SB279

RFVFNMM-1

By Senator Coleman

RFD: Veterans and Military Affairs

First Read: 04-Apr-24

SYNOPSIS:

This bill would prohibit law enforcement officers from using the four-point restraint, known as the hog-tie position, to restrain an individual.

This bill would require law enforcement agencies to adopt policies and procedures prohibiting the use of the four-point restraint.

This bill would also provide criminal penalties for a violation.

A BILL

TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

Relating to law enforcement; to prohibit the use of certain techniques by law enforcement; and to require law enforcement agencies to adopt certain policies and procedures; to provide criminal penalties for a violation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) FOUR-POINT RESTRAINT. To hog-tie, restrain, or confine an individual face-down on the ground by connecting or fastening the individual's hands and legs behind the

individual's back.

(2) LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY. As defined in Section 36-21-40, Code of Alabama 1975.

(3) LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER. As defined in Section 36-21-40, Code of Alabama 1975.

(b) A law enforcement officer shall not do either of the following:

(1) Detain, restrain, or transport any individual by four-point restraint.

(2) Place any individual in a face down position that restricts oxygen or blood flow to the individual's head or neck.

(c) Each law enforcement agency shall include a prohibition against the use of four-point restraint in the agency's existing polices and procedures.

(d) The use of four-point restraint in violation of this section is a Class A misdemeanor.

Section 2. This act shall become effective on October 1, 2024.