

SB237 INTRODUCED



1 SB237
2 DGMP3HN-1
3 By Senators Singleton, Hatcher, Figures, Coleman,
4 Coleman-Madison, Stewart, Orr
5 RFD: Judiciary
6 First Read: 29-Jan-26



4 SYNOPSIS:

5 State ethics laws prohibit public employees and
6 public officials from using their official position or
7 office for personal gain. This prohibition can
8 discourage or stymie the ability of public institutions
9 of higher education to conduct research, obtain grants,
10 collaborate with others, and develop intellectual
11 property.

12 This bill would provide that the ethics laws
13 shall not be deemed to limit the ability of public
14 institutions of higher education to accept and award
15 grants, conduct research, collaborate, enter into
16 technology transfer agreements, and develop and share
17 intellectual property by agreement in accordance with
18 institution policy.

21 A BILL

22 TO BE ENTITLED

23 AN ACT

24
25 Relating to government ethics; to add Section 36-25-1.4
26 to the Code of Alabama 1975, to provide that the ethics laws
27 do not limit certain research and development activities
28 conducted by public institutions of higher education.



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BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 36-25-1.4 is added to the Code of Alabama 1975, to read as follows:

§36-25-1.4

Nothing in this chapter shall be deemed to limit or restrict the ability of public institutions of higher education, along with the public servants within the institutions, to accept and award grants, conduct research, collaborate with persons both within and outside the institution, enter into technology transfer agreements, and otherwise commercialize, protect, and share intellectual property by agreement in accordance with institution policy.

Section 2. This act shall become effective on June 1, 2026.