

SB197 INTRODUCED



1 XF64EZ-1
2 By Senator Orr
3 RFD: State Governmental Affairs
4 First Read: 11-Apr-23
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SYNOPSIS:

This bill would require state agencies that process and provide benefits to recipients to consult with the Department of Public Examiners of Public Accounts and institute any service or system recommended by the department that may help prevent fraud, to the extent practicable.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to state agencies; to require state agencies to take certain measures to prevent fraud before paying benefits to recipients.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) For purposes of this section, "benefit" means a payment of public funds based on the recipient's ability to meet certain qualifications or criteria. The term does not include a tax credit, tax rebate, or tax refund, nor does it include any grant that requires highly specialized expertise or qualifications whereby a limited number of persons would qualify.

(b) Before any state agency, department, board, or



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29 commission may begin to process or pay benefits to recipients
30 pursuant to a new program or newly instituted benefit, the
31 agency, department, board, or commission shall consult with
32 the Department of Public Examiners of Public Accounts to
33 determine if there is a system or service in place which could
34 aid the agency, department, board, or commission in detecting,
35 defraying, or preventing fraudulent payments. If such a system
36 or service exists, the agency, department, board, or
37 commission shall determine whether such a system or service
38 can be integrated with, modify, or replace its current systems
39 or programs and shall use the system or service to the full
40 extent practicable. This shall be a management decision of the
41 agency, department, board, or commission.

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