

## HB448 INTRODUCED



1 HB448  
2 SWBA777-1  
3 By Representatives Harrison, Butler, Yarbrough, Lamb, DuBose,  
4 Shaw, Whorton, Faulkner, Rehm, Wilcox, Underwood, Ledbetter,  
5 Stadthagen, Treadaway, Robertson, Mooney, Stubbs, Easterbrook,  
6 Fincher, Bolton, Paschal, Stringer  
7 RFD: Agriculture and Forestry  
8 First Read: 18-Mar-25



SYNOPSIS:

Under existing rule, persons must have a permit issued by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to possess protected wild birds or animals.

This bill would provide that individuals may care for injured or orphaned wild birds and animals that are not federally protected.

A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

Relating to conservation; Alabama Good Samaritan Wildlife Rehabilitation Act established to authorize individuals to provide care to injured or orphaned wild birds and animals under certain conditions.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the Alabama Good Samaritan Wildlife Rehabilitation Act.

Section 2. (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, an individual may in good faith provide care or treatment to sustain life or reduce disability to any injured, orphaned, or debilitated wild bird or animal that is not federally protected or otherwise endangered so that the organism may be



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29     returned to the wild.

30             (b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to do  
31     either of the following:

32             (1) Authorize an individual engaged in wildlife  
33     rehabilitation to engage in the practice of veterinary  
34     medicine as defined in Section 34-29-61, Code of Alabama 1975.

35             (2) Exempt an individual from the crime of cruelty to  
36     animals as provided in Section 13A-11-14, Code of Alabama  
37     1975.

38             Section 3. This act shall become effective on October  
39     1, 2025.