



Legislative Update for April 18-April 20, 2017

Senate Bill 59 (Alabama Prison Transformation Initiative)
Committee: Judiciary

Sponsor: *Senator Ward*

This bill uses the funding for Confederate Memorial Park as a second priority security for the bond issue to build new prisons.

Update: No change since March 9 when this bill passed favorably out of committee with one substitute.

Senate Bill 302 (Corrections Construction and Renovation Public Safety Act)
Committee: Judiciary

Sponsor: *Senator Ward*

This bill is a scaled down version of SB 59. It allows for \$350 million in bonds to renovate existing prison facilities and to construct 1 new prison upon the lease of two prison facilities from local authorities. It still uses the funding for Confederate Memorial Park as a second priority security for the bond issue.

Update: This bill was first introduced in the Senate on March 14 and was heard in Judiciary committee on March 15. It received a favorable report from Judiciary and was ready for a third reading on March 16. SB 302 was voted out of the Senate on March 16 and sent to the House and referred to the committee on Judiciary. No change since March 16.

Senate Bill 60 (Moving or renaming Monuments)
Committee: Governmental Affairs

Sponsor: *Senator Allen*

The bill was substituted at the start of the Committee meeting. No monument located on public property that has been situated there for over 50 years can be relocated, moved, altered, or renamed or otherwise disturbed. Monuments on public property that have been there less than 50 years must go before a review committee before it can potentially be relocated, moved, altered, or renamed. This bill had a third reading in the Senate and a substitute was introduced with an amendment that changes the threshold from 50 years to 20 years for monuments and “architecturally significant buildings”. It also adds the AHC to the State Committee. This bill was voted favorably out of the Senate.

Update: The bill was voted favorably out of State Government committee on April 13. Pending third reading in the House.

House Bill 99 (Moving or renaming Monuments)
Committee: State Government

Sponsor: *Representative South*

This bill prohibits the removal of any monument on public property and the renaming of public places that have been named in memory of someone for more than 50 years. This bill allows exceptions to the prohibition by decision of a committee consisting of four legislative members and one appointee each by the State Archives, the Historical Commission, the Black Heritage Council, the Alabama Historical Association, and the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation.

Update: No change bill is still pending committee action in the House as of April 20.

House Bill 349 (Moving or renaming Monuments)

Sponsor: *Representative Butler*

Committee: State Government

This bill excludes leased properties from affected properties listed. It also excludes images from the definition of monument. HB 349 provides for emergency repairs; provides for a possible waiver for monuments over 50 years; treats streets named over 50 years the same as monuments named over 50 years. It expands the review committee in both SB 60 and HB 99; includes bridges, parks, preserves and reserves and they are treated the same as streets.

Update: This bill was favorably voted out of committee on March 8. No change as of April 20.

Senate Bill 129 & House Bill 171 (Education Budgets)

Sponsor: *Senator Orr*

Committees: Finance and Taxation Education & Ways & Means Education

Sponsor: *Representative Poole*

The AHC is included in the Education Trust Fund Budget with an appropriation of \$900,000. The majority of these funds are for grants to other entities.

Update: SB 129 was in committee on March 15 and voted out favorably with a substitute. The substitute introduced on the floor of the Senate on March 16 takes the AHC appropriation from \$950,000 to \$900,000 and added additional language on grant criteria and bicentennial programs.

No change--SB 129 passed out of the Senate on April 4 and has been assigned to the Ways and Means Education Committee in the House. No change as of 4/20.

No change--HB 171 is still pending committee action in the House as of 4/20.

Senate Bill 150 & House Bill 155 (General Fund Budgets)

Sponsor: *Senator Pittman*

Committee: Finance and Taxation General Fund & Ways & Means GF

Sponsor: *Representative Clouse*

The AHC has been appropriated level funding in this initial budget.

Update: House Bill 155 was in committee on March 8 and was favorably voted out of committee with 1 substitute. The AHC remained at level funding. This bill was debated on the House floor on March 14 and was voted out of the House.

No change--HB 155 pending action in the Senate committee of Finance and Taxation General Fund.

No change--SB 150 is still pending committee action in the Senate.

House Bill 345 and Senate Bill 262 (Historic State Tax Credit Bill)

Sponsor: *Representative Gaston*

Committee(s): Ways & Means Education & Finance & Taxation
Education respectively

Sponsor: *Senator Waggoner*

This bill establishes a new income tax credit for rehabilitation, preservation, or development of certified historic structures, beginning in 2018 and runs through 2027. This bill allows for a maximum of twenty million dollars per year of tax credits.

Update: No change since March 8 when Senate bill 262 was favorably voted out of committee.

HB 345 was heard in Ways and Means Education committee on March 15 and a public hearing was conducted. The bill was voted out of committee on April 5 with a favorable report with an amendment added to the sunset date from 10 years to 5 years and changing total tax credits from \$200,000,000 to

\$100,000,000. This bill was engrossed in the house on 4/18 and had a first reading in the Senate on 4/20 then referred to the House Ways and Means Education committee.

Senate Bill 308 (Supplemental ETF Appropriations)

Sponsor: *Senator Orr*

Committee: Finance and Taxation Education

This bill adds language to the AHC's FY 17 appropriation that allows the Commission to appropriate \$300,000 to the Alabama Bicentennial Commission Foundation.

Update: No change--this bill was introduced on March 15 and assigned to Finance and Taxation Education. SB 308 was heard in committee on March 15 and voted out favorable. It passed the Senate on April 4 and has been assigned to Ways and Means Education in the House.

House Bill 545 (Prison Transformation Initiative Act)

Sponsor: *Representative Farley*

Committee: Judiciary

Alabama Prison Transformation Initiative Act authorizes up to \$100,000,000 bond issue for prison facilities, construction agreements, renovations and demolishing existing prison facilities. This bill still uses as a second priority security the one mill tax that supports Confederate Park.

This bill was introduced on April 20 and referred to the House Judiciary Committee.