

SB39 INTRODUCED



1 SB39
2 WMWF99E-1
3 By Senator Kelley
4 RFD: County and Municipal Government
5 First Read: 04-Feb-25



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SYNOPSIS:

This bill would require members of agencies that are subject to the Alabama Sunset Law to complete a board governance course provided by the Department of Examiners of Public Accounts.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to occupational licensing boards; to require members of boards and commissions that are subject to the Alabama Sunset Law to complete a board governance course.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) For the purposes of this section, the term "board member" means any member of any department, council, board, commission, division, bureau, or other entity subject to the Alabama Sunset Law of 1981, Chapter 20 of Title 41, Code of Alabama 1975.

(b) All board members serving on October 1, 2025, shall complete the board governance course provided for in subsection (c) on or before March 1, 2026. Any board member who begins a term of office after October 1, 2025, shall complete the board governance course provided for in



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29 subsection (c) within 150 days after beginning each term of
30 office.

31 (c) The Department of Examiners of Public Accounts
32 shall provide a board governance course of not less than five
33 hours to all board members. The course's curriculum shall be
34 determined by the Chief Examiner of Public Accounts in
35 consultation with the Attorney General and shall include, but
36 not be limited to, all of the following topics as they relate
37 to board membership:

38 (1) The Alabama Open Meetings Act.

39 (2) The role of the Contract Review Permanent
40 Legislative Oversight Committee.

41 (3) Travel, compensation, and per diem.

42 (4) Reoccurring significant issues determined by the
43 Department of Examiners of Public Accounts during audits and
44 reviews conducted pursuant to Section 41-20-9, Code of Alabama
45 1975.

46 (5) General operating procedures and best practices to
47 ensure the effective discharge of the duties of board members
48 in keeping with the highest standards of stewardship and
49 principles of public service.

50 (d) The board governance course shall be available
51 online and may be conducted online or in person. Evidence of
52 each board member's completion of the course shall be recorded
53 and maintained by the Department of Examiners of Public
54 Accounts.

55 (e) At the conclusion of the board governance course,
56 each participating board member shall sign a form developed



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57 and provided by the Department of Examiners of Public Accounts
58 affirming all of the following principles:

59 (1) That each decision, action, and vote taken or made
60 as a board member shall be based solely on the needs and
61 interests served by the entity and the general welfare of the
62 public.

63 (2) That no decision, action, or vote shall be taken or
64 made to serve or promote the personal, political, or pecuniary
65 interests of a board member.

66 (3) That the views of all board members of the entity
67 shall be considered before making a decision or taking an
68 action on any measure or proposal before the entity.

69 (4) That no individual or joint attempt to direct or
70 corrupt the operations of the entity in a manner that is
71 inconsistent with the discharge of the statutory functions and
72 responsibilities of the entity shall be made.

73 (5) That all meetings of the entity shall be attended
74 unless good cause is shown.

75 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October
76 1, 2025.