

HB119 ENGROSSED



1 HB119
2 89BT2F2-2
3 By Representatives Underwood, Wilcox
4 RFD: Boards, Agencies and Commissions
5 First Read: 04-Feb-25
6 PFD: 03-Feb-25



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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 Transliterators until October 1, 2027, with certain modifications; to amend Section 34-16-4, Code of Alabama 1975, 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.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

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

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



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

31 "§34-16-4

32 (a) There is created the Alabama Licensure Board for
33 Interpreters and Transliterators.

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

36 (1) Four members certified as interpreters or
37 transliterators at a professional level by a nationally
38 recognized certification, one of whom shall work in an
39 educational setting. A list of three nominations for each of
40 these positions shall be submitted to the Governor by ALRID.

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

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

48 (c) All members of the board shall be citizens of the
49 United States and residents of the State of Alabama. In
50 appointing members to the board, the nominating organizations
51 and the Governor, to the extent possible, shall select those
52 ~~persons~~ individuals whose appointments ensure that the
53 membership of the board is inclusive and reflects the racial,
54 gender, geographic, ~~urban/rural~~ urban, rural, and economic
55 diversity of the state. Commencing on June 1, 2025, as the
56 terms of the members serving on the board expire, the



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57 membership of the board shall be appointed so that one member
58 resides in and is appointed from each congressional district
59 in this state with the remaining members being appointed from
60 the state at-large.

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

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

67 (1) Four of the initial members shall serve for two
68 years.

69 (2) Three of the initial members shall serve for three
70 years.

71 (3) Two of the initial members shall serve for four
72 years.

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

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

83 (h) After the initial appointments to the board are
84 made, the board shall meet by January 31 of the following year



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85 for the purpose of organizing and transacting business as may
86 properly come before the board. Subsequently, the board shall
87 meet not less than twice annually, and as frequently as it
88 deems necessary, at such time and places as it designates. A
89 quorum necessary to transact business shall consist of five of
90 the members of the board.

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

92 (1) Act on matters concerning licensure and permitting,
93 and the process of granting, suspending, reinstating, and
94 revoking a license or permit.

95 (2) Set a fee schedule for granting licenses and
96 permits, for renewing licenses and permits, for reinstating a
97 lapsed license or permit, and for assessing penalties for late
98 renewal. The fees shall be sufficient to cover the cost of the
99 continued operation and administration of the board.

100 (3) Develop a mechanism for processing applications for
101 licenses, permits, and renewals.

102 (4) Establish a procedure to enable the investigation
103 of complaints concerning the violation of ethical practices
104 for licensed or permitted interpreters.

105 (5) Maintain a current register of licensed
106 interpreters and a current register of permitted interpreters.
107 These registers shall be matters of public record.

108 (6) Maintain a complete record of all board
109 proceedings.

110 (7) Submit an annual report detailing the proceedings
111 of the board to the Governor and file a copy with the
112 Secretary of State.



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113 (8) Adopt continuing education requirements no later
114 than October 1 of the year in which the initial board is
115 appointed. These requirements shall be implemented by January
116 1 of the year following for renewal of a license or permit.

117 (j) Board members shall receive the same travel
118 expenses and per diem as state employees pursuant to Article 2
119 of Chapter 7 of Title 36 and incidental and clerical expenses
120 necessarily incurred in carrying out this chapter. The
121 compensation and expenses shall be paid out of the funds of
122 the board. Reimbursement shall not be made if available funds
123 are insufficient for this purpose."

124 Section 4. The Legislature concurs in the
125 recommendation of the Sunset Committee as provided in Sections
126 1, 2, and 3.

127 Section 5. This act shall become effective on June 1,
128 2025.



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House of Representatives

132 Read for the first time and referred04-Feb-25
133 to the House of Representatives
134 committee on Boards, Agencies and
135 Commissions
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137 Read for the second time and placed05-Feb-25
138 on the calendar:
139 0 amendments
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141 Read for the third time and passed06-Feb-25
142 as amended
143 Yeas 104
144 Nays 0
145 Abstains 0
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John Treadwell
Clerk