- 1 HB667
- 2 169322-4
- 3 By Representative Johnson (K)
- 4 RFD: County and Municipal Government
- 5 First Read: 14-MAY-15

1	<u>ENGROSSED</u>
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4	A BILL
5	TO BE ENTITLED
6	AN ACT
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8	To amend Section 28-2A-1, Code of Alabama 1975, as
9	amended by Act 2015-2 of the 2015 Regular Session, relating to
10	municipal option elections; to provide that a municipal
11	election held on the question of changing a classification
12	from dry to wet or wet to dry may not be held for at least
13	1,440 days following a prior municipal option election.
14	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:
15	Section 1. Section 28-2A-1, Code of Alabama 1975, as
16	amended by Act 2015-2 of the 2015 Regular Session, is amended
17	to read as follows:
18	"\$28-2A-1.
19	"(a) Any municipality having a population of 1,000
20	or more, may change its classification from dry to wet or wet
21	to dry by a municipal option election, in the following
22	manner.
23	"(b) Upon petition of 30 percent of the number of
24	voters voting in the last preceding general election of the
25	municipality being filed with the city or town clerk or
26	governing body of said municipality, said governing body must
27	call a municipal option election for said municipality to

determine the sentiment of the people as to whether or not alcoholic beverages can be legally sold or distributed in said municipality. Said petition for municipal option election shall contain the following: "It is petitioned that a municipal option election be held to permit the legal sale and distribution of alcoholic beverages within this municipality."

On the ballot to be used for such municipal option election, the question shall be in the following form: "Do you favor the legal sale and distribution of alcoholic beverages within this municipality? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_." Each subsequent municipal option election must follow the petition process as provided in this subsection with a new petition.

"(c) Said municipal option election shall be held and the officers appointed to hold same in the manner provided by law for holding other municipal elections and the returns thereof tabulated and the results certified as provided by law for such municipal elections. Said municipal option election shall be held at the time of the primary, general, county-wide, or municipal election next succeeding the date of the filing of said petition, provided, however, said election shall not be held within less than 30 days from the date of the filing of said petition. Notice of said municipal option election shall be given by the governing body of the municipality by publication at least three weeks before the date of election, in a newspaper in the municipality, or, if there be none, in a newspaper in the county, or, if there be neither, by posting such notice at the town or city hall,

apprising the voters of the municipality that a municipal option election shall be held to determine whether such municipality shall be wet or dry under this article. The cost of said municipal option election, including the cost of notice by publication, shall be paid out of the general fund of the municipality.

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"(d) Only qualified voters shall vote in said municipal option election. If a majority of the voters in said municipal option election vote "yes," said municipality shall be wet, and alcoholic beverages can be legally sold, distributed and consumed within the corporate limits of said municipality, and all of the provisions of this title, relating to alcoholic beverages in wet counties, including Chapters 3, 3A, 6, and 7, shall be immediately put into operation with respect to and effective within the corporate limits of said municipality. Said municipality shall remain wet until said municipality shall be in subsequent municipal option election held under this article changed to a dry municipality, notwithstanding the results of any subsequent county election or special method referendum. All other laws to the contrary notwithstanding, the electors residing within the corporate limits of any such municipality that has become wet pursuant to a municipal option election held under this article shall not be entitled to vote in any subsequent county election or special method referendum held to determine if the county in which such municipality is located shall become wet. The question of whether such county shall become wet shall be

decided by the electors of such county residing outside the corporate limits of such wet municipality as otherwise provided by law.

- "(e) If a majority of the voters voting in said municipal option election vote "no," said municipality shall be a dry municipality under the terms of this article until the county shall by subsequent election or special referendum, vote wet, or the municipality shall by a subsequent municipal option election held under this article, vote wet.
- "(f) Said municipal option election in said municipality may shall be held at the time of any primary, general, county-wide, or municipal election as determined by the county commission or the municipal governing body, as applicable, provided a period of not less than 720 1,440 days must elapse between the dates of such municipal option elections; provided further, that a county wet-dry election or special method referendum may be held at any time without regard to the lapse of time between the dates of any county option elections."

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

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3	House of Representatives
4 5 6 7	Read for the first time and re- ferred to the House of Representa- tives committee on County and Mu- nicipal Government
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9 10 11	Read for the second time and placed on the calendar 1 amendment
12 13	Read for the third time and passed as amended 28-MAY-15
14	Yeas 95, Nays 0, Abstains 2
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16 17 18	Jeff Woodard Clerk