

1 HB208
2 135238-1
3 By Representative Coleman
4 RFD: Ways and Means Education
5 First Read: 07-FEB-12

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8 SYNOPSIS: Existing law does not limit the number of
9 students per teacher in kindergarten to twelfth
10 grade classrooms.

11 This bill would require that, beginning with
12 the 2017-2018 school year, class size limits be
13 maintained at 15 students per teacher for grades
14 kindergarten to third, inclusive, at 22 students
15 per teacher for grades four to eight, inclusive,
16 and at 25 students per teacher for grades nine to
17 12, inclusive. Such limits would be implemented on
18 a graduated basis beginning with the 2013-2014
19 fiscal year.

20 This bill would also provide that any costs
21 associated with satisfying the class size
22 limitations imposed by this bill would be the
23 responsibility of the state and not the local
24 school systems.

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26 A BILL
27 TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

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3 Relating to public education; to establish class
4 size limits in grades kindergarten to 12, inclusive, beginning
5 with the 2017-2018 school year, to be phased in beginning with
6 the 2013-2014 fiscal year; and to provide that any costs
7 associated with satisfying the limits be the responsibility of
8 the state.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

10 Section 1. (a) To assure that children attending
11 public schools obtain a high quality education, the
12 Legislature shall make adequate provision to ensure that, by
13 the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year, there are a
14 sufficient number of classrooms so that:

15 (1) The maximum number of students who are assigned
16 to each teacher who is teaching in public school classrooms
17 for prekindergarten to grade 3, inclusive, does not exceed 15
18 students.

19 (2) The maximum number of students who are assigned
20 to each teacher who is teaching in public school classrooms
21 for grades 4 to 8, inclusive, does not exceed 22 students.

22 (3) The maximum number of students who are assigned
23 to each teacher who is teaching in public school classrooms
24 for grades 9 to 12, inclusive, does not exceed 25 students.

25 (b) The class size requirements of this section do
26 not apply to extracurricular classes.

1 (c) Payment of the costs associated with reducing
2 class size to meet the requirements of this section is the
3 responsibility of the state and not of local school systems.
4 Beginning with the 2013-2014 fiscal year, the Legislature
5 shall provide sufficient funds to reduce the average number of
6 students in each classroom by at least two students per year
7 until the maximum number of students per classroom does not
8 exceed the requirements of this section.

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