

1 HB138
2 208761-1
3 By Representative Brown (C)
4 RFD: State Government
5 First Read: 02-FEB-21
6 PFD: 01/26/2021

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, the Secretary of State
9 is required to provide 10 copies of all bills,
10 joint resolutions, and memorials upon the request
11 of either house of the Legislature and to bind all
12 bills, joint resolutions, and memorials upon the
13 adjournment of each session.

14 This bill would allow the Secretary of State
15 to provide digital copies of all bills,
16 resolutions, and memorials electronically to the
17 Legislature and would eliminate the binding
18 requirement.

19
20 A BILL
21 TO BE ENTITLED
22 AN ACT

23
24 Relating to the Secretary of State; to amend Section
25 36-14-1, Code of Alabama 1975, to allow the Secretary of State
26 to provide digital copies of all bills, resolutions, and

1 memorials electronically to the Legislature; and to eliminate
2 the binding requirement.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

4 Section 1. Section 36-14-1, Code of Alabama 1975, is
5 amended to read as follows:

6 "§36-14-1.

7 "It is the duty of the Secretary of State:

8 "(1) To keep the state seal, the original statutes
9 and public records of the state, and the records and papers
10 belonging to the Legislature, keeping the papers of each house
11 separate.

12 "(2) To attest commissions and all other public
13 documents from the executive of the state and, when necessary,
14 to affix the seal of the state thereto and to certify the same
15 in his or her official capacity.

16 "(3) To record, in books proper for that purpose,
17 all grants and patents issued by the state.

18 "(4) To keep all books, maps, and other papers
19 appertaining to the survey of lands belonging to the state and
20 the books and papers belonging to the land office.

21 "(5) To keep in his or her office the books, maps,
22 and field notes of the late surveyor general of the United
23 States for this state which are public archives of the state
24 and, upon application, to give certified copies of the same,
25 which shall be received in evidence in any of the courts of
26 this state.

1 "(6) On application and the payment of lawful fees,
2 to certify copies of all records, grants, papers, and laws of
3 the several states or of the United States.

4 "(7) To make annually, by September 30, a verified
5 and itemized account of all money and fees received in his or
6 her office and of all payments and disbursements made, which
7 must be reported to and filed with the Governor, and
8 transmitted to the next succeeding Legislature.

9 "(8) To give notice to the district attorneys of the
10 respective circuits or counties of all officers who fail to
11 file their bonds in his or her office or make returns of
12 elections within the time prescribed.

13 "(9) To procure the acts and resolutions of the
14 Legislature.

15 "(10) To ~~receive from the state printer 10~~
16 ~~additional~~ maintain electronically digital copies of all
17 bills, joint resolutions, and memorials ~~printed~~ by order of
18 either house of the Legislature ~~and, on the adjournment of~~
19 ~~each session of the Legislature, to have one of each of such~~
20 ~~copies bound together in a cheap form and file them and the~~
21 ~~copies not bound in his or her office.~~

22 "(11) On entering into the contract provided for in
23 Section 11-3-25, to furnish to the county commissions, from
24 the records now in his or her office, exact copies of the
25 field notes of the original surveys of all the lands in their
26 respective counties, which shall be books of proper size to be
27 supplied by such courts, at the close of which he or she shall

1 append his or her certificate as to the correctness thereof
2 under the Great Seal of the State.

3 "(12) To procure from the general land office in
4 Washington, D.C., complete lists of the entries of public
5 lands in Alabama, so as to be enabled to complete the Alabama
6 state tract books in his or her office to date, the expense
7 attending the procurement of which to be paid upon his or her
8 certificate to the Comptroller, or who shall draw a warrant on
9 the Treasurer.

10 "(13) To procure lists of entries of public lands in
11 this state annually, so as to comply with subdivision (14),
12 the expense to be paid as provided in subdivision (12).

13 "(14) To enter on the tract books, by October 1 of
14 each year, a list of all the lands (not already so entered)
15 sold by the United States, and to make out and furnish each
16 ~~probate judge~~ judge of probate, by January 1 of each year, a
17 register or statement showing all the lands so sold in the
18 county of ~~such~~ the judge and not embraced in any register or
19 statement previously furnished.

20 "(15) To file all deeds or leases ~~heretofore~~ given
21 or which may be ~~hereafter~~ given conveying real property to the
22 State of Alabama, or any of its departments, agencies,
23 commissions, boards, institutions, or public corporations
24 brought into existence by act of the Legislature, except tax
25 sales deeds, in the office of the Secretary of State. The
26 Secretary of State shall promptly record the deeds so filed in
27 his or her office by writing, typewriting, photostat, or by

1 electronic format and shall preserve the deeds as recorded in
2 a well-bound book if not stored in electronic format. The
3 Secretary of State shall be required to furnish a certified
4 copy of all deeds filed for record in his or her office to any
5 department, agency, commission, board, institution, or public
6 corporation created by act of the Legislature, when any such
7 department, agency, commission, board, institution, or public
8 corporation formed or created by act of the Legislature
9 desires a certified copy of such deed.

10 "(16) To perform such other duties as he or she is
11 or may be required by law to perform.

12 "(17) To implement a central filing system that
13 complies with regulations ~~promulgated~~ adopted by the Secretary
14 of the United States Department of Agriculture pertaining to
15 central filing of liens on farm products."

16 Section 2. This act shall become effective
17 immediately following its passage and approval by the
18 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.