

**HB437 ENGROSSED**



1 HB437

2 4USVC33-2

3 By Representatives Faulkner, Ledbetter, Stadthagen, Brown,  
4 Marques, Smith, Rehm, Treadaway, Ellis, Kirkland, Brinyark,  
5 Stringer, Woods, Hall, Lamb, Estes, Moore (P), Hulsey,  
6 Bedsole, Lovvorn, Jackson, McCampbell, Lawrence, Almond, Wood  
7 (D), Chestnut, Collins, Garrett, Tillman, Shaw, DuBose,  
8 Mooney, Hill, Butler, Shaver, Lomax, Rigsby, Sellers, Paschal,  
9 Lipscomb, Yarbrough, Clouse, Reynolds, Lee, Crawford, Forte,  
10 Blackshear, Colvin, Paramore, Carns, Standridge, Robbins,  
11 Robertson, Bolton, Hendrix, Starnes, Stubbs, Fincher,  
12 Easterbrook, Travis, Lands, Gray, Harrison, Gidley, Ingram,  
13 Underwood

14 RFD: Public Safety and Homeland Security

15 First Read: 18-Mar-25



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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.



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House of Representatives

Read for the first time and referred .....18-Mar-25  
to the House of Representatives  
committee on Public Safety and  
Homeland Security  
Read for the second time and placed .....09-Apr-25  
on the calendar:  
1 amendment  
Read for the third time and passed .....17-Apr-25  
as amended  
Yeas 102  
Nays 0  
Abstains 0

John Treadwell  
Clerk