

1 HB255
2 216502-2
3 By Representative Shedd (Constitutional Amendment)
4 RFD: Urban and Rural Development
5 First Read: 03-FEB-22

SYNOPSIS: This bill would propose an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, to authorize the state, a county, or a municipality to grant to public or private entities federal award funds or any other source of funding designated for broadband infrastructure by state law for providing or expanding broadband infrastructure.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901; to authorize the state, a county, or a municipality to grant certain monies to public or private entities for broadband infrastructure.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. The following amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901 is proposed and shall become valid as a part thereof when approved by a majority of the

1 qualified electors voting thereon and in accordance with
2 Sections 284, 285, and 287 of the Constitution of Alabama of
3 1901, as amended:

4 PROPOSED AMENDMENT

5 The state, a county, or a municipality is authorized
6 to grant federal award funds or any other source of funding
7 designated for broadband infrastructure by state law to any
8 public or private entity for the purpose of providing or
9 expanding broadband infrastructure. The granting of funds by a
10 county or a municipality to a private entity pursuant to this
11 section must be approved at a public meeting held by the
12 appropriate county or municipality.

13 Upon ratification of this constitutional amendment
14 and contingent upon the ratification of the Constitution of
15 Alabama of 2022, the Code Commissioner shall number and place
16 this amendment as appropriate in the constitution based upon a
17 logical sequence and the particular subject or topic of the
18 amendment. In this amendment, the Code Commissioner may change
19 capitalization, spelling, and punctuation for the purpose of
20 style and uniformity; correct manifest grammatical, clerical,
21 and typographical errors; and correct incorrect
22 cross-references. When publishing the Constitution of Alabama
23 of 2022, the Code Commissioner may omit this instructional
24 paragraph.

25 Section 2. An election upon the proposed amendment
26 shall be held in accordance with Sections 284 and 285 of the
27 Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Sections 284

1 and 285 of the Official Recompilation of the Constitution of
2 Alabama of 1901, as amended, and the election laws of this
3 state.

4 Section 3. The appropriate election official shall
5 assign a ballot number for the proposed constitutional
6 amendment on the election ballot and shall set forth the
7 following description of the substance or subject matter of
8 the proposed constitutional amendment:

9 "Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of
10 Alabama of 1901, to authorize the state, a county, or a
11 municipality to grant federal award funds or any other source
12 of funding designated for broadband infrastructure by state
13 law to public or private entities for providing or expanding
14 broadband infrastructure.

15 "Proposed by Act _____."

16 This description shall be followed by the following
17 language:

18 "Yes () No ()."