- 1 HB546
- 2 150483-2
- 3 By Representative Merrill
- 4 RFD: State Government
- 5 First Read: 04-APR-13

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2	ENROLLED, An Act,
3	To amend Sections 38-9B-2, 38-9B-3, 38-9B-5,
4	38-9B-6, and 38-9B-7, Code of Alabama 1975, relating to the
5	Alabama Family Trust; to delete the definition of donor; to
6	provide further for the definition of contributor; and to add
7	the term settlor and provide for its definition.
8	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:
9	Section 1. Sections 38-9B-2, 38-9B-3, 38-9B-5,
10	38-9B-6, and 38-9B-7, Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to
11	read as follows:
12	"§38-9B-2.
13	"As used in this chapter, the following words shall
14	have the following meanings:
15	"(1) ALABAMA FAMILY CHARITABLE TRUST (AFT CHARITABLE
16	TRUST). The trust established by the board of trustees that
17	qualifies as a tax exempt charitable entity under the United
18	States Internal Revenue Code, to provide benefits for
19	individuals for whom no contribution to the any individual who
20	<u>does not have a sufficient amount in his or her</u> AFT Trust has
21	been made to meet the individual's needs.
22	"(2) ALABAMA FAMILY TRUST (AFT TRUST). The Alabama
23	Family Trust established pursuant to this chapter.
24	"(3) ALABAMA FAMILY TRUST CORPORATION (AFT
25	CORPORATION). An Alabama not-for-profit corporation

1	established by the board of trustees pursuant to this chapter
2	that qualifies as a tax exempt charitable organization under
3	the United States Internal Revenue Code.
4	"(4) BOARD OF TRUSTEES. The Alabama Family Trust
5	Board of Trustees established pursuant to this chapter.
6	"(5) COMMISSIONER. The Commissioner of the Alabama
7	Department of Mental Health.
8	"(6) CONTRIBUTION. The balance of all amounts placed
9	in a particular account but not including any appreciation in
10	value of investments or accretions thereto resulting from any
11	source, such as dividends, interest, and capital gains. In no
12	event shall contribution mean more than the total of all
13	contributions made to a particular account.
14	"(7) CONTRIBUTOR. Any person who makes a donation
15	directly to the AFT Corporation or the AFT Charitable Trust.
16	"(8) CO-TRUSTEE. Any person named by the donor
17	<u>settlor</u> to work with the board of trustees <u>trustee</u> in
18	providing benefits to a life beneficiary, except neither the
19	donor <u>a contributor</u> nor the donor's <u>a contributor's</u> spouse
20	shall be the co-trustee if the donor <u>contributor</u> or the
21	donor's contributor's spouse is the life beneficiary.
22	"(9) DEPARTMENT. The Alabama Department of Mental

24 "(10) DONOR. Any person who contributes assets to
 25 the AFT Trust to establish an account for a life beneficiary.

23 Health.

1	" (11) <u>(10)</u> IMPAIRMENT. A mental or physical					
2	disability that substantially limits one or more major life					
3	activities, whether the impairment is congenital or acquired					
4	by accident, injury, age, or disease, and where the impairment					
5	is verified by medical findings that meet the					
6	medical-vocational requirements for a finding of disability					
7	under Section 223(d) of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C.					
8	Section 423(d), or under Section 1614 of the Social Security					
9	Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 1382c.					
10	" (12) <u>(11)</u> LIFE BENEFICIARY. A beneficiary					
11	designated by a donor to the AFT Trust <u>settlor</u> .					
12	" (13) <u>(12)</u> NET INCOME. The earnings received on					
13	investments less expenses and fees for administration.					
14	" (14) <u>(13)</u> REQUESTING PARTY. The party requesting					
15	arbitration of a dispute regarding benefits to be provided by					
16	the AFT Trust.					
17	" (15) <u>(14)</u> RESPONDING PARTY. The party not					
18	requesting arbitration of a dispute regarding benefits to be					
19	provided by the AFT Trust.					
20	"(15) SETTLOR. A person who establishes an AFT Trust					
21	account for a life beneficiary.					
22	"(16) SUCCESSOR LIFE BENEFICIARY. A successor life					
23	beneficiary designated by the donor <u>settlor</u> to the AFT Trust,					
24	who is a legal sibling of the life beneficiary and who					

1	otherwise qualifies as a life beneficiary under the conditions
2	of this chapter.

3 "(17) SUCCESSOR TRUST. The trust established upon
4 distribution by the board of trustees pursuant to notice of
5 agreement of withdrawal or termination with a co-trustee and
6 administered as set forth in this chapter.

7 "(18) SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE. The trustee as designated
8 by the donor who shall administer the successor trust.

9 "(19) <u>(17)</u> TRUSTEE. A member of the <u>The</u> Alabama 10 Family Trust Board of Trustees <u>Corporation</u>.

"§38-9B-3.

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12 "(a) Donors Contributors may supplement the care, 13 support, habilitation, and treatment of impaired persons 14 pursuant to this chapter. Neither the contribution to the AFT 15 Trust for the benefit of a life beneficiary nor the use of AFT 16 Trust income assets to provide benefits shall in any way 17 reduce, impair, or diminish the benefits to which a person is 18 otherwise entitled by law. The establishment and administration of the AFT Trust shall not be taken into 19 consideration in appropriations for the department to render 20 services required by law. 21

"(b) The assets held by the board of trustees
<u>trustee</u> and assets held in the AFT Trust and the AFT
Charitable Trust pursuant to this chapter shall not be
considered state money, assets of the state, or revenue for

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any purpose of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, or statute or any other state's constitution or statute. The assets held by the board of trustees <u>trustee</u> and its income and operations shall be exempt from all state and local taxation.

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"§38-9B-5.

6 "(a) The board of trustees shall establish and 7 administer the AFT Corporation. The board of trustees shall 8 execute all documents necessary to establish and administer 9 the AFT Corporation including, but not limited to, documents 10 to form a not-for-profit corporation and to qualify as an 11 organization pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the United 12 States Internal Revenue Code.

13 "(b) The AFT Corporation shall establish the AFT 14 Trust and the AFT Charitable Trust, and the board of trustees 15 shall administer the AFT Trust and the AFT Charitable Trust through the AFT Corporation. The board of trustees and the AFT 16 17 Corporation shall take all steps necessary to satisfy all 18 federal and state laws to ensure that the AFT Trust and the 19 AFT Charitable Trust are qualified to supplement the provision 20 of government entitlement funding and, where necessary, are 21 qualified as tax exempt entities under the United States 22 Internal Revenue Code.

"(c) The documents establishing the AFT Trust shallinclude and be limited by the following:

"(1) To be eligible to participate in the AFT Trust,
 a life beneficiary must suffer from an impairment as defined
 in this chapter.

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"(2) The AFT Trust may accept contributions from any 4 5 source, so long as basic eligibility requirements are satisfied, to be held, administered, managed, invested, and 6 distributed in order to facilitate the coordination and 7 8 integration of private financing for individuals who have an impairment, while maintaining the eligibility of those 9 10 individuals for government entitlement funding. Contributions and earnings of the AFT Trust may be administered as one trust 11 12 for purposes of investment and management of funds. 13 Notwithstanding the foregoing, separate accounts shall be 14 established for each designated life beneficiary. The net 15 income earned shall be credited to the accounts of the life 16 beneficiaries in proportion to the fair market value that each 17 account has to the total fair market value of all accounts. 18 Administrative fees and administrative expenses may be charged 19 directly to an account of a life beneficiary, except that administrative fees shall not exceed the income allocated to 20 that account. 21

"(3) Every donor <u>settlor</u> shall designate a specific
 person as the life beneficiary of the contribution made by the
 donor <u>contributor</u>. In addition, each <u>donor settlor</u> shall name
 a co-trustee, including <u>the donor and</u> a successor or

1 successors to the co-trustee, to act with the trustees of the

2	AFT Trust <u>trustee</u> on behalf of the designated life
3	beneficiary. Notwithstanding the foregoing, <u>neither</u> a life
4	beneficiary $\overline{,}$ or his or her spouse $\overline{,}$ shall not be eligible to be
5	a co-trustee or a successor co-trustee.
6	"(4) If a donor <u>settlor</u> designates himself or
7	herself or his or her a contributor or the contributor's
8	spouse as the life beneficiary, then the account of the life
9	beneficiary shall, regardless of any other provision of this
10	chapter, meet the following additional conditions:
11	"(i) The AFT Trust shall be irrevocable.
12	"(ii) The amounts remaining in the life
13	beneficiary's account upon the death of the life beneficiary
14	shall be first dispersed to the AFT Corporation, as agent for
15	all purposes of the State of Alabama, as reimbursement for any
16	funds owed to the State of Alabama, or to any other state, the
17	District of Columbia or any other commonwealth, territory, or
18	jurisdiction of the United States for medical assistance paid
19	on behalf of the life beneficiary under the plan of the
20	respective jurisdiction, and the balance, if any, shall be
21	dispersed in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by
22	the AFT Corporation. All sums received by the AFT Corporation,
23	as agent for the State of Alabama, shall be distributed, as
24	appropriate, by the AFT Corporation.

"(iii) Neither the donor a contributor nor the 1 donor's contributor's spouse shall serve as co-trustee. 2 3 "(5) During his or her lifetime, any donor contributor or contributor's spouse who has not been 4 5 designated himself or herself or his or her spouse as the life beneficiary, may revoke any his or her contribution made to 6 the AFT Trust. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any donor 7 contributor may, at any time, voluntarily waive the right to 8 9 revoke by written notice. If at the time the donor revokes, by 10 written notice, the contribution to the AFT Trust and the life beneficiary has not received any benefits provided by the use 11 of the AFT Trust income or principal at the time the 12 13 contributor revokes the contribution to the AFT Trust, then an 14 amount equal to the current fair market value of the balance 15 of the life beneficiary's account in the AFT Trust as determined on the date of distribution shall be returned to 16 17 the donor contributor. If at the time a donor contributor 18 revokes the contribution to the AFT Trust and the life 19 beneficiary has received any benefit provided by the use of 20 trust income or principal, then an amount equal to 95 percent 21 of the current fair market value of the principal balance of 22 the life beneficiary account in the AFT Trust as determined on 23 the date of distribution shall be returned to the donor 24 contributor. The remaining balance of the life beneficiary 25 account shall be distributed to the AFT Charitable Trust.

"(6) The co-trustee, with the consent of the 1 2 trustee, annually shall agree on the amount of income or 3 principal, or both, to be used to provide non-cash benefits in 4 the best interest of of the nature and type of benefits to be 5 provided to the life beneficiary. Such permissible benefits shall include, but not be limited to, more sophisticated 6 dental, medical, and diagnostic work or treatment than is 7 otherwise available from public assistance, private 8 9 rehabilitative training, supplementary education aid, 10 entertainment, periodic vacations and outings, expenditures to foster the interests, talents, and hobbies of the life 11 12 beneficiary, and expenditures to purchase personal property 13 and services which will make life more comfortable and 14 enjoyable for the life beneficiary but which will not defeat 15 his or her eligibility for public assistance. Expenditures may 16 include payment of the funeral and burial costs of the life beneficiary. The trustee or co-trustee, in his or her 17 18 discretion, may make payments from time to time for a person 19 to accompany the life beneficiary on vacations and outings and 20 for the transportation of the life beneficiary or of friends 21 and relatives of the life beneficiary to visit the life 22 beneficiary. Expenditures shall not be made for the primary 23 support or maintenance of the life beneficiary, including 24 basic food, shelter, and clothing, if, as a result the life

25 beneficiary would no longer be eligible to receive public

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benefits or assistance to which the life beneficiary would otherwise be entitled. Any net income which is not used shall be added annually to the principal.

4 "(7) In the event that the trustees and the 5 co-trustee shall be unable to agree either on the amount of income or principal, or income and principal, to be used or 6 the benefits to be provided, then either the trustees or the 7 8 co-trustee may request that the matter be resolved by 9 arbitration. The requesting party shall send a written request 10 for arbitration to the responding party and shall in the request set forth the name, address, and telephone number of 11 the requesting party's arbitrator. The responding party shall, 12 13 within 10 days, after receipt of the request for arbitration, 14 set forth in writing to the requesting party the name, 15 address, and telephone number of the responding party's 16 arbitrator. Copies of the request for arbitration and response 17 shall be sent to the commissioner of the department. If the two designated arbitrators are unable to agree upon a third 18 arbitrator within 10 days after the responding party has 19 20 identified the responding party's arbitrator, then the 21 commissioner shall designate the third arbitrator by written 22 notice to the requesting and responding parties' arbitrators. 23 The three arbitrators shall meet and render a decision within 24 30 calendar days after the appointment of the third 25 arbitrator. A decision of a majority of the arbitrators shall

be binding upon the requesting and responding parties. Each party shall pay the fees and expenses of the party's arbitrator and the fees and expenses of the third arbitrator shall be borne equally by the parties.

5 "(8) Any acting co-trustee, other than the donor may, for good and sufficient reason upon written notice to the 6 trustees, revoke any contribution made to the AFT Trust and 7 8 direct withdrawal of all of the current fair market value of the balance of the life beneficiary's account in the AFT Trust 9 10 as determined on the date of distribution. In no event shall a co-trustee be entitled to direct withdrawal of only a portion 11 of the current fair market value of the life beneficiary's 12 13 account in the AFT Trust. In the event of withdrawal, the 14 applicable portion, determined as set forth below in 15 subdivision (10), of the current fair market value of the 16 balance of the life beneficiary's account in the AFT Trust, as determined on the date of distribution, shall be distributed 17 to the successor trust and the remaining balance of the life 18 19 beneficiary's account in the AFT Trust shall be distributed to the AFT Charitable Trust. 20

21 "(9) (8) If a life beneficiary for whose benefit a
22 contribution has been made to the AFT Trust ceases to be
23 eligible to participate in the AFT Trust, and neither the
24 donor nor the then acting co-trustee revokes contributor does
25 not revoke or withdraws withdraw the applicable balance of the

life beneficiary's account in the AFT Trust, then the board of 1 trustees trustee may, by written notice to the donor 2 3 contributor or acting co-trustee, terminate the AFT Trust as to such life beneficiary. Upon termination, the board of 4 5 trustees shall distribute the applicable portion, as set forth below, of such life beneficiary's account in the AFT Trust to 6 the successor trustee of the successor trust to be held, 7 8 administered, and distributed by the successor trustee in 9 accordance with the successor trust described in subdivision 10 (11) of this subsection.

"(10) (9) At the time of revocation and withdrawal 11 12 by the co-trustee pursuant to subdivision (8) of this 13 subsection or termination pursuant to subdivision (9) (8) of 14 this subsection of a life beneficiary's account from the AFT 15 Trust, if the life beneficiary has not received any benefits 16 provided by the use of AFT Trust income or principal, or the life beneficiary has received benefits provided by the use of 17 AFT Trust income or principal for a period of not more than 18 19 five years from the date a contribution has first been made to the AFT Trust for the life beneficiary, then an amount equal 20 to 95 percent of the current fair market value of the 21 22 principal balance of the life beneficiary's account in the AFT 23 Trust as determined on the date of distribution shall be 24 distributed to the account of the successor trust life 25 beneficiary, and the balance of the life beneficiary's account

in the AFT Trust shall be distributed to the AFT Charitable 1 2 Trust. At the time of withdrawal by the co-trustee or 3 termination as provided above, if the life beneficiary has received any benefits provided by the use of AFT Trust income 4 5 or principal for a period of more than five years from the date a contribution has first been made to an account in the 6 AFT Trust for the life beneficiary, then an amount equal to 90 7 8 percent of the current fair market value of the balance of the 9 life beneficiary's account in the AFT Trust as determined on 10 the date of distribution shall be distributed to the account of the successor trust life beneficiary, and the balance of 11 the life beneficiary's account in the AFT Trust shall be 12 13 distributed to the AFT Charitable Trust.

14 "(11) (10) If the life beneficiary dies before 15 receiving any benefits provided by the use of AFT Trust income 16 or principal, all amounts remaining in the account of such 17 life beneficiary shall be transferred to the account of a successor life beneficiary, if any. If there is no successor 18 19 life beneficiary, then an amount equal to the current fair 20 market value of the principal balance of the life 21 beneficiary's account in the AFT Trust, as determined on the 22 date of distribution less payment, if made by the AFT Trust, 23 of funeral and burial costs of the life beneficiary, shall be 24 distributed to the person or persons as the donor settlor has 25 designated. If at the time of death of the life beneficiary,

the life beneficiary has received benefits provided by the use 1 2 of AFT Trust income or principal, or both, then, after payment 3 of funeral and burial costs of the life beneficiary, all 4 amounts remaining in the account of such life beneficiary 5 shall be transferred to the account of a successor life beneficiary, if any. If there is no successor life 6 beneficiary, an amount equal to 90 percent of the current fair 7 8 market value of the balance of the life beneficiary's account 9 in the AFT Trust, as determined on the date of distribution, 10 shall be distributed to the person or persons as the donor settlor has designated, and the remaining balance of the life 11 beneficiary's account in the AFT Trust, shall be distributed 12 13 to the AFT Charitable Trust.

14 "(12) (11) Upon receipt of a notice of withdrawal 15 from a designated co-trustee, other than the donor, and a 16 determination by the board of trustees that the reason for the withdrawal is good and sufficient or upon the issuance of a 17 notice of termination by the board of trustees, the board of 18 19 trustees shall distribute and pay over to the successor 20 trustee of the successor trust the death of a life beneficiary 21 where there is a successor life beneficiary, the applicable 22 portion of the current fair market value of the life 23 beneficiary's account in the AFT Trust shall be transferred to 24 the account of the successor life beneficiary, and the 25 co-trustee for the successor life beneficiary, with the

1	consent of the trustee, shall agree on the amount of income or
2	principal, or both, to be used to provide non-cash benefits in
3	the best interest of the successor life beneficiary. After the
4	death of a life beneficiary, an amount equal to 90 percent of
5	the current fair market value of the balance of the successor
6	life beneficiary's account in the AFT Trust, as determined on
7	the date of distribution, shall be distributed to the person
8	or persons as the settlor has designated, and the remaining
9	balance of the successor life beneficiary's account in the AFT
10	<u>Trust shall be distributed to the AFT Charitable Trust. The</u>
11	successor trustee of the successor trust shall hold,
12	administer, and distribute the principal and income of the
13	successor trust, in the discretion of the successor trustee,
14	for the maintenance, support, health, education, and general
15	well-being of the life beneficiary, recognizing that it is the
16	purpose of the successor trust to supplement, not replace, any
17	government benefits for the life beneficiary's basic support
18	to which the life beneficiary may be entitled and to increase
19	the quality of the life beneficiary's life by providing him or
20	her with those amenities which cannot otherwise be provided by
21	public assistance or entitlements or other available sources.
22	Permissible expenditures include, but are not limited to, more
23	sophisticated dental, medical, and diagnostic work or
24	treatment than is otherwise available from public assistance,
25	private rehabilitative training, supplementary education aid,

1 entertainment, periodic vacations and outings, expenditures to foster the interests, talents, and hobbies of the life 2 beneficiary, and expenditures to purchase personal property 3 and services which will make life more comfortable and 4 5 enjoyable for the life beneficiary but which will not defeat his or her eligibility for public assistance. Expenditures may 6 include payment of the funeral and burial costs of the life 7 beneficiary. The successor trustee, in his or her discretion, 8 9 may make payments from time to time for a person to accompany 10 the life beneficiary on vacations and outings and for the transportation of the life beneficiary or of friends or 11 relatives of the life beneficiary to visit the life 12 13 beneficiary. Any undistributed income of the successor trust 14 shall be added to the principal from time to time. 15 Expenditures shall not be made for the primary support or 16 maintenance of the life beneficiary, including basic food, 17 shelter, and clothing, if, as a result, the life beneficiary would no longer be eligible to receive public benefits or 18 19 assistance to which the life beneficiary would otherwise be entitled. After the death and burial of the life beneficiary, 20 21 the remaining balance of the successor trust shall be 22 distributed to the person or persons as the donor has 23 designated.

24 "(d) The documents establishing the AFT Charitable25 Trust shall include and be limited to the following:

"(1) The AFT Charitable Trust shall be a charitable 1 trust under the United States Internal Revenue Code and shall 2 3 be administered as part of the AFT Trust, but as a separate account. The income attributable to the AFT Charitable Trust 4 shall be used to provide benefits for individuals who have an 5 impairment as determined by the department. The individuals to 6 be beneficiaries of the AFT Charitable Trust shall be 7 8 recommended to the board of trustees by the department for the benefit of beneficiaries of AFT individual trusts who have 9 10 needs that cannot be met from funds available to such life 11 beneficiaries from their AFT individual trusts. The board of trustees and the department shall agree determine annually on 12 13 the amount of AFT Charitable Trust income to be used to 14 provide benefits and the nature and type of benefits to be 15 provided through the department for each identified AFT life 16 beneficiary of the AFT Charitable Trust while maintaining 17 taking into account the individual's eligibility for government entitlement funding benefits. Any income of the AFT 18 19 Charitable Trust not used shall be added annually to the 20 principal.

"(2) The board of trustees shall accept contributions to the AFT Charitable Trust from any source and shall comply with all rules and regulations under the United States Internal Revenue Code that govern the acceptance of charitable contributions.

"§38-9B-6.

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"(a) No life beneficiary shall have any vested or 2 3 property rights or interests in the AFT Trust, nor shall any life beneficiary have the power to anticipate, assign, convey, 4 5 alienate, or otherwise encumber any interest in the income or principal of the AFT Trust nor shall the income or principal 6 be or any interest of any life beneficiary thereunder be 7 8 liable for any debt incurred by the life beneficiary, nor shall the principal or income of the AFT Trust Fund be subject 9 10 to seizure by any creditor of any life beneficiary under any writ or proceeding in law or in equity. 11

"(b) Except for the right of a donor other than a 12 13 donor or a donor's contributor who is not and whose spouse who 14 is not a life beneficiary $\overline{}$ to revoke any contribution made to 15 the AFT Trust, pursuant to subdivision (5) of subsection (c) 16 of Section 38-9B-5, and the right of any acting co-trustee, 17 other than the donor, to withdraw all or a portion of the contribution made to the account of a life beneficiary, 18 pursuant to subdivision (8) of subsection (c) of Section 19 20 38-9B-5, neither the donor settlor, contributor, nor any 21 acting co-trustee has the right to sell, assign, convey, 22 alienate, or otherwise encumber, for consideration or otherwise, any interest in the income or the principal of the 23 24 AFT Trust, nor shall the income or the principal or any 25 interest of any life beneficiary thereunder be liable for any

1	debt incurred by the donor <u>settlor, contributor,</u> or any acting
2	co-trustee, nor shall the principal or income of the AFT Trust
3	be subject to seizure by any creditor of any donor <u>settlor,</u>
4	contributor, or any acting co-trustee under any writ or
5	proceeding in law or in equity.
6	"§38-9B-7.
7	"No trustee , <u>or</u> co-trustee , or successor trustee

8 serving pursuant to the provisions of this chapter shall at 9 any time be liable for any mistake of law or fact, or of both 10 law and fact, or errors of judgment, or for any loss sustained 11 by the AFT Trust or AFT Charitable Trust, or by any life 12 beneficiary, or by any other person, except through actual 13 fraud or willful misconduct on the part of such trustee, or 14 co-trustee, or successor trustee."

15 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the 16 first day of the third month following its passage and 17 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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4		Speaker of the House of Representatives	
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6		President and Presiding Officer of the Sena	ate
7		House of Representatives	
8 9	and was pas	I hereby certify that the within Act originat used by the House 25-APR-13.	ed in
10 11 12 13		Jeff Woodard Clerk	
14			
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16	Senate	20-MAY-13	Passed
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