

HB369 ENROLLED



1 HB369
2 YMXF7N6-2
3 By Representative Fincher (N & P)
4 RFD: Local Legislation
5 First Read: 03-Feb-26



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1 Enrolled, An Act,

2 Relating to Randolph County; to amend Section 6 of Act
3 2003-213, 2003 Regular Session (Acts 2003, p. 541), as last
4 amended by Act 2025-245, 2025 Regular Session, now appearing
5 as Section 45-56-243.05, Code of Alabama 1975, to further
6 provide for the distribution of the county tobacco tax.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

8 Section 1. Section 6 of Act 2003-213, 2003 Regular
9 Session (Acts 2003, p. 541), as last amended by Act 2025-245,
10 2025 Regular Session, now appearing as Section 45-56-243.05,
11 Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:

12 "§45-56-243.05

13 (a) The proceeds from the tax authorized, less two
14 percent of the actual amount of collection which shall be
15 retained by the state Department of Revenue, shall be
16 distributed to the Randolph County General Fund to be
17 distributed within 15 days of receipt as follows:

18 (1) Thirty-two percent shall be distributed in equal
19 shares to the recognized volunteer fire departments located in
20 the county and to the Randolph County Rescue Squad, with each
21 volunteer fire department receiving one share and the Randolph
22 County Rescue Squad receiving one share, to be used for fire
23 protection and emergency medical services in the county, as
24 provided in subsection (b).

25 (2) Twenty-four percent shall be ~~used~~ distributed to
26 the Randolph County Economic Development Authority for ~~tourism~~
27 ~~or~~ economic development and tourism in the county.

28 (3) Twenty-four percent shall be retained in the



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29 Randolph County General Fund to be used as are other county
30 funds.

31 (4) Ten percent shall be distributed to the Randolph
32 County Agricultural Center, Inc., to be used to pursue
33 educational opportunities related to and to promote all types
34 of agriculture in Randolph County and its surrounding area.

35 (5) Ten percent shall be distributed to the Randolph
36 County Animal Shelter to be used for small animal control on a
37 countywide basis.

38 (b) (1) The funds distributed to the recognized
39 volunteer fire departments shall be payable on a monthly basis
40 and shall be expended only for purposes of fire protection,
41 prevention, and fire safety education in order to encourage a
42 strong volunteer firefighter network in Randolph County. The
43 proceeds shall be distributed to volunteer fire departments in
44 the county meeting the minimum state standards as determined
45 by the Alabama Forestry Commission and recognized by the
46 Randolph County Volunteer Firefighters Association. None of
47 the proceeds shall be used for salaries or to pay members for
48 any performance of duties associated with the department. Any
49 member fire department that fails to meet the minimum
50 standards shall be denied its share of the funding. The
51 association shall give noncomplying member fire departments
52 proper notice of all deficiencies and a reasonable time period
53 to correct the deficiencies before any funds shall be denied.

54 (2) The share of the funds distributed to the Randolph
55 County Rescue Squad shall be payable on a monthly basis and
56 shall be expended only for the delivery of emergency



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57 services."

58 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October

59 1, 2026.

