

1 SB83
2 197264-1
3 By Senators Melson and Marsh
4 RFD: Education Policy
5 First Read: 19-MAR-19

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, public institutions of
9 higher education are governed by boards of
10 trustees, and the coordinating board for higher
11 education in the state is the Alabama Commission on
12 Higher Education, which consists of 10
13 commissioners.

14 This bill would require each newly appointed
15 or elected trustee or commissioner to complete
16 eight hours of professional development during the
17 first two years of service.

18
19 A BILL
20 TO BE ENTITLED
21 AN ACT
22

23 Relating to boards of trustees of public four-year
24 institutions of higher education and the Alabama Commission on
25 Higher Education; to require each newly appointed or elected
26 trustee or commissioner to complete eight hours of

1 professional development during the first two years of
2 service.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

4 Section 1. (a) Each newly appointed or elected
5 member of a board of trustees of a four-year public
6 institution of higher education and commissioner of the
7 Alabama Commission on Higher Education shall complete eight
8 hours of professional development within the first two years
9 after appointment or election.

10 (b) The purpose of the professional development is
11 to instill an understanding of the roles and responsibilities
12 of college and university trustees and commissioners, as
13 provided by state law and prescribed by the Southern
14 Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.
15 Topics in the professional development shall include, but not
16 be limited to, institutional finance, student success, and
17 institutional compliance activities including institutional
18 and programmatic accreditation.

19 (c) One hour of professional development shall
20 include instruction on the state ethics law as it relates to
21 service as a trustee or commissioner.

22 (d) The Alabama Commission on Higher Education, by
23 rule, shall develop general parameters for professional
24 development training which may include, but shall not be
25 limited to, participation in national trustee conferences;
26 commission sponsored training; specific institutional college,

1 university, or system training; and training provided by the
2 State Ethics Commission.

3 (e) The Alabama Commission on Higher Education shall
4 annually offer one professional development opportunity within
5 the state for trustees and commissioners.

6 (f) Each four-year institution of higher education,
7 or university system, in the state shall annually report, and
8 the Alabama Commission on Higher Education shall compile into
9 a report, all of the following information:

10 (1) The number of professional development hours
11 completed by each new trustee and commissioner during the
12 immediately preceding year and the total number of
13 professional development hours completed since commencing
14 service on the board or commission.

15 (2) A summary of the professional development topics
16 covered and hours completed for each topic.

17 (g) A summary of the annual reports on trustee and
18 commissioner professional development shall be posted on the
19 website of the Alabama Commission on Higher Education.

20 (h) It is the intent of the Legislature that
21 constitutionally created boards of trustees comply with the
22 requirements of this section.

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