

1 SB228  
2 147525-2  
3 By Senator Reed  
4 RFD: Children, Youth Affairs, and Human Resources  
5 First Read: 19-FEB-13

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

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

14  
15 A BILL  
16 TO BE ENTITLED  
17 AN ACT

18  
19 To amend Section 26-1-1, Code of Alabama 1975, as  
20 amended by Act 2012-415, 2012 Regular Session (Acts 2012),  
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:

1           Section 1. Section 26-1-1 of the Code of Alabama  
2       1975, as amended by Act 2012-415, 2012 Regular Session (Acts  
3       2012), is amended to read as follows:

4           "§26-1-1.

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

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

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

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

26          "(e) Notwithstanding ~~the provisions of~~ subsection  
27      (a), an honorably discharged veteran who is under the age of

1 19 shall be permitted to enter into a contract for the  
2 purchase of a motor vehicle.

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

10 Section 2. This act shall become effective  
11 immediately upon its passage and approval by the Governor, or  
12 its otherwise becoming law.