

1 SB79
2 157102-1
3 By Senators Whatley, Ward and Reed
4 RFD: Education & Youth Affairs
5 First Read: 03-MAR-15

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, with certain
9 exceptions, the age of majority in this state is 19
10 years.

11 This bill would designate the age of
12 majority as 18 years for the purpose of giving
13 consent to participate in certain research
14 conducted by a college or university.

15
16 A BILL
17 TO BE ENTITLED
18 AN ACT

19
20 To amend Section 26-1-1, Code of Alabama 1975,
21 relating to the age of majority, to designate the age of
22 majority as 18 years for the purpose of giving consent to
23 participate in certain research conducted by a college or
24 university.

25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

26 Section 1. Section 26-1-1 of the Code of Alabama
27 1975, is amended to read as follows:

1 "§26-1-1.

2 "(a) Any person in this state, at the arrival at the
3 age of 19 years, shall be relieved of his or her disabilities
4 of minority and thereafter shall have the same legal rights
5 and abilities as persons over 21 years of age. No law of this
6 state shall discriminate for or against any person between and
7 including the ages of 19 and 21 years solely on the basis of
8 age.

9 "(b) This section shall also apply to any person who
10 arrived at the age of 19 and 20 years before July 22, 1975,
11 but shall not abrogate any defense or abridge any remedy
12 available to him or her prior to such date.

13 "(c) All laws or parts of laws which read "under the
14 age of 21 years" hereafter shall read "under the age of 19
15 years." Wherever the words "under the age of 21 years" appear
16 in any law limiting the legal rights and abilities of persons
17 under such age, such words shall be construed to mean under
18 the age of 19 years.

19 "(d) Notwithstanding ~~the provisions of~~ subsection
20 (c) ~~of this section~~, nothing in this section shall be deemed
21 to repeal any provision of Chapter 19 of Title 15 ~~of this~~
22 ~~code~~.

23 "(e) Notwithstanding ~~the provisions of~~ subsection
24 (a), an honorably discharged veteran who is under the age of
25 19 shall be permitted to enter into a contract for the
26 purchase of a motor vehicle.

1 "(f) Notwithstanding subsection (a), or any other
2 provision of law to the contrary, a person who is 18 years of
3 age or older may consent to participate in research conducted
4 by a college or university that is accredited by a federally
5 recognized accrediting agency if the research has been
6 approved by the Institutional Review Board of the
7 institution."

8 Section 2. This act shall become effective
9 immediately following its passage and approval by the
10 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.