

1 HB124
2 214687-3
3 By Representative Ledbetter
4 RFD: Education Policy
5 First Read: 13-JAN-22

8 SYNOPSIS: This bill would require that a student of a
9 public K-12 school who participates in an activity
10 or program sponsored by 4-H or the Future Farmers
11 of America (FFA) during school hours is credited as
12 present in class during the participation with
13 certain exceptions.

14 This bill would require a public K-12 school
15 to give a student the opportunity to make up school
16 work missed as a result of his or her attendance at
17 an activity or program sponsored by 4-H or FFA
18 during school hours.

19 This bill would also prohibit a public K-12
20 school from negatively impacting a student's grades
21 for lack of attendance or participation due to his
22 or her participation in an activity or program
23 sponsored by 4-H or FFA.

24
25 A BILL
26 TO BE ENTITLED
27 AN ACT

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2 Relating to public K-12 schools; to require a public
3 K-12 school to credit a student who participates in an
4 activity or program sponsored by 4-H or the Future Farmers of
5 America (FFA) during school hours as present in class during
6 the participation, with certain exceptions; to provide for
7 make-up of classwork for such a student; and to prohibit
8 adverse treatment of a student's grades due to participation
9 in 4-H or FFA events.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

11 Section 1. (a) Beginning in the 2023-2024 school
12 year, a student of a public K-12 school who participates in an
13 activity or program sponsored by 4-H or the Future Farmers of
14 America (FFA) during school hours shall be credited as present
15 in class by the school. A faculty member of a public K-12
16 school shall not count a student absent for participating in
17 any activity or program sponsored by 4-H or FFA. For the
18 purposes of this section, the term "school hours" means any
19 time during which a student is expected to be present for
20 classroom instruction or a related activity, and attendance of
21 students is taken.

22 (b) Upon request from a faculty member, or his or
23 her designee, of a public K-12 school, a 4-H or FFA agent
24 shall provide documentation as proof of a student's
25 participation in an activity or program sponsored by 4-H or
26 FFA, as applicable.

1 (c) A public K-12 school shall give a student the
2 opportunity to make up any school work missed while the
3 student was participating in an activity or program sponsored
4 by 4-H or FFA, and a student's grades shall not be adversely
5 impacted for lack of attendance or participation due to his or
6 her participation in an activity or program sponsored by 4-H
7 or FFA.

8 (d) Notwithstanding subsection (a), a faculty member
9 of a public K-12 school, or his or her designee, shall not
10 credit a student who participates in an activity or program
11 sponsored by 4-H or FFA as present in class if the student's
12 participation occurs during any period of time for which the
13 student has been suspended, expelled, or assigned to an
14 alternative school or alternative program if the student's
15 suspension, expulsion, or assignment to an alternative school
16 or alternative program would otherwise preclude the student
17 from participation.

18 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
19 first day of the third month following its passage and
20 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.