

1 HB403  
2 157682-1  
3 By Representatives Sessions, Long, Fincher, Davis, McClendon,  
4 Ison, Gaston, Baughn, Shiver, Buskey, Bracy, McMillan, Clarke,  
5 Moore (B), Jones, Polizos, Faust, England, Brown, Black,  
6 Baker, Mitchell, Clouse, Johnson (R), Lee, Chesteen  
7 and Buttram  
8 RFD: Agriculture and Forestry  
9 First Read: 04-FEB-14

2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, the boundaries of this  
9 state extend to places that have been or may be  
10 ceded to the state by the United States.

11 This bill would provide legislative intent  
12 regarding the limits and boundaries of the  
13 territorial waters and submerged lands of this  
14 state.

15 This bill would further provide for the  
16 limits and boundaries of the territorial waters and  
17 submerged lands of this state.

18  
19 A BILL  
20 TO BE ENTITLED  
21 AN ACT

22  
23 Relating to the limits and boundaries of the  
24 territorial waters and submerged lands of this state; to  
25 provide legislative intent regarding the limits and boundaries  
26 of the territorial waters and submerged lands of this state;  
27 and to amend Section 41-1-1 of the Code of Alabama 1975, to

1 further provide for the limits and boundaries of the  
2 territorial waters and submerged lands of this state.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

4 Section 1. (a) The Legislature hereby finds,  
5 determines, and declares the following:

6 (1) Significant inequitable disparities exist in the  
7 limits and boundaries of the territorial waters and submerged  
8 lands among the Gulf Coast States of Texas, Florida,  
9 Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama.

10 (2) These inequities have resulted in economic and  
11 recreational losses to the State of Alabama, its political  
12 subdivisions, and its citizens.

13 (3) It is the policy and purpose of the State of  
14 Alabama by this act to place itself on an equal footing with  
15 the other Gulf Coast States with regard to the limits and  
16 boundaries of the territorial waters and submerged lands of  
17 the State of Alabama.

18 (b) This section shall be liberally construed to  
19 effect the policy and purposes hereof.

20 Section 2. Section 41-1-1 of the Code of Alabama  
21 1975, is amended to read as follows:

22 "§41-1-1.

23 "(a) The sovereignty and jurisdiction of the state  
24 extend to all places within the boundaries ~~thereof~~ of the  
25 state, but the extent of ~~such~~ the jurisdiction over places  
26 that have been or may be ceded to the United States is  
27 qualified by the terms of ~~such~~ the cession.

1                   "(b) The limits and boundaries of the territorial  
2 waters and submerged lands of the State of Alabama shall  
3 consist of all territory included within the boundaries  
4 described in the Act of Congress of March 2, 1819, together  
5 with all territory ceded to the State of Alabama by later acts  
6 of Congress or by compacts or agreements with other states or  
7 the United States, extending seaward to a distance of three  
8 Marine Leagues."

9                   Section 3. This act shall become effective on the  
10 first day of the third month following its passage and  
11 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.