- 1 HB746
- 2 118962-2
- 3 By Representative England
- 4 RFD: Government Appropriations
- 5 First Read: 23-MAR-10

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This bill would relate to the Alabama 8 SYNOPSIS: Criminal Justice Information Center Commission and 9 10 the Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center and 11 would further provide for the members of the 12 commission and the operation of the commission and 13 center. The bill would authorize the commission to charge fees for information related to noncriminal 14 15 background checks, establish the crime of misuse of ACJIC information, authorize the commission to 16 17 establish the Alabama Statistical Analysis Center, 18 authorize research and development. The bill would 19 authorize any licensing agency to conduct a background check. The bill would also authorize the 20 21 interstate exchange of criminal history information 2.2 and ratify the National Crime Prevention and 23 Privacy Compact.

Amendment 621 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901 prohibits a general law whose purpose or effect would be to require a new or increased expenditure of local funds from becoming effective with regard to a local governmental entity without enactment by a 2/3 vote unless: it comes within one of a number of specified exceptions; it is approved by the affected entity; or the Legislature appropriates funds, or provides a local source of revenue, to the entity for the purpose.

7 The purpose or effect of this bill would be 8 to require a new or increased expenditure of local 9 funds within the meaning of Amendment 621. However, 10 the bill does not require approval of a local 11 governmental entity or enactment by a 2/3 vote to 12 become effective because it comes within one of the 13 specified exceptions contained in Amendment 621.

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A BILL

TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

To amend Sections 41-9-590, 41-9-591, 41-9-592, 19 41-9-594, 41-9-595, 41-9-596, 41-9-597, 41-9-600, 41-9-601, 20 21 41-9-621 to 41-9-623, inclusive, and 41-9-630, Code of Alabama 22 1975; to further provide for the operation, powers, and duties of the Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center Commission 23 24 and the Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center; to 25 further provide for crimes and penalties related to violations; to authorize any licensing agency to conduct a 26 27 background check; to authorize the interstate exchange of

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criminal history information and to ratify the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact; and in connection therewith would have as its purpose or effect the requirement of a new or increased expenditure of local funds within the meaning of Amendment 621 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Sections 41-9-590, 41-9-591, 41-9-592,
41-9-594, 41-9-595, 41-9-596, 41-9-597, 41-9-600, 41-9-601,
41-9-621 to 41-9-623, inclusive, 41-9-630, Code of Alabama
1975, are amended to read as follows:

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"§41-9-590.

12 "When used in this article, the following terms 13 shall have the following meanings, respectively, unless the 14 context clearly indicates a different meaning:

15 "(6)(1) ACJIC. The Alabama Criminal Justice
16 Information Center.

17 "(7)(2) CENTER. The Alabama Criminal Justice
 18 Information Center.

19 "(4)(3) COMMISSION. The Alabama Criminal Justice
20 Information Center Commission.

"(1)(4) CRIMINAL JUSTICE AGENCIES AGENCY. Such The term shall include includes those public agencies at all levels of government which perform as their principal function activities or planning for such activities relating to the identification, apprehension, prosecution, adjudication or rehabilitation of civil, traffic and criminal offenders. "(8)(5) DIRECTOR. The Director of the Alabama
 Criminal Justice Information Center.

"(3)(6) CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SYSTEM and 3 4 SYSTEM. Such terms shall include that portion of those public agencies, procedures, mechanisms, media and Criminal Justice 5 Information Center forms as well as the information itself 6 7 involved in the origination, transmittal, storage, retrieval, analysis, and dissemination of information related to reported 8 9 offenses, offenders and actions related to such events or 10 persons required to be reported to and received by, as well as 11 stored, analyzed and disseminated by the Alabama Criminal 12 Justice Information Center Commission through the center criminal justice and public protection. 13

14 "(2)(7) OFFENSE. Any act which is a felony or is a
 15 misdemeanor as described in Section 41-9-622.

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"(5) ACJICC. The Alabama Criminal Justice

17 Information Center Commission.

18 "\$41-9-591.

"<u>(a)</u> There is hereby created and established an 19 Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center Commission, which 20 21 shall establish, develop, and continue to operate a center and system information systems for the interstate and intrastate 22 23 accumulation, storage, retrieval, analysis and dissemination 24 of vital information relating to certain crimes, criminals and 25 criminal activity to purpose of accessing, accumulating, storing, retrieving, analyzing, and disseminating criminal 26

justice and public protection information. The center shall be
 known as the Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center.

"(b) Central responsibility for the development,
maintenance, operation, and administration of the Alabama
Criminal Justice Information Center center shall be vested
with the Director of the ACJIC under the supervision of the
Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center Commission
commission.

"(c) The center shall be designated the CJIS Systems 9 10 Agency (CSA) to the Federal Bureau of Investigation Criminal Justice Information Systems Division, or its successor, and 11 12 the Nlets System Agency (NSA) to Nlets, or its successor. The center shall have the authority to enforce all laws and 13 14 regulations regarding transmittal, exchange, and retrieval of information with and through these entities. The director, or 15 his or her designee, shall serve as the representative to 16 17 these entities. "§41-9-592. 18 "(a) The commission shall be composed of two 19 20 sections. 21 "(b) The voting section will shall include all of 22 the following: 23 "(1) The the Attorney General . 24 "(2) The the Chairman of the Board of Pardons and 25 Paroles. "(3) The the Commissioner of the Board of 26 27 Corrections -.

"(4) The the President of the Alabama Sheriffs' 1 2 Association -. "(5) The the Director of the Department of Public 3 4 Safety. "(6) The the President of the Alabama Association of 5 6 Chiefs of Police . 7 "(7) The the Director of the Alabama Law Enforcement Planning Agency, Department of Economic and Community Affairs. 8 "(8) The the President of the Alabama District 9 10 Attorney's Association 7. 11 "(9) The the President of the Alabama Circuit 12 Clerks' Association. 13 "(10) The the Chief Justice of the Alabama Supreme 14 Court. 15 "(11) The the President of the Alabama Association of Intermediate Court Judges, District Judges' Association. 16 "(12) The the President of the Alabama Circuit 17 Judges' Association 7. 18 "(13) The the Governor's coordinator of Alabama 19 20 Highway and Traffic Safety and Director of State Homeland 21 Security. "(14) The State Chief Information Officer, or if not 22 23 appointed, the Director of the Data Systems Management Division Information Services Division of the Alabama 24 25 Department of Finance. 26 "(c) The advisory section will shall include: the 27 presiding officer of the Alabama Senate, the Speaker of the

Alabama House of Representatives, the President of the
Association of County Commissions of Alabama, the President of
the Alabama League of Municipalities, the Administrative
Director of the Courts, the Executive Director for the Alabama
<u>Peace Officers' Standards and Training Commission, the</u>
<u>Director of the Alabama Sentencing Commission, and a citizen</u>
of the State of Alabama, to be appointed by the Governor.

8 "<u>(d)</u> The member shall have authority to select a 9 designee based upon qualifications and with a view of 10 continuity of representation and attendance at the commission 11 meetings.

12 "(e) No person or individual shall continue to serve 13 on the commission when he <u>or she</u> no longer officially 14 represents the function or serves in the capacity enumerated 15 in this section as a member to which he <u>or she</u> was elected or 16 appointed, except the citizen appointee who serve at the 17 pleasure of the Governor.

"(f) A report of the work of the commission shall be
 provided to the Alabama Legislature by the 5th legislative day
 of each regular session.

21

"§41-9-594.

"(a) The commission shall establish its own rules,
regulations, and policies for the performance of the
responsibilities charged to it in this article.

"(b) The commission shall ensure that: The the
 information obtained under authority of this article is
 restricted to the items germane to the implementation of this

article; and that the Alabama Criminal Justice Information
 Center (ACJIC) center is administered so as not to accumulate
 or distribute any information not required by this article;
 and.

5 "(c) The commission shall ensure that adequate 6 safeguards are incorporated so that data available through 7 this system <u>ACJIC information systems</u> is used only by properly 8 authorized persons and agencies.

9 "(b)(d) The commission shall appoint a Privacy and 10 Security Committee from the membership of the commission who are elected officials, consisting of a chair and three 11 12 members, to study the privacy and security implications of 13 sharing criminal justice and homeland security information and 14 to formulate policy recommendations for consideration by the 15 commission concerning the collection, storage, dissemination, or usage of criminal justice information. 16

17 "(c)(e) The commission may adopt policies regarding 18 the collection, storage, and dissemination of <u>criminal</u> 19 <u>intelligence</u>, <u>investigation</u>, <u>arrest</u>, and <u>criminal</u> <u>history</u> 20 information <u>and other crime-related data</u> that conform to the 21 policies of the <u>National Crime Information Center of the</u> 22 Federal Bureau of Investigation <u>Criminal Justice Information</u> 23 <u>Systems Division</u>.

"(f) The commission may adopt policies and
 regulations to permit ACJIC may supply employee criminal
 records as provided in subsection (a) and to perform
 name-based background checks of the state criminal history

repository through the ACJIC information system for 1 noncriminal purposes. The commission may limit who may receive 2 this information and may provide for the procedure for 3 4 obtaining the records including, but not limited to, charging a twenty-five dollar (\$25) fee fees not to exceed twenty-five 5 dollars (\$25) for securing records through the an ACJIC 6 7 information system. All monies received for background checks shall be deposited in the State Treasury to be divided equally 8 to the credit of the Criminal Justice Information System 9 10 Automation Fund, the Public Safety Automated Fingerprint Identification System Fund, and the Court Automation Fund as 11 12 established in Section 12-19-180, and such funds may be expended according to the sections. 13

"(d) (q) Any rule, regulation, or policy of the 14 15 commission to the contrary notwithstanding, the police department of any college or university in this state which 16 offers medical, nursing, and health care education, or which 17 operates a hospital, including, but not limited to, the 18 University of Alabama in Birmingham and the University of 19 South Alabama, and excluding the University of Alabama in 20 21 Tuscaloosa may request from the ACJIC a criminal background 22 check on any person who applies for employment with the 23 college or university, and may charge a background search fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) from each applicant for each 24 25 search conducted on the applicant.

26 "(h) All fee proceeds from the background check fee
 27 The commission may adopt a schedule of reasonable fees to

provide access to ACJIC information systems which shall be deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of the Criminal Justice Information System Automation Fund and shall be expended for any purposes for which the ACJIC is authorized to expend funds appropriated to that department.

6

"§41-9-595.

7 "The commission shall appoint a director and, upon the request and recommendation of the director, a deputy 8 director for the Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center 9 10 who shall be responsible for the development, maintenance, and operation of the ACJIC as required by the terms of this 11 12 article and the implementation and operation of policies, 13 programs, and procedures established by the commission under the limitations of this article. The qualifications of the 14 director and deputy director shall be determined by the State 15 16 Personnel Department.

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"§41-9-596.

18 "The director shall maintain the necessary staff <u>as</u> 19 <u>determined by the director</u> along with support services 20 necessary to enable the effective and efficient performance of 21 the duties and responsibilities ascribed to the ACJIC in this 22 article under the supervision of the commission

23

"§41-9-597.

24 "The staff and personnel employed by the commission 25 for the development and operation of the center and system 26 shall be governed by the personnel Merit System rules and 27 regulations of the State Personnel Department.

"Employees of agencies or institutions which are 1 transferred to the center or commission under the provisions 2 of this article shall remain in their respective employments 3 4 and shall be considered to meet the requirements of the 5 department in terms of training and experience, but nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent or preclude the 6 7 removal of an employee for cause in the manner provided by law. Such employees shall continue to enjoy employment 8 conditions, including, but not limited to, salary range and 9 10 advancement at a level no less than those enjoyed prior to transfer to the center or commission. All time accumulated 11 12 while engaged in such prior employment shall be credited 13 toward all privileges enjoyed under state merit employment. "\$41-9-600. 14

15 "Any officer or official mentioned in this article who neglects or refuses to make any report, submit 16 17 information, or to do any other act required in this article shall be subject to prosecution for a misdemeanor and, if 18 found guilty, may be fined not less than \$100.00 one hundred 19 <u>dollars (\$100)</u> nor more than \$10,000.00 <u>ten thousand dollars</u> 20 21 (\$10,000) and may be confined in a county jail for not more 22 than one year. He The officer or official shall also be 23 subject to prosecution for nonfeasance and, if found guilty, shall be subject to removal from office therefor. 24

25 "\$41-9-601.

26 "(a) A person commits the crime of misuse of ACJIC
 27 information if he or she does either of the following:

1 "(1) Willfully Any person who willfully requests, 2 obtains, or seeks to obtain criminal offender record information from an ACJIC information system under false 3 4 pretenses or. "(2) Willfully who willfully communicates or seeks 5 to communicate criminal offender record information from an 6 7 ACJIC information system to any agency or person except in accordance with this article, or. 8 "(b) A any member, officer, employee, or agent of 9 10 the ACJICC commission, the ACJIC center, or any participating agency who commits the crime of misuse of ACJIC information if 11 12 he or she willfully falsifies criminal offender record 13 information or any records relating thereto shall, for each 14 offense, be fined not less than \$5,000.00 nor more than 15 \$10,000.00 or imprisoned in the state penitentiary for not more than five years or both maintained in or accessible by an 16 17 ACJIC information system. "(c) Misuse of ACJIC information is a Class B 18 felony. 19 "(d) Misuse of each individual record constitutes a 20 21 separate offense under this section. 22 "§41-9-621. "The commission, acting through the Director of the 23 Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center director, shall: 24 25 "(1) Develop, operate and maintain an information system systems which will support the collection, storage, 26 27 retrieval, analysis, and dissemination of all crime and

offender data described in this article consistent with those principles of scope, security, and responsiveness prescribed by this article; The primary mission of the center is to serve the informational needs of criminal justice agencies and other agencies and entities specifically authorized by law connecting local, county, state, and federal authorities to a centralized state clearinghouse of information.

8 "(2) Cooperate with all criminal justice <u>and public</u> 9 <u>protection</u> agencies within the state in providing those forms, 10 procedures, standards, and related training assistance 11 necessary for the uniform <u>and integrated</u> operation of the 12 statewide ACJIC crime reporting and criminal justice 13 information system; <u>systems.</u>

14 "(3) Offer assistance and, when practicable, 15 instruction to all criminal justice <u>and public protection</u> 16 agencies in establishing efficient systems for information 17 management7.

"(4) Compile statistics on the nature and extent of 18 19 crime in Alabama and compile data for planning and operating 20 criminal justice agencies; provided, that such statistics 21 shall not identify persons. The commission shall make 22 available all such statistical information obtained to the 23 Governor, the Legislature, the judiciary and any such other 24 governmental agencies whose primary responsibilities include 25 the planning, development or execution of crime reduction 26 programs. Access to such information by such governmental 27 agencies shall be on an individual written request basis or in

1 accordance with the approved operational procedure, wherein 2 must be demonstrated a need to know, the intent of any analyses and dissemination of such analyses, and shall be 3 4 subject to any security provisions deemed necessary by the 5 commission; "(4) Develop, operate, and maintain a unit within 6 7 ACJIC to be known as the Alabama Statistical Analysis Center that shall perform the following operations: 8 "a. Compile general statistics on the nature and 9 10 extent of crime in Alabama to be made available to the public. These statistics shall be updated on a regular basis no less 11 12 frequently than annually. No statistics available to the public pursuant to this paragraph shall identify persons. 13 "b. Make available all criminal statistical 14 15 information obtained and developed by ACJIC to the Governor, the Legislature, the judiciary, and any other governmental 16 17 agencies whose responsibilities include the planning, development, or execution of crime reduction programs. Access 18 to information by a governmental agency shall be pursuant to 19 an individual written request or in accordance with the 20 21 approved operational procedures, which shall be based on a 22 demonstrated need to know, considering the intent for the use and dissemination of the information. Access to information 23 may be subject to any security provisions deemed necessary by 24 the commission. No statistics generated pursuant to this 25 26 paragraph shall identify persons.

1	"c. Provide statistical and investigative data
2	including identifying information pertaining to individuals
3	listed on incident/offense and arrest reports to participating
4	law enforcement agencies based upon the data collected from
5	the agencies' uniform crime reports submitted pursuant to
6	<u>Section 41-9-620.</u>
7	"d. Gather, analyze, and disseminate data from other
8	agencies to supplement the criminal information in the
9	previous subsections subject to the identification limitations
10	of the previous subsections.
11	"(5) Periodically publish statistics, no less
12	frequently than annually, that do not identify persons and
13	report such information to the chief executive officers of the
14	agencies and branches of government concerned; such
15	information shall accurately reflect the level and nature of
16	crime in this state and the general operation of the agencies
17	within the criminal justice system;
18	"(5) Apply for grants to provide for research and
19	development activities that will encourage the application of
20	advanced technology, including the development of prototype
21	systems and procedures, the development of plans for the
22	implementing of these prototypes, and the development of
23	technological expertise which can provide assistance to
24	criminal justice and public protection agencies.
25	"(6) Make available, upon request, to all <u>any local,</u>
26	state, including any other state, or federal criminal justice
27	agencies in this state, to all federal criminal justice and or

criminal identification agencies and to state criminal justice 1 2 and criminal identification agencies in other states any agency information in the files of the ACJIC information 3 4 systems which will aid these agencies in crime fighting; for. For this purpose the ACJIC shall operate 24 hours per day, 5 seven days per week . The commission may adopt policies to 6 7 share criminal justice information with international criminal justice agencies. 8

"(7) Cooperate with other agencies of this state, 9 10 the crime information agencies of other states and the uniform crime reports and national crime information center systems of 11 12 the Federal Bureau of Investigation or any entity designated 13 by the federal government as the central clearinghouse for 14 criminal justice information systems in developing and 15 conducting an interstate, national, and international system of criminal identification, records and statistics. 16

17 "(8) Provide the administrative mechanisms and procedures necessary to respond to those individuals who file 18 requests to view their own records as provided for elsewhere 19 in this article and to cooperate in the correction of the 20 21 central ACJIC records and those of contributing agencies when 22 their accuracy has been successfully challenged either through 23 the related contributing agencies or by court order issued on behalf of the individual +. 24

"(9) Institute the necessary measures in the design,
 implementation, and continued operation of the criminal
 justice <u>ACJIC</u> information system systems to ensure the privacy

and security of the system <u>data accumulated or accessed</u>
 <u>through its systems</u>. Such <u>Any privacy and</u> security measures
 must <u>shall</u> meet standards to be set by the commission as well
 as those set by the nationally operated systems for interstate
 <u>sharing of such information; and</u>.

"(10) Designate in writing agents or employees of 6 7 the ACJIC who shall be and are hereby constituted peace officers of the State of Alabama with full and unlimited 8 police power and <u>statewide</u> jurisdiction. to <u>The designated law</u> 9 10 enforcement officers shall enforce the laws of this state pertaining to the operation and administration of the Alabama 11 12 criminal justice information system <u>center</u> and the storage, 13 use, and dissemination of information processed therein by 14 ACJIC information systems and may assist other criminal justice agencies upon request with investigations or as 15 further directed by the commission or director. 16

"\$41-9-622.

17

"(a) The commission may obtain, compare, file,
 analyze, and disseminate, and all shall maintain criminal
 history files within the ACJIC information systems in
 accordance with federal regulations and this article. The
 files shall be compared, analyzed, and disseminated according
 to this article.

24 "(b) All state, county, and municipal criminal
 25 justice agencies are required to report shall submit to ACJIC
 26 all fingerprints, descriptions, photographs, and any other
 27 pertinent identifying and historical criminal data for

1 <u>inclusion in the criminal history files</u> on the following 2 persons:

"(1) Persons who have been or are hereafter arrested 3 4 or convicted in this state or any state for an offense which is a felony or an offense which is a misdemeanor or violation 5 of a municipal ordinance. escalating to a felony involving, 6 7 but not limited to: Possession of burglary tools or unlawful 8 entry; engaging in unlawful commercial gambling; dealing in 9 gambling; dealing in gambling devices; contributing to the delinquency of a child; robbery, larceny or dealing in stolen 10 11 property; possession of controlled substances and illegal 12 drugs, including marijuana; firearms; dangerous weapons; 13 explosives; pandering; prostitution; rape; sex offenses, where 14 minors or adults are victims; misrepresentation; fraud; and 15 worthless checks.

16 "(2) Persons who have been or are hereafter charged 17 with an act of delinquency or adjudicated a <u>delinquent or</u> 18 youthful offender in this state or any state for an act which 19 would constitute a felony or misdemeanor offense, as described 20 in subdivision (1), or any other offense as proscribed by 21 state or federal law if it had been committed by an adult.

"(3) Persons who have been or are hereafter arrested
 or convicted for any offense required for inclusion in the
 state criminal history file by federal law or regulation.
 "\$41-9-623.

26 "(a) All criminal justice agencies within the state
27 shall submit to the ACJIC, by forwarding to and the Alabama

1 Department of Public Safety, fingerprints, descriptions, 2 photographs, when specifically requested, and other identifying data on the following persons: 3 4 "(1) Persons who have been lawfully arrested in this state for all felonies and certain misdemeanors offenses 5 described in Section 41-9-622. 6 7 "(2) Persons who have been charged with an act of delinquency or adjudicated a youthful offender for conduct 8 which would constitute a felony or misdemeanor offense, as 9 10 described in subdivision (1), if committed by an adult. 11 "(b) All chiefs of police, sheriffs, prosecuting 12 attorneys, parole and probation officers, wardens, or other 13 persons in charge of correctional or detention institutions or 14 other criminal justice agencies in this state shall furnish the ACJIC with any other criminal justice data deemed 15 necessary by the commission to carry out its responsibilities 16 17 under this article. "(c) Any agency that maintains non-criminal justice 18 information may provide ACJIC access to its data for inclusion 19 in the ACJIC information systems that may be used for criminal 20 21 justice purposes. 22 "§41-9-630. 23 "(a) All persons in charge of criminal justice

25 identifying data required in accordance with guidelines 26 established by the ACJIC commission.

24

agencies in this state shall furnish the ACJIC with any other

1 "(b) All criminal justice agencies in this state
2 having criminal identification files shall cooperate in
3 providing to ACJIC information in such the files as will aid
4 in establishing the nucleus of the state criminal
5 identification file."

6 Section 2. Any governmental licensing entity within
7 the state may enact rules to require a background check
8 through ACJIC as part of its licensing requirements.

Section 3. (a) In order to facilitate the authorized 9 10 interstate exchange of criminal history information for noncriminal justice purposes, including, but not limited to, 11 12 background checks for the licensing and screening of employees and volunteers under the National Child Protection Act of 13 14 1993, as amended, and to implement the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact, 42 U.S.C. § 14616, the 15 Legislature approves and ratifies the compact. The director 16 17 shall execute the compact on behalf of the state.

(b) The center is the repository of criminal history
records for purposes of the compact and shall do all things
necessary or incidental to carrying out the compact.

(c) The director, or the director's designee, is the state's compact officer and shall administer the compact within the state. The commission may adopt rules and establish procedures for the cooperative exchange of criminal history records between the state and federal government for use in noncriminal justice cases. (d) The state's ratification of the compact remains
 in effect until legislation is enacted which specifically
 renounces the compact.

4 (e) This compact and this section do not affect or
5 abridge the obligations and responsibilities of the center
6 under other provisions of Article 23 of Chapter 9 of Title 41,
7 Code of Alabama 1975, and does not alter or amend the manner,
8 direct or otherwise, in which the public is afforded access to
9 criminal history records under state law.

10 Section 4. Although this bill would have as its 11 purpose or effect the requirement of a new or increased 12 expenditure of local funds, the bill is excluded from further 13 requirements and application under Amendment 621 because the 14 bill defines a new crime or amends the definition of an 15 existing crime.

16 Section 5. This act shall become effective on the 17 first day of the third month following its passage and 18 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.