

1 SB365
2 200228-1
3 By Senators Whatley, Chambliss and Roberts
4 RFD: Veterans and Military Affairs
5 First Read: 02-MAY-19

SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, the membership of the Alabama Job Creation and Military Stability Commission includes the Lieutenant Governor, six legislators, two representatives for each of the four major military facilities and their communities, and the agency heads of the Alabama National Guard, Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency, Alabama Department of Commerce, and the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs.

This bill would include the Commissioner of the Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs on the Commission.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to the Alabama Job Creation and Military Stability Commission; to amend Section 31-14-3, Code of

1 Alabama 1975, to increase the membership of the commission
2 board from 19 to 20 members and to include the Commissioner of
3 the Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs as a member of the
4 commission.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

6 Section 1. Section 31-14-3, Code of Alabama 1975, is
7 amended to read as follows:

8 "§31-14-3.

9 "(a) There is created the Alabama Job Creation and
10 Military Stability Commission. Members of the commission shall
11 include a chair and two vice chairs. The chair shall be the
12 Lieutenant Governor, or in the absence of a Lieutenant
13 Governor, the chair shall be the Governor, or his or her
14 designee. The vice chairs shall be the President Pro Tempore
15 of the Senate, or his or her designee, and the Speaker of the
16 House of Representatives, or his or her designee.

17 "(b) The commission shall also consist of the
18 following members:

19 "(1) Two members of the House of Representatives
20 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

21 "(2) Two members of the Senate appointed by the
22 President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

23 "(3) The Adjutant General of the Alabama National
24 Guard.

25 "(4) The Secretary of the Alabama State Law
26 Enforcement Agency.

27 "(5) The Secretary of the Department of Commerce.

1 "(6) The Director of the Alabama Department of
2 Economic and Community Affairs.

3 "(7) The Commissioner of the Alabama Department of
4 Veterans Affairs.

5 "(8) One retired senior member of the Armed Forces
6 for each of the four major military facilities in Alabama,
7 Redstone Arsenal, Anniston Army Depot, Maxwell Air Force Base
8 including the Gunter Annex, and Fort Rucker, who shall be
9 appointed by the Governor, after consultation with the
10 individual designated in subdivision ~~(8)~~ (9) as the civic
11 leader from the community which the senior member of the
12 military shall represent.

13 "~~(8)~~ (9) One civic leader with significant
14 experience in military relocations from each of the four
15 communities currently impacted most significantly by the
16 presence of military facilities and assigned personnel who
17 shall be appointed by the chair after consultation with the
18 existing organizations described in subsection (h).

19 "(c) Members of the commission shall serve for a
20 term of four years with each appointment, may be reappointed
21 for an unlimited number of terms, and shall serve on the
22 commission until a replacement is appointed.

23 "(d) The members of the Alabama Job Creation and
24 Military Stability Commission created by Act 2011-350, as
25 amended by Act 2013-156, shall be the initial members of the
26 commission created under this section and shall continue to
27 serve on the commission at the pleasure of the appointing

1 authority until the quadrennium commencing in 2019. Persons
2 appointed after the commencement of the quadrennium commencing
3 in 2019~~7~~ shall serve a term of four years.

4 "(e) The commission shall hold its organizational
5 meeting by August 31, 2017. Thereafter, the commission shall
6 meet at the call of the chair; provided, that the commission
7 shall meet at least once annually.

8 "(f) The commission shall adopt rules for its
9 governance, including, but not limited to, the filling of
10 vacancies, the election of officers, the creation of
11 committees including an executive committee, and the execution
12 of documents. Members of the commission, the executive
13 committee of the commission, or any other committee
14 established by the commission may participate in a meeting of
15 the commission or committee by means of telephone conference,
16 video conference, or using similar communications methods by
17 means of which all individuals participating in the meeting
18 may hear one another. Participation by such means shall
19 constitute presence in person at a meeting for all purposes,
20 including for purposes of establishing a quorum. Notice of
21 meetings must be provided in accordance with the Alabama Open
22 Meetings Act and similar means of communication be allowed to
23 provide for members of the public to listen and observe
24 meetings.

25 "(g) The Secretary of the Senate, the Clerk of the
26 House of Representatives, the Legislative Services Agency,
27 Legal Division, the Legislative Services Agency, Fiscal

1 Division, and the Examiners of Public Accounts shall provide
2 assistance as requested by the commission. Each legislative
3 member of the commission and supporting staff shall be
4 entitled to his or her regular legislative compensation, his
5 or her per diem and travel expenses for each day he or she
6 attends a meeting of the commission which shall be paid out of
7 any funds appropriated for the use of the Legislature, upon
8 warrants drawn on the Comptroller upon requisition signed by
9 the commission's chair; provided, however, that members shall
10 not receive additional legislative compensation or per diem
11 when the Legislature is in session but shall receive his or
12 her travel expenses for all meetings attended.

13 "(h) The commission shall make proactive attempts to
14 ensure the stability of Alabama assigned Department of Defense
15 resources by the study and evaluation of military
16 organizations, personnel, civilian support personnel,
17 equipment, and infrastructure currently located in the state,
18 and the re-stationing or reorganization of military resources
19 located in, relocating to, or outside of the state using the
20 following items of evaluation:

21 "(1) All Department of Defense personnel, assets,
22 and equipment, including that belonging to the Alabama
23 National Guard and Reserve units or forces.

24 "(2) The economic impact of these resources on
25 surrounding communities.

26 "(3) Current policies, programs, and services that
27 impact Department of Defense resources located in the state.

1 "(4) The impact these Department of Defense assets
2 and resources have on state and local job creation.

3 "(5) The impact of Department of Defense assets and
4 resources on local businesses and industry.

5 "(6) Funding available or required to promote the
6 sustained presence of Department of Defense assets and
7 resources appropriated to the state.

8 "(i) The commission shall not alter the purpose,
9 replace, or change the role of any existing organization, task
10 force, or committee within a military community with the
11 purpose of promoting military growth including Base Closure
12 and Realignment Commission associated actions.

13 "(j) The appointing authorities of the commission
14 shall coordinate their appointments to assure the membership
15 of the Alabama Job Creation and Military Stability Commission
16 is inclusive and reflects the racial, gender, geographic,
17 urban, rural, and economic diversity of the state.

18 "(k) The commission shall make an annual report to
19 members of the Legislature no later than the seventh
20 legislative day of each regular session beginning in 2018
21 detailing all commission activities and recommendations.

22 "(l) The commission may accept gifts, contributions,
23 bequests, grants, and other donations, whether public or
24 private, of money, real property, or personal property and
25 shall expend the same in furtherance of the work of the
26 commission.

1 "(m) The work of the commission shall be supported
2 by the Military Stability Foundation, an Alabama nonprofit
3 corporation incorporated on September 8, 2011, which shall not
4 be considered a government body. Documents produced by or for
5 such foundation shall not be considered public writings, even
6 if viewed by or delivered to the commission, as the disclosure
7 of the documents would be detrimental to the best interest of
8 the public."

9 Section 2. This act shall become effective
10 immediately following its passage and approval by the
11 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.