

1 SB217  
2 189316-1  
3 By Senator Chambliss  
4 RFD: Governmental Affairs  
5 First Read: 25-JAN-18

2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8 SYNOPSIS: This bill amends Section 36-7-21, Code of  
9 Alabama 1975, relating to persons traveling in  
10 service of the state or any of its departments,  
11 institutions, boards, bureaus, commissions,  
12 councils, committees, or other agencies.

13  
14 A BILL  
15 TO BE ENTITLED  
16 AN ACT

17  
18 To amend Section 36-7-21, Code of Alabama 1975,  
19 relating to persons traveling in service of the state or any  
20 of its departments, institutions, boards, bureaus,  
21 commissions, councils, committees, or other agencies.

22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

23 Section 1. Section 36-7-21, Code of Alabama 1975, is  
24 amended to read as follows:

25 "§36-7-21.

26 (a) Persons traveling in the service of the state or  
27 any of its departments, institutions, boards, bureaus,

1 commissions, councils, committees, or other agencies, outside  
2 the State of Alabama, or within the State of Alabama for  
3 purposes of attending or assisting in hosting a convention,  
4 conference, seminar, or other meeting of a state, regional, or  
5 national organization of which the state or individual is a  
6 dues-paying member that is held within the state, shall be  
7 allowed all of their actual and necessary expenses in addition  
8 to the actual expenses for transportation. In-state travel  
9 authorized under this section is subject to the same  
10 documentation requirements as out-of-state travel. Except as  
11 provided in subsections (b), (c), (d), and (e), ~~the~~ any travel  
12 for which a traveler intends to seek reimbursement from the  
13 state under this section shall ~~first~~ be fully authorized in  
14 writing by the ~~Governor~~ head of the traveler's agency prior to  
15 the traveler's departure. The written authorization shall  
16 contain the agency head's certification that the traveler's  
17 estimated reimbursable travel expenses have been reviewed and  
18 approved by the agency head as being necessary.

19 In the case of in-state travel under this section,  
20 the agency head shall also certify all of the following in the  
21 written authorization:

22 (1) That the person is traveling in service of the  
23 state for the purpose of attending or assisting in hosting a  
24 convention, conference, seminar, or other meeting of a state,  
25 regional, or national organization.

1                   (2) That the State of Alabama or person traveling is  
2 a dues-paying member of the state, regional, or national  
3 organization and has documentation of membership on file.

4                   Any travel by an agency head for which the agency  
5 head intends to seek reimbursement under this section shall be  
6 fully authorized in writing by the Governor prior to the  
7 agency head's departure. The Finance Director may establish  
8 policies and procedures for assisting agency heads in  
9 determining whether travel under this section should be  
10 authorized and will be reimbursable.

11                   (b) With respect to the Legislative Department,  
12 members of the Legislature, subordinate officers and employees  
13 of the Legislature, the directors and employees of the  
14 Legislature, the directors and employees of the Legislative  
15 Services Agency, and Examiners of Public Accounts, travel  
16 shall be authorized in writing by the President of the Senate,  
17 for the President of the Senate and members of the Senate, by  
18 the Speaker of the House, for the Speaker of the House and  
19 members of the House of Representatives, by the Secretary of  
20 the Senate or the Clerk of the House for subordinate officers  
21 and employees of the Legislature, and by the directors for the  
22 directors and employees of the legislative departments.

23                   (c) With respect to the Judicial Department and the  
24 officers and employees thereof, travel shall be authorized in  
25 writing by the Chief Justice.

26                   (d) Persons representing institutions of higher  
27 learning shall receive authority for such travel from the

1 presidents of the institution. Institutions of higher  
2 education may elect to prepay travel expenses for persons  
3 traveling in the service of the state.

4 (e) Persons representing the state Department of  
5 Agriculture and Industries shall receive authorization for  
6 such travel from the Commissioner of Agriculture and  
7 Industries.

8 (f) This section shall not apply to examiners or  
9 other persons designated by the Commissioner of Insurance to  
10 examine or cause to be examined insurance corporations  
11 qualified or attempting to qualify in this state when the  
12 expense incurred by the examiner shall be paid by or collected  
13 or received from insurers or persons examined under Section  
14 27-2-25.

15 Section 2. This act shall become effective  
16 immediately following its passage and approval by the  
17 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.