

SB171 ENROLLED



1 SB171
2 TBBBA15-2
3 By Senator Chambliss
4 RFD: County and Municipal Government
5 First Read: 13-Feb-25



SB171 Enrolled

1 Enrolled, An Act,

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5 Relating to navigable and non-navigable waters; to
6 prohibit individuals from operating motor vehicles on land
7 submerged below navigable and non-navigable waters in this
8 state; and to provide criminal penalties for violations.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

10 Section 1. (a) For purposes of this section, the term
11 "motor vehicle" means any vehicle that is self-propelled or
12 that is drawn by a self-propelled vehicle, including an
13 off-road vehicle, all-terrain vehicle, motorcycle, motor
14 scooter, and motorized trail bike. The term does not include a
15 vessel or other watercraft designed for transportation on
16 water.

17 (b) An individual may not operate a motor vehicle on
18 any land submerged below navigable or non-navigable waters in
19 this state.

20 (c) An individual may not operate a motor vehicle on
21 any land that is within the natural boundary of a creek,
22 brook, branch, stream, or similar waterway.

23 (d) A person who violates subsection (b) or (c) shall
24 be punished as follows:

25 (1) On a first violation, a Class C misdemeanor.

26 (2) On a second violation, a Class B misdemeanor.

27 (3) On a third and any subsequent violation, a Class A
28 misdemeanor.



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29 (e) This section does not apply to any of the
30 following:

31 (1) The operation of a motor vehicle on lands submerged
32 below navigable or non-navigable waters while remaining on
33 land that the operator of the motor vehicle owns or has
34 permission to be upon.

35 (2) The operation of a motor vehicle pursuant to
36 written authorization from the Director of the State Lands
37 Division of the Department of Conservation and Natural
38 Resources.

39 (3) Any utility engaged in providing retail or
40 wholesale electric service.

41 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October
42 1, 2025.



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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SB171

Senate 15-Apr-25

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed
the Senate.

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

House of Representatives

Amended and passed: 07-May-25

Senate concurred in House amendment 14-May-25

By: Senator Chambliss