

1 SB240  
2 197789-2  
3 By Senators Chesteen, Williams, Smitherman and Sessions  
4 RFD: Governmental Affairs  
5 First Read: 04-APR-19

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8 SYNOPSIS: This bill would authorize a judge of probate  
9 to appoint up to two high school or college  
10 students to work as unpaid student interns at each  
11 polling place in the county on election day.

12 This bill would provide for qualifications  
13 of student interns and allow student interns to  
14 count any absence from school as an excused  
15 absence.

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17 A BILL  
18 TO BE ENTITLED  
19 AN ACT

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21 Relating to elections; to authorize a judge of  
22 probate to appoint up to two high school or college students  
23 to work as unpaid student interns at each polling place in the  
24 county on election day; to provide student intern  
25 qualifications; and to allow student interns to count any  
26 absence from school as an excused absence.

27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

1           Section 1. (a) The judge of probate in each county  
2 may appoint not more than two students for each precinct to  
3 serve as unpaid student interns during elections. To be  
4 appointed a student intern, a student must meet all of the  
5 following qualifications:

6           (1) Be recommended by a principal or other school  
7 official, or by the individual responsible for the student's  
8 home instruction program.

9           (2) Be at least 16 years of age at the time of  
10 the election for which the appointment is made.

11           (3) Be a resident of the county or municipality for  
12 which the appointment is made.

13           (4) Be enrolled in a public high school, an  
14 accredited private high school or a home instruction program  
15 and be classified as a junior or senior or the equivalent, or  
16 be enrolled in a two-year or four-year institution of higher  
17 education.

18           (b) The duties of the student interns appointed  
19 pursuant to this section shall be determined by the officials  
20 in charge of the election in the county or municipality;  
21 provided, however, the duties may not include either of the  
22 following:

23           (1) Determining the qualifications of a voter in the  
24 event a voter is challenged.

25           (2) The operation and maintenance of any voting  
26 equipment.

1                   (c) Student interns shall at all times be under the  
2 supervision of the poll managers of the election while  
3 performing their duties at precincts.

4                   (d) Before performing any duties, student interns  
5 shall attend all required training for poll workers of the  
6 county or municipality and any additional training considered  
7 necessary by the officials in charge of the election in the  
8 county or municipality.

9                   (e) A student intern who works four or more hours in  
10 a day during school hours on the day of an election or any day  
11 of training shall be entitled to an excused absence from  
12 school for purposes of Chapter 28 of Title 16, Code of Alabama  
13 1975.

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