HB315

182388-2

By Representatives Johnson (K) and Pettus

RFD: Judiciary

First Read: 23-FEB-17
SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, it is a misdemeanor offense to practice midwifery without a license issued by the State Board of Nursing and the Board of Medical Examiners.

This bill would exempt a midwife holding a current midwifery certification from an organization accredited by the Institute for Credentialing Excellence from the crime of practicing midwifery without a license.

This bill would also make the practice of lay midwifery a criminal offense.

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to midwives; to amend Section 34-19-3, Code of Alabama 1975; to exempt a midwife holding a current midwifery certification from an organization accredited by the Institute for Credentialing Excellence from the crime of
practicing midwifery without a license; and to make the practice of lay midwifery a criminal offense.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 34-19-3, Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:

"§34-19-3. 

"(a) It shall be unlawful for any person individual other than a licensed professional nurse who has received a license from the State Board of Nursing and the Board of Medical Examiners or a midwife who holds a current midwifery certification from an organization accredited by the Institute for Credentialing Excellence to practice nurse midwifery in this state. Any person violating this subsection section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

"(b) Nothing in subsection (a) of this section shall be construed as to prevent lay midwives holding valid health department permits from engaging in the practice of lay midwifery as heretofore provided until such time as the permit may be revoked by the county board of health."

Section 2. This act shall become effective on the first day of the third month following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.