

# HB8 ENROLLED



1 HB8  
2 L5P8TTY-3  
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



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1 Enrolled, An Act,

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4 Relating to public K-12 education; to allow a public  
5 K-12 school or public charter school to accept a campus  
6 chaplain who meets certain requirements as a volunteer; to  
7 prohibit certain individuals from volunteering as a campus  
8 chaplain; and to allow each local board of education and the  
9 governing body of each public charter school to vote on  
10 whether to allow the volunteer services of a campus chaplain.

11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

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

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

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

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

28 (2) Each campus chaplain volunteering under this



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29 section must have completed a recognized chaplain training  
30 program.

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

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

40 Section 2. This act shall become effective on July 1,  
41 2026.

