

1 SB143  
2 204171-1  
3 By Senator Chesteen  
4 RFD: Veterans and Military Affairs  
5 First Read: 06-FEB-20

SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, local boards of education are required to provide a virtual education option for eligible students in grades 9-12.

This bill would provide, for the purposes of enrolling in and attending a virtual school operating in this state, that the dependents of a member of the United States Armed Forces shall be considered residents of the state upon the member receiving orders to relocate to Alabama.

A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

To amend Section 16-46A-1, Code of Alabama 1975, relating to K-12 virtual education, to provide, for the purposes of enrolling in and attending a virtual school operating in this state, that the dependents of a member of the United States Armed Forces shall be considered residents

1 of the state upon the member receiving orders to relocate to  
2 Alabama.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

4 Section 1. Section 16-46A-1 of the Code of Alabama  
5 1975, is amended to read as follows:

6 "§16-46A-1.

7 "(a) (1) Before the 2016-2017 school year, each local  
8 board of education shall adopt a policy providing, at a  
9 minimum, a virtual education option for eligible students in  
10 grades nine to 12, inclusive, beginning with that school year.

11 "(2) Any virtual school operating in this state that  
12 provides educational services to public school students shall  
13 comply with this chapter.

14 "(b) The policy adopted by the local board of  
15 education pursuant to this chapter shall govern the virtual  
16 school program offered by the local board of education. The  
17 policy shall offer students in grades nine to 12, inclusive,  
18 an online pathway for earning a high school diploma and, at a  
19 minimum, shall include all of the following:

20 "(1) The scope and delivery of virtual options.

21 "(2) Student eligibility criteria for initial and  
22 continuing participation in the virtual program.

23 "(3) Specific requirements for monitoring  
24 performance and testing protocol consistent with this chapter.

25 "(4) Attendance requirements, if any.

1                   "(c) A local board of education shall not be  
2 required to utilize a state program or vendor for the  
3 provision of virtual school options.

4                   "(d) For the purposes of this chapter, a dependent  
5 of a member of the United States Armed Forces who has received  
6 orders to relocate in this state shall be considered a  
7 resident of this state and the applicable local school  
8 system."

9                   Section 2. 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.