



# ACT #2025 - 22

1 SB48

2 3YPQVVV-3

3 By Senators Singleton, Coleman, Coleman-Madison, Stewart

4 RFD: State Governmental Affairs

5 First Read: 04-Feb-25





Enrolled, An Act,

Relating to boards of registrars; to amend Sections 17-3-2, 17-3-5, and 17-3-8, Code of Alabama 1975; to further provide for the membership of the boards of registrars; to further provide for the qualifications of registrars and establish hours of operation; to increase the salary of each registrar; 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. Sections 17-3-2, 17-3-5, and 17-3-8, Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:

"§17-3-2

(a) (1) Registration shall be conducted in each county by a board of three reputable and suitable ~~persons~~ individuals to be appointed, unless otherwise provided by law, by the Governor, Auditor, and Commissioner of Agriculture and Industries, or by a majority of them acting as a state board of appointment. In making appointments on or after October 1, 2025, the state board of appointment shall consider the racial, gender, urban, rural, and economic diversity of the that county.

(2) The registrars shall:

a. ~~be~~ Be qualified electors, and be residents of the county; ~~shall have~~

b. Have a high school diploma or equivalent; ~~and~~



~~possess the minimum computer and map reading skills necessary  
to function in the office~~

c. Possess excellent communication skills evident by  
reportable experience in areas such as electronic mail, online  
communications, and use of multi-line telephones;

d. Demonstrate intermediate level experience and  
proficiency in data processing and use of computer programs  
used in the current day-to-day workplace, including, but not  
limited to, web-based operating systems;

e. Demonstrate the ability to download and upload  
reports and files and conduct spreadsheet manipulation; and

f. Demonstrate the ability to operate office equipment,  
including printers, copiers, scanners, and cameras.

(3) The Secretary of State shall prescribe guidelines  
to assist the state board of appointment in determining the  
qualifications of registrars. The registrars shall not hold an  
elective office during their term. One of the members shall be  
designated by the state board of appointment as chair of the  
board of registrars for each county.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a),  
the Legislature may provide by local law for the appointment  
of additional members to the board of registrars for a county  
that has two courthouses.

~~(c) The provisions of this~~ This section shall not apply  
in any county having a population of not less than 600,000  
inhabitants according to the 1970 or any succeeding federal  
decennial census, and any currently effective local law or  
general law of local application providing for the appointment



of any member of the board of registrars in the county shall remain in full force and effect and shall not be repealed by operation of this chapter."

"§17-3-5

(a) Each registrar shall receive a salary in the amount of ~~eighty dollars (\$80)~~ one hundred fifteen dollars (\$115) per day for each day's attendance upon business of the board, to be paid by the state and disbursed to the county commissions and disbursed by the county commissions to each registrar on order of a quorum of the board of registrars of the county. The state Comptroller shall issue to each county commission on a monthly basis an amount sufficient to fund these payments plus the employer share of the Social Security or Federal Insurance Corporation Act tax. The county commission will provide to the state Comptroller an invoice itemized to reflect payments made. If a legal holiday falls on a day the board is to be in session, and the courthouse of the county is closed for the holiday, the board of registrars shall be compensated for the holiday. Each registrar shall receive a mileage allowance equal to the amount allowed state employees or employees of the county, whichever is greater, for official travel in the course of attending the business of the board, including attending continuing education programs. Travel and other expenses shall be paid by the county commissions to the boards of registrars and the state shall reimburse the county commissions based on a written request submitted by the county commissions to the ~~state~~ Comptroller.

(b) The provisions of this section regarding travel



85 mileage shall not apply in any county having a population of  
86 600,000 or more inhabitants according to the ~~1970 or any~~  
87 ~~succeeding~~ most current federal decennial census, and any  
88 currently effective local law or general law of local  
89 application regarding travel mileage for registrars in the  
90 county shall remain in full force and effect and shall not be  
91 repealed by operation of this chapter.

92 (c) Members of the boards of registrars of this state  
93 are ~~hereby~~ declared to be state employees for the purposes of  
94 Chapter 28 of Title 36.

95 (d) Members of the boards of registrars of this state  
96 shall be treated as equals with ~~other~~ state and county  
97 employees in regard to Social Security protection and  
98 benefits.

99 (e) All payments by a county to any member of a county  
100 board of registrars, ~~except for mileage or reimbursement for~~  
101 ~~expenses,~~ shall be treated for Social Security purposes  
102 equally with payments by that county to ~~other~~ county employees  
103 of the county.

104 (f) The state office for Social Security and the state  
105 Comptroller and each county commission ~~are directed to~~ shall  
106 take all necessary action to ~~insure~~ ensure that members of the  
107 boards of registrars of this state are treated as ~~other~~ state  
108 and county employees in regard to Social Security protection  
109 and benefits as provided in Chapter 28 of Title 36, including,  
110 if necessary, amending the federal-state agreement referred to  
111 in Chapter 28 of Title 36, to implement the intent of the  
112 Legislature as expressed herein.



(g) No county commission may reduce the current county supplement upon the effect of this section by implementation of Act 94-693.

(h) (1) A county commission may allow the chair or any member of the county board of registrars who has served at least 16 years in that position to participate in any health insurance program provided by the county upon the same terms, conditions, and employee contributions as required for county employees.

(2) This subsection shall not apply to any health insurance plans administered by the State of Alabama as described in Title 36, Chapter 29 and Title 11, Chapter 91A."

"§17-3-8

(a) Each member of the board of registrars in the Counties of Clay, Cleburne, Coosa, Dallas, Escambia, Geneva, Lowndes, Perry, Sumter, and Wilcox may meet a maximum of 120 working days each fiscal year; each member of the board of registrars in the Counties of Barbour, Butler, Fayette, Greene, Marengo, Pickens, Pike, Randolph, and Winston may meet a maximum of 168 working days each fiscal year, except in Pike County each board of registrars may meet up to an additional 30 session days each fiscal year, at the discretion of the chair of the county commission, and such days shall be paid from the respective county funds; each member of the board of registrars in the Counties of Coffee, Shelby, Talladega, and Tallapoosa may meet a maximum of 220 working days each fiscal year, except that in Talladega County the board of registrars may meet up to an additional 30 session days each fiscal year,



at the discretion of the chair of the county commission; each member of the board of registrars in the Counties of Dale, Franklin, Houston, Marion, Marshall, Bullock, Macon, and Tuscaloosa may meet a maximum of 216 working days each fiscal year; and each member of the board of registrars in Russell County may meet a maximum of 177 working days each fiscal year.

(b) In the Counties of Choctaw, Colbert, Cullman, Lauderdale, and Monroe, each member of the board of registrars may meet a maximum of 199 working days each fiscal year.

(c) (1) Each member of the Board of Registrars of Autauga, Elmore, and Bibb Counties may meet a maximum of 187 working days each fiscal year. Each member of the Board of Registrars of Walker County may meet a maximum of 200 days each fiscal year, and each member of the Board of Registrars of Lamar, Cherokee, Clarke, Conecuh, Crenshaw, Hale, and Washington Counties may meet a maximum of 140 days each fiscal year. Each member of the board of registrars in the following counties may meet the following maximum number of working days each fiscal year: Henry - 140 working days; Covington - 188 working days; DeKalb, Jackson, and Blount - 207 working days; Chambers - 180 working days; and Lawrence - 200 working days.

(2) Notwithstanding Section 17-3-5, the 60 additional working days for registrars in Lawrence County added by Act 2023-456 shall be paid by the county commission and shall not be reimbursed by the state.

(d) Each member of the board of registrars in the Counties of Baldwin, Calhoun, Chilton, Etowah, Limestone, Lee,



Madison, Mobile, Montgomery, St. Clair, and Morgan are authorized to meet not more than five days each week for the purpose of carrying out their official duties. Jefferson County, which is now operating under the provisions of local laws, shall be exempted from this section. Provided, however, that where the term each year is used in the local laws the term means each fiscal year.

(e) The actual number of working days to be used as session days shall be determined by a quorum of the board of registrars according to the needs of the county.

(f) As many as 25 of the allotted working days may be used for special registration sessions (i.e., those sessions held away from the courthouse in the several precincts of the county or sessions held on Saturday or between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.). Notice of any special session scheduled by the board shall be given at least 10 days prior to the special session by: (1) Bills posted at three or more public places in each election precinct affected, if the session involves precinct visits; and (2) advertisement once a week for two successive weeks in a newspaper published in the county or by radio or television announcements on a local station, or both by newspaper or announcement.

~~(g) Notwithstanding Section 17-3-5, the 60 additional working days for registrars in Lawrence County added by Act 2023-456 shall be paid by the county commission and shall not be reimbursed by the state.~~ On any day designated as a working day for a board of registrars, the board of registrars shall do both of the following:



197           (1) Be open the same hours as the courthouse of the  
198    county, or alternatively, establish regular hours and make  
199    those hours available to the public.

200           (2) Have a registrar or staff member present during  
201    those hours of operation."

202           Section 2. This act shall become effective on October  
203    1, 2025.

SB48 Enrolled



*[Signature]*

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

*[Signature]*

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SB48

Senate 13-Feb-25

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed  
the Senate, as amended.

Patrick Harris,  
Secretary.

House of Representatives

Passed: 25-Feb-25

By: Senator Singleton

APPROVED

*3/4/2025*

TIME

*9:00 AM*

*Kay Ivey*

GOVERNOR

Alabama Secretary of State

Act Num....: 2025-022

Bill Num....: S-48

Recv'd 03/04/2025 10:46AM KCW

ENGROSSED

Senate Bill No

48

SPONSOR

Singleton  
CO-SPONSORS

Coleman 19  
Coleman-Madison 20  
Stewart 21  
\_\_\_\_\_ 22  
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SENATE ACTION

I hereby certify that the Resolution as required in Section C of Act No. 81-889 was adopted and is attached to the Bill, SB 48.

yeas 29 nays 0 abstain 1

PATRICK HARRIS,  
Secretary

I hereby certify that the notice & proof is attached to the Bill, SB \_\_\_\_\_ as required in the General Acts of Alabama, 1975 Act No. 919.

PATRICK HARRIS,  
Secretary

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Senate Conferees \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

HOUSE ACTION

DATE: 2-13 2025

RD 1 RFD W.M.G.F

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

This bill having been referred by the House to its standing committee on \_\_\_\_\_

W.M.G.F was acted upon by such committee in session, and returned therefrom to the House with the recommendation that it be Passed, w/amend(s) w/sub \_\_\_\_\_

This 19th day of Feb, 2025

R. ... 21, Chairperson

DATE: 2-20 2025

RF RD 2 CAL

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_

RE-REFERRED ☐ RE-COMMITTED ☐

Committee \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that the Resolution as required in Section C of Act No. 81-889 was adopted and is attached to the Bill, SB 48.

YEAS 101 NAYS 0

JOHN TREADWELL,  
Clerk

FURTHER HOUSE ACTION (OVER)