

advocate for SCHOOLS



2026
ENACTMENTS
ISSUE

2026 Regular Legislative Session Enactments

The following includes a list of **ENACTED** education-related legislation tracked by AASB during the most recent Regular Session including general bills, local bills and joint resolutions.

Act No.	Bill Synopsis	<u>GENERAL BILLS</u>	Bill No./Sponsor Effective Date
Education Trust Fund (ETF) Budget Package and Supplemental Appropriations			
<u>2026-380</u>	ETF Budget (FY27) - Appropriates \$10.4 billion from the Education Trust Fund (ETF) for the support, maintenance and development of public education, debt service, capital outlay and private school vouchers for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2027. View budget spreadsheet.		H.238 (Garrett) <i>Effective October 1, 2026</i>
<u>2026-418</u>	Education Opportunities Reserve Fund (EORF) - Transfers \$500 million from the EORF to provide: \$399 million to the Renewing Alabama's Investment in Student Excellence (RAISE) Fund; and \$101 million to the College and Higher Education Excellence and Results (CHEER) Fund. This transfer brings the RAISE Act Fund balance to \$666 million for future years.		H.237 (Garrett) <i>Effective Immediately</i>
<u>2026-599</u>	ETF Supplemental Appropriation (FY26) - Provides \$419 million in one-time revenue for FY26 (up to Sept. 30, 2026). \$146 million to K-12 and local boards which includes \$25 million for fleet renewal and \$121 million to the State Department of Education (SDE). The SDE one-time appropriation also includes \$30 million for Summer and Afterschool programs; \$25 million for School Safety and Security; \$20 million for College and Career Readiness (CCR) Grants; \$10 million each for Struggling Readers Beyond 3rd grade, Charter School Grants and Career and Technical Education (CTE) equipment. It also provides \$100 million for the Creating Hope and Opportunity for our Students' Education (CHOOSE) Act Fund and \$10 million for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), which was funded in the General Fund Budget last year, marking a shift that will likely continue as revenue growth stalls.		H.235 (Garrett) <i>Effective Immediately</i>
<u>2026-600</u>	ETF Advancement and Technology Fund (EAT) Supplemental Appropriation - Appropriates \$724.9 million to K-12 for FY26. Funds are authorized for repairs and deferred maintenance; classroom instructional supplies; insurance for facilities; capital outlay; transportation; acquisition/purchase of education technology or for school security. Debt service is added as a new eligible expense for this year. \$570 million to local boards, \$150 million to the SDE for CTE grants and \$4.9 million in legislative earmarked projects. SDE will notify LEAs of allocations along with an application for qualified expenditures due August 1.		H.236 (Garrett) <i>Effective Immediately</i>
<u>2026-601</u>	Pay Raise (2%) / Retiree One-time Bonus - Provides for a 2% pay raise for all public education employees in FY27, beginning October 1, 2026, and a one-time longevity payment for Teachers' Retirement System (TRS)-eligible retirees.		H.239 (Collins) <i>Effective October 1, 2026</i>

GENERAL BILLS, contd.**Education Policy, Procedure and Personnel**

- 2026-169** **Screen Time Limits** - The “Healthy Early Development and Screen Time” Act will regulate the amount of screen time children ages 0-5 may have in Alabama First Class Pre-K classrooms, Department of Human Resources (DHR)-regulated childcare facilities and public kindergarten classrooms, with exceptions for special education, diagnostics and assessments, and virtual school programming. It requires the Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education (ADECE) to develop guidelines and training requirements for applicable programs under the supervision of DHR, ADECE and local school boards. It requires teachers in these settings to participate in annual training. Local school boards must adopt a screen time policy for kindergarten by the 2027-28 school year.
H.78 (Ross)
Effective January 1, 2027
- 2026-211** **Three-Cueing Ban** - Establishes a ban on the three-cueing method of teaching reading and contains these four components:
1) Requires all reading instruction materials "approved for use" in schools, whether at the state or local level, to use structured literacy and prohibits the use of three-cueing to teach word reading;
2) Requires the SBOE to establish criteria for the evaluation of the instructional Education Preparation Program (EPP) to be used when the SBOE reviews EPPs for approval or renewal. It also requires the SBOE to notify the legislature and public if an EPP is not in compliance;
3) Prohibits all local school boards from using any instructional materials that utilize three-cueing for teaching students to read; and
4) Requires every school to use instructional materials aligned to the Science of Reading/structured literacy and prohibits the use of three-cueing or visual memory for teaching word recognition.
Beginning with the 2026-27 school year, if the SBOE determines that a local school board has utilized the three-cueing method of reading instruction, the SBOE shall notify the local school board, the legislature and the public.
S.168 (Chesteen)
Effective June 1, 2026
- 2026-248** **Ten Commandments** - Requires each local school board to display an 11x14 poster of the Ten Commandments, including a contextual statement, in every 5th-12th grade classroom where U.S. History is routinely taught. The SBOE must identify free resources to implement this requirement and publish a list on its website. The layout and design of the poster must be approved by the State Superintendent of Education. Posters must be displayed by January 1, 2027, pending availability of donated funds or posters.
S.99 (Kelley)
Effective October 1, 2026
- 2026-254** **Competitive Bids for Playground Equipment** - Exempts contracts for the purchase of playground equipment from the public works law and provides that such contracts must be bid pursuant to the applicable competitive bidding law.
S.196 (Livingston)
Effective June 1, 2026
- 2026-283** **TEAMS Salary Schedule** - Changes the Teacher Excellence and Accountability for Mathematics and Science (TEAMS) contract structure so that any eligible teacher who meets the credential requirements for an advanced contract can be offered a contract for a term of up to 3 years, regardless of the number of years of service.
H.122 (Collins)
Effective October 1, 2026
- 2026-303** **LASEA Loan Program** - Renames and revises the Alabama Math and Science Teacher Education Program (AMSTEP) to the Loan Assistance in Support of Educators in Alabama (LASEA) Program and changes the scope of the program so that financial assistance can be provided to educators in acute shortage domains or locations with an acute shortage area, as jointly determined by the SDE and the Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE).
H.124 (Collins)
Effective October 1, 2026
- 2026-364** **Gulf of America** - Requires all state and local entities and all employees of those entities, including school boards, to observe and implement the name change. Where practicable, update references and materials to the “Gulf of Mexico” to read “Gulf of America.”
H.2 (Standridge)
Effective October 1, 2026

GENERAL BILLS, contd.

- 2026-376** **Religious Release Time** - Requires that a local school board allow a parent of public school students to permit their student to attend an off-campus religious released time (RRT) program during the school day, if sponsored by a church or local community-based religious organization, unless the local board or a designee of that board determines the participation would pose a substantial risk of physical harm to the student. It allows the SBOE and each local school board to adopt policy requiring the sponsoring entity to meet certain requirements, including conducting criminal background checks on adults involved. RRT students would be responsible for any missed school work, and would not be allowed to miss core courses or interventions to participate in RRT.
S.248 (Shelnutt)
Effective July 1, 2026
- 2026-378** **County School Board Consolidation [C/A]** - Proposes a constitutional amendment, which if approved by voters, will allow local school boards of contiguous counties to merge into one multi-county board of education. It also defines an approval and protest processes for the potential merger and requires the SBOE to conduct a feasibility study of the potential merger.
H.380 (Collins)
Effective upon ratification
- 2026-379** **Pledge and Prayer [C/A]** - Proposes a constitutional amendment, which if approved by voters, will require local school boards to adopt a policy to conduct The Pledge of Allegiance each day and allow time at the start of each school day for student-initiated and student-led prayer.
H.511 (Ingram)
Effective upon ratification
- 2026-396** **General Contractor Exemptions** - Creates a new list of general repairs, maintenance, and removals that are not required to be performed by a general contractor, including existing lighting, plumbing, and electrical; existing security systems; existing paint on painted surfaces and the cleaning, stripping and waxing of floors.
S.279 (Chambliss)
Effective October 1, 2026
- 2026-400** **Job Postings** - Reduces the mandatory job posting window from 14 to 7 days for all education personnel openings.
H.225 (Smith)
Effective October 1, 2026
- 2026-424** **The Star-Spangled Banner [C/A]** - Proposes a constitutional amendment, which if approved by voters, will require each public K-12 school to broadcast the first stanza of The Star-Spangled Banner weekly.
S.5 (Allen)
Effective upon ratification
- 2026-507** **Computer Science Course** - Adds a high school or college-level computer science course as a graduation requirement, beginning with the graduating class of 2032. It prohibits the completion of that course from counting as a College & Career Ready Indicator (CCRI) unless the course also satisfies another indicator, such as an Advanced Placement (AP) exam qualifying score (3+). It also specifies minimum criteria for content to be covered in the computer science course.
H.329 (Faulkner)
Effective October 1, 2026
- 2026-508** **Campus Chaplains** - authorizes local school boards to vote on allowing volunteer chaplains in schools to provide services and support when requested by a teacher.
H.8 (Gidley)
Effective July 1, 2026
- 2026-523** **Sick Leave Donations** - Allows for the direct donation of a maximum of 30 sick leave days per academic year between any employees of a local school board or specialty school, beginning with the 2027-28 school year. All local school boards must have a sick leave bank. The SBOE is required to adopt a model sick leave policy, and the model policy must authorize the direct donation of sick leave between any public K-12 education employees. All educational authorities must implement the model policy, and any policies developed by a sick leave bank committee must be approved by the local school board.
S.211 (Allen)
Effective July 1, 2026

GENERAL BILLS, contd.

- 2026-549** **National Signing Day** - Requires public schools to excuse from class a high school student participating in a National Signing Day activity and to make reasonable accommodations for the programming to occur at school.
H.75 (Robertson)
Effective October 1, 2026
- 2026-554** **City School Board Consolidation** - Provides a process for the creation of a consolidated city school system by merging two or more contiguous city school boards. Whenever two or more contiguous city boards want to consolidate their administration under one remaining controlling multi-city board, each board shall adopt and record within the minutes of each board an agreement for the consolidation. A formal resolution adopted by all members of the agreeing boards shall detail and provide for the payment of their respective indebtedness, specify how the consolidation will take place, identify how the remaining controlling multi-city school board will operate, provide for the roles and duties of the resulting multi-city board members and designate the time frame during which the consolidation will be implemented. A protest period is established by the law.
H.178 (Garrett)
Effective October 1, 2026
- 2026-577** **Sex Ed Curriculum** - Requires any sex education course content to emphasize sexual risk avoidance. Local school boards may not use the services of any individual or organization to assist in teaching about sex education or the human reproductive process if they don't endorse sexual risk avoidance as the primary means of sex education, or if they perform abortions, provide referrals to abortion services, or provide funding, advocacy or other support for abortions.
S.209 (Shelnutt)
Effective October 1, 2026
- 2026-578** **School Lands** - Requires the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to sell 16th Section land at the request of the local board, with sale proceeds going directly to the board.
S.337 (Stutts)
Effective October 1, 2026
- 2026-592** **Open Records** - Requires local school boards and other custodians of public records to withhold certain information from a public records request if the employer believes the request is being made for fraudulent or commercial purposes. It also prohibits the request for employee information for commercial purposes and authorizes the Attorney General to pursue civil action for violations.
S.272 (Orr)
Effective Immediately
- 2026-611** **Conflict Resolution** - Requires each local school board to implement a violence prevention and conflict resolution program using a curriculum or framework of its choosing. Beginning in the 2027–28 school year, students must receive instruction in grades 6 through 12 and complete the program prior to graduation. The SBOE is charged with developing a list of materials that local school boards can choose from and may develop rules as necessary for implementation by June 30, 2027.
S.364 (Smitherman)
Effective October 1, 2026

Career and Technical Education

- 2026-605** **CTE Teacher Certification** - establishes a fast-track certification pathway for out-of-state CTE teachers coming to teach in Alabama, provided the applicant teacher has four years' CTE teaching experience, a teaching credential from another state, a bachelor's degree and is recommended by a local superintendent.
H.520 (Paramore)
Effective June 1, 2026
- 2026-606** **TRAIN Act** - The Talent Readiness and Industry Needs (TRAIN) Act provides a tax credit for employers who loan instructors from high-demand industries to community college campuses or public high schools with a CTE program. The Alabama Workforce Board Executive Committee will provide the SDE with "high demand industries" and employers that need workforce growth that can be supported by these CTE programs. The SDE is responsible for verifying the qualified employee status of loaned instructors, and for issuing those instructors a temporary teaching certificate.
H.517 (Lomax)
Effective October 1, 2026

GENERAL BILLS, contd.**Crimes and Offenses**

- 2026-305** **Juvenile Court Notification** - Requires the juvenile court to notify the local superintendent or private school principal within 7 days, if his/her enrolled student has been charged or adjudicated with any delinquent act that would be considered a crime if committed by an adult.
H.189 (Baker)
Effective October 1, 2026
- 2026-367** **Terrorist Threat** - Updates state law to require school officials to immediately notify law enforcement if the conduct of a student warrants being charged with the crime of making a terrorist threat in the first or second degree. The principal must schedule a hearing within 30 days or within the timeline of the Student Discipline Due Process law, whichever is sooner. The length of suspension the student receives will be dependent upon the outcome of the local school board's discipline hearing. It authorizes the principal to swear a warrant against the student making the threat. It also allows for the recovery of costs related to the case and allows for restitution to law enforcement officers, Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) and the local school board affected by the threat.
H.7 (Lomax)
Effective July 1, 2026
- 2026-370** **Assault 2nd Degree** - Adds to the definition of assault in the second degree when a person over the age of 19 enters an educational environment with the intent to cause harm to a child does harm a child and the person causing the harm is not a student or employee of the school. Assault in the second degree is a Class C felony.
H.132 (Estes)
Effective October 1, 2026
- 2026-558** **Discharging Firearm on School Bus/School Building** - Increases the penalty for discharging a firearm into an occupied school bus or school building from a Class C to a Class A felony.
H.420 (Butler)
Effective October 1, 2026

Military Friendly

- 2026-166** **Military Veteran Temporary Teaching Certificate** - Establishes the Military Veteran Temporary Teaching Certificate Program, allowing a servicemember to receive a non-renewable 5-year temporary certificate. Servicemembers are eligible who have served for at least 48 months with an honorable discharge or medical separation and with at least 60 hours of college credit and a passing score on the content area Praxis. The servicemember must also pass all background checks and be recommended for certification by the local superintendent or private school administrator.
S.149 (Woods)
Effective October 1, 2026
- 2026-574** **Military Spouse Hiring Preference** - Authorizes political subdivisions of the state and private employers, including school systems, to grant veterans and their spouses and spouses of active duty service members preference in hiring and promotion.
H.307 (Rehm)
Effective October 1, 2026
- 2026-582** **ASVAB Testing Day** - Requires all public high schools to have a designated day in the fall semester for the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) to be administered to students on a voluntary basis.
S.158 (Price)
Effective October 1, 2026

School Health

- 2026-561** **Epinephrine Delivery** - Expands the type of approved epinephrine delivery systems that students are allowed to carry for self-administration and schools are allowed to stock to include any FDA-approved form of single-dose premeasured epinephrine (e.g., nasal spray and epi pens).
H.533 (Wilcox)
Effective October 1, 2026

GENERAL BILLS, contd.**Charter Schools**

- 2026-585** **Charter School Finance Authority** - Establishes the Alabama Charter School Finance Authority for the purpose of financing projects, including acquisition and construction of charter schools.
S.62 (Orr)
Effective October 1, 2026

School Choice

- 2026-481** **CHOOSE Act Athletic Eligibility** - The Let the Students Play Act establishes enforcement mechanisms for the CHOOSE Act's nondiscrimination provisions and creates a private right to action against any athletic association and its employees, agents, officers or member institutions if the athletic association 1) adopts or enforces rules that limit a CHOOSE Act student's eligibility; 2) punishes or takes an adverse action against a CHOOSE Act student for participating in an athletic event; and/or 3) the student advocates for a student's participation in the CHOOSE Act.
S.342 (Chambliss)
Effective Immediately

Retirement System

- 2026-286** **Retiree Return to Work** - Allows TRS and Employees' Retirement System (ERS) retirees to return to work as full-time school bus drivers, School Resource Officers (SROs), and other law enforcement positions without a suspension of ERS/TRS benefits. Retirees may earn up to the allowed compensation cap, provided they have received retirement benefits for 12 consecutive months. For individuals who retired on or before January 1, 2026, the 12-month requirement is waived. These provisions will remain in effect until December 31, 2032.
H.138 (Paschal)
Effective October 1, 2026
- 2026-333** **Retirement Contributions Forfeited** - Requires a public servant to pay back compensation received while on leave with pay in certain circumstances and authorizes the use of Retirement Systems' of Alabama (RSA) contributions made by a public servant found guilty of a criminal offense involving his or her government position to be forfeited and used for restitution.
S.58 (Orr)
Effective October 1, 2026
- 2026-525** **TRS/ERS Service Credit** - Allows teachers and state employees to purchase credit in the TRS or ERS for public service performed for the federal government.
S.280 (Waggoner)
Effective October 1, 2026

Ethics

- 2026-543** **Statement of Economic Interests** - Eliminates the requirement that a candidate who has already filed a statement of economic interests must notify the Ethics Commission of this fact upon qualifying for candidacy.
S.194 (Givhan)
Effective Immediately

Miscellaneous

- 2026-526** **Helping Schools Tag** - Requires that the Helping Schools license plate design must include certain elements — a white background, the words "Helping Schools" in red lettering and contain a drawing of a red apple, green book and yellow ruler (the original design). It also allows anyone who has received the current Helping Schools tag to swap it for the original design at no cost.
S.300 (Figures)
Effective January 1, 2027

LOCAL BILLS

- 2026-213** **Tallassee City - Board of Education Compensation** - Allows the Tallassee City school board to receive compensation, if approved by a majority vote at the board's annual meeting, not to exceed the current threshold of \$900/month. Beginning with the next term of office after June 1, the compensation will be converted to a salary for all board members.
- H.467 (Stubbs)**
Effective June 1, 2026
- 2026-363** **Henry County - Ad Valorem [C/A]** - Proposes a constitutional amendment, which if approved by voters, will levy an ad valorem tax of three mills south of Sandy Creek for public school purposes in Headland.
- S.374 (Beasley)**
Effective upon ratification

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions express the will of the legislature but do not have the effect of law. Either chamber can adopt a general resolution, but both chambers must adopt a joint resolution which are then forwarded to the governor for signature and assigned an act number by the secretary of state.

- 2026-332** **Encouraging Alabama Specialty Public High Schools to Form a Consortium** - Encourages Alabama's specialty public high schools to form a consortium to encourage collaboration, partnerships and information sharing among these schools.
- SJR 84 (Orr)**
- 2026-335** **Supporting Additional Funding for CTE** - Encourages an additional \$150 million in FY26 EAT funding to help expand CTE by continuing the previous year's SDE grants for local school boards.
- HJR 189 (Holk-Jones)**
- 2026-336** **Joint Interim Study Commission on Expanding Access to High-Quality Out-of-School Education Programs** - Extends the study commission created in Act 2025-131 with a report due to the legislature no later than November 1, 2026.
- HJR 206 (Collins)**
- 2026-463** **Creates the Alabama Schools STEM Programs Study Commission** - Creates a legislative study commission, with entirely legislative membership, to analyze existing state educational programs and policies relating to STEM subjects and to recommend changes in program structures, authorizations and financial support for those programs. Its final report is due to the legislature no later than November 1, 2026.
- HJR 275 (Daniels)**

For a copy of any ENACTED bill or resolution, click on the highlighted act number in each listing or go to the Alabama Secretary of State's Office to view [legislative acts here](#).

Bills NOT Passed this Legislative Session

AASB tracks approximately 200 education-related bills each session, including resolutions and local legislation. While not every bill is mentioned in the *Advocate for Schools* newsletter, our governmental relations team keeps a close watch on all legislation identified as having an impact on K-12 education.

While not all-inclusive, the following is a list of education-related legislation that did **NOT PASS** during the 2026 Regular Session. Click on any highlighted bill number to view that piece of legislation.

- H.21 (Sellers)** - **Employee Leave for School Activities** - would establish the Parental Right to Participate in Schools Act to permit employees who are parents or guardians of school-age children to take up to 48 hours of leave annually from employment to attend school-related activities.
- H.23 (Butler)** - **Don't Say Gay** - would expand the existing prohibitions currently in K-5 regarding classroom discussions of gender identity, sexual orientation and from referring to students by pronouns inconsistent with a student's biological sex from pre-K-12th grade and prohibit the display of pride flags and insignia in the classroom.
- H.62 (Tillman)** - **Semi-Monthly Pay** - would require each local board of education to pay employees semi-monthly, with an opt out provision.

GENERAL BILLS, *not passed*

H.72 (Sellers) - Mandatory Reporters and Marijuana - All mandatory reporters (e.g., teachers) would have to report if a child smells like marijuana. DHR would be required to treat the same as reported case of suspected child abuse or neglect.

H.85 (Travis) - Ad Valorem Taxes - would require reappraisal of Class II and Class III property every three years.

H.148 (Paschal) - Parents' Fundamental Rights [C/A] - would propose a constitutional amendment, which if approved by voters, would provide that parents have a fundamental right to direct the education, upbringing, care, custody and control of their children.

H.168 (Kiel) - Local Board Mask Policy - would authorize local school boards to enforce policies relating to masks worn during any protest, demonstration, or other public assembly on property owned by or under the control of the board. Law enforcement would be able to demand the removal of face masks in public for identification.

H.183 (DuBose) - CTE for Nonpublic School Students - would allow private and homeschool students to enroll in a public school CTE program as nontraditional students and would enable schools to receive ADM for these students.

H.187 (Baker) - Rapid Response Systems - would require each local board to provide teachers and other school staff with wearable mobile emergency response technology by October 1, 2030, subject to the availability of annual dedicated school safety funds.

H.221 (Paramore) - Sporting Event Broadcasts - Public K-12 schools have the sole authority for selecting which media organizations may broadcast regular season sporting events. This bill would expand that authority to include the broadcast of all post regular season sporting events.

H.246 (DuBose) - Curricula Posting - would require public K-12 schools to offer an alternative method for the review of copyrighted materials used in adopted classroom curricula by parents and guardians.

H.276 (Oliver) - School Athletics Physicals - would specifically provide that the endorsement of a certified registered nurse practitioner or certified nurse midwife on a physical examination form for participation of a student in K-12 school athletics is deemed to be the endorsement of a physician.

H.333 (Colvin) - ELL Athletic Classification - would require athletic associations to adjust a public high school's athletic classification to reflect the number of English Language Learner (ELL) students who do not participate in athletics that are enrolled at the school.

H.334 (Colvin) - AHSAA and TRS - would prohibit future employees of the Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA) from participating in the TRS.

H.340 (Gray) - High School NIL - would allow high school student athletes to receive compensation for the use of their name, image or likeness (NIL).

H.353 (Butler) - Advanced Math Pathway - would require each school system to develop an Advanced Math Pathway to prepare students for Algebra 1 in middle school and college credit-bearing math courses in high school. The bill also would require school boards to provide additional instruction support beyond core math instruction for these students.

H.396 (Collins) - State Report Card Changes - would revise the school grading system to update the design and revise the weights and indicators considered in assigning a grade. It would also create an Accountability Council to review and recommend revisions to the state accountability system.

H.434 (England) - State SSUT - would reduce the simplified sellers use tax (SSUT) portion allocated to the ETF and reallocate those SSUT proceeds to local boards of education.

H.480 (England) - SSUT Revenue to Local School Boards - would require each county and city to distribute a minimum of 40% of SSUT revenue to each local school board in their respective jurisdiction. This would not apply to any county or city that adopted a local revenue-sharing agreement prior to October 1, 2027.

H.495 (Kiel) - Failing Schools Students Academic Exclusion - would exclude the academic performance of students who transfer from a failing school from consideration when assigning a grade to a school or school system for the first three years of enrollment of the transferring student.

H.540 (Mooney) - American History and Civics Initiative - would establish the American History and Civics Excellence Initiative within the SDE and provide for an online course of study on American history and civics that

GENERAL BILLS, not passed

high school teachers may complete in order to receive the American History and Civics Seal of Excellence Endorsement and, subject to appropriation, a one-time stipend.

H.562 (Garrett) - Bonding Authority [C/A] - would propose a constitutional amendment, which if approved by voters, would provide full legislative participation on any bonding authority in order to limit the issuance of bonds or incurrence of other debt.

H.567 (Gray) - Student Athlete Eligibility and Career Transition Act - would provide for the tracking of public high school students' academic and athletic progress, including National College Athletic Association (NCAA) eligibility, and the provision of information to those students regarding available paths and career opportunities including college enrollment, military enlistment or workforce entry.

H.584 (Ross) - Alabama Balanced Instruction and Screentime Act - would require the SBOE to adopt standards for the use of screen-based instruction in K-12 and annually prepare a progress report on the use, revisions, and effect of screen-based instruction on students. It also would establish the Instructional Technology Task Force within the SDE to annually provide recommendations to the board relating to screen-based instruction, which the board must include in its standards.

H.604 (Collins) - Accountability Council - would provide for the creation and membership of an Accountability Council to review and recommend revisions to the state accountability system. This bill would also require the Alabama Workforce Board, with support from SDE and ACHE, to develop a system for collecting, analyzing and reporting on student performance data associated with completion of college and career readiness indicators.

H.659 (Chestnut) - Bill of Rights in the Classroom Act - would require the SDE to publish a standardized version of the Bill of Rights for use by local school boards. It would also require the display of the Bill of Rights in public school classrooms and on the website of each local board of education and authorize parents to report noncompliance with this act to the local superintendent of education.

H.666 (Yarbrough) - Membership Dues - would prohibit membership dues for labor organizations from being deducted from the salary of certain education employees.

S.73 (Chesteen) - Athletic Association Prohibition - would prohibit public K-12 schools from being a member of an athletic association whose governing body is comprised of certain members and that enforces rules relating to student-athlete eligibility which were not adopted in accordance with the Alabama Administrative Procedure Act.

S.75 (Chesteen) - Cooperative Purchasing Agreements - would add K-12 to an exception to the public works law for purchasing materials and equipment over \$100,000 through a cooperative purchasing agreement.

S.88 (Stutts) - Division of Construction Management - would remove the DCM inspection requirement for K-12 capital improvement projects under \$300,000, provided the project does not affect areas where students and staff regularly congregate, but not the underlying compliance requirements with building code and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

S.110 (Elliott) - Certified Registered Nurses/K-12 Athletics - would specifically provide that the endorsement of a certified registered nurse practitioner or certified nurse midwife on a physical examination form for participation of a student in K-12 school athletics is deemed to be the endorsement of a physician.

S.191 (Givhan) - Homeschooling Opportunities for Military Education (HOME Act) - would require local school boards to provide homeschool students who are dependents of an active duty military parent access to public school facilities, equipment, special education services and interscholastic athletics.

S.201 (Givhan) - JROTC for Homeschool - would require public school Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) programs be available to home school and private school students who are the dependents of active duty military parents residing within the local school system's attendance zone.

S.311 (Smitherman) - Priority Schools - would provide a **\$121 million** one-time supplemental appropriation for priority schools (D-F grade rating on the state report card). Each identified school would receive **\$1 million**.

LOCAL BILLS, not passed

H.180 (Sells) - Conecuh County Superintendent - would change the selection of the county superintendent of education from elected to appointed commencing with the next term of office.



Now that Alabama's 2026 Legislative Session is in the books, join the AASB legislative team for a recap of session highs and lows. Mark your calendars!

[REGISTER HERE](#) for this free webinar.

Executive Director **Sally Smith**, Director of Governmental Relations **Ada Katherine van Wyhe** and Governmental Relations Coordinator **Tracey Meyer** will discuss the education bills that did and did not pass, share helpful information and answer your questions about legislation that will impact your systems.

Questions for Our Governmental Relations Team?

If you have specific questions for us regarding bills or other issues from the 2026 legislative session, please complete our [online form](#) to help the team address those questions during the webinar.

LEGISLATIVE QUADRENNIUM (2023-2026) - REGULAR SESSIONS

Began: March 7, 2023 / Ended: June 6, 2023

Began: February 6, 2024 / Ended: May 9, 2024

Began: February 4, 2025 / Ended: May 14, 2025

Began: January 13, 2026 / Ended: April 9, 2026

The next legislative quadrennium (2027-2030) begins February 2, 2027

The organizational session is January 12, 2027

ADVOCATE FOR SCHOOLS ARCHIVES

During legislative sessions, AASB's Governmental Relations team provides members with our Advocate for Schools newsletter which includes a weekly update on education issues, legislation and policy. You can find copies of this session's newsletters as well as archived issues from previous sessions by [CLICKING HERE](#).

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