



**House State Government Reported Substitute for  
HB372**

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A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

Relating to the Legislature; to amend Section 29-1-4,  
29-1-19.1, 29-2-41, 29-2-41.2, 29-2-80, 29-2-81, 29-2-83,  
29-2-201, 29-4-70, 29-5A-22, 29-5A-46, 29-6-1, 29-6-2, 29-6-3,  
29-6-7, 41-5A-16, 41-9-370, and 41-9-374, Code of Alabama  
1975, to provide further for the date the Legislature convenes  
during the first year of a regular session; to provide  
additional time for the Contract Review Committee to review a  
contract and provide further for certain types of professional  
contracts; to provide further for property owned by the  
Legislative Council; to provide contingencies if a vacancy  
occurs in the Office of the Lieutenant Governor; to provide  
further for the role of the Code Commissioner and duties of  
the Legislative Council and Legislative Services Agency; to  
revise membership of the Joint Legislative Committee on  
Finances and Budgets; to provide further for tax expenditure  
reports made by the Legislative Fiscal Officer; to revise when  
members of the Legislative Committee on Public Accounts are  
elected; to repeal 29-5A-24 and 29-6-6, Code of Alabama 1975,  
relating to obsolete duties of the Legislative Reference  
Service and the Legislative Council; to add Section 29-4-62 to



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29 the Code of Alabama 1975, to provide further for the term of  
30 the Speaker of the House of Representatives and any vacancy in  
31 the office of the Speaker; to repeal Sections 17-16-50 through  
32 17-16-53, Code of Alabama 1975, relating to the contested  
33 election of a legislator; and to delete obsolete language and  
34 make nonsubstantive, technical revisions to update the  
35 existing code language to current style.

36 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

37 Section 1. Sections 29-1-4, 29-1-19.1, 29-2-41,  
38 29-2-41.2, 29-2-80, 29-2-81, 29-2-83, 29-2-201, 29-4-70,  
39 29-5A-22, 29-5A-46, 29-6-1, 29-6-2, 29-6-3, 29-6-7, 41-5A-16,  
40 41-9-370, and 41-9-374, Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to  
41 read as follows:

42 "§29-1-4

43 The Legislature shall convene in organizational session  
44 on the second Tuesday in January ~~next succeeding~~following its  
45 election ~~in organizational session~~ and shall remain in session  
46 for not longer than 10 consecutive calendar days. Commencing  
47 in the year 1999, the annual regular sessions of the Alabama  
48 Legislature shall commence on the first Tuesday ~~in March of~~  
49 ~~the first year of the term of office of the legislators, on~~  
50 ~~the first Tuesday~~ of February of the first, second, and third  
51 years of the term and on the second Tuesday in January of the  
52 fourth year of the term. The annual sessions shall not  
53 continue longer than 30 legislative days and 105 calendar  
54 days."

55 "§29-1-19.1

56 The Legislature of the State of Alabama is hereby



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57 authorized to control the usage of a certain portion of those  
58 streets adjacent to the State Capitol complex in the City of  
59 Montgomery and the grounds of the State Capitol building, viz:  
60 That portion of King Street and Pelham Street, lying between  
61 Union and Ripley Streets, (over which the city has  
62 relinquished control), and the parking lot located across  
63 Union Street to the rear of the Capitol building between the  
64 administrative building and highway building and bounded by  
65 ~~the Streets of Union, Ripley, Pelham~~ and King Streets and  
66 McDowell Lee Lane; and the parking facilities connected to and  
67 adjacent to the former Highway Department Building and now  
68 designated "the Alabama State House"; and all of that lot  
69 bounded by Washington, Jackson, and Ripley and ~~Pelham~~ Streets  
70 and McDowell Lee Lane owned by the State of Alabama; and the  
71 driveway and parking spaces on the grounds surrounding the  
72 Capitol itself; all the aforesaid being exclusive of any  
73 right-of-way or rights-of-way or parking facilities now  
74 controlled by the City of Montgomery. The Legislature shall be  
75 authorized to exercise control over the usage of the said  
76 areas through the joint parking committee created by Act No.  
77 8, Organizational Session 1975, or its successor, or by  
78 subsequent legislative action; and the chief of services of  
79 the division of services shall work in cooperation with the  
80 Legislature regarding any action taken by the Legislature as  
81 hereby authorized."

82 "§29-2-41

83 (a) Each member of the committee shall be entitled to  
84 regular legislative compensation, per diem, and travel



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85 expenses for each day he or she attends a meeting of the  
86 committee, which shall be paid out of the funds appropriated  
87 to the use of the Legislature, on warrants drawn on the state  
88 Comptroller upon requisition signed by the committee's chair.  
89 Members shall not receive additional compensation or per diem  
90 when the Legislature is in session. The Department of  
91 Examiners of Public Accounts shall furnish assistance and any  
92 relevant information to the committee.

93 (b) (1) The committee shall have the responsibility of  
94 reviewing contracts for personal or professional services with  
95 private entities or individuals to be paid out of appropriated  
96 funds, federal or state, on a state warrant issued as  
97 recompense for those services.

98 (2) Each state department entering into a contract to  
99 be paid out of appropriated funds, federal or state, on a  
100 state warrant which is notified by the committee, ~~is required~~  
101 ~~to~~ shall submit to the committee any proposed contract for  
102 personal or professional services. Each contract shall be  
103 accompanied by an itemization of the total cost estimate of  
104 the contract. ~~The~~

105 (c) A department may, in lieu of the proposed contract,  
106 submit to the committee a letter of intent to contract. ~~Such~~ A  
107 letter of intent to contract shall indicate the contracting  
108 parties, the services to be performed, an itemization of the  
109 total cost estimate of the contract, and such other  
110 information as the department may deem pertinent to the  
111 committee review of the contract. If a department elects to  
112 submit a letter of intent to contract in lieu of a proposed



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113 contract, the department shall be required to submit to the  
114 committee for its information the contract described in the  
115 letter of intent upon the execution of the contract.

116 (d) The committee shall hold a hearing to review and  
117 comment where necessary on any ~~such~~ contract or letter of  
118 intent to contract within a reasonable time not to exceed 45  
119 days after ~~the a~~ department has submitted the contract or  
120 letter of intent to contract to the committee. If the  
121 committee fails to hold a hearing to review a contract or  
122 letter of intent to contract within the 45-day time period,  
123 the contract shall be deemed to have been reviewed in  
124 compliance with this section. The committee, may hold a  
125 contract considered at a meeting for up to 45 days following  
126 the meeting to review and comment on the contract.

127 (e) Any contract made by the state or any of its  
128 agencies or departments in violation of this section and  
129 without prior review by the committee of either the contract  
130 or the letter of intent to contract shall be void ab initio.  
131 ~~If the committee fails to review and comment upon any contract~~  
132 ~~or letter of intent to contract within the aforementioned~~  
133 ~~45-day time period, such contract shall be deemed to have been~~  
134 ~~reviewed in compliance with this section.~~

135 ~~Should the department elect to submit a letter of~~  
136 ~~intent to contract in lieu of a proposed contract, as~~  
137 ~~authorized in the preceding paragraph, the department shall be~~  
138 ~~required to submit to the committee for its information the~~  
139 ~~contract described in the letter of intent upon the execution~~  
140 ~~of the contract.~~



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141 (f) The committee shall have the power to issue  
142 subpoenas for any witnesses and to require the production of  
143 any documents or contracts ~~it feels it needs~~ the committee  
144 deems necessary to examine ~~in the to~~ conduct ~~of~~ its duties.

145 (g) The committee shall organize itself at the first  
146 meeting following a new quadrennium and elect from among its  
147 membership a chair and a vice-chair. Any committee member  
148 reelected to a new quadrennium shall continue to serve on the  
149 committee until such time the committee reorganizes itself.

150 (h) The committee shall hold regular meetings at least  
151 once each month, the regular meetings to be held during the  
152 first week of each month."

153 "§29-2-41.2

154 (a) For the purposes of this article the term personal  
155 and professional services specifically includes independent  
156 contractor agreements as well as individual employment  
157 agreements.

158 (b) (1) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this  
159 article, all contracts for employment of an attorney to  
160 provide legal services, including contracts involving an  
161 attorney providing legal services under an agreement with the  
162 Attorney General, shall be reviewed by the committee.

163 Contracts for professional services executed by the Attorney  
164 General in preparation for or during litigation may be  
165 redacted until the conclusion of the litigation, if necessary  
166 to protect from disclosure information that may lead to the  
167 harassment of the contractor. ~~Provided, however, contracts~~  
168 Contracts for appointment of attorneys for the Department of



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169 Transportation for right of way condemnation cases are exempt  
170 from the provisions of this article.

171 (2) The review by the committee of a contract for the  
172 appointment of an attorney includes the retention of essential  
173 expert witnesses or additional professional services paid for  
174 by the attorney, so long as the cost of these services does  
175 not exceed the amount of the approved contract."

176 "§29-2-80

177 There is ~~hereby~~ created a Permanent Joint Legislative  
178 Committee on Finances and Budgets. The committee shall meet  
179 ~~during the interim periods between the regular sessions of the~~  
180 ~~Legislature~~ at the call of the chair. It shall be the duty of  
181 the committee to make a careful investigation and study of the  
182 financial condition of the state, hold budget hearings,  
183 inquire into ways and means of financing state government and  
184 its programs, and report its findings and recommendations as  
185 herein provided. The Secretary of the Senate, the Clerk of the  
186 House of Representatives and the ~~Director of the~~ Legislative  
187 Fiscal ~~Office~~ Officer shall provide the committee with such  
188 clerical and expert assistance from among their respective  
189 staffs as may be necessary. All departments, boards, bureaus,  
190 commissions, agencies, offices and institutions of the state  
191 shall and are hereby directed to cooperate fully with the  
192 committee and its staff and shall furnish any and all  
193 information that may be requested by the committee or its  
194 staff."

195 "§29-2-81

196 The committee shall be composed of the Lieutenant



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197 Governor, the members of the Senate Committee on Finance and  
198 Taxation Education, the members of the Senate Committee on  
199 Finance and Taxation General Fund, and such other members of  
200 the Senate as appointed by the Lieutenant Governor. The  
201 committee shall further be composed of the Speaker of the  
202 House of Representatives, the members of the House Committee  
203 on Ways and Means Education, the members of the House  
204 Committee on Ways and Means General Fund, and such other  
205 members of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the  
206 Speaker of the House; ~~provided, however, that the total~~  
207 ~~committee membership from the House of Representatives shall~~  
208 ~~not exceed 36 members~~. The ~~Chairman~~ Chairs of the Senate  
209 ~~Committee~~ Committees on Finance and Taxation and the ~~Chairman~~  
210 Chairs of the House Ways and Means ~~Committee~~ Committees shall  
211 be ~~co-chairmen~~ joint chairs. The ~~said co-chairmen~~ chairs shall  
212 each appoint one vice ~~co-chairman~~ chair and shall set the  
213 schedule and program for committee work. The ~~said~~  
214 ~~co-chairmen~~ chairs shall fix the days and hours of meetings and  
215 conduct hearings and examine witnesses who appear before the  
216 committee. Each ~~co-chairman~~ chair may appoint ~~sub-committees~~  
217 subcommittees and invest them with such authority as may be  
218 deemed necessary to conduct the committee's business and  
219 expedite its work. Members appointed to any ~~sub-committee~~  
220 subcommittee shall each be entitled to, and shall receive  
221 compensation as is provided for below for members of the  
222 Permanent Joint Legislative Committee on Finances and Budgets  
223 for each day ~~said the~~ members attend a ~~sub-committee~~  
224 subcommittee meeting that is not also a meeting day of the



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225 committee. ~~Said sub-committee~~ The subcommittee members shall  
226 not be paid for more than 30 additional calendar days in any  
227 single calendar year for work of ~~said sub-committee~~ the  
228 subcommittee."

229 "§29-2-83

230 The committee shall report its findings and  
231 recommendations to the Legislature at such times deemed  
232 appropriate by the chairs, but no later than the seventh  
233 legislative day of each regular session."

234 "§29-2-201

235 (a) (1) For purposes of this article, State House  
236 property means the real property bordered by Union Street,  
237 McDowell Lee Lane, Ripley Street, and Washington Avenue and  
238 the ~~building, parking deck,~~ and improvements located thereon,   
239 the lot bounded by Washington Avenue, Jackson Street, Ripley  
240 Street, and Pelham Street owned by the State of Alabama, and  
241 the parking lot located across Union Street to the rear of the  
242 Capitol building between the administrative building and  
243 highway building and bounded by Union, Ripley, and King  
244 Streets and McDowell Lee Lane, and any improvements thereon.

245 (2) The Alabama Building Renovation Finance Authority,  
246 hereafter referred to as ABRFA, created pursuant to Article 14  
247 (commencing with Section 41-10-450) of Chapter 10 of Title 41,  
248 shall execute and deliver on June 14, 2007, an appropriate  
249 deed or deeds and accompanying documents conveying State House  
250 property in fee simple absolute to the Legislative Building  
251 Authority.

252 (3) Upon delivery of the deed and documents, the



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253 Legislative Building Authority shall be invested with all  
254 rights and title to the State House property.

255 (4) The consideration for the conveyance shall be the  
256 amounts appropriated in Section 29-2-202. This consideration  
257 is conclusively determined to be valuable, adequate, and fair.

258 (b) The right of reverter created in Section 41-10-470,  
259 in relation to the land upon which the Alabama State House is  
260 situated is abolished on the date of the conveyance.

261 (c) Any statutory lien created under Section 41-10-472,  
262 in relation to the land upon which the Alabama State House is  
263 situated is abolished on the date of the conveyance.

264 (d) The Legislative Building Authority shall be vested  
265 with absolute title and control of the State House property.

266 (e) Commencing October 1, 2015, absolute title and  
267 control of the State House property shall transfer to the  
268 Legislative Council by operation of law.

269 (f) The Department of Finance, not more than three  
270 months after the effective date adding this amendatory  
271 language, shall execute and deliver an appropriate deed or  
272 deeds and accompanying documents conveying the lot bounded by  
273 by Washington, Jackson, Ripley, and Pelham Streets and the  
274 parking lot located across Union Street to the rear of the  
275 Capitol building between the administrative building and  
276 highway building and bounded by Union, Ripley, and King  
277 Streets and McDowell Lee Lane, in fee simple absolute to the  
278 Legislative Council."

279 "§29-4-70

280 (a) If the senator who is serving as the President Pro



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281 Tempore of the Senate on the date of the general election at  
282 which members of the Senate are elected to four-year terms is  
283 reelected to the Senate, the senator shall continue to serve  
284 as President Pro Tempore of the Senate until a successor  
285 President Pro Tempore is selected pursuant to Section 48.01 ~~of~~  
286 ~~the Official Recompilation~~ of the Constitution of Alabama of  
287 ~~1901, as amended~~2022.

288 (b) If the senator serving as the President Pro Tempore  
289 of the Senate ceases service as a ~~Senator~~senator for any  
290 reason prior to election of a President Pro Tempore pursuant  
291 to Section 48.01 ~~of the Official Recompilation~~ of the  
292 Constitution of Alabama of ~~1901, as amended~~2022, then, with  
293 the approval of the Senate Legislative Council, the Secretary  
294 of the Senate shall perform the functions of the President Pro  
295 Tempore with respect to the expenditure of funds appropriated  
296 to the office of the President Pro Tempore until a successor  
297 President Pro Tempore is elected pursuant to Section 48.01 ~~of~~  
298 ~~the Official Recompilation~~ of the Constitution of Alabama of  
299 ~~1901, as amended~~2022.

300 (c) If a vacancy occurs in the office of the Lieutenant  
301 Governor for any reason, the President Pro Tempore of the  
302 Senate shall assume the budget, personnel, and any other  
303 statutory duties of the office of the Lieutenant Governor for  
304 the remainder of the term of office."

305 "§29-5A-22

306 (a) In compiling the contents of the ~~code~~Code of  
307 Alabama 1975, and any cumulative supplement and replacement  
308 volume to the code, the Legal Division and the Code



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309 Commissioner may not alter the sense, meaning, or effect of  
310 any act. The Legal Division and Code Commissioner, in  
311 compiling the contents of the code and any supplement and  
312 replacement volume to the code, may perform all of the  
313 following editorial functions:

314 (1) Change the wording of descriptive headings and  
315 catchlines.

316 (2) Change hierarchy units as specified in an act to  
317 appropriate code hierarchy.

318 (3) Change reference numbers to conform with renumbered  
319 hierarchy units, or make corrections in reference numbers if  
320 the correction can be made without substantive change in the  
321 law.

322 (4) Substitute the proper hierarchy unit for the terms  
323 "this act," "the preceding section," and the like.

324 (5) Remove language that is surplusage, including "of  
325 the Code of Alabama 1975," "of this section," and the like  
326 when such language follows a designated hierarchy unit.

327 (6) Substitute "this title," "this chapter," or other  
328 hierarchy designation in place of reference to the specific  
329 unit, if the reference is within that unit.

330 (7) Translate dates to the appropriate month, day, and  
331 year.

332 (8) Change words when directed by law.

333 (9) Substitute the name of any agency, officer, or  
334 instrumentality of the state or of a political subdivision  
335 whose name is changed by law or to which powers, duties, and  
336 responsibilities have been transferred by law, for the name



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337 which the agency, officer, or instrumentality previously used  
338 or of the agency which was previously vested with the same  
339 powers and charged with the same duties and responsibilities.

340 (10) Divide, consolidate, and rearrange hierarchy units  
341 and parts of hierarchy units.

342 (11) If any section or part of a section of the Code of  
343 Alabama 1975, is amended by more than one act at the same  
344 session of the Legislature, incorporate into one or more code  
345 sections the section as amended or altered by the several  
346 acts, if each of the amendments, changes, or alterations are  
347 not in substantive conflict and can be given effect and  
348 incorporated in the code section or code sections in a manner  
349 which will make the code section or code sections  
350 intelligible.

351 (12) Resolve nonsubstantive conflicts between multiple  
352 acts.

353 (13) Change capitalization, spelling, and punctuation  
354 for the purpose of uniformity and consistency.

355 (14) Correct manifest grammatical, clerical, and  
356 typographical errors, including, but not limited to, by means  
357 of the addition or deletion of language.

358 (15) Revise language in a nonsubstantive manner for  
359 clarity, consistency, or to conform to drafting style.

360 (16) Correct obsolete citations to the Constitution of  
361 Alabama of 1901 to correctly cite the Constitution of Alabama  
362 of 2022.

363 (17) Exclude any nonsubstantive legislative findings,  
364 provided the findings shall be noted as a code commissioner



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365 [note.](#)

366 (b) (1) Upon the adoption and incorporation of the  
367 annual cumulative supplement and each replacement volume into  
368 the Code of Alabama [1975](#), by statute, that supplement or  
369 replacement volume shall be considered as part of the entire  
370 Code of Alabama [1975](#), and shall be considered for statutory  
371 construction purposes in the same manner as all other portions  
372 of the code.

373 (2) This adoption and incorporation by statute shall  
374 constitute a continuous systematic codification of the entire  
375 Code of Alabama 1975, for purposes of Section 85 of the  
376 Constitution of Alabama of ~~1901~~[2022](#). Such a statute is a law  
377 that adopts a code for the purposes of Section 45 of the  
378 Constitution of Alabama of ~~1901~~[2022](#).

379 (c) The Legislature finds and declares that this  
380 section is declaratory of, and does not constitute a change  
381 in, the law existing since the amendment of Section 29-7-6 by  
382 Act 93-618 of the 1993 Regular Session designating the  
383 Director of the Legislative Reference Service as the Code  
384 Commissioner."

385 "§29-5A-46

386 (a) ~~The~~ [Beginning in 2024, the](#) Fiscal Division shall  
387 prepare and submit ~~an annual~~ [a](#) report [every other year](#) to the  
388 Legislature which lists all state tax expenditures and the  
389 estimated cost associated with each of the tax expenditures.  
390 For purposes of this section, tax expenditures means those  
391 state revenue losses attributable to the provisions of the  
392 constitution, state tax statutes, or rules ~~promulgated~~ [adopted](#)



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393 pursuant to the statutes, which allow a special exclusion,  
394 exemption, or deduction, or which provide a special credit or  
395 preferential tax rate. The report shall be organized according  
396 to the funds into which the tax expenditures would be  
397 dedicated but for the exemptions and rate differentials. The  
398 report shall be submitted at the same time that the Governor  
399 is required to submit his or her budget proposal to the  
400 Legislature.

401 (b) The ~~annual~~ biennial tax expenditure report shall  
402 include the following:

403 (1) Each tax exemption and its constitutional and/or  
404 statutory citation.

405 (2) An estimate of the revenue loss to the state caused  
406 by each of the tax expenditures for the most recently  
407 completed fiscal year.

408 (c) The Fiscal Division ~~is authorized to~~ may request  
409 and receive from the Department of Revenue or any other state  
410 or local agency or official any information necessary to  
411 complete the report required by this section. Such information  
412 shall be subject to the confidentiality and disclosure  
413 provisions of Section 40-2A-10; however, these provisions  
414 shall not prevent the aggregation and disclosure of any  
415 information necessary to transparently complete the report  
416 required by this section. In the event that lack of  
417 information prevents the Fiscal Division from making a  
418 reasonable estimate for any tax expenditure, the division  
419 shall list the expenditure with a notation that an estimate  
420 cannot be determined.



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421 (d) The House Ways and Means Education Committee and  
422 the Senate Committee on Finance and Taxation - Education shall  
423 conduct joint hearings on the tax expenditure report ~~every~~  
424 ~~even-numbered year to be concluded by the tenth legislative~~  
425 ~~day of the regular session of the Legislature~~ periodically at  
426 the call of the chairs. From time to time, the committees may  
427 report to the Legislature findings or recommendations  
428 developed as a result of the hearings.

429 (e) This section does not apply to any incentives or  
430 other matters which are included in the report required by  
431 Section 40-18-379."

432 "§29-6-1

433 (a) There is ~~hereby~~ created a continuing legislative  
434 committee to be known as the Legislative Council of the State  
435 of Alabama. The council consists of the Speaker of the House  
436 of Representatives, the House Majority Leader, the House  
437 Minority Leader, the Chairs of the Ways and Means General Fund  
438 and Ways and Means Education Committees, two members of the  
439 House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker, two members  
440 of the House of Representatives elected by the House of  
441 Representatives, and one member of the House of  
442 Representatives elected by members of the House of  
443 Representatives who are not members of the majority party, who  
444 shall constitute the House Legislative Council, and the  
445 President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Senate Majority  
446 Leader, the Senate Minority Leader, the Chairs of the Finance  
447 and Taxation General Fund and Finance and Taxation Education  
448 Committees, two Senators appointed by the President Pro



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449 Tempore, two members of the Senate elected by the Senate, and  
450 one member of the Senate elected by members of the Senate who  
451 are not members of the majority party, who shall constitute  
452 the Senate Legislative Council. ~~Until January 14, 2019, the~~  
453 ~~President of the Senate is a full voting member of the Senate~~  
454 ~~Legislative Council. Except as otherwise provided in~~  
455 ~~subsection (d), the~~ The elected House and Senate members shall  
456 be elected at the ~~first regular~~ organizational session of each  
457 quadrennium.

458 ~~(b) Members serving ex officio, appointed, or elected~~  
459 ~~at the 2015 Regular Session pursuant to Act 2015-408 or~~  
460 ~~appointed as otherwise provided in subsection (d), shall~~  
461 ~~replace the members of the Legislative Council serving on the~~  
462 ~~council on June 10, 2015.~~

463 ~~(c)~~ (b) (1) Members of the council may serve on the  
464 council as long as the member retains the office that  
465 qualified the member for service or during the term to which  
466 the member was appointed or elected and, if reelected to the  
467 same house without a break in service to that house, during  
468 the succeeding legislative term until a successor is appointed  
469 or elected as provided by law. No member may be elected to  
470 more than two consecutive four-year terms and no member may be  
471 appointed to more than two consecutive four-year terms. Any  
472 member serving ex officio may remain on the Legislative  
473 Council as long as the member holds the office qualifying the  
474 member for membership.

475 (2) If a vacancy occurs in its elected membership while  
476 the Legislature is not in session, the House Legislative



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477 Council or the Senate Legislative Council, as appropriate, may  
478 make temporary appointments to fill the vacancy until the  
479 vacancy is filled by an election of the appropriate members of  
480 the House or Senate, as the case may be.

481 ~~(d) If Act 2015-408 does not become operative prior to~~  
482 ~~adjournment sine die of the 2015 Regular Session, the Speaker~~  
483 ~~of the House, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the~~  
484 ~~Chairs of the Ways and Means General Fund and Ways and Means~~  
485 ~~Education Committees, the Chairs of the Finance and Taxation~~  
486 ~~General Fund and Finance and Taxation Education Committees,~~  
487 ~~and the majority and minority leader of the respective houses~~  
488 ~~shall serve on the Legislative Council and, by July 4, 2015,~~  
489 ~~the Speaker and the President Pro Tempore, respectively, shall~~  
490 ~~appoint five members of the House of Representatives, at least~~  
491 ~~one of whom may not be a member of the majority party, and~~  
492 ~~five members of the Senate, at least one of whom may not be a~~  
493 ~~member of the majority party, to serve on the Legislative~~  
494 ~~Council until members are elected at the 2016 Regular~~  
495 ~~Session."~~

496 "§29-6-2

497 (a) ~~The President of the Senate shall be a member of~~  
498 ~~the Legislative Council but may vote on issues before the~~  
499 ~~Legislative Council only in the case of a tie.~~ At its first  
500 meeting during each quadrennium and at ~~such~~ other times as  
501 necessary, the Legislative Council shall elect a chair and  
502 vice chair from among the membership of the council. The  
503 position of chair shall alternate between a member of the  
504 Senate and a member of the House of Representatives every two



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505 years. To the extent possible, membership of the council shall  
506 be inclusive and reflect the racial, gender, geographic,  
507 urban/rural, and economic diversity of the state.

508 (b) Within 10 days after the membership of the  
509 Legislative Council is determined:

510 (1) The Legislative Council shall convene at a place  
511 and time designated by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate  
512 in written notice given to each member to select a chair and  
513 vice chair from the membership. The Legislative Council shall  
514 meet thereafter at the request of the chair or as its members  
515 shall determine, in both cases upon written notice to each  
516 member of the council. If the chair declines to call a meeting  
517 or is unable to call a meeting, the Speaker of the House, the  
518 President Pro Tempore of the Senate, or a majority of the  
519 council may call a meeting of the council.

520 (2) The House Legislative Council shall convene at a  
521 time and place designated by the Speaker of the House in  
522 written notice given to each member of the House Legislative  
523 Council to select a chair and vice chair of the House  
524 Legislative Council. The ~~council~~ House Legislative Council  
525 shall meet thereafter at the request of the chair or as its  
526 members shall determine, in both cases upon written notice to  
527 each member of the House Legislative Council. If the chair  
528 declines to call a meeting or is unable to call a meeting, the  
529 Speaker of the House may call a meeting of the House  
530 Legislative Council.

531 (3) The Senate Legislative Council shall convene at a  
532 time and place designated by the President Pro Tempore of the



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533 Senate in written notice given to each member of the Senate  
534 Legislative Council to select a chair and vice chair of the  
535 Senate Legislative Council. The Senate Legislative Council  
536 shall meet thereafter at the request of the chair or as its  
537 members shall determine, in both cases upon written notice to  
538 each member of the Senate Legislative Council. If the chair  
539 declines to call a meeting or is unable to call a meeting, the  
540 President Pro Tempore of the Senate may call a meeting of the  
541 Senate Legislative Council.

542 (c) Members of the Legislative Council, House  
543 Legislative Council, and Senate Legislative Council shall  
544 receive expenses for attendance of each meeting of the  
545 respective council as provided for in ~~Amendment 871 to~~ Section  
546 49 of the Constitution of Alabama of ~~1901~~2022. The President  
547 of the Senate and Speaker of the House shall adopt such  
548 expense reimbursement regulations as are necessary to  
549 implement ~~Amendment 871~~ Section 49 for operation of the  
550 councils.

551 (d) The Legislative Council, the House Legislative  
552 Council, and the Senate Legislative Council may provide for  
553 the appointment of committees to facilitate their work."

554 "§29-6-3

555 (a) Members of the Legislative Council, House  
556 Legislative Council, and Senate Legislative Council may  
557 participate in a meeting of the respective council by means of  
558 telephone conference, video conference, or similar  
559 communications equipment by means of which all  
560 ~~persons~~individuals participating in the meeting may hear each



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561 other at the same time and members of the public may  
562 simultaneously listen to the meeting. Participation by such  
563 means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting for all  
564 purposes.

565 (b) Any decision of the Legislative Council shall be by  
566 a majority vote of the council members from the Senate and a  
567 majority vote of the council members from the House of  
568 Representatives.

569 (c) All decisions of the Legislative Council, the House  
570 Legislative Council, or the Senate Legislative Council, except  
571 those involving hiring, discipline, or termination of  
572 employees, shall be reduced to writing and shall be published  
573 on the website of the Legislature.

574 (d) The Legislative Council, House Legislative Council,  
575 and Senate Legislative Council shall be subject to the Alabama  
576 Open Meetings Act, Chapter 25A, ~~(commencing with Section~~  
577 ~~36-25A-1)~~, Title 36, except that a meeting may be called with  
578 the same notice requirements as a meeting of a committee of  
579 the House or Senate under the rules of the House of  
580 Representatives or Senate.

581 (e) The Legislative Council, House Legislative Council,  
582 and Senate Legislative Council may make use of the employees  
583 of the Legislative Department, including employees of the  
584 respective houses, as needed in carrying out their respective  
585 functions.

586 (f) The Legislative Council shall conduct an  
587 orientation program for its members upon its formation and at  
588 the start of each quadrennium thereafter. The orientation



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589 shall cover all of the duties and responsibilities of  
590 membership on the council. The Legislative Council shall also  
591 provide an orientation to any member who serves on the council  
592 due to election or appointment within 60 days of the  
593 ~~person~~individual joining the council. ~~The Legislative Council~~  
594 ~~shall utilize the Legislative Reference Service, Legislative~~  
595 ~~Fiscal Office, and Alabama Law Institute to prepare materials~~  
596 ~~for use at this orientation.~~The orientation shall be conducted  
597 by the Secretary of the Legislative Council."

598 "§29-6-7

599 (a) In addition to the powers otherwise provided in  
600 this chapter, the Legislative Council shall:

601 (1) Approve budget requests~~;~~i provide accounting  
602 services~~;~~i make purchases~~;~~i and provide mail distribution,  
603 property inventory, telephone service, electronic media  
604 services, recycling services, and building maintenance  
605 services for the Legislative Department~~;~~ and all agencies and  
606 entities~~;~~respectively, therein.

607 (2) Allocate space in any building designated as the  
608 Alabama State House, including to the Senate and the House of  
609 Representatives~~;~~ and shall have the authority to contract with  
610 an appropriate party, including, but not limited to, the  
611 Retirement Systems of Alabama, to construct and maintain a  
612 building that, upon completion, would be designated as the  
613 Alabama State House. In carrying out its responsibilities  
614 under this subdivision, the Legislative Council may charge and  
615 collect rent from any entity allocated space in the Alabama  
616 State House at a rate set by the council. The council may



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617 establish a special fund in the State Treasury to receive  
618 funds from any source to maintain the State House property.  
619 Funds in the special fund are continuously appropriated for  
620 the exclusive use of the Legislative Council, shall be  
621 maintained separately, and shall be in addition to any other  
622 funds appropriated to the Legislative Council. Any unused  
623 funds collected by or appropriated to any entity for the  
624 maintenance of the State House property remaining at the close  
625 of the fiscal year in which they were collected or for which  
626 they were appropriated shall be transferred to the fund  
627 created pursuant to this subdivision.

628 (3) Maintain a website of legislative expenditures that  
629 includes, but is not limited to, the names, salaries, and  
630 expenses of the members, officers, and employees of the  
631 Legislative Department and any contracts entered into by the  
632 Legislative Council for the benefit of any entity or agency of  
633 the Legislative Department. This requirement may be met  
634 through publication of the required information on a site that  
635 discloses this information on a statewide basis for other  
636 state government entities.

637 (4) Maintain the computer operations of the  
638 Legislature, including management and control of the  
639 Legislative Data Center and employ a director of technology  
640 who shall oversee the operations of the Legislative Data  
641 Center and maintain all computer guidelines of the Legislative  
642 Department and all agencies and entities therein, except that  
643 production of legislative proceedings of the respective Houses  
644 shall be under the control of the Secretary of the Senate and



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645 the Clerk of the House of Representatives, respectively.

646 (5) After consulting with the Secretary of the Senate  
647 and Clerk of the House, provide security for the Alabama State  
648 House, the Senate, the House of Representatives, and those  
649 portions of the State Capitol under the control of the  
650 Legislature, the House of Representatives, or the Senate;  
651 provided, however, that security for the Senate and House  
652 chambers, their entrances, and galleries shall be under the  
653 absolute supervision and control of the Secretary and Clerk,  
654 respectively. The Legislative Council shall also establish  
655 protocol for the cooperation between the persons providing  
656 security for the Legislature and such other law enforcement  
657 agencies as necessary.

658 (6) Reduce and contain the cost associated with the  
659 operation and maintenance of the Legislative Department to the  
660 fullest extent reasonably possible and practical. In  
661 accomplishing the reduction, the Legislative Council, to the  
662 fullest extent possible, shall look for methods to save public  
663 funds and contain costs.

664 (7) Annually review the performance of the Director of  
665 the Legislative Services Agency.

666 (8) Employ a director of human resources who shall  
667 handle the human resources related functions for the  
668 Legislative Services Agency. The Director of Human Resources  
669 shall provide services at the direction of the Legislative  
670 Council, including providing lists of applicants for open  
671 positions and the written application for employment for each,  
672 providing assistance in the determination of salary schedules,



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673 benefits, and terms of employment, maintaining custody of  
674 records as requested, and providing consultation on employee  
675 discipline.

676 (b) In addition to the powers otherwise provided in  
677 this chapter, the Senate Legislative Council, upon the  
678 recommendation of the Director of Human Resources, shall  
679 establish the job classifications, salary schedules, and  
680 benefits for all employees of the President Pro Tempore of the  
681 Senate. Notwithstanding the foregoing, there shall be a  
682 position of chief of staff who shall serve at the pleasure of  
683 the President Pro Tempore, under terms and conditions set by  
684 the President Pro Tempore; provided further, persons who serve  
685 at the pleasure of the Senate Majority Leader and the Senate  
686 Minority Leader serve under terms and conditions set by the  
687 Senate Majority Leader and the Senate Minority Leader,  
688 respectively; and provided further, persons employed under  
689 this sentence shall be paid from funds appropriated to the  
690 Office of the President Pro Tempore at a salary or other  
691 compensation approved by the President Pro Tempore.

692 (c) In addition to the powers otherwise provided in  
693 this chapter, the House Legislative Council, upon the  
694 recommendation of the Director of Human Resources, shall  
695 establish the job classifications, salary schedules, and  
696 benefits for all employees of the Speaker of the House.  
697 Notwithstanding the foregoing, there shall be a position of  
698 chief of staff who shall serve at the pleasure of the Speaker,  
699 under terms and conditions set by the Speaker; provided  
700 further, persons who serve at the pleasure of the House



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701 Majority Leader and the House Minority Leader serve under  
702 terms and conditions set by the House Majority Leader and the  
703 House Minority Leader, respectively; and provided further,  
704 persons employed under this sentence shall be paid from funds  
705 appropriated to the Office of the Speaker at a salary or other  
706 compensation approved by the Speaker.

707 (d) The salary schedules, benefits, and terms of  
708 employment for all staff of the Legislative Department shall  
709 be as uniform as practical.

710 (e) Employees of the Legislative Services Agency,  
711 Speaker of the House, and President Pro Tempore of the Senate  
712 shall be under the direction and control of the Director of  
713 the Legislative Services Agency, Speaker of the House, and  
714 President Pro Tempore of the Senate, respectively.

715 (f) The Director of the Legislative Services Agency  
716 shall annually review the performance of each employee subject  
717 to his or her supervision and report thereon to the  
718 Legislative Council.

719 (g) The Legislative Council, after considering in a  
720 timely manner ~~persons~~ individuals recommended for hire by the  
721 Secretary of the Senate and Clerk of the House, shall hire  
722 joint employees of the Legislature. The Legislative Council  
723 shall ~~utilize~~ use the services of the Director of Human  
724 Resources for all joint employees, including providing lists  
725 of applicants for open positions and the written application  
726 for employment for each, providing assistance in determination  
727 of job classifications, salary schedules, benefits, and terms  
728 of employment, maintaining custody of records as requested,



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729 and providing consultation on employee discipline."

730 "§41-5A-16

731 (a) There shall be a Legislative Committee on Public  
732 Accounts to exercise general supervision and control over the  
733 actions of the ~~chief examiner~~Chief Examiner and the Department  
734 of Examiners of Public Accounts.

735 (b) The Legislative Committee on Public Accounts shall  
736 have 12 members. Five members shall be elected by the House of  
737 Representatives from its membership and five members shall be  
738 elected by the Senate from its membership. The President Pro  
739 Tempore of the Senate shall be a member of the committee and  
740 the chair of the committee. The Speaker of the House of  
741 Representatives shall be a member of the committee and the  
742 vice-chair of the committee. Beginning January 1, 2020, the  
743 President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the  
744 House shall alternate service as chair and vice-chair of the  
745 committee every two years. Members of the committee shall be  
746 elected at the ~~first regular~~organizational session of each  
747 quadrennium and shall hold office as long as they remain  
748 legislators and until their successors are elected.

749 (c) Vacancies shall be filled by the remaining members  
750 of the committee from members of the House of Representatives  
751 or the Senate, depending upon in which representation the  
752 vacancy occurs, until the next organizational, regular, or  
753 special session of the Legislature, at which time the  
754 vacancies shall be filled by the appropriate house."

755 "§41-9-370

756 The Commission on Uniform State Laws is continued in



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757 existence as an advisory commission to the Legislature. The  
758 commission consists of three members of the bar appointed by  
759 the Governor for a term of four years or until their  
760 successors are appointed, a member of the Senate appointed by  
761 the President of the Senate, a member of the House of  
762 Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House, the  
763 Director of the Legislative Services Agency, and the Deputy  
764 Director of the Legislative Services Agency, ~~Legal~~Law Revision  
765 Division."

766 "§41-9-374

767 (a) The Commission on Uniform State Laws shall annually  
768 present its ~~budget~~dues requirement to the Legislative Council  
769 for ~~approval~~payment.

770 (b) ~~From funds appropriated for the commission, the~~  
771 ~~commission shall:~~

772 ~~(1) Reimburse~~ Reimbursement of members of the  
773 commission for their necessary expenses in ~~performing the~~  
774 ~~duties of their offices, including travel for~~ attending the  
775 meeting of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform  
776 State Laws, ~~subject to the approval of the Legislative Council~~  
777 shall be the obligation of the body or agency the member  
778 represents or by the appointing authority in the case of  
779 individuals who are not public officials or public employees.  
780 No reimbursement of expenses shall be made for life members  
781 who are no longer otherwise public officials or public  
782 employees.

783 ~~(2) Pay the cost of printing the commission's reports.~~

784 ~~(3) Pay the dues of this state to the National~~



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785 ~~Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws.~~

786 ~~(c) The amount of expenses and dues shall be certified~~  
787 ~~to the state Comptroller by the chair of the commission, and~~  
788 ~~the state Comptroller shall draw warrants and the State~~  
789 ~~Treasurer shall pay the warrants for these purposes from funds~~  
790 ~~appropriated for the commission."~~

791 Section 2. Section 29-4-62 is added to the Code of  
792 Alabama 1975, to read as follows:

793 §29-4-62

794 (a) The Speaker of the House of Representatives, on the  
795 date of the general election at which members of the House of  
796 Representatives are elected to four-year terms, shall continue  
797 to serve as Speaker of the House of Representatives until  
798 elections for Speaker are held pursuant to Section 48.01 of  
799 the Constitution of Alabama of 2022.

800 (b) If a vacancy occurs in the office of the Speaker of  
801 the House of Representatives for any reason, the Speaker Pro  
802 Tempore of the House of Representatives shall assume the  
803 duties of the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the  
804 remainder of the term of office or until a successor Speaker  
805 is elected pursuant to Section 48.01 of the Constitution of  
806 Alabama of 2022.

807 Section 3. Section 29-5A-24 of the Code of Alabama  
808 1975, authorizing the Code Commissioner to prepare an official  
809 recompilation of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, and  
810 Section 29-6-6, Code of Alabama 1975, relating to the duties  
811 of the Legislative Council in relation to the Legislative  
812 Reference Service, and Sections 17-16-50 through 17-16-53,



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813 Code of Alabama 1975, relating to a contested election of a  
814 member of the Legislature, are repealed.

815 **Section 4.** This act shall become effective on the first  
816 day of the third month following its passage and approval by  
817 the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.