

## HB314 ENROLLED



1 HB314  
2 77M4EVV-2  
3 By Representatives Lee, Rehm (N & P)  
4 RFD: Local Legislation  
5 First Read: 20-Feb-25



## HB314 Enrolled

1 Enrolled, An Act,

2  
3 Relating to Houston County; to authorize the sheriff to  
4 establish procedures for using a credit card or debit card to  
5 make purchases pursuant to procedures provided for in this  
6 act.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

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

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

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

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

21 (c) The sheriff shall adopt written policy and  
22 procedures governing the use of a credit card or debit card,  
23 which, at a minimum, shall include each of the following:

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

26 (2) A monetary limit on the total monthly amount that  
27 may be purchased with a credit card or debit card taking into  
28 consideration the monetary limit of the discretionary fund



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used.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(4) Whether penalties or fees will be assessed against the sheriff if the sheriff decides to terminate the credit



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card or debit card.

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

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

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

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



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Speaker of the House of Representatives

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and  
was passed by the House 04-Mar-25.

John Treadwell  
Clerk

Senate

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**01-Apr-25**

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Passed