

## HB459 INTRODUCED



1 HB459  
2 G3YKDC2-1  
3 By Representative Pringle  
4 RFD: State Government  
5 First Read: 19-Mar-25

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4 SYNOPSIS:

5           Existing law provides for the membership of the  
6           Board of Trustees of the University of South Alabama.

7           This bill would increase the number of board  
8           members from the United States at-large from two  
9           members to three members.

10          This bill would increase the number of board  
11          members from the state at-large from five members to  
12          nine members.

13          This bill would remove the requirement that one  
14          member be appointed from each of the following  
15          combinations of state senatorial districts: (i) the  
16          Sixteenth and Seventeenth; (ii) the Nineteenth and  
17          Twentieth; (iii) the Twenty-first; (iv) the  
18          Twenty-third, Twenty-fifth, and Thirtieth; and (v) the  
19          Thirty-fifth, and would provide that trustees currently  
20          holding those seats may complete their terms, at which  
21          point the Governor may appoint a successor reflecting  
22          the revised membership.

23          This bill would require the board to hold a  
24          regular annual meeting during June of each year, rather  
25          than the first Monday in June.

26          This bill would also revise notice requirements  
27          for special meetings of the board from at least 10 days  
28          in advance of the date of the meeting to as soon as



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practicable after the meeting is called, and in no event less than 24 hours before the meeting is scheduled to begin.

A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

Relating to the University of South Alabama; to amend Sections 16-55-2 and 16-55-6, Code of Alabama 1975; to revise the membership of the Board of Trustees of the University of South Alabama; and to revise notice and other requirements for meetings of the board.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Sections 16-55-2 and 16-55-6, Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:

"§16-55-2

(a) The board of trustees shall consist of three members from Mobile County, ~~five~~ nine members from the state ~~at large, two~~ at-large, three members from the United States ~~at large~~ at-large, and the Governor, who shall be ex officio president of the board, ~~and one each from each of the following state senatorial districts, or combinations thereof, as those districts existed in 1963: Sixteenth and Seventeenth Districts comprising Monroe and Wilcox Counties and Butler, Conecuh, and Covington Counties, respectively; Nineteenth and Twentieth Districts comprising Choctaw, Clarke, and Washington~~



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~~Counties and Marengo and Sumter Counties, respectively;~~  
~~Twenty-first District comprising Baldwin and Escambia~~  
~~Counties; Twenty-third, Twenty-fifth, and Thirtieth Districts~~  
~~comprising Dale and Geneva Counties, Coffee and Crenshaw~~  
~~Counties, and Dallas and Lowndes Counties, respectively; and~~  
~~the Thirty-fifth District comprising Henry and Houston~~  
~~Counties.~~ The trustees shall be appointed by the Governor, by  
and with the advice and consent of the State Senate, and all  
appointees appointed on and after June 1, 2014, shall hold  
office for a term of six years, and until their successors  
shall be appointed and qualified. ~~Any trustee appointed to~~  
~~serve a 12-year term before June 1, 2014, shall continue to~~  
~~serve for the remainder of that term. As terms expire after~~  
~~that date, appointments to fill positions on the board shall~~  
~~be for six-year terms.~~ The board shall be divided into three  
classes, as nearly equal as may be, so that ~~one-third~~one-third  
may be chosen as provided in Section 16-55-5. Vacancies  
occurring in the office of trustee from death or resignation,  
and the vacancies regularly occurring by expiration of the  
term shall be filled by the Governor, and the appointee shall  
hold office until the next meeting of the Legislature.  
Successors to those trustees whose terms expire during an  
interim shall hold office for the full term unless they are  
rejected by the Senate. No trustee shall receive any pay or  
emolument other than his or her actual expenses incurred in  
the discharge of his or her duties as a trustee.

(b) As the terms of the trustees holding the seats for  
each of the following combinations of state senatorial



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districts expire, the Governor shall appoint successor  
trustees in accordance with subsection (a):

(1) The Sixteenth and Seventeenth Districts.

(2) The Nineteenth and Twentieth Districts.

(3) The Twenty-first District.

(4) The Twenty-third, Twenty-fifth, and Thirtieth  
Districts.

(5) The Thirty-fifth District."

"§16-55-6

(a) Seven members of the board of trustees shall  
constitute a quorum, but a smaller number may adjourn from day  
to day until a quorum is present. The board shall hold a  
regular annual meeting each year at the university ~~on the~~  
~~first Monday~~ in June, unless the board, in regular session,  
~~shall determine~~ determines to hold its meeting at some other  
time and place.

(b) (1) Special meetings of the board may be called by  
~~assembled by either one of the two methods outlined as~~  
~~follows: Special meetings may be called by the:~~

a. The chair pro tempore of the board ~~or the;~~

b. The Governor; or

c. The chair pro tempore of the board or the Governor,  
upon application in writing of any three or more members of  
the board.

(2) Once a special meeting is called, ~~by~~ written notice  
~~mailed~~ shall be provided to each trustee at least 24 hours  
before the meeting is scheduled to begin ~~at least 10 days in~~  
~~advance of the date of the meeting; and a special meeting~~



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113 ~~shall be called by the chair pro tempore or the Governor upon~~  
114 ~~application in writing of any three or more members of the~~  
115 ~~board. No special meeting shall be held on a date less than 10~~  
116 ~~days subsequent to the date of the chair pro tempore's or the~~  
117 ~~Governor's notice of the meeting,~~ except in case of emergency,  
118 which the chair pro tempore or the Governor shall specify in  
119 his or her notice to the trustees."

120           Section 2. This act shall become effective on June 1,  
121 2025.