

SB259 INTRODUCED



1 SB259
2 V77WUVP-1
3 By Senators Figures, Sessions, Williams, Elliott
4 RFD: County and Municipal Government
5 First Read: 19-Mar-25



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SYNOPSIS:

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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A BILL

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TO BE ENTITLED

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AN ACT

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

43 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

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

46 "§16-55-2

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



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

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



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

87 (1) The Sixteenth and Seventeenth Districts.

88 (2) The Nineteenth and Twentieth Districts.

89 (3) The Twenty-first District.

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

92 (5) The Thirty-fifth District."

93 "§16-55-6

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

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

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

105 b. The Governor; or

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

109 (2) Once a special meeting is called, ~~by~~ written notice
110 ~~mailed~~ shall be provided to each trustee at least 24 hours
111 before the meeting is scheduled to begin ~~at least 10 days in~~
112 ~~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.