

1 HB161  
2 136264-2  
3 By Representative Ison  
4 RFD: Public Safety and Homeland Security  
5 First Read: 07-FEB-12  
6 PFD: 02/06/2012

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ENROLLED, An Act,

Relating to the University of South Alabama; to authorize the president of the university to employ police officers; and to provide for the duties of those police officers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) The President of the University of South Alabama may appoint and employ suitable persons to serve as police officers to keep off intruders and prevent trespass upon and damage to the property and grounds of the university. Such persons shall be charged with all the duties and invested with all the powers of police officers. An officer may eject trespassers from university buildings and grounds owned, leased, or otherwise controlled by the university. An officer may arrest any person for any offense provided by law and shall transport the offender to the nearest district court or municipal court charged with the trial of such offense.

(b) The police officers provided for in this section shall cooperate with and, when requested, furnish assistance to the regularly constituted authorities of the Municipalities of Mobile and Fairhope, and their jurisdiction and authority shall be coextensive within the police jurisdictions of those municipalities.

1           (c) Any police officer appointed pursuant to this  
2 section or Section 16-22-1, Code of Alabama 1975, is a peace  
3 officer whose authority extends to any place in the state. The  
4 primary duty of the police officer shall be the enforcement of  
5 the law on property owned, leased, or otherwise controlled by  
6 the university. A police officer may not otherwise act as a  
7 peace officer in enforcing the law except:

8           (1) When in pursuit of any offender or suspected  
9 offender who is charged with the commission of a crime while  
10 on the premises of the institution.

11           (2) To make arrests otherwise lawfully for crimes  
12 committed, or for which there is probable cause to believe  
13 have been committed, within his or her presence or within the  
14 boundaries of property owned, leased, or otherwise controlled  
15 by the institution.

16           (d) The provisions of this section or Section  
17 16-22-1, Code of Alabama 1975, granting authority to a police  
18 officer at this institution of higher education, are not  
19 intended to limit or abridge any powers heretofore granted to  
20 police officers by law, and this section is to be considered  
21 cumulative.

22           (e) Nothing in this section shall grant authority to  
23 any person appointed under this section to enter a classroom  
24 for the purpose of enforcing traffic or parking citations.

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

