

1 SB367
2 175886-1
3 By Senator Orr
4 RFD: Transportation and Energy
5 First Read: 17-MAR-16

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8 SYNOPSIS: This bill would establish and define water
9 basin areas of the State of Alabama. These basin
10 areas would be used for purposes of water resource
11 planning and management under the Alabama Water
12 Resources Act.

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14 A BILL
15 TO BE ENTITLED
16 AN ACT

17
18 Relating to the establishment of water basin areas
19 for the State of Alabama to be used for purposes of water
20 resource planning and management activities under the Alabama
21 Water Resources Act.

22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

23 Section 1. (a) For purposes of this act, the
24 following terms shall have the following meanings:

25 (1) ALABAMA WATER RESOURCES ACT. Chapter 10B,
26 commencing with Section 9-10B-1, of Title 9, Code of Alabama
27 1975.

1 (2) BASIN AREA. Those areas defined in and described
2 in Section 2 that are drained by one or more rivers and its
3 tributaries as defined by hydrologic continuity and in
4 accordance with United States Geological Survey Watershed
5 Boundary Dataset name and hydrologic unit code number
6 designation at the eight-digit hydrologic unit level.

7 Section 2. The Alabama Basin Areas are defined as
8 follows:

9 (1) Tennessee River Basin Area. All of the waters of
10 the Tennessee River Basin including the following eight-digit
11 hydrologic unit codes: Bear (06030006), Pickwick (06030005),
12 Lower Elk (06030004), Upper Elk (06030003), Wheeler Lake
13 (06030002), Guntersville Lake (06030001), and Middle
14 Tennessee-Chickamauga (06020001).

15 (2) Mobile Basin Area. All of the waters of the
16 Mobile Basin including the following eight-digit hydrologic
17 unit codes:

18 a. Mobile Bay Basin: Mobile Bay (03160205) and
19 Mobile-Tensaw (03160204).

20 b. Lower Tombigbee River Basin: Lower Tombigbee
21 (03160203), Sucamoochee (03160202), and Middle
22 Tombigbee-Chickasaw (03160201).

23 c. Upper Tombigbee River Basin: Noxubee (03160108),
24 Sipsev (03160107), Middle Tombigbee-Lubbub (03160106),
25 Luxapallila (03160105), Buttahatchee (03160103), and Upper
26 Tombigbee (03160101).

1 d. Black Warrior River Basin: Lower Black Warrior
2 (03160113), Upper Black Warrior (03160112), Locust Fork
3 (03160111), Sipsy Fork (03160110), and Mulberry Fork
4 (03160109).

5 e. Alabama River Basin: Lower Alabama (03150204),
6 Middle Alabama (03150203), and Upper Alabama (03150201).

7 f. Cahaba River Basin: Cahaba (03150202).

8 g. Coosa River Basin: Lower Coosa (03150107), Middle
9 Coosa (03150106), and Upper Coosa (03150105).

10 h. Tallapoosa River Basin: Lower Tallapoosa
11 (03150110), Middle Tallapoosa (03150109), and Upper Tallapoosa
12 (03150108).

13 i. Perdido Bay Basin: Perdido Bay (03140107) and
14 Perdido (03140106).

15 j. Escatawpa River Basin - Mississippi Coastal
16 (03170009), Escatawpa (03170008), Lower Chickasaw-Hay
17 (03170003), and Upper Chickasaw-Hay (03170002).

18 (3) Southeast Alabama Coastal Plain Basin Area. All
19 of the waters of the Choctawhatchee-Pea River Basins, the
20 Yellow River Basin, and the Conecuh-Sepulga River Basins
21 including the following eight-digit hydrologic unit codes:

22 a. Choctawhatchee-Pea River Basin: Lower
23 Choctawhatchee (03140203), Pea (03140202), and Upper
24 Choctawhatchee (03140201).

25 b. Yellow River Basin: Black Water (03140104) and
26 Yellow (03140103).

1 c. Conecuh-Sepulga River Basin: Escambia (03140305),
2 Lower Conecuh (03140304), Sepulga (03140303), Patsalgia
3 (03140302), and Upper Conecuh (03140301).

4 (4) Chattahoochee Basin Area. All of the waters of
5 the Chattahoochee River including the following eight-digit
6 hydrologic unit codes: Chattahoochee River Basin: Lower
7 Chattahoochee (03130004), Middle Chattahoochee to Walter F.
8 George (0313003), Middle Chattahoochee to Lake Harding
9 (0313002), and Chipola (03130012).

10 Section 3. (a) The Office of Water Resources and the
11 Alabama Water Resources Commission shall use the basin areas
12 as defined in Section 2 for purposes of resource planning and
13 management activities under the Alabama Water Resources Act.

14 (b) To the extent appropriate, the basin areas shall
15 be considered in local or regional water resource studies or
16 assessments.

17 (c) The basin areas defined in Section 2 shall be
18 used as part of any statewide water assessments, including any
19 analysis of water movements throughout the state or between
20 basin areas.

21 Section 4. Nothing in this act provides for any
22 additional water regulation or permitting not provided for by
23 law as of the effective date of this act.

24 Section 5. This act shall become effective
25 immediately following its passage and approval by the
26 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.