



**House Public Safety and Homeland Security Reported
Substitute for HB437**

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A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to public safety; to establish a shark alert system for Baldwin and Mobile Counties; to provide for the development, implementation, and operation of the alert system by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources with assistance of other agencies of the state and political subdivisions.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) This section shall be known and may be cited as the LuLu Gribbin Shark Alert System Act.

(b) For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

- (1) ALERT SYSTEM. The shark alert system.
- (2) BEACHES AND COASTAL AREAS. Beaches and shorelines that face the Gulf of America or Pelican Bay.
- (3) COMMISSIONER. The Commissioner of Conservation and Natural Resources.
- (4) DEPARTMENT. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.
- (5) FIRST RESPONDER. Lifeguards, rescue squad members, emergency medical service providers, public safety



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29 telecommunicators, municipal, county, and state law
30 enforcement officers, including enforcement officers of the
31 department, and any other emergency management provider who
32 responds to an emergency situation.

33 (6) WIRELESS EMERGENCY ALERT. A text message, short
34 message service, or other data application broadcast from a
35 cell tower to all compatible mobile wireless or phone devices
36 that are turned on in a geographic area.

37 (c) (1) The shark alert system is established to serve
38 the beaches and coastal areas in Baldwin and Mobile Counties.

39 (2) The Department of Conservation and Natural
40 Resources shall adopt rules to implement and administer this
41 section, including establishing operating protocols for
42 activating the alert system, in coordination with local
43 emergency management organizations.

44 (3) In the development and implementation of the alert
45 system, the commissioner shall receive upon request the full
46 cooperation, including assistance, expertise, and information,
47 of other departments and agencies of this state or political
48 subdivisions thereof, including the Alabama Emergency
49 Management Agency, local emergency management organizations,
50 the Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency, the Office of
51 Emergency Medical Services of the Alabama Department of Public
52 Health, the Alabama Gulf Emergency Medical Services System,
53 and all first responder organizations that employ or use
54 emergency medical services personnel licensed under Chapter
55 18, Title 22, Code of Alabama 1975, the Offices of Sheriff of
56 Baldwin and Mobile Counties, and the municipalities with



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57 jurisdiction over beaches and coastal areas, including the
58 police and other municipal departments that manage public
59 beaches, parks, and piers.

60 (4) The commissioner may enter into agreements with any
61 department or agency of this state or any political
62 subdivision thereof, including those listed in subdivision
63 (3), to provide necessary resources and support for the
64 implementation and operation of the alert system.

65 (d) The alert system shall be activated **when** the
66 department receives a confirmed report of an unprovoked shark
67 attacking an individual **within close proximity to a shoreline**
68 **or coastline.**

69 (e) No private cause of action may be maintained
70 **against the department or any of the entities listed in**
71 **subdivision (c) (3) for** failure to activate the shark alert
72 system.

73 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October
74 1, 2025.