

SB48 ENROLLED



1 SB48
2 3YPQVVV-3
3 By Senators Singleton, Coleman, Coleman-Madison, Stewart
4 RFD: State Governmental Affairs
5 First Read: 04-Feb-25



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1 Enrolled, An Act,

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4 Relating to boards of registrars; to amend Sections
5 17-3-2, 17-3-5, and 17-3-8, Code of Alabama 1975; to further
6 provide for the membership of the boards of registrars; to
7 further provide for the qualifications of registrars and
8 establish hours of operation; to increase the salary of each
9 registrar; and to make nonsubstantive, technical revisions to
10 update the existing code language to current
11 style.

12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

13 Section 1. Sections 17-3-2, 17-3-5, and 17-3-8, Code of
14 Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:

15 "§17-3-2

16 (a) (1) Registration shall be conducted in each county
17 by a board of three reputable and suitable ~~persons~~ individuals
18 to be appointed, unless otherwise provided by law, by the
19 Governor, Auditor, and Commissioner of Agriculture and
20 Industries, or by a majority of them acting as a state board
21 of appointment. In making appointments on or after October 1,
22 2025, the state board of appointment shall consider the
23 racial, gender, urban, rural, and economic diversity of the
24 that county.

25 (2) The registrars shall:

26 a. be ~~Be~~ qualified electors, and be residents of the
27 county; ~~shall have~~

28 b. Have a high school diploma or equivalent; ~~and~~



29 ~~possess the minimum computer and map reading skills necessary~~
30 ~~to function in the office~~

31 c. Possess excellent communication skills evident by
32 reportable experience in areas such as electronic mail, online
33 communications, and use of multi-line telephones;

34 d. Demonstrate intermediate level experience and
35 proficiency in data processing and use of computer programs
36 used in the current day-to-day workplace, including, but not
37 limited to, web-based operating systems;

38 e. Demonstrate the ability to download and upload
39 reports and files and conduct spreadsheet manipulation; and

40 f. Demonstrate the ability to operate office equipment,
41 including printers, copiers, scanners, and cameras.

42 (3) The Secretary of State shall prescribe guidelines
43 to assist the state board of appointment in determining the
44 qualifications of registrars. The registrars shall not hold an
45 elective office during their term. One of the members shall be
46 designated by the state board of appointment as chair of the
47 board of registrars for each county.

48 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a),
49 the Legislature may provide by local law for the appointment
50 of additional members to the board of registrars for a county
51 that has two courthouses.

52 (c) ~~The provisions of this~~ This section shall not apply
53 in any county having a population of not less than 600,000
54 inhabitants according to the 1970 or any succeeding federal
55 decennial census, and any currently effective local law or
56 general law of local application providing for the appointment



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57 of any member of the board of registrars in the county shall
58 remain in full force and effect and shall not be repealed by
59 operation of this chapter."

60 "§17-3-5

61 (a) Each registrar shall receive a salary in the amount
62 of ~~eighty dollars (\$80)~~ one hundred fifteen dollars (\$115) per
63 day for each day's attendance upon business of the board, to
64 be paid by the state and disbursed to the county commissions
65 and disbursed by the county commissions to each registrar on
66 order of a quorum of the board of registrars of the county.
67 The state Comptroller shall issue to each county commission on
68 a monthly basis an amount sufficient to fund these payments
69 plus the employer share of the Social Security or Federal
70 Insurance Corporation Act tax. The county commission will
71 provide to the state Comptroller an invoice itemized to
72 reflect payments made. If a legal holiday falls on a day the
73 board is to be in session, and the courthouse of the county is
74 closed for the holiday, the board of registrars shall be
75 compensated for the holiday. Each registrar shall receive a
76 mileage allowance equal to the amount allowed state employees
77 or employees of the county, whichever is greater, for official
78 travel in the course of attending the business of the board,
79 including attending continuing education programs. Travel and
80 other expenses shall be paid by the county commissions to the
81 boards of registrars and the state shall reimburse the county
82 commissions based on a written request submitted by the county
83 commissions to the ~~state~~ Comptroller.

84 (b) The provisions of this section regarding travel



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85 mileage shall not apply in any county having a population of
86 600,000 or more inhabitants according to the ~~1970 or any~~
87 ~~succeeding~~ most current federal decennial census, and any
88 currently effective local law or general law of local
89 application regarding travel mileage for registrars in the
90 county shall remain in full force and effect and shall not be
91 repealed by operation of this chapter.

92 (c) Members of the boards of registrars of this state
93 are ~~hereby~~ declared to be state employees for the purposes of
94 Chapter 28 of Title 36.

95 (d) Members of the boards of registrars of this state
96 shall be treated as equals with ~~other~~ state and county
97 employees in regard to Social Security protection and
98 benefits.

99 (e) All payments by a county to any member of a county
100 board of registrars, ~~except for mileage or reimbursement for~~
101 ~~expenses,~~ shall be treated for Social Security purposes
102 equally with payments by that county to ~~other~~ county employees
103 of the county.

104 (f) The state office for Social Security and the state
105 Comptroller and each county commission ~~are directed to~~ shall
106 take all necessary action to ~~insure~~ ensure that members of the
107 boards of registrars of this state are treated as ~~other~~ state
108 and county employees in regard to Social Security protection
109 and benefits as provided in Chapter 28 of Title 36, including,
110 if necessary, amending the federal-state agreement referred to
111 in Chapter 28 of Title 36, to implement the intent of the
112 Legislature as expressed herein.



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113 (g) No county commission may reduce the current county
114 supplement upon the effect of this section by implementation
115 of Act 94-693.

116 (h) (1) A county commission may allow the chair or any
117 member of the county board of registrars who has served at
118 least 16 years in that position to participate in any health
119 insurance program provided by the county upon the same terms,
120 conditions, and employee contributions as required for county
121 employees.

122 (2) This subsection shall not apply to any health
123 insurance plans administered by the State of Alabama as
124 described in Title 36, Chapter 29 and Title 11, Chapter 91A."

125 "§17-3-8

126 (a) Each member of the board of registrars in the
127 Counties of Clay, Cleburne, Coosa, Dallas, Escambia, Geneva,
128 Lowndes, Perry, Sumter, and Wilcox may meet a maximum of 120
129 working days each fiscal year; each member of the board of
130 registrars in the Counties of Barbour, Butler, Fayette,
131 Greene, Marengo, Pickens, Pike, Randolph, and Winston may meet
132 a maximum of 168 working days each fiscal year, except in Pike
133 County each board of registrars may meet up to an additional
134 30 session days each fiscal year, at the discretion of the
135 chair of the county commission, and such days shall be paid
136 from the respective county funds; each member of the board of
137 registrars in the Counties of Coffee, Shelby, Talladega, and
138 Tallapoosa may meet a maximum of 220 working days each fiscal
139 year, except that in Talladega County the board of registrars
140 may meet up to an additional 30 session days each fiscal year,



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141 at the discretion of the chair of the county commission; each
142 member of the board of registrars in the Counties of Dale,
143 Franklin, Houston, Marion, Marshall, Bullock, Macon, and
144 Tuscaloosa may meet a maximum of 216 working days each fiscal
145 year; and each member of the board of registrars in Russell
146 County may meet a maximum of 177 working days each fiscal
147 year.

148 (b) In the Counties of Choctaw, Colbert, Cullman,
149 Lauderdale, and Monroe, each member of the board of registrars
150 may meet a maximum of 199 working days each fiscal year.

151 (c) (1) Each member of the Board of Registrars of
152 Autauga, Elmore, and Bibb Counties may meet a maximum of 187
153 working days each fiscal year. Each member of the Board of
154 Registrars of Walker County may meet a maximum of 200 days
155 each fiscal year, and each member of the Board of Registrars
156 of Lamar, Cherokee, Clarke, Conecuh, Crenshaw, Hale, and
157 Washington Counties may meet a maximum of 140 days each fiscal
158 year. Each member of the board of registrars in the following
159 counties may meet the following maximum number of working days
160 each fiscal year: Henry - 140 working days; Covington - 188
161 working days; DeKalb, Jackson, and Blount - 207 working days;
162 Chambers - 180 working days; and Lawrence - 200 working days.

163 (2) Notwithstanding Section 17-3-5, the 60 additional
164 working days for registrars in Lawrence County added by Act
165 2023-456 shall be paid by the county commission and shall not
166 be reimbursed by the state.

167 (d) Each member of the board of registrars in the
168 Counties of Baldwin, Calhoun, Chilton, Etowah, Limestone, Lee,



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169 Madison, Mobile, Montgomery, St. Clair, and Morgan are
170 authorized to meet not more than five days each week for the
171 purpose of carrying out their official duties. Jefferson
172 County, which is now operating under the provisions of local
173 laws, shall be exempted from this section. Provided, however,
174 that where the term each year is used in the local laws the
175 term means each fiscal year.

176 (e) The actual number of working days to be used as
177 session days shall be determined by a quorum of the board of
178 registrars according to the needs of the county.

179 (f) As many as 25 of the allotted working days may be
180 used for special registration sessions (i.e., those sessions
181 held away from the courthouse in the several precincts of the
182 county or sessions held on Saturday or between the hours of
183 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.). Notice of any special session
184 scheduled by the board shall be given at least 10 days prior
185 to the special session by: (1) Bills posted at three or more
186 public places in each election precinct affected, if the
187 session involves precinct visits; and (2) advertisement once a
188 week for two successive weeks in a newspaper published in the
189 county or by radio or television announcements on a local
190 station, or both by newspaper or announcement.

191 (g) ~~Notwithstanding Section 17-3-5, the 60 additional~~
192 ~~working days for registrars in Lawrence County added by Act~~
193 ~~2023-456 shall be paid by the county commission and shall not~~
194 ~~be reimbursed by the state~~On any day designated as a working
195 day for a board of registrars, the board of registrars shall
196 do both of the following:



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197 (1) Be open the same hours as the courthouse of the
198 county, or alternatively, establish regular hours and make
199 those hours available to the public.

200 (2) Have a registrar or staff member present during
201 those hours of operation."

202 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October
203 1, 2025.



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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

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Senate 13-Feb-25

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

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

House of Representatives

Passed: 25-Feb-25

By: Senator Singleton