

1 SB267
2 189523-6
3 By Senators Ward and Pittman
4 RFD: Judiciary
5 First Read: 01-FEB-18

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4 ENGROSSED

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7 A BILL
8 TO BE ENTITLED
9 AN ACT

10
11 Relating to state ethics laws; to amend Sections
12 36-25-1 and 36-25-27, Code of Alabama 1975, to revise the
13 definition of minor violation; to increase the size of
14 administrative penalties the commission may impose for minor
15 violations, and to provide that district courts have
16 jurisdiction to hear cases involving potential violations of
17 ethics laws.

18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

19 Section 1. Sections 36-25-1 and 36-25-27, Code of
20 Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:

21 "§36-25-1.

22 "Whenever used in this chapter, the following words
23 and terms shall have the following meanings:

24 "(1) BUSINESS. Any corporation, partnership,
25 proprietorship, firm, enterprise, franchise, association,
26 organization, self-employed individual, or any other legal
27 entity.

1 "(2) BUSINESS WITH WHICH THE PERSON IS ASSOCIATED.
2 Any business of which the person or a member of his or her
3 family is an officer, owner, partner, board of director
4 member, employee, or holder of more than five percent of the
5 fair market value of the business.

6 "(3) CANDIDATE. This term as used in this chapter
7 shall have the same meaning ascribed to it in Section
8 17-22A-2.

9 "(4) COMMISSION. The State Ethics Commission.

10 "(5) COMPLAINT. Written allegation or allegations
11 that a violation of this chapter has occurred.

12 "(6) COMPLAINANT. A person who alleges a violation
13 or violations of this chapter by filing a complaint against a
14 respondent.

15 "(7) CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. A complaint filed
16 pursuant to this chapter, together with any statement,
17 conversations, knowledge of evidence, or information received
18 from the complainant, witness, or other person related to such
19 complaint.

20 "(8) CONFLICT OF INTEREST. A conflict on the part of
21 a public official or public employee between his or her
22 private interests and the official responsibilities inherent
23 in an office of public trust. A conflict of interest involves
24 any action, inaction, or decision by a public official or
25 public employee in the discharge of his or her official duties
26 which would materially affect his or her financial interest or
27 those of his or her family members or any business with which

1 the person is associated in a manner different from the manner
2 it affects the other members of the class to which he or she
3 belongs. A conflict of interest shall not include any of the
4 following:

5 "a. A loan or financial transaction made or
6 conducted in the ordinary course of business.

7 "b. An occasional nonpecuniary award publicly
8 presented by an organization for performance of public
9 service.

10 "c. Payment of or reimbursement for actual and
11 necessary expenditures for travel and subsistence for the
12 personal attendance of a public official or public employee at
13 a convention or other meeting at which he or she is scheduled
14 to meaningfully participate in connection with his or her
15 official duties and for which attendance no reimbursement is
16 made by the state.

17 "d. Any campaign contribution, including the
18 purchase of tickets to, or advertisements in journals, for
19 political or testimonial dinners, if the contribution is
20 actually used for political purposes and is not given under
21 circumstances from which it could reasonably be inferred that
22 the purpose of the contribution is to substantially influence
23 a public official in the performance of his or her official
24 duties.

25 "(9) DAY. Calendar day.

26 "(10) DEPENDENT. Any person, regardless of his or
27 her legal residence or domicile, who receives 50 percent or

1 more of his or her support from the public official or public
2 employee or his or her spouse or who resided with the public
3 official or public employee for more than 180 days during the
4 reporting period.

5 "(11) DE MINIMIS. A value twenty-five dollars (\$25)
6 or less per occasion and an aggregate of fifty dollars (\$50)
7 or less in a calendar year from any single provider, or such
8 other amounts as may be prescribed by the Ethics Commission
9 from time to time by rule pursuant to the Administrative
10 Procedure Act or adjusted each four years from August 1, 2012,
11 to reflect any increase in the cost of living as indicated by
12 the United States Department of Labor Consumer Price Index or
13 any succeeding equivalent index.

14 "(12) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUNCTION. Any function
15 reasonably and directly related to the advancement of a
16 specific, good-faith economic development or trade promotion
17 project or objective.

18 "(13) EDUCATIONAL FUNCTION. A meeting, event, or
19 activity held within the State of Alabama, or if the function
20 is predominantly attended by participants from other states,
21 held within the continental United States, which is organized
22 around a formal program or agenda of educational or
23 informational speeches, debates, panel discussions, or other
24 presentations concerning matters within the scope of the
25 participants' official duties or other matters of public
26 policy, including social services and community development
27 policies, economic development or trade, ethics, government

1 services or programs, or government operations, and which,
2 taking into account the totality of the program or agenda,
3 could not reasonably be perceived as a subterfuge for a purely
4 social, recreational, or entertainment function.

5 "(14) FAMILY MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEE. The
6 spouse or a dependent of the public employee.

7 "(15) FAMILY MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC OFFICIAL. The
8 spouse, a dependent, an adult child and his or her spouse, a
9 parent, a spouse's parents, a sibling and his or her spouse,
10 of the public official.

11 "(16) GOVERNMENTAL CORPORATIONS AND AUTHORITIES.
12 Public or private corporations and authorities, including but
13 not limited to, hospitals or other health care corporations,
14 established pursuant to state law by state, county or
15 municipal governments for the purpose of carrying out a
16 specific governmental function. Notwithstanding the foregoing,
17 all employees, including contract employees, of hospitals or
18 other health care corporations and authorities are exempt from
19 the provisions of this chapter.

20 "(17) HOUSEHOLD. The public official, public
21 employee, and his or her spouse and dependents.

22 "(18) LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER. A full-time employee
23 of a governmental unit responsible for the prevention or
24 investigation of crime who is authorized by law to carry
25 firearms, execute search warrants, and make arrests.

26 "(19) LEGISLATIVE BODY. The term "legislative body"
27 includes the following:

1 "a. The Legislature of Alabama, which includes both
2 the Senate of Alabama and the House of Representatives of
3 Alabama, unless specified otherwise by the express language of
4 any provision herein, and any committee or subcommittee
5 thereof.

6 "b. A county commission, and any committee or
7 subcommittee thereof.

8 "c. A city council, city commission, town council,
9 or other municipal council or commission, and any committee or
10 subcommittee thereof.

11 "(20) LOBBY or LOBBYING. The practice of promoting,
12 opposing, or in any manner influencing or attempting to
13 influence the introduction, defeat, or enactment of
14 legislation before any legislative body; opposing or in any
15 manner influencing the executive approval, veto, or amendment
16 of legislation; or the practice of promoting, opposing, or in
17 any manner influencing or attempting to influence the
18 enactment, promulgation, modification, or deletion of
19 regulations before any regulatory body. The term does not
20 include providing public testimony before a legislative body
21 or regulatory body or any committee thereof.

22 "(21) LOBBYIST.

23 "a. The term lobbyist includes any of the following:

24 "1. A person who receives compensation or
25 reimbursement from another person, group, or entity to lobby.

1 "2. A person who lobbies as a regular and usual part
2 of employment, whether or not any compensation in addition to
3 regular salary and benefits is received.

4 "3. A consultant to the state, county, or municipal
5 levels of government or their instrumentalities, in any manner
6 employed to influence legislation or regulation, regardless
7 whether the consultant is paid in whole or part from state,
8 county, municipal, or private funds.

9 "4. An employee, a paid consultant, or a member of
10 the staff of a lobbyist, whether or not he or she is paid, who
11 regularly communicates with members of a legislative body
12 regarding pending legislation and other matters while the
13 legislative body is in session.

14 "b. The term lobbyist does not include any of the
15 following:

16 "1. An elected official on a matter which involves
17 that person's official duties.

18 "2. A person or attorney rendering professional
19 services in drafting bills or in advising clients and in
20 rendering opinions as to the construction and effect of
21 proposed or pending legislation, executive action, or rules or
22 regulations, where those professional services are not
23 otherwise connected with legislative, executive, or regulatory
24 action.

25 "3. Reporters and editors while pursuing normal
26 reportorial and editorial duties.

1 "4. Any citizen not lobbying for compensation who
2 contacts a member of a legislative body, or gives public
3 testimony on a particular issue or on particular legislation,
4 or for the purpose of influencing legislation and who is
5 merely exercising his or her constitutional right to
6 communicate with members of a legislative body.

7 "5. A person who appears before a legislative body,
8 a regulatory body, or an executive agency to either sell or
9 purchase goods or services.

10 "6. A person whose primary duties or
11 responsibilities do not include lobbying, but who may, from
12 time to time, organize social events for members of a
13 legislative body to meet and confer with members of
14 professional organizations and who may have only irregular
15 contacts with members of a legislative body when the body is
16 not in session or when the body is in recess.

17 "7. A person who is a member of a business,
18 professional, or membership organization by virtue of the
19 person's contribution to or payment of dues to the
20 organization even though the organization engages in lobbying
21 activities.

22 "8. A state governmental agency head or his or her
23 designee who provides or communicates, or both, information
24 relating to policy or positions, or both, affecting the
25 governmental agencies which he or she represents.

26 "(22) MINOR VIOLATION.

1 "a. Any violation of this chapter in which the
2 public official or public employee receives an economic gain
3 in an amount less than ~~two hundred fifty dollars (\$250)~~ one
4 thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) or the governmental
5 entity has an economic loss of less than ~~two hundred fifty~~
6 dollars (\$250) one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500).

7 "b. Any violation of this chapter by a public
8 employee as determined in the discretion of the commission and
9 the Attorney General or the district attorney for the
10 appropriate jurisdiction based upon consideration of the
11 following factors:

12 "1. The public employee has made substantial or full
13 restitution to the victim or victims.

14 "2. The violation did not involve multiple
15 participants.

16 "3. The violation did not involve great monetary
17 gain to the public employee or great monetary loss to the
18 victim or victims.

19 "4. The violation did not involve a high degree of
20 sophistication or planning; did not occur over a lengthy
21 period of time, or did not involve multiple victims and did
22 not involve a single victim that was victimized more than
23 once.

24 "5. The public employee has resigned or been
25 terminated from the position occupied during which the
26 violation occurred and is otherwise not a current public
27 employee.

1 "(23) PERSON. A business, individual, corporation,
2 partnership, union, association, firm, committee, club, or
3 other organization or group of persons.

4 "(24) PRINCIPAL. A person or business which employs,
5 hires, or otherwise retains a lobbyist. A principal is not a
6 lobbyist but is not allowed to give a thing of value.

7 "(25) PROBABLE CAUSE. A finding that the allegations
8 are more likely than not to have occurred.

9 "(26) PUBLIC EMPLOYEE. Any person employed at the
10 state, county, or municipal level of government or their
11 instrumentalities, including governmental corporations and
12 authorities, but excluding employees of hospitals or other
13 health care corporations including contract employees of those
14 hospitals or other health care corporations, who is paid in
15 whole or in part from state, county, or municipal funds. For
16 purposes of this chapter, a public employee does not include a
17 person employed on a part-time basis whose employment is
18 limited to providing professional services other than
19 lobbying, the compensation for which constitutes less than 50
20 percent of the part-time employee's income.

21 "(27) PUBLIC OFFICIAL. Any person elected to public
22 office, whether or not that person has taken office, by the
23 vote of the people at state, county, or municipal level of
24 government or their instrumentalities, including governmental
25 corporations, and any person appointed to a position at the
26 state, county, or municipal level of government or their
27 instrumentalities, including governmental corporations. For

1 purposes of this chapter, a public official includes the
2 chairs and vice-chairs or the equivalent offices of each state
3 political party as defined in Section 17-13-40.

4 "(28) REGULATORY BODY. A state agency which issues
5 regulations in accordance with the Alabama Administrative
6 Procedure Act or a state, county, or municipal department,
7 agency, board, or commission which controls, according to rule
8 or regulation, the activities, business licensure, or
9 functions of any group, person, or persons.

10 "(29) REPORTING PERIOD. The reporting official's or
11 employee's fiscal tax year as it applies to his or her United
12 States personal income tax return.

13 "(30) REPORTING YEAR. The reporting official's or
14 employee's fiscal tax year as it applies to his or her United
15 States personal income tax return.

16 "(31) RESPONDENT. A person alleged to have violated
17 a provision of this chapter and against whom a complaint has
18 been filed with the commission.

19 "(32) STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS. A financial
20 disclosure form made available by the commission which shall
21 be completed and filed with the commission prior to April 30
22 of each year covering the preceding calendar year by certain
23 public officials and public employees.

24 "(33) SUPERVISOR. Any person having authority to
25 hire, transfer, suspend, lay off, recall, promote, discharge,
26 assign, or discipline other public employees, or any person
27 responsible to direct them, or to adjust their grievances, or

1 to recommend personnel action, if, in connection with the
2 foregoing, the exercise of the authority is not of a merely
3 routine or clerical nature but requires the use of independent
4 judgment.

5 "(34) THING OF VALUE.

6 "a. Any gift, benefit, favor, service, gratuity,
7 tickets or passes to an entertainment, social or sporting
8 event, unsecured loan, other than those loans and forbearances
9 made in the ordinary course of business, reward, promise of
10 future employment, or honoraria or other item of monetary
11 value.

12 "b. The term, thing of value, does not include any
13 of the following, provided that no particular course of action
14 is required as a condition to the receipt thereof:

15 "1. A contribution reported under Chapter 5 of Title
16 17 or a contribution to an inaugural or transition committee.

17 "2. Anything given by a family member of the
18 recipient under circumstances which make it clear that it is
19 motivated by a family relationship.

20 "3. Anything given by a friend of the recipient
21 under circumstances which make it clear that it is motivated
22 by a friendship and not given because of the recipient's
23 official position. Relevant factors include whether the
24 friendship preexisted the recipient's status as a public
25 employee, public official, or candidate and whether gifts have
26 been previously exchanged between them.

1 "4. Greeting cards, and other items, services with
2 little intrinsic value which are intended solely for
3 presentation, such as plaques, certificates, and trophies,
4 promotional items commonly distributed to the general public,
5 and items or services of de minimis value.

6 "5. Loans from banks and other financial
7 institutions on terms generally available to the public.

8 "6. Opportunities and benefits, including favorable
9 rates and commercial discounts, available to the public or to
10 a class consisting of all government employees.

11 "7. Rewards and prizes given to competitors in
12 contests or events, including random drawings, which are open
13 to the public.

14 "8. Anything that is paid for by a governmental
15 entity or an entity created by a governmental entity to
16 support the governmental entity or secured by a governmental
17 entity under contract, except for tickets to a sporting event
18 offered by an educational institution to anyone other than
19 faculty, staff, or administration of the institution.

20 "9. Anything for which the recipient pays full
21 value.

22 "10. Compensation and other benefits earned from a
23 non-government employer, vendor, client, prospective employer,
24 or other business relationship in the ordinary course of
25 employment or non-governmental business activities under
26 circumstances which make it clear that the thing is provided

1 for reasons unrelated to the recipient's public service as a
2 public official or public employee.

3 "11. Any assistance provided or rendered in
4 connection with a safety or a health emergency.

5 "12. Payment of or reimbursement for actual and
6 necessary transportation and lodging expenses, as well as
7 waiver of registration fees and similar costs, to facilitate
8 the attendance of a public official or public employee, and
9 the spouse of the public official or public employee, at an
10 educational function or widely attended event of which the
11 person is a primary sponsor. This exclusion applies only if
12 the public official or public employee meaningfully
13 participates in the event as a speaker or a panel participant,
14 by presenting information related to his or her agency or
15 matters pending before his or her agency, or by performing a
16 ceremonial function appropriate to his or her official
17 position; or if the public official's or public employee's
18 attendance at the event is appropriate to the performance of
19 his or her official duties or representative function.

20 "13. Payment of or reimbursement for actual and
21 necessary transportation and lodging expenses to facilitate a
22 public official's or public employee's participation in an
23 economic development function.

24 "14. Hospitality, meals, and other food and
25 beverages provided to a public official or public employee,
26 and the spouse of the public official or public employee, as
27 an integral part of an educational function, economic

1 development function, work session, or widely attended event,
2 such as a luncheon, banquet, or reception hosted by a civic
3 club, chamber of commerce, charitable or educational
4 organization, or trade or professional association.

5 "15. Any function or activity pre-certified by the
6 Director of the Ethics Commission as a function that meets any
7 of the above criteria.

8 "16. Meals and other food and beverages provided to
9 a public official or public employee in a setting other than
10 any of the above functions not to exceed for a lobbyist
11 twenty-five dollars (\$25) per meal with a limit of one hundred
12 fifty dollars (\$150) per year; and not to exceed for a
13 principal fifty dollars (\$50) per meal with a limit of two
14 hundred fifty dollars (\$250) per year. Notwithstanding the
15 foregoing, the lobbyist's limits herein shall not count
16 against the principal's limits and likewise, the principal's
17 limits shall not count against the lobbyist's limits.

18 "17. Anything either (i) provided by an association
19 or organization to which the state or, in the case of a local
20 government official or employee, the local government pays
21 annual dues as a membership requirement or (ii) provided by an
22 association or organization to a public official who is a
23 member of the association or organization and, as a result of
24 his or her service to the association or organization, is
25 deemed to be a public official. Further included in this
26 exception is payment of reasonable compensation by a
27 professional or local government association or corporation to

1 a public official who is also an elected officer or director
2 of the professional or local government association or
3 corporation for services actually provided to the association
4 or corporation in his or her capacity as an officer or
5 director.

6 "18. Any benefit received as a discount on
7 accommodations, when the discount is given to the public
8 official because the public official is a member of an
9 organization or association whose entire membership receives
10 the discount.

11 "c. Nothing in this chapter shall be deemed to
12 limit, prohibit, or otherwise require the disclosure of gifts
13 through inheritance received by a public employee or public
14 official.

15 "(35) VALUE. The fair market price of a like item if
16 purchased by a private citizen. In the case of tickets to
17 social and sporting events and associated passes, the value is
18 the face value printed on the ticket.

19 "(36) WIDELY ATTENDED EVENT. A gathering, dinner,
20 reception, or other event of mutual interest to a number of
21 parties at which it is reasonably expected that more than 12
22 individuals will attend and that individuals with a diversity
23 of views or interest will be present.

24 "§36-25-27.

25 "(a) (1) Except as otherwise provided, any person
26 subject to this chapter who intentionally violates any
27 provision of this chapter other than those for which a

1 separate penalty is provided for in this section shall, upon
2 conviction, be guilty of a Class B felony.

3 "(2) Any person subject to this chapter who violates
4 any provision of this chapter other than those for which a
5 separate penalty is provided for in this section shall, upon
6 conviction, be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

7 "(3) Any person subject to this chapter who
8 knowingly violates any disclosure requirement of this chapter
9 shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

10 "(4) Any person who knowingly makes or transmits a
11 false report or complaint pursuant to this chapter shall, upon
12 conviction, be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor and shall be
13 liable for the actual legal expenses incurred by the
14 respondent against whom the false report or complaint was
15 filed.

16 "(5) Any person who makes false statements to an
17 employee of the commission or to the commission itself
18 pursuant to this chapter without reason to believe the
19 accuracy of the statements shall, upon conviction, be guilty
20 of a Class A misdemeanor.

21 "(6) Any person subject to this chapter who
22 intentionally violates this chapter relating to secrecy shall,
23 upon conviction, be guilty of a Class C felony.

24 "(7) Any person subject to this chapter who
25 intentionally fails to disclose information required by this
26 chapter shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a Class A
27 misdemeanor.

1 ~~"(b) The commission, if petitioned or agreed to by a~~
2 ~~respondent and the Attorney General or district attorney~~
3 ~~having jurisdiction, by unanimous vote of the members present,~~
4 If a respondent petitions the commission or the respondent
5 otherwise agrees to an administrative resolution of the
6 complaint filed against him or her, the commission may
7 administratively resolve a complaint filed pursuant to this
8 chapter for minor violations upon a unanimous vote and
9 subsequent approval by the appropriate District Attorney or
10 the Attorney General. The commission may ~~levy~~ impose an
11 administrative penalty not to exceed ~~one thousand dollars~~
12 ~~(\$1,000)~~ six thousand dollars (\$6,000) for any minor violation
13 of this chapter, ~~including, but not limited to, the failure to~~
14 ~~timely file a complete and correct statement of economic~~
15 ~~interests. The commission shall, in~~ In addition to any
16 administrative penalty, the commission shall order restitution
17 in the amount of any economic loss to the state, county, ~~and~~
18 ~~municipal governments and their instrumentalities and such~~
19 ~~restitution shall when collected~~ municipality, or
20 instrumentality of the state, county, or municipality, and
21 when collected, the restitution shall be paid by the
22 commission, ~~to the entity having the economic loss. In any~~
23 ~~case in which an administrative penalty is imposed, the~~
24 ~~administrative penalty shall not be less than three times the~~
25 ~~amount of any economic loss to the state, county, and~~
26 ~~municipal governments or their instrumentalities or any~~
27 ~~economic gain or benefit to the public official or public~~

1 ~~employee, or whichever sum is greater.~~ The commission, through
2 its attorney, shall institute proceedings to recover any
3 penalties or restitution or other such funds so ordered
4 pursuant to this section which are not paid by, or on behalf
5 of, the public official or public employee or other person who
6 has violated this chapter. Nothing in this section shall be
7 deemed in any manner to prohibit the commission and the
8 respondent from entering into a consent decree settling a
9 complaint which has previously been designated by the
10 commission for administrative resolution, so long as the
11 consent decree is approved by the commission. If the
12 commission, the respondent, and the Attorney General or
13 district attorney having jurisdiction, all concur that a
14 complaint is deemed to be handled administratively, the action
15 shall preclude any criminal prosecution pursuant to this
16 chapter at the state, county, or municipal level.

17 "(c) The enforcement of this chapter shall be vested
18 in the commission; provided, however, nothing in this chapter
19 shall be deemed to limit or otherwise prohibit the Attorney
20 General or the district attorney for the appropriate
21 jurisdiction from enforcing any provision of this chapter as
22 they deem appropriate. In the event the commission, by
23 majority vote, finds that any provision of this chapter has
24 been violated, the alleged violation and any investigation
25 conducted by the commission shall be referred to the district
26 attorney of the appropriate jurisdiction or the Attorney
27 General. The commission shall provide any and all appropriate

1 assistance to such district attorney or Attorney General. Upon
2 the request of such district attorney or the Attorney General,
3 the commission may institute, prosecute, or take such other
4 appropriate legal action regarding such violations, proceeding
5 therein with all rights, privileges, and powers conferred by
6 law upon assistant attorneys general.

7 "(d) Nothing in this chapter limits the power of the
8 state to punish any person for any conduct which otherwise
9 constitutes a crime by statute or at common law.

10 "(e) The penalties prescribed in this chapter do not
11 in any manner limit the power of a legislative body to
12 discipline its own members or to impeach public officials and
13 do not limit the powers of agencies, departments, boards, or
14 commissions to discipline their respective officials, members,
15 or employees.

16 "(f) If a person fails to pay any penalty, fine, or
17 restitution imposed by the commission pursuant to this
18 chapter, the commission may file an action to collect the
19 penalty, fine, or restitution in the District Court or Circuit
20 Court of Montgomery County. The person shall be responsible
21 for paying all costs associated with the collection of the
22 penalty, fine, or restitution.

23 "~~(f)~~ (g) Each district or circuit court of this
24 state shall have jurisdiction ~~of~~ in all cases and actions
25 ~~relative to judicial review, violations, or relating to~~ the
26 enforcement of this chapter, and the venue of any action
27 pursuant to this chapter shall be in the county in which the

1 alleged violation occurred, or in those cases where the
2 alleged violation or violations occurred outside the State of
3 Alabama or for failure to properly or timely file any form
4 required by the commission, in Montgomery County. In the case
5 of judicial review of any administrative decision of the
6 commission, the commission's order, rule, or decision shall be
7 taken as prima facie just and reasonable and the court shall
8 not substitute its judgment for that of the commission as to
9 the weight of the evidence on questions of fact except where
10 otherwise authorized by law.

11 ~~"(g)~~ (h) Any felony prosecution brought pursuant to
12 this chapter shall be commenced within four years after the
13 commission of the offense.

14 ~~"(h)~~ (i) Any misdemeanor prosecution brought
15 pursuant to this chapter shall be commenced within two years
16 after the commission of the offense.

17 ~~"(i)~~ (j) Nothing in this chapter is intended to nor
18 is to be construed as repealing in any way the provisions of
19 any of the criminal laws of this state."

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

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Senate

Read for the first time and referred to the Senate
committee on Judiciary..... 01-FEB-18

Read for the second time and placed on the calen-
dar 1 amendment..... 22-FEB-18

Read for the third time and passed as amended 21-MAR-18

Yeas 19
Nays 3

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.