

SB26 INTRODUCED



1 SB26
2 V7W3FPV-1
3 By Senator Elliott
4 RFD: County and Municipal Government
5 First Read: 13-Jan-26
6 PFD: 04-Dec-25



SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, county and municipal library boards are appointed by the respective governing body of the county or municipality.

This bill would provide that library board members serve at the pleasure of their respective appointing authority, and by two-thirds vote may be removed by their respective appointing authority.

This bill would also make nonsubstantive, technical revisions to update the existing code language to current style.

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



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

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

(e) Each library board created pursuant to this
section, no later than December 31 of each year, shall provide
to the Governor, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and
President Pro Tempore of the Senate a report detailing the
membership of the board and any actions the board has taken



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regarding the review or removal of items in their collection during the previous 12 months.

(f) Members of the library board shall serve without compensation.

(g) Each appointing authority shall coordinate its appointments to assure the membership of the local library board is inclusive and reflects the racial, gender, geographic, urban, rural, and economic diversity of the state."

"§11-90-4

(a) In lieu of establishing or maintaining free public libraries exclusively for a single county or municipality in the manner provided in ~~this chapter~~ Section 11-90-2, the library board of any county or municipality free public library may contract, ~~in behalf of the political unit represented by such local library board, to and~~ with the library board of another political unit ~~or governmental agency or instrumentality with respect to the establishment or maintenance of~~ establish and maintain a joint library service ~~upon such~~ on the terms ~~as may be~~ agreed upon by the ~~several~~ contracting parties.

(b) Where there is no existing public library, ~~the power thus to contract shall vest in the~~ a county commission ~~of the county~~ or the governing body of ~~the~~ a municipality may contract with the governing body of another political unit to establish and maintain a joint library. ~~Included in the power conferred is the determination of the basis and personnel of representation of the local political units on the joint~~



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~~library board administering the joint library service
established under this section.~~

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

(d) ~~Such~~ A joint library board, ~~when appointed,~~
appointed pursuant to this section shall have the powers and
duties granted by this chapter to county or municipal library
boards. Each joint library board member shall serve at the
pleasure of his or her respective appointing authority and may
be removed at any time by a two-thirds vote of the appointing
authority. ~~County and municipal library boards or joint
library boards shall have the power to cooperate with all
state and federal agencies and institutions in furtherance of
the purpose of this chapter, and all municipal, county and
joint library boards shall from time to time submit such
records and reports as may be required by the public library
service; provided, that nothing~~

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

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