

1 HB158  
2 115658-3  
3 By Representatives McCampbell and Harper  
4 RFD: Government Appropriations  
5 First Read: 12-JAN-10

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8 SYNOPSIS: This bill would establish, within the  
9 Department of Senior Services, the United We Ride  
10 Commission.

11 This bill would provide for membership,  
12 terms of office, and duties; and would provide for  
13 an annual report to the Governor.

14  
15 A BILL  
16 TO BE ENTITLED  
17 AN ACT

18  
19 Relating to the Department of Senior Services; to  
20 establish the United We Ride Commission; to provide for  
21 membership, terms of office, and duties; and to provide for an  
22 annual report to the Governor.

23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

24 Section 1. There is hereby established, within the  
25 Department of Senior Services, the United We Ride Commission.

1           Section 2. The members of the commission shall  
2 include all of the following who shall serve for the same term  
3 as their appointing authority:

4           (1) The Commissioner of the Department of Senior  
5 Services.

6           (2) The State Health Officer, or his or her  
7 designee.

8           (3) The State Superintendant of the Department of  
9 Education, or his or her designee.

10          (4) The Commissioner of the Alabama Medicaid Agency,  
11 or his or her designee.

12          (5) The Commissioner of the Department of Human  
13 Resources, or his or her designee.

14          (6) The Commissioner of the Department of Mental  
15 Health, or his or her designee.

16          (7) The Commissioner of the Department of  
17 Rehabilitation, or his or her designee.

18          (8) The Director of the Department of  
19 Transportation, or his or her designee.

20          (9) The Director of the Alabama Department of  
21 Economic and Community Affairs, or his or her designee.

22          (10) The Director of the Governor's Office of  
23 Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, or his or her designee.

24          (11) One member of the House of Representatives,  
25 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

26          (12) One member of the Senate, appointed by the  
27 Senate President Pro Tempore.

1 (13) One consumer, appointed by the Governor.

2 (14) One representative of the Office of the  
3 Governor, appointed by the Governor.

4 (15) One at-large member appointed by the Governor,  
5 or his or her designee.

6 Section 3. The Commissioner of the Department of  
7 Senior Services shall serve as chair. The commissioner shall  
8 assign staff to handle all administrative duties related to  
9 the commission which shall include keeping minutes and issuing  
10 an annual report.

11 Section 4. The duties of the commission shall  
12 include all of the following:

13 (1) To develop an educational plan for coordinated  
14 human service transportation intended to result in enhanced  
15 customer access, at the local level, for individuals with  
16 disabilities, older adults, and individuals with lower income.

17 (2) To help reduce or eliminate restrictive and  
18 duplicative laws, regulations, and programs related to human  
19 service transportation.

20 (3) To examine, identify, document, and disseminate  
21 successful cost effective strategies in coordinating human  
22 service transportation at the federal, state, tribal, and  
23 local levels.

24 (4) To meet at least four times annually and  
25 establish task groups, focus groups, and hold town meetings,  
26 forums, and any other meetings deemed necessary to carry out  
27 the mandates of this act.

1                   (5) To submit an annual report to the Governor in  
2 November of each year, which shall provide a detailed  
3 explanation of the activities of the commission for the  
4 preceding 12-month period, and the impact of these activities  
5 in addressing the challenges in the coordination of Alabama's  
6 public transportation.

7                   Section 5. All cabinet level agencies shall  
8 cooperate to the fullest extent reasonably possible with the  
9 commission and its chair, and shall provide all information  
10 needed by the commission to fulfill its mandate pursuant to  
11 this act.

12                   Section 6. This act shall become effective on the  
13 first day of the third month following its passage and  
14 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.