

HB220 INTRODUCED



1 HB220
2 DDL3NNH-1
3 By Representative Hill (N & P)
4 RFD: Local Legislation
5 First Read: 06-Feb-25



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A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to St. Clair County; to authorize the sheriff to establish procedures for using a credit card or debit card to make purchases pursuant to procedures provided for in this act.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

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

(1) CREDIT CARD. A line of credit issued by a domestic lender or credit card bank.

(2) DEBIT CARD. A card issued by a bank in relation to a checking or savings account authorized by law to be expended at the discretion of the St. Clair County Sheriff's Office.

(b) To provide for convenience in making purchases of tangible personal property or services approved by the sheriff, the Sheriff of St. Clair County may establish procedures to make certain purchases through the use of a credit card or debit card issued to the St. Clair County Sheriff's Office.

(c) The sheriff shall adopt written policy and procedures governing the use of a credit card or debit card,



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29 which, at a minimum, shall include each of the following:

30 (1) A monetary limit on the amount of any individual
31 purchase which may be made with a credit card or debit card.

32 (2) A monetary limit on the total monthly amount that
33 may be purchased with a credit card or debit card taking into
34 consideration the monetary limit of the discretionary fund
35 used.

36 (3) Procedures to ensure that the sheriff, or his or
37 her designee, has sole access to any credit card or debit
38 card, credit card or debit card numbers, access codes, or
39 security codes.

40 (4) Procedures to keep accurate records of all
41 purchases made with a credit card or debit card which shall be
42 periodically reviewed during required audits.

43 (5) Procedures to ensure that all credit card or debit
44 card bills are carefully reviewed by the sheriff each month to
45 ensure that no unauthorized charges appear on the bill.

46 (6) Procedures to ensure that all credit card or debit
47 card bills are paid in full on a timely basis each month to
48 avoid service charges, late fees, or interest payments.

49 (d) The sheriff shall select a credit card or debit
50 card provider or providers taking into consideration each of
51 the following:

52 (1) Whether the credit card or debit card issuer
53 requires an annual fee for using the card.

54 (2) Whether the credit card or debit card issuer offers
55 rewards or rebates based upon purchases made using the
56 account.



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57 (3) The interest rates, service charges, finance
58 charges, or late fees that will be assessed if a bill from the
59 credit card or debit card issuer is paid late or the balance
60 is not paid in full.

61 (4) Whether penalties or fees will be assessed against
62 the sheriff if the sheriff decides to terminate the credit
63 card or debit card.

64 (5) Any other consideration deemed relevant by the
65 sheriff.

66 (e) If a credit card or debit card provides rewards or
67 rebates based upon the use of the card, any rewards or rebates
68 earned from the card or cards shall be deposited in the
69 discretionary account of the St. Clair County Sheriff's
70 Office.

71 (f) The sole purpose of this section is to provide the
72 Sheriff of St. Clair County a more efficient method of making
73 payment for authorized purchases of tangible property or
74 services. Nothing in this section shall authorize the Sheriff
75 of St. Clair County to expend funds in excess of those
76 otherwise validly appropriated by law, nor shall anything in
77 this section authorize the Sheriff of St. Clair County to
78 establish a debt of the St. Clair County Commission.

79 Section 2. This act shall become effective June 1,
80 2025.