SYNOPSIS: This bill would require public accommodations and facilities operated by public entities to install and maintain baby diaper changing stations accessible to both males and females.

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to public accommodations and facilities operated by public entities; to require the installation and maintenance of baby diaper changing stations under certain circumstances.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

   (1) PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION. Has the same meaning as defined in 42 U.S.C. §12181.
(2) PUBLIC ENTITY. Has the same meaning as defined in 42 U.S.C. §12131.

(b)(1) Public accommodations and facilities operated by public entities shall provide either of the following:

a. At least one restroom for each gender that is equipped with a baby diaper changing station.

b. At least one baby diaper changing station that is accessible to both men and women.

(2) Each baby diaper changing station shall include signage at or near the entrance to the baby diaper changing station indicating the location of the station. Any existing central directory or map identifying the location of offices, restrooms, and other facilities shall be revised to indicate the location of the baby diaper changing stations. Each baby diaper changing station shall be maintained, repaired, and replaced as necessary to ensure safety and ease of use, and shall be cleaned with the same frequency as the public restrooms located within the facility.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (d), this section applies to new construction and to a renovation of a restroom for which a permit has been obtained and for which the cost of renovation is ten thousand dollars ($10,000) or more. If a public accommodation or a facility operated by a public entity is in compliance with the requirements of this section at the time of new construction or renovation, additional restrooms equipped with baby diaper changing stations are not required.
(d) This section does not apply to either of the following:

(1) A public accommodation in which a person under 18 years of age is not allowed to enter.

(2) A renovation of an existing public accommodation or a facility operated by a public entity with respect to which a local building permitting entity or building inspector determines the installation of a baby diaper changing station is not feasible or would result in a failure to comply with applicable building standards governing the right of access for persons with disabilities.

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.