

1 HB168  
2 208685-1  
3 By Representative Garrett  
4 RFD: State Government  
5 First Read: 02-FEB-21  
6 PFD: 01/28/2021

SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, a county health officer may issue an order or directive meant to control or abate a pandemic or outbreak of a disease during a public health state of emergency.

This bill would prohibit a county health officer, during a state of emergency, from issuing an order or directive that relates to the control of a pandemic or outbreak of a disease unless the State Health Officer provides written approval of the order or directive.

A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

Relating to county health officers; to prohibit a county health officer, during a state of emergency, from issuing an order or directive that relates to the control of a pandemic or outbreak of a disease unless approved by the State Health Officer.

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

2 Section 1. During a state of emergency declared  
3 pursuant to Section 31-9-8, Code of Alabama 1975, in response  
4 to a pandemic or outbreak of a disease, a county health  
5 officer may issue an order or directive that relates to the  
6 control, prevention, or minimization of the pandemic or  
7 outbreak, provided the State Health Officer has reviewed and  
8 provided written approval of the order or directive prior to  
9 its issuance.

10 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the  
11 first day of the third month following its passage and  
12 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.