

HB254 INTRODUCED



1 HB254

2 4UGLKRI-1

3 By Representatives Stringer, Brown, Wilcox, Pettus, Sorrells,
4 Pringle, Hendrix, Stadthagen, Brinyark, Kirkland, Smith, Rehm,
5 Wadsworth, Whorton, Robertson, Allbright, Butler, Harrison,
6 Gray, Bolton, Treadaway, Jackson

7 RFD: Public Safety and Homeland Security

8 First Read: 15-Jan-26



SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, the Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency is responsible for enforcing the laws regarding the operation of vessels on waters under the jurisdiction of this state.

This bill would require law enforcement officers to have probable cause to believe a violation of law has occurred before stopping and boarding a vessel.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to vessels; to require law enforcement officers to have probable cause to believe a violation of law has occurred before stopping and boarding a vessel.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) No law enforcement officer may stop and board any vessel in waters under the jurisdiction of this state unless there is probable cause to believe a violation of state law has occurred.

(b) For the purposes of this section, the term "vessel" has the meaning as defined in Section 33-5-3, Code of Alabama



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29 1975.

30 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October

31 1, 2026.