

HB8 ENGROSSED



1 HB8

2 L5P8TTY-2

3 By Representatives *Gidley, Hollis, Harrison, Rigsby, DuBose,*
4 *Paschal, Hulsey, Shaver, Colvin, Mooney, Sellers, Standridge,*
5 *Carns, Morris*

6 RFD: Education Policy

7 First Read: 13-Jan-26

8 PFD: 25-Jun-25



HB8 Engrossed

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

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to public K-12 education; to allow a public K-12 school or public charter school to accept a campus chaplain who meets certain requirements as a volunteer; to prohibit certain individuals from volunteering as a campus chaplain; and to allow each local board of education and the governing body of each public charter school to vote on whether to allow the volunteer services of a campus chaplain.
BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) For the purposes of this section, the term "public school" means any public K-12 school or public charter school.

(b) (1) Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, each local board of education and the governing body of each public charter school may take a recorded vote on whether to adopt a policy authorizing a public school under its jurisdiction to accept a campus chaplain as a volunteer under this section.

(2) If a local board of education or the governing body of a public charter school votes to accept a campus chaplain as a volunteer, a campus chaplain may be made available to provide support, services, and programs at the request of any



HB8 Engrossed

29 teacher in the local school district.

30 (c) (1) A campus chaplain volunteering under this
31 section is not required to be certified by the State Board of
32 Education.

33 (2) Each campus chaplain volunteering under this
34 section must have completed a recognized chaplain training
35 program.

36 (d) A public school that accepts a campus chaplain as a
37 volunteer under this section, before the campus chaplain may
38 begin volunteering, shall ensure that the campus chaplain
39 complies with Section 16-22A-5, Code of Alabama 1975, relating
40 to criminal history background information check requirements.

41 (e) A public school may not accept a campus chaplain as
42 a volunteer who has been adjudicated or convicted of an
43 offense that requires registration as a sex offender under
44 Chapter 20A of Title 15, Code of Alabama 1975.

45 Section 2. This act shall become effective on July 1,
46 2026.



HB8 Engrossed

47
48
49

50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67

House of Representatives

Read for the first time and referred13-Jan-26
to the House of Representatives
committee on Education Policy

Read for the second time and placed05-Feb-26
on the calendar:
0 amendments

Read for the third time and passed24-Feb-26
as amended
 Yeas 91
 Nays 7
 Abstains 6

John Treadwell
Clerk