

## HB576 INTRODUCED



1 HB576  
2 KHYQY5A-1  
3 By Representatives Kirkland, Whorton (N & P)  
4 RFD: Local Legislation  
5 First Read: 15-Apr-25



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4 A BILL  
5 TO BE ENTITLED  
6 AN ACT  
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9 Relating to Jackson County; to authorize the sheriff to  
10 establish procedures for using a credit card or debit card to  
11 make purchases pursuant to procedures provided for in this  
12 act.

13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

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

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

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

21 (b) To provide for convenience in making purchases of  
22 tangible personal property or services approved by the  
23 sheriff, the Sheriff of Jackson County may establish  
24 procedures to make certain purchases through the use of a  
25 credit card or debit card issued to the sheriff's office.

26 (c) The sheriff shall adopt written policies and  
27 procedures governing the use of a credit card or debit card,  
28 which, at a minimum, shall include each of the following:



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

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



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57 charges, or late fees that will be assessed if a bill from the  
58 credit card or debit card issuer is paid late or the balance  
59 is not paid in full.

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

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

65 (e) If a credit card or debit card provides rewards or  
66 rebates based upon the use of the card, any rewards or rebates  
67 earned from the card or cards shall be deposited in the  
68 discretionary account of the sheriff's office.

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

76 Section 2. This act shall become effective on June 1,  
77 2025.