

# HB509 INTRODUCED



1 HB509  
2 DGC54NH-1  
3 By Representative Stringer  
4 RFD: Judiciary  
5 First Read: 24-Feb-26



1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

SYNOPSIS:

This bill would provide an affirmative defense to a civil action for damages for personal injury, wrongful death, or property damage if the plaintiff's injury, death, or damage was sustained while obstructing traffic on a street, highway, bridge, or road under certain conditions.

A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

Relating to civil practice; to establish an affirmative defense relating to the damages incurred while obstructing traffic on a street, highway, bridge, or road under certain conditions; and to further provide procedures for such actions.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) In a civil action for damages for personal injury, wrongful death, or property damage, a party to the action shall be entitled to an affirmative defense if the party establishes that the personal injury, wrongful death, or property damage was sustained by an individual who willfully obstructed the free, convenient, and normal use of



## HB509 INTRODUCED

29 any public street, highway, bridge, or road by doing any of  
30 the following:

31 (1) Impeding, hindering, stifling, or restraining  
32 traffic or passage on the street, highway, bridge, or road.

33 (2) Standing on or remaining in the street, highway,  
34 bridge, or road.

35 (3) Endangering the safe movement of vehicles or  
36 pedestrians traveling on the street, highway, bridge, or road.

37 (b) In a civil action in which a defendant raises an  
38 affirmative defense under this section, the court, on motion  
39 by the defendant, shall stay the action during the pendency of  
40 any criminal action the factual basis of which forms the  
41 factual basis for the defense.

42 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October  
43 1, 2026.