

2022 Regular Legislative Session Enactments

This publication only includes a list of ENACTED education-related legislation tracked by AASB during the most recent Regular Session including general bills, local bills and joint resolutions.

Act No. Bill Synopsis GENERAL BILLS Bill No./Sponsor

ETF Budget, Pay Raise, Supplemental Appropriations and Related Bills

ETF Budget (FY 23) - Appropriates \$8.2 billion from the Education Trust Fund (ETF) for the support, maintenance and development of public education, debt service and capital outlay for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2023. <u>View budget spreadsheet.</u>

H.135 (Garrett)

Effective October 1, 2022

Click here for Pay Raise and Salary Matrix FAQS

2022-285 Pay Raise - Provides a 4% pay increase to public education employees beginning with the fiscal year 2022-23.

H.136 (Garrett)

Effective October 1, 2022

EAT Supplemental Appropriation - Appropriates \$206 million to K-12 from the Education Advancement and Technology (EAT) Fund to be used in FY22; authorizes funds to be used for repairs and deferred maintenance, classroom instructional supplies, insurance for facilities, capital outlay, transportation, acquisition or purchase of education technology or for school security.

Note: The State Department of Education (SDE) has notified LEAs of individual allocations along with application for qualified expenditures. Deadline to submit applications for SDE review is August 16, 2022. Click here for SDE Allocations Memo and application.

H.267 (Garrett)

Effective April 13, 2022

<u>2022-139</u> Capital Outlay/Qualified EAT Expenditure - Allows funds to be appropriated for capital outlay expenses as a qualified expenditure in the Education Advancement and Technology Fund.

S.175 (Orr)

Effective March 15, 2022

ETF Rolling Reserve Act Revisions - Amends and clarifies current practices for the calculation of the annual appropriation cap for the disposition of revenues in excess of the cap and for the appropriation of funds in the EAT Fund. It also modifies transfer dates to improve cash flow for the Education Trust Fund.

S.331 (Orr)

Effective April 13, 2022

Miscellaneous Supplemental Appropriation - Provides a supplemental appropriation of \$1.2 billion from the ETF to multiple agencies: \$58 million to the Teacher's Retirement System (TRS) for a one-time bonus; \$750 million to the Education Advancement and Technology Fund (to be dispersed by supplemental appropriation at a later date); \$6.8 million to the State Department of Education (SDE) and \$500,000 to the Alabama Supercomputer Authority for cyber security and training in consultation with Alabama Leaders in Educational Technology (ALET).

H.138 (Garrett)

Effective April 13, 2022

GENERAL BILLS, contd.

Education Policy and Procedure

State Textbook Committee - Requires textbook publishers to provide evidence of standards correlation on forms provided by the State Department of Education. Authorizes the State Superintendent and State Board of Education to establish review criteria and provide for other instructional review committees to evaluate instructional materials. Amends the state textbook adoption committee to allow the governor to appoint one member from each of the State Board of Education districts.

S.15 (Melson)

Effective June 1, 2022

Advanced Enrollment - Establishes an advanced enrollment program for children of military families, who reside out-of-state, receiving military orders to relocate to Alabama. Active military parents shall be permitted to enroll remotely, including via electronic means. Upon request by the local school system, a copy of the military orders must be provided. Proof of residency will also be required prior to commencing attendance. Advanced military enrollment students shall be afforded the same opportunities for school assignment, selection of courses and sporting activities as those offered to resident students.

S.116 (Whatley)

Effective June 1, 2022

Occupational Licenses - Amends the Military Family Jobs Opportunity Act to authorize any state board, agency or commission to issue a license or certificate to an eligible individual, within 30 days of application.

S.141 (Butler)

Effective June 1, 2022

Prohibit Purchase of U.S. Flags - Prohibits any state agency or institution from purchasing a U.S. flag or Alabama flag that is manufactured outside of the country.

S.77 (Givhan)

Effective June 1, 2022

Permitless Conceal Carry - Eliminates the requirement for a person to obtain a concealed carry permit to lawfully carry a pistol. Restrictions on carrying concealed weapons on school grounds and at school events remain in place.
 H.272 (Stringer)

Effective January 1, 2023

Seal of Biliteracy - Establishes the State Seal of Biliteracy to recognize graduates who have demonstrated proficiency in English and at least one other world language, including American Sign Language. Students demonstrating proficiency will receive the State Seal of Biliteracy attached to diploma or transcript.

H.46 (Collins)

Effective July 1, 2022

Professional Educator Certificate - Authorizes the issuance of a professional educator certificate to qualified individuals who have worked under an alternative certificate for one year, instead of three years. It also authorizes the issuance of a professional educator certificate to a qualified individual who completes an alternative teacher preparation program offered by an approved alternative teacher education program. Amends the alternative certification program by expanding it to K-12.

H.307 (Baker)

Effective July 1, 2022

AL Numeracy Act - Establishes the Alabama Numeracy Act and implements steps to improve mathematics proficiency of K-5 students to ensure those students are proficient in mathematics at or above grade level by the end of 5th grade. <u>View Numeracy Act Overview and FAQs</u>

S.171 (Orr)

Effective April 5, 2022

CNP Competitive Bid Exemption - Authorizes local boards of education to purchase goods or services related to the Child Nutrition Program (CNP) without advertising or bidding, during an emergency or unanticipated event affecting public health or safety or causing supply chain disruptions, upon the recommendation of the state Superintendent of Education and approval of the Department of Public Accounts.

S.72 (Williams)

Effective April 7, 2022

GENERAL BILLS, contd.

Education Policy and Procedure

Vulnerable Child Compassion and Protection Act - Prohibits doctors from performing certain medical procedures or prescribing medications intended to alter a minor child's gender or delay puberty. Prohibits school nurses, counselors, teachers, principals and other administrative officials from encouraging or coercing a minor to withhold from the minor's parent or legal guardian the fact that the minor's perception of his or her gender or sex is inconsistent with the minor's sex. It also prohibits same individuals from withholding from a minor's parent or legal guardian information related to a minor's perception that his or her gender or sex is inconsistent with his or her sex.

S.184 (Shelnutt)

Effective May 8, 2022

Transgender Bathrooms/Discussion - Requires all K-12 public schools to designate multiple occupancy restrooms and changing areas to be used by individuals based on their biological sex. The new law also prohibits classroom discussion and instruction on sexual orientation or gender identity for students in grades K-5.

H.322 (Stadthagen)

Effective July 1, 2022

2022-300 Homeless Youth Drivers' License Fees - Exempts homeless children and youth from certain fees associated with a driver's license and requires a designated school staff member to verify a student qualifies for the exemption.

H.385 (South)

Effective July 1, 2022

Division of Construction Management - Increases the threshold for projects not subject to approval by the Division of Construction Management from \$500,000 to \$750,000 including HVAC and roofing; requires LEAs to submit documents to the Division of Construction Management for the sole purpose of review and inspection for compliance with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and for fire and safety compliance.

H.419 (Ledbetter)

Effective October 1, 2022

ELL Testing Exemption - Exempts academic performance of certain English Language Learners (ELL) students from the state report card. Commencing with the 2021-22 school year, a student who has not shown proficiency on ACCESS for ELL students or other state-approved English proficiency assessment, may not be considered in assigning an academic achievement grade to a school or school system for the first five years of enrollment of the ELL student.

S.170 (Orr)

Effective April 14, 2022

Feminine Hygiene Products - Establishes a grant program for LEAs receiving Title I funds to provide feminine hygiene products to students enrolled at no cost to the student. Products shall be distributed to female students in grades five through 12 through a female school counselor, female nurse or female teacher.

H.50 (Hollis)

Effective August 1, 2022

Alabama Accountability Act SGO Tax Credits - Increases the tax credit from 50% to 100% of the tax liability of the taxpayer for contributions made to a scholarship granting organization (SGO) for educational scholarships. Requires SGO's to ensure that scholarship funds on hand at the beginning of the year are expended on educational scholarships within three calendar years. Applies retroactively to tax years or periods beginning after December 31, 2021.

S.261 (Roberts)

Effective April 13, 2022

AL Literacy Act Retention - Delays the Alabama Literacy Act's 3rd grade retention provision for two years. Commencing with the 2023-24 school year, 3rd grade students shall demonstrate sufficient reading skills for promotion to 4th grade.

S.200 (Smitherman) Effective April 13, 2022

2022-392 AL Literacy Act Revisions - Provides for additional members on the Literacy Task Force; prohibits retaining a 3rd grade student more than once and allows ELL students a good cause exemption with less than three years of ELL instruction.

H.220 (Collins) Effective April 13, 2022

GENERAL BILLS, contd.

Education Policy and Procedure

2022-396 AMSTEP Loan Repayment - Increases the loan repayment award for qualified math and science teachers in the Alabama Math and Science Teacher Education Program (AMSTEP) from \$5,000 to \$7,500 per year (\$30,000 total).

H.435 (Wingo)

Effective July 1, 2022

School Funds/Ballot Measures - Prohibits public employees from expending public funds to advocate in favor or against statewide and local ballot measures. Expenditures may be used to inform members of the public as to services that would be cut if ad valorem taxes are not passed or renewed.

S.313 (Orr)

Effective January 1, 2023

Mental Health Coordinators - Requires each LEA to employ a mental health service coordinator and provide for qualifications and duties of the mental health service coordinator. It also requires each LEA to adopt a policy requiring parents to opt-in for mental health services, including counseling.

H.123 (Ledbetter)

Effective July 1, 2022

Retirement System Bills

TRS Lump Sum Bonus - Provides for a one-time longevity bonus for retirees and beneficiaries of the Teachers' Retirement System at a formula of two dollars per month for each year of service attained. Eligibility includes those retired prior to March 1, 2022, and beneficiaries who received a monthly allowance on March 30, 2022. **Bonus checks to be delivered April 2022.**

S.30 (Singleton)

Effective March 29, 2022

Surviving Spouse Benefits - Amends the TRS retirement option available to a surviving spouse. If a retirement-eligible member dies in active service, the surviving spouse can receive 100% (was 50%) of what the member would have received if they had retired. The only requirement is that the member must have designated the surviving spouse as their sole beneficiary.

H.155 (Ellis)

Effective March 29, 2022

TRS/Tier II 30-Year Retirement - Authorizes a 30-year creditable service retirement for Tier II plan members in the Teachers' Retirement System (TRS). Tier II members retiring with 30 years before reaching the age of 62 shall be imposed a retirement benefit reduction of 2% for each year of difference between age 62 and the age of retirement.

H.134 (Baker)

Effective April 4, 2022

Retirement Income Exemption - Provides for \$6,000 of <u>taxable</u> retirement income to be exempt from state income tax for individuals 65 years of age or older.

H.162 (Greer)

Effective July 1, 2022

LOCAL BILLS

Chambers County: Authorizes the county commission, upon majority approval of qualified electors of the county, to extend 3 mills of ad valorem tax by 20 years.

H.64 (Wood)

Effective March 1, 2022

Morgan County [C/A]: Provides a constitutional amendment that, if approved by voters, would provide for the distribution of the county's share of the proceeds of the simplified sellers use tax retroactive to October 1, 2019. Morgan County would retain 5% of the gross proceeds for administrative purposes, 85% of the proceeds shall go to county and city school systems based on the proportion of average daily membership and 13.5% shall be allocated to Morgan County Board of Education.

S.242 (Orr)

LOCAL BILLS, contd.

Trussville City: Authorizes the Jefferson County Commission, if approved by the voters, to renew an expiring 8.8 mill special school ad valorem tax for the Trussville City School System and incorporate it into an existing 5.1 mill school ad valorem tax to total 13.9 mills for any tax year commencing on or after 2021 school tax year.

H.81 (Garrett) Effective March 7, 2022

Jefferson County/City of Gardendale: Authorizes the Jefferson County Commission, if approved by voters, to incorporate an expiring 8.8 mill school ad valorem tax for the Jefferson County School Tax District into an existing 5.1 mill school ad valorem tax to a total of 13.9 mills for any tax year commencing on or after 2021 school tax year.

H.87 (Treadaway)

Effective March 7, 2022

<u>Midfield City:</u> Authorizes the Jefferson County Commission, if approved by voters, to renew an expiring 10.5 mill special school ad valorem tax for the Midfield City School System and incorporate it into an existing 6 mill school ad valorem tax to total 16.5 mills for any tax year commencing on or after 2021 school tax year.

H.88 (Coleman)

Effective March 7, 2022

Butler County [C/A]: Provides a constitutional amendment that, if approved by voters, will require municipalities lying within the county to have prior approval, of a majority of qualified electors of the county, in order to establish a separate school system after January 1, 2022.

H.430 (Sells)

Effective March 17, 2022

Baldwin County: Provides for the election of the members of the Baldwin County Board of Education by voters residing in those areas of the county that are outside of the corporate limits of any municipality in the county with a separate school system.

H.299 (Shiver)

Effective July 1, 2022

Autauga County [C/A]: Provides a constitutional amendment that, if approved by voters, would provide for the levy and collection of a special school district ad valorem tax in the amount of \$1.50 on each \$100 of taxable property in the special school tax district composed of the Central and Daniel Pratt school zones.

S.138 (Chambliss)

Effective April 7, 2022

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions express the will of the legislature but do not have the effect of law. Either chamber can adopt a general resolution, but both chambers must adopt a joint resolution which are then forwarded to the governor for signature and assigned an act number by the secretary of state.

Joint Interim Study Commission on Responsible Technology Purchases by Public Education
This commission is created to examine the short-term and long-term fiscal impact of the significant increase in mass technology purchases, and to recommend new methods of addressing any potential economic, privacy and environmental impacts of those purchases.

SJR34 (Singleton)

State of Character - Reaffirms Alabama as a state of character and appeals to partners to collaborate when developing and supporting the implementation of character-building strategies to positively influence the state and nation.

SJR73 (Marsh)

2022-368 Joint Legislative Study Commission on Renewing Economic Development Incentives - This commission is created to reevaluate economic incentives set to expire in 2023, to allow Alabama to continue to be an active and dynamic leader in worldwide competition for jobs and investments.

SJR117 (Orr)





