

**SB47 INTRODUCED**



1 SB47  
2 6248ZZZ-1  
3 By Senators Singleton, Coleman, Coleman-Madison, Stewart  
4 RFD: Judiciary  
5 First Read: 04-Feb-25



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SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, when health care providers, law enforcement officers, firefighters, and other first responders render first aid or other help to individuals affected by an emergency or a disaster, they are shielded from civil liability arising from their assistance.

This bill would specify that individuals who are part of a community emergency response team are protected from civil liability if they have completed a community emergency response team program that is recognized by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

Relating to civil liability; to amend Section 6-5-332, Code of Alabama 1975, as amended by Act 2024-330 of the 2024 Regular Session, to limit the civil liability of individuals who are affiliated with or members of community emergency response teams who have completed community emergency response team training that is recognized by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.



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29 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

30 Section 1. Section 6-5-332, Code of Alabama 1975, as  
31 amended by Act 2024-330 of the 2024 Regular Session, is  
32 amended to read as follows:

33 "§6-5-332

34 (a) When any doctor of medicine or dentistry, nurse,  
35 member of any organized rescue squad, member of any police or  
36 fire department, member of any organized volunteer fire  
37 department, ~~member of any community emergency response team~~  
38 ~~certified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency~~individual  
39 affiliated with or a member of any community emergency  
40 response team who has completed a community emergency response  
41 team training curriculum that is recognized by the Federal  
42 Emergency Management Agency, Alabama-licensed emergency  
43 medical technician, intern, or resident practicing in an  
44 Alabama hospital with training programs approved by the  
45 American Medical Association, Alabama state trooper, medical  
46 aid functioning as a part of the military assistance to safety  
47 and traffic program, chiropractor, or public education  
48 employee gratuitously and in good faith, renders first aid or  
49 emergency care at the scene of an accident, casualty, or  
50 disaster to an injured individual, he or she shall not be  
51 liable for any civil damages as a result of his or her acts or  
52 omissions in rendering first aid or emergency care, nor shall  
53 he or she be liable for any civil damages as a result of any  
54 act or failure to act to provide or arrange for further  
55 medical treatment or care for the injured individual.

56 (b) Any member of the crew of a helicopter that is used



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57 in the performance of military assistance to safety and  
58 traffic programs and is engaged in the performance of  
59 emergency medical service acts shall be exempt from personal  
60 liability for any property damages caused by helicopter  
61 downwash or by individuals disembarking from the helicopter.

62 (c) When any physician gratuitously advises medical  
63 personnel at the scene of an emergency episode by direct voice  
64 contact to render medical assistance based upon information  
65 received by voice or biotelemetry equipment, the actions  
66 ordered taken by the physician to sustain life or reduce  
67 disability shall not be considered liable when the actions are  
68 within the established medical procedures.

69 (d) Any individual who is qualified by a federal or  
70 state agency to perform mine rescue planning and recovery  
71 operations, including mine rescue instructors and mine rescue  
72 team members, and any individual designated by an operator  
73 furnishing a mine rescue team to supervise, assist in  
74 planning, or provide service thereto, who, in good faith,  
75 performs or fails to perform any act or service in connection  
76 with mine rescue planning and recovery operations shall not be  
77 liable for any civil damages as a result of any acts or  
78 omissions. Nothing contained in this subsection shall be  
79 construed to exempt from liability any individual responsible  
80 for an overall mine rescue operation, including an operator of  
81 an affected facility and any individual assuming  
82 responsibility therefor under federal or state statutes or  
83 regulations.

84 (e) An individual or entity who, in good faith and



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85 without compensation, renders emergency care or treatment to  
86 an individual suffering or appearing to suffer from cardiac  
87 arrest, which may include the use of an automated external  
88 defibrillator, shall be immune from civil liability for any  
89 personal injury as a result of care or treatment or as a  
90 result of any act or failure to act in providing or arranging  
91 further medical treatment where the individual acts as an  
92 ordinary prudent individual would have acted under the same or  
93 similar circumstances, except damages that may result from the  
94 gross negligence of the individual rendering emergency care.  
95 This immunity shall extend to the licensed physician or  
96 medical authority who is involved in automated external  
97 defibrillator site placement, the individual who provides  
98 training in CPR and the use of the automated external  
99 defibrillator, and the individual or entity responsible for  
100 the site where the automated external defibrillator is  
101 located. This subsection specifically excludes from immunity  
102 any designers, manufacturers, or sellers of automated external  
103 defibrillators for any claims that may be brought against such  
104 entities based upon current Alabama state law.

105 (f) Any licensed engineer, licensed architect, licensed  
106 surveyor, licensed contractor, licensed subcontractor, or  
107 other individual working under the direct supervision of the  
108 licensed individual who participates in emergency response  
109 activities under the direction of, or in connection with, a  
110 community emergency response team ~~certified by the Federal~~  
111 ~~Emergency Management Agency~~that has completed a community  
112 emergency response team training curriculum recognized by the



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113 Federal Emergency Management Agency, county emergency  
114 management agency, the state emergency management agency, or  
115 the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall not be liable  
116 for any civil damages as a result of any acts, services, or  
117 omissions provided without compensation, in such capacity if  
118 the individual acts as a reasonably prudent individual would  
119 have acted under the same or similar circumstances. The  
120 immunity provided in this subsection shall apply to any acts,  
121 services, or omissions provided within 90 days after  
122 declaration of the emergency.

123 (g) Any individual who, in good faith, renders  
124 emergency care at the scene of an accident or emergency to the  
125 victim or victims thereof without making any charge of goods  
126 or services therefor shall not be liable for any civil damages  
127 as a result of any act or omission by the individual in  
128 rendering emergency care or as a result of any act or failure  
129 to act to provide or arrange for further medical treatment or  
130 care for the injured individual if the individual acts as a  
131 reasonably prudent individual would have acted under the same  
132 or similar circumstances."

133 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October  
134 1, 2025.