

1 SB240  
2 182690-1  
3 By Senator Sanford  
4 RFD: Governmental Affairs  
5 First Read: 23-FEB-17

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, the Legislative Council  
9 consists of the Lieutenant Governor, 10 members of  
10 the Senate, and 10 members of the House of  
11 Representatives. A quorum of the Legislative  
12 Council is 12, a majority of the members of the  
13 council from each house. Actions of the Legislative  
14 Council are required to be approved by the same  
15 number.

16 This bill would provide that actions of the  
17 council require a majority of the members voting, a  
18 quorum being present.

19  
20 A BILL  
21 TO BE ENTITLED  
22 AN ACT

23  
24 To amend Section 29-6-3 of the Code of Alabama 1975,  
25 relating to the Legislative Council; to revise the voting  
26 requirement for actions of the council.

27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

1                   Section 1. Section 29-6-3 of the Code of Alabama  
2 1975, is amended to read as follows:

3                   "§29-6-3.

4                   "(a) Members of the Legislative Council, House  
5 Legislative Council, and Senate Legislative Council may  
6 participate in a meeting of the respective council by means of  
7 telephone conference, video conference, or similar  
8 communications equipment by means of which all persons  
9 participating in the meeting may hear each other at the same  
10 time and members of the public may simultaneously listen to  
11 the meeting. Participation by such means shall constitute  
12 presence in person at a meeting for all purposes.

13                   "~~(b) Any decision of the Legislative Council shall~~  
14 ~~be by a majority vote of the council members from the Senate~~  
15 ~~and a majority vote of the council members from the House of~~  
16 ~~Representatives.~~ A quorum of the Legislative Council is a  
17 majority of the members of the Legislative Council who are  
18 members of the Senate and a majority of the members of the  
19 Legislative Council who are members of the House of  
20 Representatives. Any decision of the Legislative Council shall  
21 be by a majority of those voting, a quorum being present.

22                   "(c) All decisions of the Legislative Council, the  
23 House Legislative Council, or the Senate Legislative Council,  
24 except those involving hiring, discipline, or termination of  
25 employees, shall be reduced to writing and shall be published  
26 on the website of the Legislature.

1           "(d) The Legislative Council, House Legislative  
2 Council, and Senate Legislative Council shall be subject to  
3 the Alabama Open Meetings Act, Chapter 25A (commencing with  
4 Section 36-25A-1), Title 36, except that a meeting may be  
5 called with the same notice requirements as a meeting of a  
6 committee of the House or Senate under the rules of the House  
7 or Senate.

8           "(e) The Legislative Council, House Legislative  
9 Council, and Senate Legislative Council may make use of the  
10 employees of the Legislative Department, including employees  
11 of the respective houses, as needed in carrying out their  
12 respective functions.

13           "(f) The Legislative Council shall conduct an  
14 orientation program for its members upon its formation and at  
15 the start of each quadrennium thereafter. The orientation  
16 shall cover all of the duties and responsibilities of  
17 membership on the council. The Legislative Council shall also  
18 provide an orientation to any member who serves on the council  
19 due to election or appointment within 60 days of the person  
20 joining the council. The Legislative Council shall utilize the  
21 Legislative Reference Service, Legislative Fiscal Office, and  
22 Alabama Law Institute to prepare materials for use at this  
23 orientation."

24           Section 2. This act shall become effective  
25 immediately following its passage and approval by the  
26 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.