



House State Government Reported Substitute for HB2

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to the Gulf of Mexico; to rename the Gulf of Mexico as the "Gulf of America"; and to require all state and local entities and all employees of those entities to observe and implement the name change, where practicable.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) This act shall be known and may be cited as the Gulf of America Act.

(b) For all purposes within the State of Alabama, the body of water that borders the coast of Alabama, previously known as the Gulf of Mexico, shall be known as the "Gulf of America." Any reference to the Gulf of Mexico shall be deemed to be a reference to the Gulf of America.

Section 2. Beginning October 1, 2026, all state and local entities and their employees shall be required to do all of the following:

(1) Refer to the body of water that borders the coast of Alabama as the "Gulf of America."

(2) Reflect the "Gulf of America" terminology in all newly created maps, documents, educational materials, websites, official communications, and other resources.

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29 (3)a. Make reasonable efforts to update all
30 pre-existing resources owned by state and local entities,
31 including, but not limited to, official state maps, documents,
32 educational materials, websites, and communications under
33 their jurisdiction to reflect the name change, where
34 practicable.

35 b. The requirements of paragraph a. shall not apply if
36 compliance would impose an operational or financial burden on
37 the state or local entity and their employees.

38 Section 3. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a
39 public K-12 school or public institution of higher education
40 from using the term "Gulf of Mexico" within a larger course of
41 academic instruction when reasonable for historical purposes.

42 Section 4. This act shall become effective on October
43 1, 2026.