HB126

GXYD666-1

By Representatives Hulsey, Lamb, Shirey, DuBose, Lovvorn, Rigsby, Lomax, Hammett, Stringer, Daniels, Collins, Bedsole, Reynolds, Starnes, Bolton, Gidley, Butler, Underwood

RFD: Public Safety and Homeland Security

First Read: 06-Feb-24

SYNOPSIS:

This bill would require each fire-protection personnel, certified volunteer firefighter, and emergency medical services personnel to undergo annual training on interacting with individuals with sensory needs or invisible disabilities.

This bill would exclude employees of the Alabama State Forestry Commission from training requirements related to interacting with individuals with sensory needs or invisible disabilities.

This bill would also condition the training requirements on the Alabama Firefighters' Personnel Standards and Education Commission and the Department of Public Health each collaborating with a nonprofit entity to provide the training without compensation.

A BILL

TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

Relating to individuals with sensory needs and invisible disabilities; to require fire-protection personnel, certified volunteer firefighters, and emergency medical services personnel to undergo annual training related to

interacting with individuals with sensory needs or invisible disabilities; and to condition the training requirements on the collaboration with a nonprofit entity to provide the training without compensation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the Abram Colin Act.

Section 2. (a) This section shall have the same definitions as Section 36-32-1, Code of Alabama 1975.

(b) Beginning January 1, 2025, the Alabama Firefighters' Personnel Standards and Education Commission shall require each fire-protection personnel and certified volunteer firefighter to annually complete one hour of training on interacting with individuals with sensory needs or invisible disabilities.

(c)(1) The Alabama Firefighters' Personnel Standards and Education Commission shall collaborate with a nonprofit entity that provides training on individuals with sensory needs or invisible disabilities to administer the training required by this section. The entity shall provide the required training related to individuals with sensory needs or invisible disabilities without compensation. The training may be provided in person or online. The commission shall ensure the entity chosen to administer the training annually reviews and updates the training to include changes and trends relating to individuals with sensory needs or invisible disabilities.

(2) The training requirements of this section only

apply if the company that the commission collaborates with pursuant to subdivision (1) provides the training without compensation.

(d) The training requirements of subsection (b) do not apply to employees of the Alabama State Forestry Commission.

(e) This section shall not be construed to eliminate, alter, or otherwise modify any immunity regarding fire-protection personnel or certified volunteer firefighters established under the constitution and laws of this state.

Section 3. (a) This section shall have the same definitions as Section 22-18-1, Code of Alabama 1975.

(b) Beginning January 1, 2025, the Alabama Department of Public Health shall require each emergency medical services personnel to annually complete one hour of training on interacting with individuals with sensory needs or invisible disabilities.

(c)(1) The Alabama Department of Public Health shall collaborate with a nonprofit entity that provides training on individuals with sensory needs or invisible disabilities to administer the training required by this section. The company shall provide the required training related to individuals with sensory needs or invisible disabilities without compensation. The training may be provided in person or online. The department shall ensure the entity chosen to administer the training annually reviews and updates the training to include changes and trends relating to individuals with sensory needs or invisible disabilities.

(2) The training requirements of this section only

apply if the entity that the department collaborates with pursuant to subdivision (1) provides the training without compensation.

(d) This section shall not be construed to eliminate, alter, or otherwise modify any immunity regarding emergency medical services personnel established under the constitution and laws of this state.

Section 4. This act shall become effective January 1, 2025.