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SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, termination dates are established for enumerated state agencies. The agencies are periodically reviewed by the Alabama Sunset Committee. After the review process is completed, the committee prepares its recommendation for the agencies to the Legislature in the form of sunset bills which either continue, terminate, or continue with modification each agency reviewed.

This bill would provide for the continuance of the Alabama Licensure Board for Interpreters and Translitterators until October 1, 2027, with the following change: To require that a board member resides in and be appointed from each congressional district in this state and that any remaining members be appointed from the state at-large.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to the Alabama Sunset Law; to continue the existence and functioning of the Alabama Licensure Board for Interpreters and Translitterators until October 1, 2027, with



29 certain modifications; to amend Section 34-16-4, Code of
30 Alabama 1975, to require that a board member resides in and be
31 appointed from each congressional district in this state and
32 that any remaining members be appointed from the state
33 at-large.

34 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

35 Section 1. Pursuant to the Alabama Sunset Law, the
36 Sunset Committee recommends the continuance of the Alabama
37 Licensure Board for Interpreters and Translitterators until
38 October 1, 2027, with additional recommendation for statutory
39 change as set out in Section 3.

40 Section 2. The existence and functioning of the Alabama
41 Licensure Board for Interpreters and Translitterators, created
42 and functioning pursuant to Sections 34-16-1 to 34-16-16,
43 inclusive, Code of Alabama 1975, is continued until October 1,
44 2027, and those code sections are expressly preserved.

45 Section 3. Section 34-16-4, Code of Alabama 1975, is
46 amended to read as follows:

47 "§34-16-4

48 (a) There is created the Alabama Licensure Board for
49 Interpreters and Translitterators.

50 (b) The board shall consist of nine members appointed
51 by the Governor as follows:

52 (1) Four members certified as interpreters or
53 translitterators at a professional level by a nationally
54 recognized certification, one of whom shall work in an
55 educational setting. A list of three nominations for each of
56 these positions shall be submitted to the Governor by ALRID.



57 (2) Three deaf or hard of hearing members who are
58 knowledgeable in the field of professional interpreting. A
59 list of three nominations for each of these positions shall be
60 submitted to the Governor by AAD.

61 (3) Two members at-large who have an interest in and
62 are experienced in dealing with issues that affect the deaf,
63 hard of hearing, and interpreting communities.

64 (c) All members of the board shall be citizens of the
65 United States and residents of the State of Alabama. In
66 appointing members to the board, the nominating organizations
67 and the Governor, to the extent possible, shall select those
68 ~~persons~~ individuals whose appointments ensure that the
69 membership of the board is inclusive and reflects the racial,
70 gender, geographic, ~~urban/rural~~ urban, rural, and economic
71 diversity of the state. Commencing on June 1, 2025, as the
72 terms of the members serving on the board expire, the
73 membership of the board shall be appointed so that one member
74 resides in and is appointed from each congressional district
75 in this state with the remaining members being appointed from
76 the state at-large.

77 (d) A list of three nominees for each position, except
78 for the at-large positions, shall be submitted to the Governor
79 by the designated organizations by October 1, 1998. The
80 initial terms shall begin January 1, 1999.

81 (e) The initial members of the board shall serve the
82 following terms as designated by the Governor:

83 (1) Four of the initial members shall serve for two
84 years.



85 (2) Three of the initial members shall serve for three
86 years.

87 (3) Two of the initial members shall serve for four
88 years.

89 (f) Subsequent terms of office shall be four years. No
90 board member may serve more than two consecutive terms. In the
91 event of a vacancy, the Governor shall fill the vacancy from
92 the remaining names on the list of nominees for that position.
93 Each board member shall serve until his or her successor is
94 duly appointed and qualified.

95 (g) At its first meeting each year, the board shall
96 elect a chair, a vice chair, and a secretary. No member shall
97 be elected to serve more than two consecutive years in the
98 same office.

99 (h) After the initial appointments to the board are
100 made, the board shall meet by January 31 of the following year
101 for the purpose of organizing and transacting business as may
102 properly come before the board. Subsequently, the board shall
103 meet not less than twice annually, and as frequently as it
104 deems necessary, at such time and places as it designates. A
105 quorum necessary to transact business shall consist of five of
106 the members of the board.

107 (i) The board shall have all of the following duties:

108 (1) Act on matters concerning licensure and permitting,
109 and the process of granting, suspending, reinstating, and
110 revoking a license or permit.

111 (2) Set a fee schedule for granting licenses and
112 permits, for renewing licenses and permits, for reinstating a



113 lapsed license or permit, and for assessing penalties for late
114 renewal. The fees shall be sufficient to cover the cost of the
115 continued operation and administration of the board.

116 (3) Develop a mechanism for processing applications for
117 licenses, permits, and renewals.

118 (4) Establish a procedure to enable the investigation
119 of complaints concerning the violation of ethical practices
120 for licensed or permitted interpreters.

121 (5) Maintain a current register of licensed
122 interpreters and a current register of permitted interpreters.
123 These registers shall be matters of public record.

124 (6) Maintain a complete record of all board
125 proceedings.

126 (7) Submit an annual report detailing the proceedings
127 of the board to the Governor and file a copy with the
128 Secretary of State.

129 (8) Adopt continuing education requirements no later
130 than October 1 of the year in which the initial board is
131 appointed. These requirements shall be implemented by January
132 1 of the year following for renewal of a license or permit.

133 (j) Board members shall receive the same travel
134 expenses and per diem as state employees pursuant to Article 2
135 of Chapter 7 of Title 36 and incidental and clerical expenses
136 necessarily incurred in carrying out this chapter. The
137 compensation and expenses shall be paid out of the funds of
138 the board. Reimbursement shall not be made if available funds
139 are insufficient for this purpose."

140 Section 4. The Legislature concurs in the



141 recommendation of the Sunset Committee as provided in Sections
142 1, 2, and 3.

143 Section 5. This act shall become effective on June 1,
144 2025.