

**HB201 ENROLLED**



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



1      Enrolled, An Act,

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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:

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.



29 (4) Procedures to keep accurate records of all  
30 purchases made with a credit card or debit card which shall be  
31 periodically reviewed during required audits.

32 (5) Procedures to ensure that all credit card or debit  
33 card bills are carefully reviewed by the sheriff each month to  
34 ensure that no unauthorized charges appear on the bill.

35 (6) Procedures to ensure that all credit card or debit  
36 card bills are paid in full on a timely basis each month to  
37 avoid service charges, late fees, or interest payments.

38 (d) The sheriff, when selecting a credit card or debit  
39 card provider, shall consider all of the following factors:

40 (1) Whether the credit card or debit card issuer  
41 requires an annual fee for using the card.

42 (2) Whether the credit card or debit card issuer offers  
43 rewards or rebates based upon purchases made using the  
44 account.

45 (3) The interest rate, service charges, finance  
46 charges, or late fees that may be assessed in the event a bill  
47 from the credit card or debit card issuer is paid late or the  
48 balance is not paid in full.

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

56 (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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71 Speaker of the House of Representatives  
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76 President and Presiding Officer of the Senate  
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79 House of Representatives  
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81 I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and  
82 was passed by the House 20-Jan-26.

84 John Treadwell  
85 Clerk  
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91 Senate **22-Jan-26** Passed  
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