



**House Ways and Means General Fund Reported  
Substitute for HB82**

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A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

Relating to boards of registrars; to amend Sections 17-3-2, 17-3-5, and 17-3-8, Code of Alabama 1975; to further provide for the membership of the boards of registrars; to further provide for the qualifications of registrars and establish hours of operation; to increase the salary of each registrar; and to make nonsubstantive, technical revisions to update the existing code language to current style.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Sections 17-3-2, 17-3-5, and 17-3-8, Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:

"§17-3-2

(a) (1) Registration shall be conducted in each county by a board of three reputable and suitable ~~persons~~individuals to be appointed, unless otherwise provided by law, by the Governor, Auditor, and Commissioner of Agriculture and Industries, or by a majority of them acting as a state board of appointment. In making appointments on or after October 1, 2025, the state board of appointment shall consider the racial, gender, urban, rural, and economic diversity of the



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29 that county.

30 (2) The registrars shall:

31 a. ~~be~~ Be qualified electors, and be residents of the  
32 county; ~~shall have~~

33 b. Have a high school diploma or equivalent; ~~and~~  
34 ~~possess the minimum computer and map reading skills necessary~~  
35 ~~to function in the office~~

36 c. Possess excellent communication skills evident by  
37 reportable experience in areas such as electronic mail, online  
38 communications, and use of multi-line telephones;

39 d. Demonstrate intermediate level experience and  
40 proficiency in data processing and use of computer programs  
41 used in the current day-to-day workplace, including, but not  
42 limited to, web-based operating systems;

43 e. Demonstrate the ability to download and upload  
44 reports and files and conduct spreadsheet manipulation; and

45 f. Demonstrate the ability to operate office equipment,  
46 including printers, copiers, scanners, and cameras.

47 (3) The Secretary of State shall prescribe guidelines  
48 to assist the state board of appointment in determining the  
49 qualifications of registrars. The registrars shall not hold an  
50 elective office during their term. One of the members shall be  
51 designated by the state board of appointment as chair of the  
52 board of registrars for each county.

53 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a),  
54 the Legislature may provide by local law for the appointment  
55 of additional members to the board of registrars for a county  
56 that has two courthouses.



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57           (c) ~~The provisions of this~~ This section shall not apply  
58 in any county having a population of not less than 600,000  
59 inhabitants according to the 1970 or any succeeding federal  
60 decennial census, and any currently effective local law or  
61 general law of local application providing for the appointment  
62 of any member of the board of registrars in the county shall  
63 remain in full force and effect and shall not be repealed by  
64 operation of this chapter."

65           "§17-3-5

66           (a) Each registrar shall receive a salary in the amount  
67 of ~~eighty dollars (\$80)~~ one hundred fifteen dollars (\$115) per  
68 day for each day's attendance upon business of the board, to  
69 be paid by the state and disbursed to the county commissions  
70 and disbursed by the county commissions to each registrar on  
71 order of a quorum of the board of registrars of the county.  
72 The state Comptroller shall issue to each county commission on  
73 a monthly basis an amount sufficient to fund these payments  
74 plus the employer share of the Social Security or Federal  
75 Insurance Corporation Act tax. The county commission will  
76 provide to the state Comptroller an invoice itemized to  
77 reflect payments made. If a legal holiday falls on a day the  
78 board is to be in session, and the courthouse of the county is  
79 closed for the holiday, the board of registrars shall be  
80 compensated for the holiday. Each registrar shall receive a  
81 mileage allowance equal to the amount allowed state employees  
82 or employees of the county, whichever is greater, for official  
83 travel in the course of attending the business of the board,  
84 including attending continuing education programs. Travel and



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85 other expenses shall be paid by the county commissions to the  
86 boards of registrars and the state shall reimburse the county  
87 commissions based on a written request submitted by the county  
88 commissions to the ~~state~~ Comptroller.

89 (b) The provisions of this section regarding travel  
90 mileage shall not apply in any county having a population of  
91 600,000 or more inhabitants according to the ~~1970 or any~~  
92 ~~succeeding~~ most current federal decennial census, and any  
93 currently effective local law or general law of local  
94 application regarding travel mileage for registrars in the  
95 county shall remain in full force and effect and shall not be  
96 repealed by operation of this chapter.

97 (c) Members of the boards of registrars of this state  
98 are ~~hereby~~ declared to be state employees for the purposes of  
99 Chapter 28 of Title 36.

100 (d) Members of the boards of registrars of this state  
101 shall be treated as equals with ~~other~~ state and county  
102 employees in regard to Social Security protection and  
103 benefits.

104 (e) All payments by a county to any member of a county  
105 board of registrars, ~~except for~~ except for mileage or reimbursement for  
106 expenses, ~~shall~~ shall be treated for Social Security purposes  
107 equally with payments by that county to ~~other~~ county employees  
108 of the county.

109 (f) The state office for Social Security and the state  
110 Comptroller and each county commission ~~are directed to~~ shall  
111 take all necessary action to ~~insure~~ ensure that members of the  
112 boards of registrars of this state are treated as ~~other~~ state



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113 and county employees in regard to Social Security protection  
114 and benefits as provided in Chapter 28 of Title 36, including,  
115 if necessary, amending the federal-state agreement referred to  
116 in Chapter 28 of Title 36, to implement the intent of the  
117 Legislature as expressed herein.

118 (g) No county commission may reduce the current county  
119 supplement upon the effect of this section by implementation  
120 of Act 94-693.

121 (h) (1) A county commission may allow the chair or any  
122 member of the county board of registrars who has served at  
123 least 16 years in that position to participate in any health  
124 insurance program provided by the county upon the same terms,  
125 conditions, and employee contributions as required for county  
126 employees.

127 (2) This subsection shall not apply to any health  
128 insurance plans administered by the State of Alabama as  
129 described in Title 36, Chapter 29 and Title 11, Chapter 91A."

130 "§17-3-8

131 (a) Each member of the board of registrars in the  
132 Counties of Clay, Cleburne, Coosa, Dallas, Escambia, Geneva,  
133 Lowndes, Perry, Sumter, and Wilcox may meet a maximum of 120  
134 working days each fiscal year; each member of the board of  
135 registrars in the Counties of Barbour, Butler, Fayette,  
136 Greene, Marengo, Pickens, Pike, Randolph, and Winston may meet  
137 a maximum of 168 working days each fiscal year, except in Pike  
138 County each board of registrars may meet up to an additional  
139 30 session days each fiscal year, at the discretion of the  
140 chair of the county commission, and such days shall be paid



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141 from the respective county funds; each member of the board of  
142 registrars in the Counties of Coffee, Shelby, Talladega, and  
143 Tallapoosa may meet a maximum of 220 working days each fiscal  
144 year, except that in Talladega County the board of registrars  
145 may meet up to an additional 30 session days each fiscal year,  
146 at the discretion of the chair of the county commission; each  
147 member of the board of registrars in the Counties of Dale,  
148 Franklin, Houston, Marion, Marshall, Bullock, Macon, and  
149 Tuscaloosa may meet a maximum of 216 working days each fiscal  
150 year; and each member of the board of registrars in Russell  
151 County may meet a maximum of 177 working days each fiscal  
152 year.

153 (b) In the Counties of Choctaw, Colbert, Cullman,  
154 Lauderdale, and Monroe, each member of the board of registrars  
155 may meet a maximum of 199 working days each fiscal year.

156 (c) (1) Each member of the Board of Registrars of  
157 Autauga, Elmore, and Bibb Counties may meet a maximum of 187  
158 working days each fiscal year. Each member of the Board of  
159 Registrars of Walker County may meet a maximum of 200 days  
160 each fiscal year, and each member of the Board of Registrars  
161 of Lamar, Cherokee, Clarke, Conecuh, Crenshaw, Hale, and  
162 Washington Counties may meet a maximum of 140 days each fiscal  
163 year. Each member of the board of registrars in the following  
164 counties may meet the following maximum number of working days  
165 each fiscal year: Henry - 140 working days; Covington - 188  
166 working days; DeKalb, Jackson, and Blount - 207 working days;  
167 Chambers - 180 working days; and Lawrence - 200 working days.

168 (2) Notwithstanding Section 17-3-5, the 60 additional



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169 working days for registrars in Lawrence County added by Act  
170 2023-456 shall be paid by the county commission and shall not  
171 be reimbursed by the state.

172 (d) Each member of the board of registrars in the  
173 Counties of Baldwin, Calhoun, Chilton, Etowah, Limestone, Lee,  
174 Madison, Mobile, Montgomery, St. Clair, and Morgan are  
175 authorized to meet not more than five days each week for the  
176 purpose of carrying out their official duties. Jefferson  
177 County, which is now operating under the provisions of local  
178 laws, shall be exempted from this section. Provided, however,  
179 that where the term each year is used in the local laws the  
180 term means each fiscal year.

181 (e) The actual number of working days to be used as  
182 session days shall be determined by a quorum of the board of  
183 registrars according to the needs of the county.

184 (f) As many as 25 of the allotted working days may be  
185 used for special registration sessions (i.e., those sessions  
186 held away from the courthouse in the several precincts of the  
187 county or sessions held on Saturday or between the hours of  
188 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.). Notice of any special session  
189 scheduled by the board shall be given at least 10 days prior  
190 to the special session by: (1) Bills posted at three or more  
191 public places in each election precinct affected, if the  
192 session involves precinct visits; and (2) advertisement once a  
193 week for two successive weeks in a newspaper published in the  
194 county or by radio or television announcements on a local  
195 station, or both by newspaper or announcement.

196 (g) ~~Notwithstanding Section 17-3-5, the 60 additional~~



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197 ~~working days for registrars in Lawrence County added by Act~~  
198 ~~2023-456 shall be paid by the county commission and shall not~~  
199 ~~be reimbursed by the state~~ On any day designated as a working  
200 day for a board of registrars, the board of registrars shall  
201 do both of the following:

202 (1) Be open the same hours as the courthouse of the  
203 county, or alternatively, establish regular hours and make  
204 those hours available to the public.

205 (2) Have a registrar or staff member present during  
206 those hours of operation."

207 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October  
208 1, 2025.