

1 HB253  
2 172713-4  
3 By Representatives Nordgren, Shedd, Butler, Williams (JW),  
4 Sessions, Wilcox, Rich, Pettus, Whorton (R), South, Hanes,  
5 Wood, Tuggle, Millican, Johnson (R), Faust, Davis, Mooney and  
6 Greer  
7 RFD: Boards, Agencies and Commissions  
8 First Read: 17-FEB-16

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ENROLLED, An Act,

To create the Alabama Commission on Tick Borne Illness; to provide for the membership and duties of the commission; to provide that the commission would allocate funds appropriated to it to certain colleges and universities conducting research on tick borne illness; to authorize the commission to create criteria and an application process to allocate funds; and to provide that the commission would dissolve on September 30, 2021, unless continued by act of the Legislature.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. The Alabama Commission on Tick Borne Illness is created in order to coordinate research on the prevention of tick borne illness in the state.

Section 2. The commission shall be composed of the following members who shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority:

(1) One member with knowledge of the study and prevention of tick borne illness appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(2) One member with knowledge of the study and prevention of tick borne illness appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

1           (3) One member with knowledge of the study and  
2 prevention of tick borne illness appointed by the Governor.

3           (4) One member with knowledge of the study and  
4 prevention of tick borne illness appointed by the State Health  
5 Officer.

6           (5) One member appointed by the Chair of the House  
7 Education, Finance, and Appropriations Committee.

8           (6) One member appointed by Chair of the Finance and  
9 Taxation-Education Committee.

10           Section 3. (a) The goal of the commission is to  
11 coordinate research and distribute funding for research on the  
12 study of tick borne illness in Alabama and to make suggestions  
13 for the treatment of and reduction and eradication of tick  
14 borne illness in the state. Research may include methods of  
15 prevention, treatment, surveillance, diagnosis, risk  
16 prediction, outreach, and intervention of tick borne illness.  
17 The commission may not issue any recommendation that would  
18 create or define standards for the practice of medicine.

19           (b) Upon adjournment of the 2016 Regular Legislative  
20 Session, the commission shall schedule an initial meeting to  
21 organize and discuss a plan of action and create criteria and  
22 an application process for awarding research funds  
23 appropriated to the commission for such purposes, and the  
24 commission shall meet as necessary thereafter to achieve its  
25 goals.

1           (c) The commission shall report its findings and any  
2 proposed legislation to the Speaker of the House and President  
3 Pro Tempore of the Senate annually by the third day of the  
4 regular session of the Legislature.

5           (d) Upon request of the chair of the commission, the  
6 Secretary of the Senate and Clerk of the House of  
7 Representatives shall provide necessary clerical assistance  
8 for the work of the commission.

9           (e) Each legislative member of the commission shall  
10 be entitled to his or her regular legislative compensation,  
11 per diem, and travel expenses for each day he or she attends a  
12 meeting of the commission in accordance with Amendment 871 of  
13 the Constitution of Alabama of 1901. These payments shall be  
14 paid out of any funds appropriated to the use of the  
15 Legislature.

16           Section 4. (a) The commission shall allocate funds  
17 for research on tick borne illness in the state based on  
18 appropriations received by the commission from the Education  
19 Trust Fund.

20           (b) The commission shall award appropriated funds  
21 annually through a grant application process. Only research  
22 universities and research facilities may apply for grant  
23 moneys.

24           (c) In order to receive the funds before the first  
25 day of the fiscal year, the college or university requesting

1 or receiving money shall provide information regarding the  
2 method, scope, and significance of its research as a  
3 prerequisite to receiving the funds. The commission may  
4 withdraw future funding from any university not performing  
5 adequate research in the opinion of the commission.

6 Section 5. The commission shall dissolve on  
7 September 30, 2021, unless continued by act of the  
8 Legislature.

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

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in  
and was passed by the House 27-APR-16, as amended.

Jeff Woodard  
Clerk

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Senate	04-MAY-16	Passed
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