

1 HB718  
2 139734-1  
3 By Representative Todd  
4 RFD: Boards, Agencies and Commissions  
5 First Read: 19-APR-12

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, the Alabama Commission  
9 to Reduce Poverty consists of 22 members.

10 This bill would add five more members to the  
11 commission.  
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13 A BILL  
14 TO BE ENTITLED  
15 AN ACT  
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17 To amend Section 29-2-250 of the Code of Alabama  
18 1975, relating to the Alabama Commission to Reduce Poverty, to  
19 further provide for membership.

20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

21 Section 1. Section 29-2-250 of the Code of Alabama  
22 1975, is amended to read as follows:

23 "§29-2-250.

24 "(a) There is created the Alabama Commission to  
25 Reduce Poverty. The commission shall consist of the chair and  
26 vice chair of the House Education Appropriations Committee or  
27 their designees; the chair and vice chair of the House

1 Government Appropriations Committee or their designees; the  
2 chair and vice chair of the Senate Finance and Taxation  
3 Education Committee or their designees; the chair and vice  
4 chair of the Senate Finance and Taxation General Fund  
5 Committee or their designees; three members of the House of  
6 Representatives appointed by the Speaker; three members of the  
7 Senate appointed by the Lieutenant Governor; one member  
8 appointed by the Alabama Poverty Project; one member appointed  
9 by Alabama Arise; one member appointed by Alabama Community  
10 Action Agencies; one member representing the faith community  
11 appointed by the Governor; one member appointed by the Low  
12 Income Housing Coalition; two individuals living in poverty  
13 appointed by the Governor; ~~and~~ one member appointed by VOICES,  
14 one member appointed by the Alabama Alliance to End  
15 Homelessness; one member appointed by the Business Council of  
16 Alabama; one member appointed by the American Association of  
17 Retired Persons (AARP); one member appointed by the Alabama  
18 Affiliate of Habitat for Humanity; and one member appointed by  
19 the Alabama Industrial Development of Training Institute  
20 (AIDT). The membership of the commission shall be inclusive  
21 and reflect the racial, gender, geographic, urban/rural, and  
22 economic diversity of the state. The commission shall hold its  
23 organizational meeting within 30 days after May 21, 2009. The  
24 commission shall meet at the call of the chair or any majority  
25 of members thereof; provided, that the commission shall meet  
26 at least once each four months. The commission may meet, act,  
27 and conduct its business during the sessions of the

1 Legislature or any recess thereof, and in the interim period  
2 between sessions.

3 "(b) The Secretary of the Senate, the Clerk of the  
4 House of Representatives, the Legislative Reference Service,  
5 the Legislative Fiscal Office, and the Examiners of Public  
6 Accounts shall provide any assistance as may be necessary at  
7 the commission's request. Each legislative member of the  
8 commission shall be entitled to his or her regular legislative  
9 compensation, his or her per diem, and travel expenses for  
10 each day he or she attends a meeting of the commission which  
11 shall be paid out of any funds appropriated for the use of the  
12 Legislature, upon warrants drawn on the state Comptroller upon  
13 requisitions signed by the commission's chair; provided,  
14 however, that members shall not receive additional legislative  
15 compensation or per diem when the Legislature is in session  
16 but they shall receive their travel expenses for all meetings  
17 attended. Nonlegislative members shall receive per diem and  
18 travel expenses in the same amount as state employees receive,  
19 which amounts shall be paid out of funds appropriated by the  
20 Legislature for such use.

21 "(c) The commission shall study and evaluate the  
22 following policies and programs of the State of Alabama:

23 "(1) State supported programs that serve those  
24 living in poverty.

25 "(2) The economic impact of poverty.

26 "(3) Current policies and services that affect those  
27 living in poverty.

1                   "(4) Recommendations and proposed legislation  
2                   affecting individuals in poverty.

3                   "(d) The commission shall make an annual report to  
4                   members of the Legislature no later than the seventh  
5                   legislative day of each regular session detailing any and all  
6                   recommendations.

7                   "(e) The amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000)  
8                   shall be the total amount that may be expended by the  
9                   commission in any one year."

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