

SB279 INTRODUCED



1 SB279
2 RFVFNMM-1
3 By Senator Coleman
4 RFD: Veterans and Military Affairs
5 First Read: 04-Apr-24



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SYNOPSIS:

This bill would prohibit law enforcement officers from using the four-point restraint, known as the hog-tie position, to restrain an individual.

This bill would require law enforcement agencies to adopt policies and procedures prohibiting the use of the four-point restraint.

This bill would also provide criminal penalties for a violation.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to law enforcement; to prohibit the use of certain techniques by law enforcement; and to require law enforcement agencies to adopt certain policies and procedures; to provide criminal penalties for a violation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) FOUR-POINT RESTRAINT. To hog-tie, restrain, or confine an individual face-down on the ground by connecting or fastening the individual's hands and legs behind the



SB279 INTRODUCED

29 individual's back.

30 (2) LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY. As defined in Section
31 36-21-40, Code of Alabama 1975.

32 (3) LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER. As defined in Section
33 36-21-40, Code of Alabama 1975.

34 (b) A law enforcement officer shall not do either of
35 the following:

36 (1) Detain, restrain, or transport any individual by
37 four-point restraint.

38 (2) Place any individual in a face down position that
39 restricts oxygen or blood flow to the individual's head or
40 neck.

41 (c) Each law enforcement agency shall include a
42 prohibition against the use of four-point restraint in the
43 agency's existing policies and procedures.

44 (d) The use of four-point restraint in violation of
45 this section is a Class A misdemeanor.

46 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October
47 1, 2024.