

HB201 ENROLLED



1 HB201
2 SLZBL87-2
3 By Representative Baker (N & P)
4 RFD: Local Legislation
5 First Read: 13-Jan-26



HB201 Enrolled

1 Enrolled, An Act,

2
3 Relating to Escambia County; to authorize the sheriff
4 to establish procedures for using a credit card or debit card
5 to make purchases.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

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

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

11 (2) DEBIT CARD. A card issued by a bank in relation to
12 a checking or savings account.

13 (b) The Sheriff of Escambia County, upon the
14 establishment of and compliance with all procedures and other
15 requirements set forth in this section, may make certain
16 purchases through the use of a credit card or debit card
17 issued to the Escambia County Sheriff's Office.

18 (c) The sheriff shall adopt written policies and
19 procedures governing the use of a credit card or debit card
20 which, at a minimum, shall include all of the following:

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

23 (2) A monetary limit on the total monthly amount that
24 may be purchased with a credit card or debit card, taking into
25 consideration the monetary limit of the fund used.

26 (3) Procedures to ensure that the sheriff, or his or
27 her designee, has sole access to any credit card or debit card
28 or any card numbers, access codes, or security codes.



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(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, when selecting a credit card or debit card provider, shall consider all of the following factors:

(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 rate, service charges, finance charges, or late fees that may be assessed in the event a bill from the credit card or debit card issuer is paid late or the balance is not paid in full.

(4) Whether penalties or fees may be assessed against the sheriff in the event he or she decides to terminate the credit card or debit card.

(e) In the event a credit card or debit card provides rewards or rebates based upon use of the card, any rewards or rebates earned shall be deposited in the discretionary account of the Escambia County Sheriff's Office.

(f) Nothing in this section shall authorize the Sheriff



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57 of Escambia County to expend funds in excess of those
58 otherwise validly appropriated under law nor to establish a
59 debt of the Escambia County Commission.

60 Section 2. This act shall become effective on June 1,
61 2026.



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Speaker of the House of Representatives

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and
was passed by the House 20-Jan-26.

John Treadwell
Clerk

Senate

22-Jan-26

Passed