

HB369 INTRODUCED



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



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4 A BILL
5 TO BE ENTITLED
6 AN ACT

9 Relating to Randolph County; to amend Section 6 of Act
0 2003-213, 2003 Regular Session (Acts 2003, p. 541), as last
1 amended by Act 2025-245, 2025 Regular Session, now appearing
2 as Section 45-56-243.05, Code of Alabama 1975, to further
3 provide for the distribution of the county tobacco tax.

14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

15 Section 1. Section 6 of Act 2003-213, 2003 Regular
16 Session (Acts 2003, p. 541), as last amended by Act 2025-245,
17 2025 Regular Session, now appearing as Section 45-56-243.05,
18 Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:

19 "§45-56-243.05



29 County Rescue Squad receiving one share, to be used for fire
30 protection and emergency medical services in the county, as
31 provided in subsection (b).

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

35 (3) Twenty-four percent shall be retained in the
36 Randolph County General Fund to be used as are other county
37 funds.

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

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

45 (b) (1) The funds distributed to the recognized
46 volunteer fire departments shall be payable on a monthly basis
47 and shall be expended only for purposes of fire protection,
48 prevention, and fire safety education in order to encourage a
49 strong volunteer firefighter network in Randolph County. The
50 proceeds shall be distributed to volunteer fire departments in
51 the county meeting the minimum state standards as determined
52 by the Alabama Forestry Commission and recognized by the
53 Randolph County Volunteer Firefighters Association. None of
54 the proceeds shall be used for salaries or to pay members for
55 any performance of duties associated with the department. Any
56 member fire department that fails to meet the minimum

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57 standards shall be denied its share of the funding. The
58 association shall give noncomplying member fire departments
59 proper notice of all deficiencies and a reasonable time period
60 to correct the deficiencies before any funds shall be denied.

61 (2) The share of the funds distributed to the Randolph
62 County Rescue Squad shall be payable on a monthly basis and
63 shall be expended only for the delivery of emergency
64 services."

65 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October
66 1, 2026.