



**House County and Municipal Government Reported  
Substitute for SB26**

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A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

Relating to libraries; to amend Sections 11-90-2 and 11-90-4, Code of Alabama 1975; to further provide for the appointment of county and municipal library boards; to provide reporting requirements; and to make nonsubstantive, technical revisions to update the existing code language to current style.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Sections 11-90-2 and 11-90-4, Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:

"§11-90-2

(a) ~~The government and supervision of such~~ All libraries ~~shall be vested in~~ created pursuant to this section shall be supervised by a local library board consisting of five members ~~who shall be appointed by the county commission or the governing body of the municipality.~~

(b) Each library board member shall be appointed by the governing body of the county or municipality that established the library.

(c) Each library board member shall be appointed to a four-year term and shall serve at the pleasure of his or her



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29 respective appointing authority and may be removed at any time  
 30 by a two-thirds vote of the appointing authority. ~~The terms of~~  
 31 ~~membership on the library board, as first appointed, for one~~  
 32 ~~member shall be for one year, for the second member shall be~~  
 33 ~~for two years, for the third member shall be for three years,~~  
 34 ~~and for the remaining two members the terms shall be for four~~  
 35 ~~years. After the first term, all appointments shall be for~~  
 36 ~~four years.~~

37 (d) The ~~county commission or~~ respective governing body  
 38 shall fill all vacancies, including expired and unexpired  
 39 terms.

40 (e) Members of the library board shall serve without  
 41 compensation.

42 (f) Each appointing authority shall coordinate its  
 43 appointments to assure the membership of the local library  
 44 board is inclusive and reflects the racial, gender,  
 45 geographic, urban, rural, and economic diversity of the  
 46 population the library serves.

47 (g) Notwithstanding subsection (f), a member of an  
 48 appointing authority may serve as a member of a local library  
 49 board."

50 "§11-90-4

51 (a) In lieu of establishing or maintaining free public  
 52 libraries exclusively for a single county or municipality in  
 53 the manner provided in ~~this chapter~~ Section 11-90-2, the  
 54 library board of any county or municipality free public  
 55 library may contract, ~~in behalf of the political unit~~  
 56 ~~represented by such local library board, to and~~ with the



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57 library board of another political unit ~~or governmental agency~~  
58 ~~or instrumentality with respect to the establishment or~~  
59 ~~maintenance of~~ establish and maintain a joint library service  
60 ~~upon such on the~~ terms ~~as may be~~ agreed upon by the ~~several~~  
61 contracting parties.

62 (b) Where there is no existing public library, ~~the~~  
63 ~~power thus to contract shall vest in the~~ a county commission  
64 ~~of the county~~ or the governing body of ~~the~~ a municipality may  
65 contract with the governing body of another political unit to  
66 establish and maintain a joint library. ~~Included in the power~~  
67 ~~conferred is the determination of the basis and personnel of~~  
68 ~~representation of the local political units on the joint~~  
69 ~~library board administering the joint library service~~  
70 ~~established under this section.~~

71 (c) In establishing a joint library, the contracting  
72 parties may determine the size and appointing authorities of  
73 the joint library board.

74 (d) ~~Such~~ A joint library board, ~~when appointed,~~  
75 appointed pursuant to this section shall have the powers and  
76 duties granted by this chapter to county or municipal library  
77 boards. Each joint library board member shall serve at the  
78 pleasure of his or her respective appointing authority and may  
79 be removed at any time by a two-thirds vote of the appointing  
80 authority. ~~County and municipal library boards or joint~~  
81 ~~library boards shall have the power to cooperate with all~~  
82 ~~state and federal agencies and institutions in furtherance of~~  
83 ~~the purpose of this chapter, and all municipal, county and~~  
84 ~~joint library boards shall from time to time submit such~~



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85 ~~records and reports as may be required by the public library~~  
86 ~~service; provided, that nothing~~

87 (e) Nothing in this section shall be ~~so~~ construed ~~as~~ to  
88 infringe upon any municipal charter provisions governing the  
89 administration of existing free public libraries."

90 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October  
91 1, 2026.