

HB255 INTRODUCED



1 OZ21JJ-1

2 By Representative Clouse (Constitutional Amendment)

3 RFD: Constitution, Campaigns and Elections

4 First Read: 04-Apr-23

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SYNOPSIS:

Under existing constitutional law, local laws must be advertised for four consecutive weeks prior to introduction in the Legislature.

This bill would propose an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, to require local constitutional amendments to be advertised via publication on the website of the affected community for four consecutive weeks prior to introduction.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, to add Section 284.02, to require local constitutional amendments to be advertised prior to introduction.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. The following amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, is proposed and shall become valid as a part of the Constitution when approved by a majority of the qualified electors voting thereon and in accordance with Sections 284, 285, and 287 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022:



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PROPOSED AMENDMENT

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Section 284.02 is added to the Constitution of Alabama of 2022 to read as follows:

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Section 284.02

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No local constitutional amendment shall be passed

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unless the substance of the proposed constitutional amendment is prominently published on the website of the county or political subdivision affected by the constitutional amendment for a period of not less than four consecutive weeks prior to the introduction of the constitutional amendment. Proof of notice shall be provided to the Clerk of the House or Secretary of the Senate at the time the constitutional amendment is introduced.

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Upon ratification of this constitutional amendment, the Code Commissioner shall number and place this amendment as appropriate in the constitution omitting this instructional paragraph and may make the following nonsubstantive revisions: change capitalization, spelling, and punctuation for purposes of style and uniformity; correct manifest grammatical, clerical, and typographical errors; and correct incorrect cross-references.

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Section 2. An election upon the proposed amendment shall be held in accordance with Sections 284 and 285 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, and the election laws of this state.

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Section 3. The appropriate election official shall assign a ballot number for the proposed constitutional

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57 amendment on the election ballot and shall set forth the
58 following description of the substance or subject matter of
59 the proposed constitutional amendment:

60 "Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama
61 of 2022, to require every local constitutional amendment to be
62 published on the website of the affected county or political
63 subdivision for a period of four weeks prior to introduction
64 of the local constitutional amendment by the Legislature.

65 Proposed by Act ____."

66 This description shall be followed by the following
67 language:

68 "Yes () No()."