

1 HB135  
2 189376-1  
3 By Representative Wadsworth  
4 RFD: State Government  
5 First Read: 09-JAN-18

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8 SYNOPSIS: This bill would require a hospital that  
9 intends to cease operating to provide notice to  
10 certain entities at least 90 days before the  
11 closure date and to hold a public hearing in the  
12 affected community at least 30 days before the  
13 closure date to explain the proposed closing  
14 process.

15 This bill would require a hospital that  
16 intends to request a waiver of requirements to  
17 provide certain health related services prior to  
18 the date of its closure to provide notice to  
19 certain entities at least 45 days before the  
20 proposed date of termination of services.

21  
22 A BILL  
23 TO BE ENTITLED  
24 AN ACT

25  
26 Relating to hospitals; to require a hospital that  
27 intends to cease operating to provide notice to certain

1 entities at least 90 days before the closure date and to hold  
2 a public hearing in the affected community at least 30 days  
3 before the closure date to explain the proposed closing  
4 process; and to require a hospital that intends to request a  
5 waiver of requirements to provide certain health related  
6 services prior to the date of its closure to provide notice to  
7 certain entities at least 45 days before the proposed date of  
8 termination of services.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

10 Section 1. (a) Any hospital in the state that  
11 provides inpatient services and that intends to cease  
12 operations shall provide written notice at least 90 days  
13 before the date of the planned closure. If the hospital  
14 intends to request any waiver of requirements to provide  
15 certain services under State Board of Health rules prior to  
16 the closure date, the hospital shall provide written notice at  
17 least 45 days before the date of termination of those  
18 services. Written notice shall be provided by certified mail  
19 to all of the following:

20 (1) The Department of Public Health.

21 (2) The Certificate of Need Review Board.

22 (3) The Department of Mental Health.

23 (4) The chair of the county commission of the county  
24 in which the hospital is located.

25 (5) The judge of probate in the county in which the  
26 hospital is located.

1                   (6) The sheriff of the county in which the hospital  
2 is located.

3                   (7) The mayor of the municipality in which the  
4 hospital is located, if applicable.

5                   (b) At least 30 days before the planned closure  
6 date, the hospital shall conduct a public hearing in the  
7 municipality where the hospital is located, or if the hospital  
8 is not located within a municipality, at a location near the  
9 hospital or in the county seat, during which the hospital  
10 shall provide general information on the planned closure and  
11 process of closing and shall address questions and concerns  
12 voiced by members of the affected community. The hospital, at  
13 its own expense and starting at least 30 days before the  
14 hearing, shall publish notice of the hearing in at least one  
15 newspaper having general circulation within the affected  
16 community one day per week for a two-week period.

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