

SB181 INTRODUCED



1 SB181
2 4UQAWIR-1
3 By Senator Coleman
4 RFD: Finance and Taxation General Fund
5 First Read: 20-Jan-26



SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, the Administrative Office of Courts may direct state appropriated funds to pay for the judicial education of any justice, judge, or court-supportive personnel.

This bill would allow the Administrative Office of Courts to create a nonprofit entity to collect and use nonpublic funds for judicial education.

This bill would allow the Administrative Office of Courts to hold nonpublic funds in accounts outside the State Treasury which would be audited or reviewed annually.

This bill would allow the Administrative Office of Courts and other state entities to transfer state funds to the nonprofit entity for judicial education purposes and would allow the nonprofit entity to be housed at the Administrative Office of Courts and staffed by the employees of the Administrative Office of Courts.

This bill would be remedial and curative.

This bill would also make nonsubstantive, technical revisions to update the existing code language to current style.

A BILL



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TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

Relating to the Administrative Office of Courts; to amend Section 12-5-11, Code of Alabama 1975; to authorize the Administrative Office of Courts to form and use a nonprofit entity for judicial education expenses; to authorize the entity to maintain accounts outside the State Treasury which would be audited or reviewed annually; to authorize the Administrative Office of Courts and other state agencies to transfer funds to the entity to support judicial education; to provide that this act is remedial and curative; and to make nonsubstantive, technical revisions to update the existing code language to current style.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 12-5-11, Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:

"§12-5-11

In connection with the continuing judicial education of justices, judges, and court-supportive personnel, the Administrative Office of Courts and the Administrative Director of Courts ~~is authorized to~~ may:

(1) direct ~~Direct~~ the expenditure of funds appropriated to the account of the National College of State Trial Judges or any college of judges by whatever name the account appears, or to any accounts ~~or judicial education~~ for the judicial education of any justice, judge, or court-supportive personnel;



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(2) and may direct Direct that the actual and reasonable expenses incurred by a justice, judge, or court-supportive personnel attending the National College of State Judiciary or any other college, institute, conference, seminar, or organization be paid;

(3)a. Create and use a nonprofit entity as defined by 26 U.S.C § 501(c)(3) to develop, implement, manage, and fund judicial educational plans, conferences, and programs. The entity may collect nonpublic funds to support this purpose.

b. An entity created under paragraph a. may hold nonpublic funds in an account or accounts maintained outside of the State Treasury, provided the account or accounts are audited or reviewed annually by a certified, independent accounting entity;

(4) Transfer state funds to the nonprofit to support judicial education purposes; and

(5) House the entity created under paragraph (3)a. at the Administrative Office of Courts and staff the entity with employees of the Administrative Office of Courts."

Section 2. The provisions of this act are remedial and curative and any actions taken by the Administrative Office of Courts in conformance with this act are ratified and confirmed.

Section 3. This act shall become effective on May 1, 2026.