

1 HB521
2 137919-1
3 By Representative Mitchell
4 RFD: Internal Affairs
5 First Read: 14-MAR-12

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, the Alabama Senate does
9 not maintain a legislative record concerning
10 certain matters related to the legislative process.

11 This bill would require the Secretary of the
12 Senate to establish procedures to implement and
13 maintain a legislative record concerning matters
14 related to the legislative process.

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16 A BILL
17 TO BE ENTITLED
18 AN ACT
19

20 To require the Secretary of the Senate to establish
21 procedures to implement and maintain a legislative record
22 concerning matters related to the legislative process.

23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

24 Section 1. (a) The Secretary of the Senate shall
25 establish procedures to implement and maintain a legislative
26 record concerning matters related to the legislative process.

1 (b) The legislative record shall include, but is not
2 limited to, a verbatim copy of discussions in committee
3 meetings, committee reports, committee votes, floor debates,
4 discussions during public hearings, insertion of statements
5 into the record by individual members as to why the member
6 voted for or against an instrument or took a particular
7 action, and insertion of other materials upon the request of a
8 member.

9 (c) The legislative record may be included as a part
10 of the journal, as a separate publication, or in a separate
11 digital or computer form. The legislative record may be
12 similar in form and content to the U.S. Congressional Record.

13 (d) In establishing the legislative record, the
14 Secretary of the Senate shall consider all of the following
15 factors:

- 16 (1) Cost effectiveness and feasibility.
- 17 (2) Accessibility and availability.
- 18 (3) Usefulness.
- 19 (4) Accuracy.
- 20 (5) Ability to fulfill historical preservation
21 purposes.

22 (e) The secretary, within a reasonable time after
23 the adjournment sine die of a session of the Legislature,
24 shall compile, index, and publish the legislative record. The
25 secretary may also publish the legislative record at shorter
26 intervals.

1 (f) The secretary may charge a reasonable fee for
2 the legislative record, the proceeds of which shall be used to
3 defray costs of such publication.

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