

- 1 HB241
- 2 WR8C959-2
- 3 By Representative Lovvorn
- 4 RFD: Public Safety and Homeland Security
- 5 First Read: 27-Feb-24



1 <u>Enrolled</u>, An Act,

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3	Relating to first responders; to add Section 32-5A-2.1
4	to the Code of Alabama 1975, to provide a definition of
5	pedestrian; and to amend Sections 32-5A-213, 32-5A-218, and
6	32-1-1.1, Code of Alabama 1975, to provide for the duty of a
7	driver to exercise due care to avoid a first responder; and to
8	require the driver of a vehicle to yield the right-of-way to a
9	first responder on a sidewalk.
10	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:
11	Section 1. Section 32-5A-2.1 is added to Chapter 5A to
12	read as follows:
13	\$32-5A-2.1
14	(a) For purposes of this chapter, "pedestrian" means
15	any individual afoot, except as provided in subsection (b).
16	(b) For purposes of this chapter, "pedestrian" does not
17	include a first responder performing a public safety function
18	that the first responder is authorized to perform and that is
19	in the line and scope of his or her employment or volunteer
20	service, including, but not limited to, any of the following:
21	(1) Directing, controlling, or regulating the flow of
22	traffic.
23	(2) Responding to a fire, a collision site, an
24	emergency call, or a fire alarm.
25	(3) Rendering first aid or emergency medical care.
26	(4) Responding to an imminent threat of bodily injury
27	to self or others.
28	(5) Pursuing or apprehending an actual or suspected



29 violator of the law. 30 (6) Moving a vehicle standing upon a street or highway. 31 (7) Entering or remaining on a street or highway for 32 any other law enforcement purpose. 33 Section 2. Sections 32-5A-213, 32-5A-218, and 32-1-1.1, Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows: 34 "§32-5A-213 35 36 Notwithstanding other provisions of this chapter or the 37 provisions of any local ordinance any provision of law to the contrary, every driver of a vehicle shall exercise due care to 38 39 avoid colliding with any pedestrian or first responder and shall give warning by sounding the horn when necessary and 40 shall exercise proper precaution upon observing any child or 41 42 any obviously confused, incapacitated, or intoxicated person." 43 "\$32-5A-218 The driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to 44 45 any pedestrian or first responder on a sidewalk." 46 "\$32-1-1.1 47 The following words and phrases when used in this title 48 shall have the following meanings respectively ascribed to 49 them in this section, except when the context otherwise 50 requires: 51 (1) ALLEY. A street or highway intended to provide 52 access to the rear or side of lots or buildings in urban 53 districts and not intended for the purpose of through 54 vehicular traffic. (2) ARTERIAL STREET. Any federal or state numbered 55 56 route, controlled-access highway, or other major radial or



57 circumferential street or highway designated by local 58 authorities within their respective jurisdictions as part of a 59 major arterial system of streets or highways.

(3) AUTHORIZED EMERGENCY VEHICLE. Such fire department
vehicles, police vehicles, and ambulances as are publicly
owned, and such other publicly or privately owned vehicles as
are designated by the Secretary of the Alabama State Law
Enforcement Agency or the chief of police of an incorporated
city.

66 (4) BICYCLE. Every device propelled by human power upon
67 which any individual may ride, having two tandem wheels either
68 of which is more than 14 inches in diameter.

(5) BUS. Every motor vehicle designed for carrying more
than 10 passengers and used for the transportation of
individuals and every motor vehicle other than a taxicab,
designed and used for the transportation of individuals for
compensation.

(6) BUSINESS DISTRICT. The territory contiguous to and
including a highway when within any 600 feet along the highway
there are buildings in use for business or industrial
purposes, including, but not limited to, hotels, banks, office
buildings, railroad stations, and public buildings which
occupy at least 300 feet of frontage on one side or 300 feet
collectively on both sides of the highway.

81 (7) CANCELLATION OF DRIVER'SDRIVER LICENSE. The
82 annulment or termination by formal action of the Secretary of
83 the Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency of an individual's
84 driver'sdriver license because of some error or defect in the



85 license or because the licensee is no longer entitled to the 86 license, but the cancellation of a license is without 87 prejudice and application for a new license may be made at any 88 time after such cancellation.

(8) CONTROLLED-ACCESS HIGHWAY. Every highway, street, or roadway in respect to which owners or occupants of abutting lands and other persons have no legal right of access to or from the same except at such points only and in such manner as may be determined by the public authority having jurisdiction over the highway, street, or roadway.

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(9) CROSSWALK. Either of the following:

96 a. That part of a roadway at an intersection included
97 within the connections of the lateral lines of the sidewalks
98 on opposite sides of the highway measured from the curbs or,
99 in the absence of curbs, from the edges of the traversable
100 roadway.

b. Any portion of a roadway at an intersection or
elsewhere distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by
lines or other markings on the surface.

(10) DEALER. Every person engaged in the business of buying, selling, or exchanging vehicles who has an established place of business for that purpose in this state and to whom current dealer registration plates have been issued by the Department of Revenue.

109 (11) DEPARTMENT. The Alabama State Law Enforcement 110 Agency acting directly or through its duly authorized officers 111 and agents.

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(12) DIRECTOR. The Secretary of the Alabama State Law

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113 Enforcement Agency.

(13) DRIVEAWAY-TOWAWAY OPERATION. Any operation in which any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer, singly or in combination, new or used, constitutes the commodity being transported, when one set or more of wheels of any such vehicle are on the roadway during the course of transportation, whether or not any such vehicle furnishes the motive power.

121 (14) DRIVER. Every individual who drives or is in122 actual physical control of a vehicle.

123 (15) <u>DRIVER'SDRIVER</u> LICENSE. Any license to operate a
 124 motor vehicle issued under the laws of this state.

(16) ELECTRIC BICYCLE. A bicycle equipped with fully operable pedals, a saddle or seat for the rider, and an electric motor of less than 750 watts that meets the requirements of one of the following three classes:

a. Class 1 electric bicycle means an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.

b. Class 2 electric bicycle means an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that may be used exclusively to propel the bicycle and that is not capable of providing assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.

c. Class 3 electric bicycle means an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 28 miles per hour.



141 (17) ELECTRIC PERSONAL ASSISTIVE MOBILITY DEVICE. A 142 self-balancing, two non-tandem wheeled device designed to 143 transport only one individual with an electric propulsion 144 system with an average power of 750 watts (1 h.p.), that has a 145 maximum speed on a paved level surface, when powered solely by 146 the propulsion system while ridden by an operator who weighs 147 not more than 170 pounds, of less than 20 m.p.h. The term 148 shall not include a motorized bicycle, motorized scooter, or 149 motorized skateboard.

(18) ESSENTIAL PARTS. All integral and body parts of a vehicle of a type required to be registered under this title, the removal, alteration, or substitution of which would tend to conceal the identity of the vehicle or substantially alter its appearance, model, type, or mode of operation.

(19) ESTABLISHED PLACE OF BUSINESS. The place actually occupied either continuously or at regular periods by a dealer or manufacturer where his or her books and records are kept and a large share of his or her business is transacted.

159 (20) EXPLOSIVES. Any chemical compound or mechanical 160 mixture that is commonly used or intended for the purpose of 161 producing an explosion and which contains any oxidizing and 162 combustive units or other ingredients in such proportions, 163 quantities, or packing that an ignition by fire, by friction, 164 by concussion, by percussion, or by detonator of any part of 165 the compound or mixture may cause such a sudden generation of 166 highly heated gases that the resultant gaseous pressures are capable of producing destructive effects on contiguous objects 167 168 or of destroying life or limb.



169 (21) FARM TRACTOR. Every motor vehicle designed and 170 used primarily as a farm implement, for drawing plows, mowing 171 machines, and other implements of husbandry. 172 (22) FIRST RESPONDER. Any law enforcement officer, 173 firefighter, paramedic, or emergency medical technician. 174 (22) (23) FLAMMABLE LIQUID. Any liquid which has a flash 175 point of 70 F. or less, as determined by a fagliabue or 176 equivalent closed-cup test device. 177 (23) (24) FOREIGN VEHICLE. Every vehicle of a type required to be registered hereunder brought into this state 178 179 from another state, territory, or country other than in the ordinary course of business by or through a manufacturer or 180 dealer and not registered in this state. 181 182 (24) (25) GROSS WEIGHT. The weight of a vehicle without 183 load plus the weight of any load thereon. (25) (26) HIGHWAY. The entire width between the boundary 184 185 lines of every way publicly maintained when any part thereof 186 is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular 187 travel. 188 (26) (27) HOUSE TRAILER. Either of the following: 189 a. A trailer or semitrailer that is designed, 190 constructed, and equipped as a dwelling place, living abode, 191 or sleeping place, either permanently or temporarily, and is 192 equipped for use as a conveyance on streets and highways. 193 b. A trailer or semitrailer that has a chassis and

exterior shell that is designed and constructed for use as a house trailer, as defined in paragraph a., but which is used instead permanently or temporarily for the advertising, sales,



display, or promotion of merchandise or services, or for any other commercial purpose except the transportation of property for hire or the transportation of property for distribution by a private carrier.

201 (27)(28) IMPLEMENT OF HUSBANDRY. Every vehicle designed 202 and adapted exclusively for agricultural, horticultural, or 203 livestock raising operations or for lifting or carrying an 204 implement of husbandry and in either case not subject to 205 registration if used upon the highways.

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(28) (29) INTERSECTION. Any of the following:

a. The area embraced within the prolongation or connection of the lateral curb lines, or, if none, then the lateral boundary lines of the roadways of two highways that join one another at, or approximately at, right angles, or the area within which vehicles traveling upon different highways joining at any other angle may come in conflict.

213 b. Where a highway includes two roadways 30 feet or 214 more apart, then every crossing of each roadway of such 215 divided highway by an intersecting highway shall be regarded 216 as a separate intersection. In the event the intersecting 217 highway also includes two roadways 30 feet or more apart, then 218 every crossing of two roadways of such highways shall be 219 regarded as a separate intersection.

c. The junction of an alley with a street or highwayshall not constitute an intersection.

222 (29) (30) LANED ROADWAY. A roadway that is divided into 223 two or more clearly marked lanes for vehicular traffic.

224 (30)(31) LICENSE OF LICENSE TO OPERATE A MOTOR VEHICLE.



Any driver'sdriver license or any other license or permit to operate a motor vehicle issued by the director under the laws of this state, including any nonresident's operating privilege as defined herein.

229 (31)(32) LOCAL AUTHORITIES. Either of the following:

a. Every county commission.

b. Every municipal and other local board or body having
authority to enact laws relating to traffic under the
constitution and laws of this state.

234 (32) (33) MAIL. To deposit in the United States mail
 235 properly addressed and with postage prepaid.

236 (33) (34) METAL TIRE. Every tire the surface of which in 237 contact with the highway is wholly or partly of metal or other 238 hard, nonresilient material.

239 (34) (35) MOTOR VEHICLE. Every vehicle that is 240 self-propelled and every vehicle that is propelled by electric 241 power obtained from overhead trolley wires, but not operated 242 upon rails, except for electric personal assistive mobility 243 devices and electric bicycles.

244 (35)(36) MOTORCYCLE. Every motor vehicle having a seat 245 or saddle for the use of the rider and designed to travel on 246 not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, but 247 excluding a tractor and an electric bicycle.

248 (36) (37) MOTOR-DRIVEN CYCLE. Every motorcycle, 249 including every motor scooter, with a motor that produces not 250 more than five brake horsepower nor exceeds 150 cubic 251 centimeter engine displacement, and weighs less than 200 252 pounds fully equipped, and every bicycle with a motor



253 attached. The term does not include electric bicycles.

254 (37)(38) NONRESIDENT. Every individual who is not a 255 resident of this state.

256 (38) (39) NONRESIDENT'S OPERATING PRIVILEGE. The 257 privilege conferred upon a nonresident by the laws of this 258 state pertaining to the operation by the nonresident of a 259 motor vehicle, or the use of a vehicle owned by the 260 nonresident, in this state.

261 (39) (40) OFFICIAL TRAFFIC-CONTROL DEVICES. All signs,
262 signals, markings, and devices not inconsistent with this
263 title placed or erected by authority of a public body or
264 official having jurisdiction, for the purpose of regulating,
265 warning, or guiding traffic.

266 (40) (41) OWNER. A person, other than a lienholder,
267 having the property in or title to a vehicle. The term
268 includes a person entitled to the use and possession of a
269 vehicle subject to a security interest in another person, but
270 excludes a lessee under a lease not intended as security.

271 (41) (42) PARK or PARKING. The standing of a vehicle, 272 whether occupied or not. The term does not include a vehicle 273 that is stopped temporarily for the purpose of and actually 274 engaged in loading or unloading merchandise or passengers.

275 (42) (43) PASSENGER CAR. Every motor vehicle, except 276 motorcycles and motor-driven cycles, designed for carrying 10 277 passengers or less and used for the transportation of 278 individuals.

279 (43) (44) PEDESTRIAN. Any individual afoot.
 280 (44) (45) PERSON. Every individual, firm, copartnership,



281 association, or corporation.

282 (45) (46) PNEUMATIC TIRE. Every tire in which compressed
 283 air is designed to support the load.

284 (46) (47) POLE TRAILER. Every vehicle without motive 285 power designed to be drawn by another vehicle and attached to 286 the towing vehicle by means of a reach or pole, or by being 287 boomed or otherwise secured to the towing vehicle, and 288 ordinarily used for transporting long or irregularly shaped 289 loads such as poles, pipes, or structural members capable, generally, of sustaining themselves as beams between the 290 291 supporting connections.

292 (47) (48) POLICE OFFICER. Every officer authorized to 293 direct or regulate traffic or to make arrests for violations 294 of traffic regulations.

(48) (49) PRIVATE ROAD or DRIVEWAY. Every way or place
 in private ownership and used for vehicular travel by the
 owner and those having express or implied permission from the
 owner, but not by other persons.

299 (49) (50) RAILROAD. A carrier of individuals or property 300 upon cars other than street cars, operated upon stationary 301 rails.

302 (50) (51) RAILROAD SIGN or SIGNAL. Any sign, signal, or 303 device erected by authority of a public body or official or by 304 a railroad and intended to give notice of the presence of 305 railroad tracks or the approach of a railroad train.

306 (51)(52) RAILROAD TRAIN. A steam engine, electric or 307 other motor, with or without cars coupled thereto, operated 308 upon rails.



309 (52) (53) RECONSTRUCTED VEHICLE. Every vehicle of a type 310 required to be registered under this title materially altered 311 from its original construction by the removal, addition, or 312 substitution of essential parts, new or used.

313 (53) (54) REGISTRATION. The registration certificate or 314 certificates and registration plates issued under the laws of 315 this state pertaining to the registration of vehicles.

316 (54) (55) RESIDENCE DISTRICT. The territory contiguous 317 to and including a highway not comprising a business district 318 when the property on the highway for a distance of 300 feet or 319 more is, in the main, improved with residences or residences 320 and buildings in use for business.

321 (55) (56) REVOCATION OF DRIVER'SDRIVER LICENSE. The 322 termination by formal action of the director of an 323 individual's license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle 324 on the public highways, which termination shall not be subject 325 to renewal or restoration except that an application for a new 326 license may be presented and acted upon by the director after 327 the expiration of the applicable period of time prescribed in 328 this title.

329 (56)(57) RIGHT-OF-WAY. The right of one vehicle or 330 pedestrian to proceed in a lawful manner in preference to 331 another vehicle or pedestrian approaching under such 332 circumstances of direction, speed, and proximity as to give 333 rise to danger of collision unless one grants precedence to 334 the other.

335 (57)(58) ROAD TRACTOR. Every motor vehicle designed and 336 used for drawing other vehicles and not so constructed as to



337 carry any load thereon either independently or any part of the 338 weight of a vehicle or load so drawn.

339 (58) (59) ROADWAY. That portion of a highway improved, 340 designed, or ordinarily used for vehicular travel, exclusive 341 of the berm or shoulder. In the event a highway includes two 342 or more separate roadways, the term refers to each roadway 343 separately but not to all roadways collectively.

344 (59) (60) SAFETY ZONE. The area or space officially set 345 apart within a roadway for the exclusive use of pedestrians 346 and which is protected or is so marked or indicated by 347 adequate signs as to be plainly visible at all times while set 348 apart as a safety zone.

349 (60) (61) SCHOOL BUS. Every motor vehicle that complies 350 with the color and identification requirements set forth by 351 law or rule and is used to transport children to or from 352 school or in connection with school activities, but not 353 including buses operated by common carriers in urban 354 transportation of school children.

355 (61)(62) SCOOTER. A device weighing less than 100 356 pounds that satisfies all of the following:

a. Has handlebars and an electric motor.

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358 b. Is solely powered by the electric motor or human 359 power.

c. Has a maximum speed of no more than 20 m.p.h. on a
 paved level surface when powered solely by the electric motor.
 This term does not include an e-bike, EPAMD, Segway,
 motorcycle, or moped.

364 (62)(63) SECURITY AGREEMENT. A written agreement that



365 reserves or creates a security interest.

366 (63) (64) SECURITY INTEREST. An interest in a vehicle 367 reserved or created by agreement and which secures payment or 368 performance of an obligation. The term includes the interest 369 of a lessor under a lease intended as security. A security 370 interest is perfected when it is valid against third parties 371 generally, subject only to specific statutory exceptions.

372 (64)(65) SEMITRAILER. Every vehicle with or without 373 motive power, other than a pole trailer, designed for carrying 374 individuals or property and for being drawn by a motor vehicle 375 and so constructed that some part of its weight and that of 376 its load rests upon or is carried by another vehicle.

377 (65) (66) SHARED MICROMOBILITY DEVICE. A type of 378 transportation device that includes a bicycle, electric 379 bicycle, tricycle, scooter, hoverboard, skateboard, pedal car, 380 or similar device, except a device used as an electrical 381 personal assistive mobility device by an individual with 382 disabilities, used in a shared micromobility device system.

383 (66) (67) SHARED MICROMOBILITY DEVICE SYSTEM. A system 384 that provides shared micromobility devices to users for 385 short-term rentals, whether or not the system requires docking 386 stations or other similar fixed infrastructure to receive or 387 return the shared micromobility device.

388 (67)(68) SIDEWALK. That portion of a street between the 389 curb lines, or the lateral lines of a roadway, and the 390 adjacent property lines, intended for use by pedestrians.

391 (68) (69) SOLID TIRE. Every tire of rubber or other
 392 resilient material which does not depend upon compressed air



393 for the support of the load.

394 (69) (70) SPECIAL MOBILE EQUIPMENT. Every vehicle not 395 designed or used primarily for the transportation of 396 individuals or property and only incidentally operated or 397 moved over a highway, including, but not limited to: Ditch 398 digging apparatus, well boring apparatus, and road construction and maintenance machinery such as asphalt 399 400 spreaders, bituminous mixers, bucket loaders, tractors other 401 than truck tractors, ditchers, levelling graders, finishing machines, motor graders, road rollers, scarifiers, earth 402 403 moving carry-alls and scrapers, power shovels and drag lines, 404 and self-propelled cranes, and earth moving equipment. The 405 term does not include house trailers, dump trucks, truck 406 mounted transit mixers, cranes or shovels, or other vehicles 407 designed for the transportation of individuals or property to 408 which machinery has been attached.

409 (70) (71) SPECIALLY CONSTRUCTED VEHICLE. Every vehicle 410 of a type required to be registered under this title not 411 originally constructed under a distinctive name, make, model, 412 or type by a generally recognized manufacturer of vehicles and 413 not materially altered from its original construction.

414 (71) (72) STAND or STANDING. The halting of a vehicle, 415 whether occupied or not. The term does not include a vehicle 416 that is halted temporarily for the purpose of and actually 417 engaged in receiving or discharging passengers.

418 (72) (73) STATE. A state, territory, or possession of 419 the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth 420 of Puerto Rico, or a province of Canada.



421 (73) (74) STOP. When required, means complete cessation 422 from movement.

423 (74) (75) STOP or STOPPING. When prohibited, means any 424 halting, even momentarily, of a vehicle, whether occupied or 425 not, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other 426 traffic or in compliance with the directions of a police 427 officer or traffic-control sign or signal.

428 (75)(76) STREET. The entire width between boundary 429 lines of every way publicly maintained when any part thereof 430 is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular 431 travel.

432 (76) (77) SUSPENSION OF DRIVER'SDRIVER LICENSE. The 433 temporary withdrawal by formal action of the Secretary of the 434 Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency of an individual's <u>driver</u> 435 license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle on the public 436 highways, which temporary withdrawal shall be for a period 437 specifically designated by the secretary.

438 (77) (78) THROUGH HIGHWAY. Every highway or portion 439 thereof on which vehicular traffic is given preferential 440 right-of-way, and at the entrances to which vehicular traffic 441 from intersecting highways is required by law to yield the 442 right-of-way to vehicles on such through highway in obedience 443 to a stop sign, yield sign, or other official traffic-control 444 device, when such signs or devices are erected as provided in 445 this title.

446 (78) (79) TRACKLESS TROLLEY COACH. Every motor vehicle
447 which is propelled by electric power obtained from overhead
448 trolley wires but not operated upon rails.



449 (79) (80) TRAFFIC. Pedestrians, ridden or herded 450 animals, vehicles, streetcars, and other conveyances, either 451 singly or together, while using any highway for purposes of 452 travel.

453 (80) (81) TRAFFIC-CONTROL SIGNAL. Any device, whether 454 manually, electrically, or mechanically operated, by which 455 traffic is alternately directed to stop and permitted to 456 proceed.

457 (81)(82) TRAILER. Every vehicle with or without motive 458 power, other than a pole trailer, designed for carrying 459 individuals or property and for being drawn by a motor vehicle 460 and so constructed that no part of its weight rests upon the 461 towing vehicle.

462 (82) (83) TRANSPORTER. Every person engaged in the 463 business of delivering vehicles of a type required to be 464 registered under this title from a manufacturing, assembling, 465 or distributing plant to dealers or sales agents of a 466 manufacturer.

467 (83) (84) TRUCK. Every motor vehicle designed, used, or
 468 maintained primarily for the transportation of property.

469 (84) (85) TRUCK PLATOON. A group of individual 470 commercial trucks traveling in a unified manner at 471 electronically coordinated speeds at following distances that 472 are closer than would be reasonable and prudent without the 473 electronic coordination.

474 (85) (86) TRUCK TRACTOR. Every motor vehicle designed
475 and used primarily for drawing other vehicles and not so
476 constructed as to carry a load other than a part of the weight



477 of the vehicle and load so drawn.

478 (86)(87) URBAN DISTRICT. The territory contiguous to 479 and including any street which is built up with structures 480 devoted to business, industry, or dwelling houses situated at 481 intervals of less than 100 feet for a distance of a quarter of 482 a mile or more.

483 (87) (88) VEHICLE. Every device in, upon, or by which 484 any individual or property is or may be transported or drawn 485 upon a highway, excepting devices moved by human power or used 486 exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks or electric 487 personal assistive mobility devices; provided, that for the purposes of this title, a bicycle, an electric bicycle, or a 488 489 ridden animal shall be deemed a vehicle, except those 490 provisions of this title, which by their very nature can have 491 no application."

492 Section 3. This act shall become effective on October493 1, 2024.



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501		Speaker of the House of Representatives	
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509		House of Representatives	
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511	I	hereby certify that the within Act originated	in and
512	was pass	ed by the House 19-Mar-24.	
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514		John Treadwell	
515		Clerk	
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521	Senate	08-May-24	Passed
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