

1 SB60
2 215816-2
3 By Senators Singleton, Coleman-Madison, Smitherman, Figures
4 and Beasley
5 RFD: Governmental Affairs
6 First Read: 11-JAN-22

SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, the Governor, Auditor, and Commissioner of Agriculture and Industries jointly appoint members to each county's board of registrars.

This bill would require the appointing authorities to ensure that membership of the boards of registrars reflect the diversity of residents of the respective counties.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to boards of registrars; to amend Section 17-3-2, Code of Alabama 1975, to provide further for the appointment of members of boards of registrars.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 17-3-2, Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:

"§17-3-2.

1 "(a) Registration shall be conducted in each county
2 by a board of registrars comprised of three reputable and
3 suitable ~~persons~~ individuals to be appointed, unless otherwise
4 provided by law, by the Governor, Auditor, and Commissioner of
5 Agriculture and Industries, or by a majority of them, acting
6 as a state board of appointment. After the effective date of
7 this act adding this amendatory language, when appointing
8 members to a board of registrars, the state board of
9 appointment shall ensure that membership is reflective of the
10 gender, race, and geographical makeup of the respective
11 county. The registrars shall be qualified electors, residents
12 of the county, shall have a high school diploma or equivalent,
13 and possess the minimum computer and map reading skills
14 necessary to function in the office. The Secretary of State
15 shall prescribe guidelines to assist the state board of
16 appointment in determining the qualifications of registrars.
17 The registrars shall not hold an elective office during their
18 term. One of the members shall be designated by the state
19 board of appointment as chair of the board of registrars for
20 each county.

21 "(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection
22 (a), the Legislature may provide by local law for the
23 appointment of additional members to the board of registrars
24 for a county that has two courthouses.

25 "(c) The provisions of this section shall not apply
26 in any county having a population of not less than 600,000
27 inhabitants according to the 1970 or any succeeding federal

1 decennial census, and any currently effective local law or
2 general law of local application providing for the appointment
3 of any member of the board of registrars in the county shall
4 remain in full force and effect and shall not be repealed by
5 operation of this chapter."

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