

SB241 INTRODUCED



1 SB241
2 W1JTX95-1
3 By Senator Woods (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
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9 Relating to Walker County; to authorize the appointment
10 of temporary judges of probate in certain circumstances; and
11 to provide for compensation.

12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

13 Section 1. (a) The Judge of Probate of Walker County
14 may appoint, from the qualified electors of Walker County
15 licensed to practice law in this state, one or more temporary
16 judges of probate to serve contemporaneously with him or her
17 when the elected judge of probate finds that the temporary
18 appointments are necessary due to calendar congestion,
19 complexity of issues, the prospects of an unduly long trial,
20 or caseload management.

21 (b) No temporary appointment may be for a term longer
22 than 90 days.

23 (c) A temporary judge of probate may be appointed for
24 as many successive 90-day appointments as the elected judge of
25 probate deems necessary, but no individual may serve for more
26 than 200 days during any calendar year.

27 (d) All temporary judges of probate shall have the
28 jurisdiction and authority and shall discharge the duties of



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the elected judge of probate, and the judgments, orders, and decrees made or rendered by any temporary judge of probate shall be entered on the records of the probate court and shall have the force and effect and be subject to revision, appeal, or other revisory remedy of judgments, orders, and decrees of the probate court or the elected judge of probate.

(e) Neither the elected judge of probate nor the surety on his or her bond shall be responsible for any of the acts, failures to act, reports, or decisions made by any temporary judge of probate, or any of the acts or failures to act of any employee in the probate court during the tenure of a temporary judge of probate.

(f) A temporary judge of probate shall be paid fifty dollars (\$50) per hearing paid from the discretionary funds of the judge of probate. If the temporary judge of probate is an employee of the probate court, the employee shall not receive any additional compensation.

Section 2. This act shall become effective on June 1, 2026.