-

The funding for the implementation will be provided by increasing tobacco and alcohol tax by 3% through the (ADOR) Alabama Department of Revenue. Concerning equipment ofwhich will be provided for the classes: funding will be provided for adequate equipment to complete the course by using some of the proceeds mentioned above.

SECTIONS V: CONFLICT AND SEVERABILITY-

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

SECTIONS VI: ENACTMENT-

This bill will become effective September 8, 2019 upon the enactment and approval by the governor of Alabama or otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S049

Committee: 3

Delegation: Hoover - Spain Park

Author(s): Wesley Picard

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Mandating Parental Consent for Abortion Access

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section I: Definitions:**
2

3 **Abortion-** the deliberate termination of a human pregnancy, most often performed during the first
4 28 weeks of pregnancy.
5

6 **Judicial bypass-** an order from a judge that allows a minor to get an abortion without the
7 notification or consent of her parents.
8

9 **Minor-** any person under the legal age of 18.
10

11 **Section II: Proposal:**
12

13 This bill removes the option for minors to undergo court proceedings in order to obtain an abortion.
14 The intent of this bill is to amend Alabama code Title 26, in regards to Chapter 21, section 4. Section
15 **26-21-4** gives unemancipated minors the ability to bypass parental consent for abortion access by
16 petitioning the juvenile court of her county.
17

18 **Section III: Justification:**
19

20 Alabama law currently allows minors to obtain an abortion provided that at least one parent
21 consents to the process. However, the judicial bypass process (under code **26-21-4**) allows minors
22 to circumvent the consent of their legal guardian(s) in order to obtain an abortion. There are several
23 reasons why involving the grandparents of the unborn child is important.
24

25 Minors often lack the ability, unlike their parents, to make important decisions and factor in both
26 immediate and lasting consequences.
27

28 Parents who are involved in the abortion process are often far more capable of ensuring the minor
29 receives the medical attention she needs, whether before or after the abortion takes place, if at all.
30

31 Alabama law requires that minors need only prove they are mature and well-informed. The standard
32

33 of sexual abuse or emotional abuse, while optional to present to the courts, does not need to be met
34 in order to receive waiver of consent from the courts.

35
36 The judicial bypass process is often speedy and non-adversarial, resulting in a rubber stamp
37 procedure in which very few waivers are denied. This bill intends to curtail the rise of uninformed
38 minor abortions and ensure that minors receive adequate health care and guidance through their
39 parents.

40
41 **Section IV: Consequences**

42
43 Upon the enactment of this bill, teens will no longer be able to receive abortions through court
44 approval, and will instead have to rely on parent approval. As a result, the number of minors
45 receiving abortions is likely to decline.

46
47 **Section V: Enforcement:**

48
49 This bill will be enforced by the Alabama Department of Health.

50
51 **Section VI: Payment:**

52
53 There is no funding required by this law.

54
55 **Section VII: Conflicting Laws:**

56
57 This bill will override all conflicting laws upon the Governor's signing.

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59 **Section VIII: Enactment:**

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

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S050

Committee: 4

Delegation: Hoover - Spain Park

Author(s): Matthew Gray

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Sealed names for sexual misconduct

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions
2

3 Case sealing involves the process of sealing records that would otherwise be accessed by the
4 public. These cannot be accessed without a court order. Often times these sealed records are
5 destroyed. The public policy of record sealing balances the desire to free named citizens from the
6 burdens caused by the information contained in state records while maintaining the state's interest
7 in the preservation of records that may be beneficial to the state or other citizens.
8

9 Section II: Proposal
10

11 In a case involving a charge of sexual misconduct, court documents and proceedings are not sealed
12 entirely, but rather names, addresses, information, etc. of the victim and the accused are kept
13 secret and/or changed until conclusion of the case. If the defendant is proven to be guilty, the
14 information is unsealed and the charges placed on said person's record. If the defendant is
15 innocent, the names are to remain sealed.
16

17 Section III: Justification
18

19 Often times in these types of cases, both sides are affected negatively. The party that is being
20 charged often experiences detrimental effects to their reputation. Innocent or not, these charges are
21 on a record and can ruin someone's reputation.
22

23
24
25 On the other side, parties bringing forth these charges also experience a blow in their reputation.
26 "They are being scrutinized and questioned when they are not the person doing the harm. With rape
27 and domestic violence, we tend to blame the victim, which silences them and leads them to feel
28 ashamed." Rape is one of the most underreported crimes according to the national sexual violence
29 resource center. To site an example, Christine Ford, who brought forward charges against Brett
30 Kavanaugh, received numerous death threats, she was labeled a liar, and accused of looking for
31 attention and attempting to turn the voting away from Kavanaugh. This bill works to encourage
32

33 victims to bring forth charges to hold other accountable.

34

35

36

37 In order to keep court rooms from becoming corrupt and work in secrecy, as is typical in a sealed
38 case, only names and personal information will be kept from the public records to protect the
39 identities of both parties, rather than keeping the case secret altogether.

40

41 Section IV: Consequences

42

43 The ability to keep information involving sexual misconduct, rape, etc. would benefit both parties.
44 This could call into question the right of the public to be informed on court documents and

45

46 proceedings. See United States v. Haller, 837 F.2d 84, 87 (2d Cir. 1988).

47

48 *Lugosch v. Pyramid Co. of Onondaga County*, 435 F.3d 110, 119 (2d Cir. 2005)

49

50 Issues involving sealing court documents involve the protection of people, who will are not held
51 accountable. However these involve cases where most, if not all court documents are kept secret.

52

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54

55 Keeping names and personal information from the public would avoid the secrecy and corruption in
56 courts that come from sealing cases while simultaneously protecting the victim/accused from public
57 scrutiny. Doing this, I believe, can and will encourage more victims to come forward with charges.

58

59 Section V: Enforcement

60

61 Alabama Courts will be expected to expel personal information involving defendants and the
62 accused in cases that pertain to sexual misconduct charges. Courts that violate this can be fined in
63 the form of budget cuts, or the possibility of impeachment of the judge followed by charges.

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67 Section VI: Payment

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69 There is no extra payment needed.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S051

Committee: *Special Order*

Delegation: Montgomery - LAMP

Author(s): Brett Bonikowski

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Research and Experimentation Tax Credit

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 SECTION I

2
3 Innovation and start-ups fuel our economic growth. Our state has been built by encouraging
4 entrepreneurship and innovation. Currently, Alabama does not provide a credit for Research &
5 Development. According to the Treasury Department: "The R&E Credit is a cost-effective policy for
6 stimulating additional private sector investment. Most recent studies find that each dollar of
7 foregone tax revenue through the R&E Tax Credit causes firms to invest at least a dollar in R&D,
8 with some studies finding a benefit to cost ratio of 2 or 2.96." Alabama needs to attract companies
9 that will one day be the leaders in research and innovation by implementing a state Research and
10 Experimentation tax credit. State government support for innovation can drive productivity growth,
11 create new employment, and increase innovation in the state of Alabama, as well as making our
12 state more economically attractive to businesses.

13
14 SECTION II

15
16 *R&E expenditures* includes (1) expenses a business incurs in connection with its trade or production
17 that represent R&D costs in the experimental or laboratory sense; (2) costs related to developing or
18 improving an experimental or pilot model, a plant process, a product, a formula, an invention, or
19 similar property; and (3) costs of obtaining a patent.

20
21 *Qualified research* generally refers to those activities for which a business incurs R&E expenditures
22 for the purpose of discovering information which is (1) technological in nature and (2) intended to
23 develop a new or improved business component of the taxpayer. It does not include research after
24 commercial production, adaptation of existing business components to a particular customer's
25 needs, duplication of existing business components, surveys, computer software (with some
26 exceptions), social science research, and funded research.

27
28 SECTION III

29
30 Businesses with more R&E expenditures or qualified research in the State of Alabama than they
31 had in the prior year will be eligible for a tax credit on the Alabama corporate income tax that equals
32

33 20% of in-state R&E expenditures spent during the prior year.

34

35 SECTION IV

36

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

38

39 SECTION V

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

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S052

Committee: 1

Delegation: Montgomery - LAMP

Author(s): Chris Yang

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Confederate Statues

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section 1: This bill prohibits the removal of statues and monuments on public property that are at
2 least 40 years old and the renaming of buildings, schools and streets at least 40 years old. Those at
3 least 20 years old cannot be moved or renamed without permission from a new state committee.
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5 Section II: This bill will go into effect on January 1, 2020
6

7 Section III: All laws and codes in confliction are hereby declared null and void.
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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S053

Committee: 4

Delegation: Montgomery - Brew Tech

Author(s): Jonathan Bond

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Preventative Over-Reaction Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Preventative Over-Reaction Act

2
3 I. Purpose: The purpose of this bill is to curtail fatalities caused by non-premeditated gun violence.

4
5
6
7 II. Plan: Guns and ammunition will be taxed by 10% of their original market value annually.

8
9 (a) The tax may be decreased from 10% to 1% if the gun owner stores their guns and ammunitions
10 at any government sanctioned gun storage business.

11
12 i. Retrieval of guns and ammunition must be preceded by a notice 3 days prior to retrieval and will
13 last no longer than 1 week. A 5\$ fee per notice, per day will be required.

14
15 (b) Knowledge of a citizen's applicableness to this tax will be based on the honor system, but any
16 incident including a gun not accounted for by this bill will cause the owner to have a harsher
17 punishment and a retroactive payment that will be raised to 50%.

18
19 (c) Funds gained by this tax will go towards increasing police force in areas where the most taxes
20 were collected and creating 1 official government holding cite in the capital.

21
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23
24 III. Reasoning: The tax will discourage the immediate access of guns. This will domino into less
25 people being able to react recklessly with weapons.

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29 IV. This bill will take effect January 1st 2020.

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V. All Bills in conflict with this bill are hereby null and void.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S054

Committee: 4

Delegation: Montgomery - Montgomery Academy

Author(s): James Torbert

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Banning Civil Asset Forfeiture

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section 1. Beginning January 1, 2020, Civil Asset Forfeiture is no longer considered a lawful tool, therefore, Alabama Law Enforcement and Government Agencies are barred from the practice of Civil Asset Forfeiture. Law Enforcement must now wholesomely comply with the 4th Amendment requirements of search and seizure.

Section 2. The Heritage Foundation explains that, "Civil asset forfeiture is a legal tool that allows law enforcement officials to seize property that they assert has been involved in certain criminal activity." The owner of the property does not have to be guilty of a crime, only the property must be suspected of being involved with a crime. This enables law enforcement to seize an individuals property, home, car, money, or valuables, without ever charging the owner with a crime. According to the Southern Poverty Law Center, using Civil Asset Forfeiture, state law enforcements must only meet the burden of "reasonable satisfaction" to obtain and keep any item. This burden of proof is incredibly small, making civil asset forfeiture's use astonishingly easy and arbitrary.

Section 3. The implementation of this bill will be overseen by the Department of Law Enforcement. No funding will be required for the implementation of this piece of legislation.

Section 4. This bill will take effect on January 1, 2020.

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 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S055

Committee: 3

Delegation: Montgomery - Montgomery Academy

Author(s): Caroline Deale

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Reform Alabama's Overdose Good Samaritan Laws

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions
2

3 Good Samaritan law: named after a Biblical story about a man who helped a stranger who'd been
4 left for dead, these laws provide certain types of legal immunity for overdose victims and those who
5 call for help
6

7 Opioids: a class of drugs that includes heroin as well as prescription pain relievers such as
8 oxycodone, hydrocodone, morphine, and fentanyl
9

10 Nalaxone: a non-controlled prescription drug, the standard first-line treatment for opioid overdose
11

12 Protective/restraining order: a temporary court order issued to prohibit an individual from carrying
13 out a particular action, especially approaching or contacting a specified person
14

15 Pretrial release: the release of a defendant from custody before trial. Common conditions of release
16 include commercial surety, cash deposit, property bond, supervision and additional requirements.
17

18 Parole: the conditional release of prisoners before they complete their sentence on the promise of
19 good behavior
20

21 Probation: a court-imposed criminal sentence that, subject to stated conditions and restrictions,
22 releases a convicted criminal defendant into the community instead of confining him or her to jail or
23 prison
24

25 Section II: Background
26

27 Alabama has one of the highest levels of prescription opioid use in the nation, and the abuse of
28 these prescription opioids as well as heroin has created a public health crisis facing the state.
29 According to the CDC, Alabama experienced a statistically significant drug overdose death rate
30 increase from 2016 to 2017, totaling to over 3,000 overdose deaths since 2014.
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Drug overdose deaths are preventable. Fatalities usually result because victims do not get the simple, life-saving medical help that they need in a timely fashion. Although most overdoses occur in the presence of others, fear of legal consequences prevents many people from calling 911. As a result, medical assistance is summoned in only half of all overdose situations.

In an opioid-related emergency, bystanders should—but often don't—call for emergency assistance, which is recommended even when the opioid antidote naloxone is on hand. Fear of arrest or prosecution keep many from involving law enforcement or medical teams at the time of an overdose. This is particularly true for individuals who use opioids themselves, who may fear the unwanted attention, stigma, and negative consequences that might accompany a call, or who have had previous negative experiences with law enforcement officers or emergency medical personnel. Overdose Good Samaritan laws are designed to address these fears by protecting overdose victims and those who call for help from some of these potential consequences.

While Alabama does currently have Overdose Good Samaritan laws granting immunity from prosecution for controlled substance/drug paraphernalia possession crimes and provide protection from all misdemeanor controlled substance offenses (except driving under the influence), these laws do not provide sufficient protection to the overdose victims and those who call for help. Good Samaritan laws need to provide the broadest protections possible in order to effectively encourage people to seek medical assistance in the event of an overdose.

Section III: Proposition

As implemented in other states, Alabama's Overdose Good Samaritan laws will now grant immunity from arrest and charge for controlled substance and drug paraphernalia possession in addition to the preexisting immunity from prosecution. Furthermore, Alabama's Good Samaritan laws will now grant immunity from being considered in violation of a protective/restraining order and/or pretrial, probation, or parole conditions.

Section IV: Enactment

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

Section V: Severability Clause

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



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S056

Committee: 4

Delegation: Montgomery - Montgomery Academy

Author(s): Roma Pirnie

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: The Regulation of Drones Used as Eavesdroppers or Criminal Surveillance Tools

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section 1: Terms and Definitions

Eavesdrop- To overhear, record, amplify, or transmit any part of the private communication of others without the consent of at least one of the persons engaged in the communication

Criminal Surveillance- Secret observation of the activities of another person for the purpose of spying upon and invading the privacy of the person observed

Aggravated Criminal Surveillance- Intentionally engages in surveillance of an individual in any place where the individual observed has a reasonable expectation of privacy, without the prior express or implied consent for the purpose of sexual gratification.

Unmanned Aerial Vehicle or System (UAV or UAS)- An aircraft without a human pilot onboard; instead, the UAV or UAS is controlled from an operator on the ground, also called drones.

Private Place- A place where one may reasonably expect to be safe from casual or hostile intrusion or surveillance, but such term does not include a place where the public or a substantial group of the public has access.

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)- Regulates civil aviation to promote safety

Section 2: Overview and Proposal

All current forms of technology with video or audio capabilities are already included in the list of technological advances in our Title 13, Chapter 11, laws in Alabama that are able to be prosecuted as an eavesdropper or a criminal surveillance tool. The new technology of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, or drones, are not able to be prosecuted but they have the same capabilities. In the United States drones are allowed to fly in any air space that is not restricted and is not higher than 400 feet because above that is the federal air zone. Drones now have the capabilities to take photos and videos, some even have audio. The drones can fly over any private place capturing images and videos without the homeowner's consent or knowledge. Images can easily be altered, making

33 aggravated criminal surveillance an even scarier reality for individuals. This new form of technology
34 is not prosecutable under our current Title 13, Chapter 11, laws in Alabama. I propose that
35 Unmanned Aerial Vehicles are able to be prosecuted on the same level as any other form of
36 technology that could be used for eavesdropping or surveillance of a private place.

37

38 **Section 3: Penalties**

39

40 The penalty for eavesdropping will be a Class A Misdemeanor in compliance with our current laws.
41 The penalty for criminal surveillance is a Class B Misdemeanor in compliance with our current laws.
42 The penalty for aggravated criminal surveillance will be determined on a case by case basis and
43 knowledge of prior convictions.

44

45 **Section 4:** All laws or parts of laws conflicting with this act are hereby repealed.

46

47 **Section 5:** This bill will take effect on January 1, 2020

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S057

Committee: 1

Delegation: Montgomery - Montgomery Academy

Author(s): Martha Ernest, William Robertson

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Automatic Voter Registration

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **Section 1:**
2

3 **Automatic voter registration (AVR)** - an innovative policy that streamlines the way Americans
4 register to vote. It is an “opt out” policy by which an eligible voter is placed on the voter rolls at the
5 time they interact with a government agency unless they actively decline to be registered.
6

7 **Section 2:**
8

9 This bill would allow for every citizen to be automatically registered to vote when he or she turns 18
10 years old. When a person interacts with any government agency, they will automatically be
11 registered to vote unless they choose to “opt out.” Currently, voter registration in Alabama is an “opt
12 in” policy, where an eligible voter chooses to fill out a voter registration application, which gets
13 reviewed and processed before the name goes on the voter rolls. Automatic voter registration will
14 remove barriers to registration for eligible voters, the first step on the way to voter participation. By
15 registering through a routine and necessary transaction, voters won’t have to worry about
16 registration deadlines or application submissions. This could lead to a larger voter turnout.
17

18 These agencies will transfer voter registration information electronically to election officials instead
19 of using paper registration forms. This reform can increase registration rates, clean up the voter
20 rolls, and save states money.
21

22 Fifteen states and the District of Columbia have already approved automatic voter registration with
23 more states expected to pass the reform soon.
24

25 In the first six months after AVR was implemented in Vermont, registration rates jumped 62 percent.
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27 **Section 3:**
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29 The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs will oversee the implementation of
30 this bill.
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Section 4:

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

Section 5:

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



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S058

Committee: *Special Order*

Delegation: Montgomery - Montgomery Academy

Author(s): Will Hamlett

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Modernizing Alabama's Legislative Districts

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section 1: This bill calls for the creation of a bi-partisan commission to draw Alabama's State
2 Senate and House districts.

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4 Section 2: Commission: a group of people officially charged with a particular function.

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6 Gerrymandering: manipulating the boundaries of an electoral constituency so as to favor one party
7 or class.

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9 Section 3: The office of the Alabama Secretary of State, the Alabama Legislature, and the Governor
10 of Alabama will be in charge of the implementation of this bill.

11
12 Section 4: Gerrymandering is rampant in Alabama. Throughout Alabama's history, our legislative
13 districts are notorious for favoring the party that is in power. Oftentimes, these districts are drawn
14 upon racial and economic lines, where the political power of certain groups are diminished in order to
15 maintain the political hegemony of the party in power. These super-majorities created by
16 gerrymandering have led to a culture of political corruption in our state, and competitive elections
17 and bi-partisan accountability will erase this harmful culture.

18
19 Section 5: The Alabama Legislative Districting Commission would be composed of 10 members: 4
20 from the top two political parties and 2 not affiliated with either party. Each party would submit their
21 4 members, while the Governor would choose the 2 non-partisan members. The commission would
22 be in charge of the redistricting process for the U.S. Congressional Districts, State Senate Districts,
23 and State House Districts. The members would be in charge of creating districts that are politically
24 competitive, racially diverse, and economically diverse. All members must agree on the final map of
25 the districts, and the members have 6 months to create the maps. The redistricting process will
26 occur after the results from each census are released to the state government. No member may run
27 for political office for 8 years after leaving the commission, and each member will have a 20 year
28 term on the commission.

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30 Section 6: This bill will come into effect on January 1, 2020.
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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S059

Committee: 2

Delegation: Mobile - Davidson

Author(s): Rachel Duthu

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: A Bill to Improve Access to Sexual Education

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions

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5 Sexual Education: the guided instruction on human sexuality (including its relations to other people),
6 human sexual anatomy, reproductive health, contraception, abstinence, consent, and the legislation
7 pertaining to anything covered in the course.
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11 Sexually Transmitted Diseases: a disease caused by bacteria, parasites, or viruses transmitted
12 through contact usually done in a sexual context such as intercourse
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16 Section II: Propositions

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20 The bill will require a comprehensive sexual education course in line with and above current
21 legislation standards be taught to all students some time during their first two years after entering
22 high school. Students will be allowed to opt-out with the written or verbal approval of a parent or
23 legal guardian to a school administrator.
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27 Section III: Justification

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31 Alabama is among the top twenty percent of states for the highest teen pregnancy rates and even
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33 higher in the rates the youth in state are affected by sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). The
34 Center for Disease Control states that as of 2010, teen pregnancy and childbirth cost taxpayers
35 over nine billion dollars a year in lost revenue, increased incarceration rates, and more health and
36 foster care. A study from the University of California Irvine calculated that with the cost to implement
37 sexual education in schools, millions of dollars would still be saved even with only slight decreases
38 in sexually transmitted diseases rates. Implementation of legislation in other states for better sexual
39 education and access has proven to be effective in lowering teen pregnancy and STD rates.
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43 Section IV: Severability Clause
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47 Any laws or parts of law in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.
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51 Section V: Enactment Clause
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55 This bill will become effective upon the beginning of the next new school year after its enactment.
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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S060

Committee: 5

Delegation: Mobile - Davidson

Author(s): Sean Shelley-Tremblay

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: The Alabama Community Health Workers Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section I. Definitions

A. Community Health Worker: A state employee who holds jurisdiction within a municipality. These workers are experts in public health as well as experts in the communities they serve, and are tasked with improving public health in their community through efforts such as facilitating care coordination, enhancing access to community-based services, and addressing social determinants of health like housing disparities, access to exercise, and pollutants.

Section II. Body

A. The Alabama Department of Labor will recognize the category of *community health worker* (CHW) as an official employment category in the state of Alabama.

B. Each municipality in the state of Alabama will be responsible for establishing a Community Health Worker's Office.

i. These offices will be staffed by CHWs who are responsible for overseeing improvement of public health in their respective communities.

ii. Each office will be staffed with a number of CHWs as to satisfy a ratio of 1 CHW : 50,000 civilians.

C. The Alabama Community Health Worker Development and Planning Fund (ACHWF) will provide funding for CHW programs and the filling of CHW salaries.

i. The annual ACHWF budget will be capped at USD 10 million in the first fiscal year of establishment. Negotiation by the administration of the ACHWF for additional funding in following years will then be permitted.

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ii. 60% of the ACHWF budget will be drawn from the Alabama Medicaid Budget and 40% from the Alabama General Fund.

Section III. Severability Clause

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

Section IV. Effective Date

This act to become effective upon the beginning of the fiscal year following passage and approval by the Governor.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S061

Committee: 1

Delegation: Mobile - Davidson

Author(s): Joseph Stauter

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Brochure Approval Streamlining and Tailoring Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Preamble: The pamphlets visible at rest stops and visitor centers are often one of the first
2 impressions tourists have of Alabama. They can, and should, be displayed in such a way that
3 seasonal events, small-scale attractions, and attractions in economically distressed areas receive
4 due promotion.
5

6 SECTION I. DEFINITIONS

7
8 Brochure – a paper document, smaller than a standard 8.5” by 11” sheet, usually folded to
9 decrease size but sometimes not, which advertises an attraction, a business or service, an event, or
10 multiple of any of the above.
11

12 Qualified gas stations – gasoline filling stations which have a convenience store, which serve over
13 300 customers in the convenience store on an average day, which are not located within 7 miles of
14 an interstate exit, and which submit a written letter to the Department of Tourism requesting to
15 operate a brochure rack.
16

17 Welcome Center – One of (currently) eight state-run service stations located at the entry points of
18 major highways into Alabama. Likewise, Rest Areas are one of a larger number of similar, but
19 slightly smaller, state-run service stations located on major highways in internal Alabama.
20

21 SECTION II. PROPOSITIONS

22
23 Entities may still submit brochures to the central Brochure Committee, and should still do so 30
24 days before they wish for their pamphlets to be released. They may now also deliver brochures in
25 person to any Welcome Center or Rest Area. They must do so 7 days before the desired display
26 date. A minimum of 200 brochures must be submitted to any one Welcome Center or Rest Area.
27 These brochures will be reviewed by the managers of the center. Brochures should be approved
28 unless they contain incendiary language, make fraudulent claims, advertise real estate (aside from
29 what is already acceptable statewide), advertise personal events, are not advertisements at all, or
30 focus primarily on some business or attraction outside Alabama.
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A brochure for a special event must be submitted 35 days prior to the commencement of the event. They may be submitted in person to a Welcome Center or Rest Area, as described above, but the 35-day advance delivery is still obligatory.

Qualified gas stations will be permitted to operate one standardized 8'-by-5' brochure rack in some area which is visible from the primary entrance of the store building. These brochure racks will have the logo of the Department of Tourism prominently emblazoned on the top. Station managers and some employees will be required to undergo a brief training session, in which they will be educated on how to handle brochure distribution and how to advertise local attractions. These gas stations will be marked with official signage at street level. The qualification cost for these gas stations will be free of charge. The promotional materials, including the brochure rack, will also be free of charge to the stations, although they will be obligated to pay for lost or damaged materials.

\$30,000 is to be set into a fund for the program for qualified gas stations. An initial \$20,000 will be collected through a private donation campaign sent to businesses involved in state tourism, with any charges not collected this way pulled from the Department of Tourism general fund. The other \$10,000 will be raised from a 25 cent tax on all drinks sold at Welcome Centers and Rest Areas within a one-month period following the implementation of this bill. After this initial funding period, money from the general tourism fund will maintain the program-specific fund. \$15,000 of the fund will be dedicated to advertising and outreach to businesses and events around the state.

SECTION III. JUSTIFICATION

All brochures displayed at Welcome Centers and Rest Areas in the state are regulated by the ATD Brochure Committee. Currently, brochures for special events must be provided to the committee 3 whole months before the event, and any parties offering brochures must submit an initial 2,000 copies to a statewide office before any distribution can occur. These policies discourage local enterprises, especially those with small budgets, from advertising themselves, as they may not be able to afford the high quantity of brochures required and may not be interested in advertising statewide. More potently, small-scale special events are discouraged from advertising in welcome centers, as only the most high-budget organizations will be able to plan their events well enough three months in advance to release a complete brochure about their event.

These changes provide more of an emphasis on local, less regionally known tourist attractions and non-name-brand businesses as compared to previous policy. The lack of a state charge for advertising businesses and participating gas stations, as well as the funds allocated for informing entities of the new policies, ensure that vast advertising funds will not be a prerequisite for business promotion in Alabama's rest centers. The state's policy has long been geared toward benefitting small businesses while attempting to streamline and popularize a statewide tourism campaign; this bill, if enacted, should be expected to do both.

SECTION IV. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

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

SECTION V. ENACTMENT CLAUSE

This act will become law July 31, 2019, upon its enactment and approval by the Governor or otherwise becoming a law.



ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S062

Committee: 2

Delegation: Montgomery - BTW

Author(s): Royelle Comer

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: Education Prioritizing Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 Section I: Definitions: Well-balanced - providing academics and athletics as well as the arts

2
3 Section II: Proposal: Require all public high schools to be well-balanced. Provide funding from the
4 education budget for athletics and arts programs.

5
6 Section III: There would be a change in student schedule. The normal four core classes and elective
7 class would be slightly altered and rearranged. There would be an athletic class offered for all
8 upperclassmen, along with an arts elective and after school programs enhancing talents in all areas;
9 this would be funded through grants, taxes, and educational state funding.

10
11 Athletic classes would be classes such as weight lifting and basketball development. Other sports:
12 baseball, soccer, volleyball, golf, etc. will be offered, for the further development, as a class period
13 to purposely tap into every athlete's full potential.

14
15 In regard to arts, there would art, drama, music, and photography elective courses required for
16 graduation. Dance, choral, and law/debate will also be needed for full high school credits.

17
18 In order to compensate for a busy schedule, all athletes who need a P.E. credit will be allowed to
19 take their art class during their physical education period and will still receive their P.E. credit
20 through their sport.

21
22 By using the school system's funds correctly, for the up-build of the program, there will be more
23 successful secondary institutions, all around.

24
25 Justification: Every public high school in Alabama needs a well-balanced curriculum.

26
27 Section IV: Any laws or parts of law in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

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29 Section V: This bill will become effective January 1 upon its enactment and approval by the
30 governor or otherwise becoming a law.

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ALABAMA YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth Legislature 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S063

Committee: 4

Delegation: Montgomery - Montgomery Academy

Author(s): Sofie Behr

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: The Incarceration Reduction Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

1 **SECTION 1.** Beginning January 1, 2021, first, The Alabama Habitual Offenders Act will hereby be
2 repealed, and second, The Department of Corrections will expand access to compassionate release
3 for elderly people in Alabama prisons.

4
5 **SECTION 2.**

6
7 According to the American Civil Liberties Union, "In Alabama, mass incarceration has bloated and
8 strained prisons, forcing them to operate at 164 percent of design capacity." Offenders sentenced
9 under the Habitual Offender Act constitute nearly one-third of the prison population and are one of
10 the most expensive populations in Alabama's prison system due to the effects of aging over lengthy
11 sentences, with costs averaging \$112 million per year, or 36 percent of corrections' FY 2006 budget.

12
13 Habitual Offender- a person who repeatedly commits a crime.

14
15 Alabama Habitual Offenders Act- In all cases when it is shown that a criminal defendant has been
16 previously convicted of a Class A, Class B, or Class C felony and after the conviction has committed
17 another Class A, Class B, or Class C felony, he or she must be sentenced at the next class for his
18 new felony conviction.

19
20 Compassionate Release- a process by which inmates in criminal justice systems may be eligible for
21 immediate early release on grounds of "particularly extraordinary or compelling circumstances
22 which could not reasonably have been foreseen by the court at the time of sentencing," such as old
23 age.

24
25 **SECTION 3.** This bill will be overseen by the Alabama Department of Corrections. No funding will
26 be required for the implementation of this legislation.

27
28 **SECTION 4.** This bill will take effect of January 1, 2021.

29
30 **SECTION 5.** 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 2019

February 22, 2019

Delegate Bill #S064

Committee: 3

Delegation: Montgomery - LAMP

Author(s): Quinn Lee

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Title: The Prevention of Infectious Diseases Associated With Injection Drug Use Act

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YOUTH LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA

Section 1: Definitions

Controlled substance: a drug or substance whose manufacture, production, or use is regulated according to the standards set by the Code of Alabama

Naloxone: a drug that blocks opiate receptors in the nervous system; used to counter the effects of opiate overdoses

Section 2: Proposals

In 2014, 12,439 people in Alabama were living with diagnosed HIV, and there were 481 new HIV diagnoses in Alabama in 2015, and injection drug use causes six percent of these cases. In addition, rates of acute hepatitis C (HCV), which can significantly increase the risk for liver cancer, increased by 180% between 2011 and 2015, and injection drug use is the main cause of HCV injection. Four Alabama counties have been identified by the CDC as a part of a list of the top 5% of counties in the nation that are at risk of HIV/HCV outbreaks as a result of the opioid crisis. Sharing needles exacerbates this epidemic.

This act allows local health authorities to establish needle exchange programs (NEPs) that are free of cost to the general public to combat the spread of injection-related diseases by using federal funds and/or grants from the CDC. NEPs must provide the following services: access to sterile needles and syringes, safe disposal of used needles and syringes, other HIV/HCV prevention materials such as alcohol swabs and sterile water, educational materials about safe injection practices and overdose prevention, referral to substance abuse treatment programs, testing for HIV/HCV, and access to naloxone to treat drug overdoses, and a registration card for identification purposes.

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Users of NEPs found with controlled substances will be given limited immunity from criminal prosecution if they are using needles or syringes from the NEP and if they are carrying their registration card. Organizers of NEPs must inform local law enforcement agencies about the program and its policies.

Each NEP must be evaluated every two years by the Alabama Department of Public Health to determine its efficacy and if there is a continued need for the program.

Section 3: All laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section 4: This bill shall become effective 90 days after its passage and approval by the Governor or its otherwise becoming a law.