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SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, termination dates are established for enumerated state agencies. The agencies are periodically reviewed by the Alabama Sunset Committee. After the review process is completed, the committee prepares its recommendation for the agencies to the Legislature in the form of sunset bills which either continue, terminate, or continue with modification each agency reviewed.

This bill would provide for the continuance of the State Board of Genetic Counseling until October 1, 2027, with the following changes: To require that a board member resides in and be appointed from each congressional district in this state and that any remaining members be appointed from the state at-large.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to the Alabama Sunset Law; to continue the existence and functioning of the State Board of Genetic Counseling until October 1, 2027, with certain modifications; to amend Section 34-13A-3, Code of Alabama 1975, to require



29 that a board member resides in and be appointed from each
30 congressional district in this state and that any remaining
31 members be appointed from the state at-large.

32 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

33 Section 1. Pursuant to the Alabama Sunset Law, the
34 Sunset Committee recommends the continuance of the State Board
35 of Genetic Counseling until October 1, 2027, with additional
36 recommendation for statutory change as set out in Section 3.

37 Section 2. The existence and functioning of the State
38 Board of Genetic Counseling, created and functioning pursuant
39 to Sections 34-13A-1 to 34-13A-11, inclusive, Code of Alabama
40 1975, is continued until October 1, 2027, and those code
41 sections are expressly preserved.

42 Section 3. Section 34-13A-3, Code of Alabama 1975, is
43 amended to read as follows:

44 "§34-13A-3

45 (a) The State Board of Genetic Counseling is created to
46 implement and administer this chapter.

47 (b) The membership of the board shall consist of all of
48 the following:

49 (1) One individual appointed by the Department of
50 Genetics at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

51 (2) Four individuals who practice genetic counseling in
52 Alabama and who hold a master's degree or doctoral degree in
53 genetic counseling from an ACGC or ABMGG accredited training
54 program, or an equivalent program approved by the ACGC or the
55 ABMGG, appointed by the Governor.

56 (3) One physician appointed by the Medical Association



57 of the State of Alabama.

58 (4) One physician appointed by the State Board of
59 Medical Examiners.

60 (5) One physician who specializes in pediatric genetics
61 appointed by the Lieutenant Governor.

62 (6) One physician appointed by the Speaker of the House
63 of Representatives.

64 (c) Board members appointed by the Governor shall serve
65 for terms of two years and, upon the expiration of a term, may
66 continue to serve until replaced or reappointed. All other
67 board members shall serve until they are replaced by their
68 respective appointing authority.

69 (d) The board shall annually elect from its membership
70 a chair, a vice chair, and a secretary.

71 (e) The appointing authorities shall coordinate their
72 appointments to assure the board membership is inclusive and
73 reflects the racial, gender, geographic, urban, rural, and
74 economic diversity of ~~this~~ the state. Commencing on June 1,
75 2025, as the terms of the members serving on the board expire,
76 the membership of the board shall be appointed so that one
77 member resides in and is appointed from each congressional
78 district in this state with the remaining members being
79 appointed from the state at-large.

80 (f) Unless acting unreasonably or in bad faith, no
81 member of the board shall be civilly liable for acting within
82 the scope of his or her duties as a board member.

83 (g) Members of the board shall serve without
84 compensation but, to the extent funds are available, may



85 receive the same per diem and travel allowance as state
86 employees.

87 (h) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2), members
88 of the board may participate in a regular meeting of the board
89 by means of telephone conference, video conference, or similar
90 communications equipment pursuant to the Alabama Open Meetings
91 Act, Chapter 25A of Title 36.

92 (2) Members of the board may only participate in a
93 meeting of the board relating to a disciplinary action in
94 person."

95 Section 4. The Legislature concurs in the
96 recommendation of the Sunset Committee as provided in Sections
97 1, 2, and 3.

98 Section 5. This act shall become effective on June 1,
99 2025.