- 1 HB774
- 2 142189-1
- 3 By Representative Mask
- 4 RFD: Judiciary
- 5 First Read: 01-MAY-12

1 142189-1:n:05/01/2012:FC/mfc LRS2012-2912

8 SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, a person commits criminally negligent homicide if the person causes the death of another person by criminal negligence. Criminally negligent homicide is a Class C felony if the homicide is caused by the driver of a motor vehicle while driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs in violation of Section 32-5A-191, Code of Alabama 1975.

Also, under Section 32-5A-191.3, Code of Alabama 1975, a person is guilty of operating a vessel and certain other marine devices under the influence of alcohol or drugs if the person operates the vessel or devices under conditions in which the person would be guilty of driving a motor vehicle under the influence. Also, under the Alabama Criminal Code, a "vehicle" is generally defined in subdivision (15) of Section 13A-1-2, Code of Alabama 1975, to include any propelled devices including any vessel.

1 This bill would provide that a person 2 commits criminal negligent homicide if the criminal negligent homicide is caused by the operator of any 3 vehicle while unlawfully driving or operating the vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs. 5 Under existing law, a person commits assault 6 7 in the first degree if the person causes serious bodily injury to another person with a motor 8 vehicle while driving under the influence of 9 10 alcohol or drugs in violation of Section 32-5A-191. This bill would provide that a person would 11 12 commit assault in the first degree if the person 13 causes serious physical injury to another person 14 while driving or operating any vehicle while under 15 the influence of alcohol or drugs. 16 17 A BILL

18 TO BE ENTITLED

19 AN ACT

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To amend Sections 13A-6-4 and 13A-6-20 of the Code of Alabama 1975, relating to the offense of criminally negligent homicide and assault in the first degree, respectively, and providing when the offenses are committed by persons unlawfully driving a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs; to provide that the offense may be

- 1 committed by a person while driving or operating any vehicle 2 while unlawfully under the influence of alcohol or drugs. BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA: 3 Section 1. Sections 13A-6-4 and 13A-6-20 of the Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows: 5 "\$13A-6-4. 6 7 "(a) A person commits the crime of criminally negligent homicide if he or she causes the death of another 8 person by criminal negligence. 9 10 "(b) The jury may consider statutes and ordinances regulating the actor's conduct in determining whether he the 11 12 actor is culpably negligent under subsection (a) of this 13 section. 14 "(c) Criminally negligent homicide is a Class A 15 misdemeanor, except in cases in which said the criminally negligent homicide is caused by the driver or operator of a 16 17 motor vehicle who is driving or operating the vehicle in violation of the provisions of Section 32-5A-191 or Section 18 32-5A-191.3; in such these cases criminally negligent homicide 19 is a Class C felony. 20 21 "\$13A-6-20. 22 "(a) A person commits the crime of assault in the 23 first degree if: 24 "(1) With intent to cause serious physical injury to
  - another person, he <u>or she</u> causes serious physical injury to any person by means of a deadly weapon or a dangerous instrument; or

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"(2) With intent to disfigure another person

seriously and permanently, or to destroy, amputate or disable

permanently a member or organ of his <u>or her</u> body, he <u>or she</u>

causes such an injury to any person; or

- "(3) Under circumstances manifesting extreme indifference to the value of human life, he or she recklessly engages in conduct which creates a grave risk of death to another person, and thereby causes serious physical injury to any person; or
- "(4) In the course of and in furtherance of the commission or attempted commission of arson in the first degree, burglary in the first or second degree, escape in the first degree, kidnapping in the first degree, rape in the first degree, robbery in any degree, sodomy in the first degree or any other felony clearly dangerous to human life, or of immediate flight therefrom, he or she causes a serious physical injury to another person; or
- "(5) While driving under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance or any combination thereof in violation of Section 32-5A-191 or Section 32-5A-191.3, he or she causes serious bodily physical injury to the person of another with a motor vehicle.
- "(b) Assault in the first degree is a Class B felony."
- Section 2. This act shall become effective on the first day of the third month following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.