

# HB383 INTRODUCED



1 HB383  
2 QUIA451-1  
3 By Representative Almond  
4 RFD: Ways and Means Education  
5 First Read: 02-Apr-24



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SYNOPSIS:

This bill would require the Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE) to establish a process for eligible public institutions of higher education to be designated as Hunger-Free Campuses.

This bill would provide application and eligibility requirements for designation as a Hunger-Free Campus.

This bill would provide that each designation expires after two years, at which point an eligible public institution of higher education may apply to renew the designation.

This bill would also require ACHE to adopt rules.

A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

Relating to public institutions of higher education; to provide for the designation of each eligible public institution of higher education as a Hunger-Free Campus; to provide application, eligibility, and renewal criteria; and to require the Alabama Commission on Higher Education to adopt



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29 rules.

30 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

31 Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as  
32 the Hunger-Free Campus Act.

33 Section 2. For the purposes of this act, the following  
34 terms have the following meanings:

35 (1) COMMISSION or ACHE. The Alabama Commission on  
36 Higher Education.

37 (2) PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION. Those  
38 four-year public educational institutions in Alabama which  
39 have been authorized by the Legislature or by the constitution  
40 to provide formal education, including vocational, technical,  
41 collegiate, professional, or any other form of education,  
42 above the secondary school level.

43 (3) SNAP. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance  
44 Program.

45 Section 3. (a) The Alabama Commission on Higher  
46 Education shall establish a process to designate each eligible  
47 public institution of higher education as a Hunger-Free  
48 Campus.

49 (b) ACHE shall develop an application process for  
50 public institutions of higher education seeking to be  
51 designated as a Hunger-Free Campus. ACHE shall review each  
52 application and award the designation to each public  
53 institution of higher education that meets the eligibility  
54 requirements provided in Section 4.

55 Section 4. To be eligible for designation as a  
56 Hunger-Free Campus, a public institution of higher education



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57 shall:

58 (1) Establish a Hunger-Free Task Force. Each task force  
59 shall meet at least three times per academic year, annually  
60 set at least two goals related to hunger, and develop action  
61 plans for each goal. The membership of each Hunger-Free Task  
62 Force shall include, but not be limited to:

63 a. At least two students enrolled at that public  
64 institution of higher education;

65 b. A representative from the office of student affairs  
66 of that public institution of higher education;

67 c. A representative from the financial aid office of  
68 that public institution of higher education; and

69 d. Any other members selected by the public institution  
70 of higher education.

71 (2) Designate a staff member to be responsible for  
72 assisting students with receiving information on SNAP benefits  
73 in Alabama.

74 (3) Either: (i) provide options for students to utilize  
75 SNAP benefits on each campus; or (ii) provide students with  
76 information on establishments in the area surrounding each  
77 campus where they can utilize SNAP benefits.

78 (4) Hold or participate in at least one anti-hunger  
79 awareness event per academic year.

80 (5) Provide: (i) at least one physical food pantry on  
81 each campus; or (ii) information about community supported  
82 food pantries in the area surrounding each campus.

83 (6) Either: (i) develop a student meal credit donation  
84 program; or (ii) develop and implement a program to provide



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85 free food vouchers, such as grocery store gift cards, to  
86 students.

87 (7) Operate a student survey about hunger and other  
88 basic needs of students. The survey shall be administered at  
89 least every two years. Each public institution of higher  
90 education may administer the survey itself or partner with a  
91 local community-based organization to do so.

92 Section 5. (a) Designation as a Hunger-Free Campus  
93 shall apply for two years, at which point a public institution  
94 of higher education may submit an application to renew the  
95 designation for an additional two years.

96 (b) If ACHE determines that a public institution of  
97 higher education does not meet the requirements to renew its  
98 designation, the commission shall: (i) provide written notice  
99 to the public institution of higher education that it has not  
100 met the criteria; and (ii) provide the public institution of  
101 higher education 45 days from the receipt of notice to correct  
102 or amend its renewal application. If the public institution of  
103 higher education does not submit a corrected or amended  
104 renewal application that indicates compliance with the renewal  
105 requirements, the public institution of higher education may  
106 not be designated as a Hunger-Free Campus.

107 (c) A public institution of higher education whose  
108 designation as a Hunger-Free Campus is not renewed may not  
109 apply for designation again until the following academic year.

110 Section 6. The Alabama Commission on Higher Education  
111 shall adopt rules to administer this act.

112 Section 7. This act shall become effective on October



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113 1, 2024.