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SYNOPSIS:

This bill would require certain mayors and members of municipal governing bodies to participate in and complete a training course.

This bill would provide for the creation of a training course.

This bill would also provide for expenses incurred while participating in the training course.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to municipal officials; to require certain officials to participate in training; and to provide for the creation of a training course.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) Beginning January 1, 2025, each individual elected to serve as mayor or as a member of the governing body of any municipality shall enroll in, participate in, and satisfactorily complete, during each year of their first elected term that commences after January 1, 2025, a training course that meets the requirements of subsection (b).



29 (b) A training course shall consist of at least 10
30 hours and shall include instruction in each of the following
31 subjects:

32 (1) The general powers of municipalities.

33 (2) The duties of mayors and governing bodies of
34 municipalities.

35 (3) Ethics.

36 (4) Annexations.

37 (5) The authority to expend municipal funds.

38 (6) Parliamentary procedure.

39 (7) Conflicts of interest.

40 (8) Legislative advocacy.

41 (9) Liability.

42 (10) Public records.

43 (11) Police and planning jurisdiction.

44 (12) Public works bidding.

45 (13) Revenue sources.

46 (14) Competitive bid laws.

47 (15) Budgeting.

48 (16) Audit requirements.

49 (17) The public purpose doctrine.

50 (18) The Open Meetings Act.

51 (19) Municipal boards.

52 (20) Zoning.

53 (21) Any other subject recommended by the Alabama
54 League of Municipalities.

55 (c) Any individual who has successfully completed the
56 Certified Municipal Official Program administered by the



57 Alabama League of Municipalities shall be exempt from the
58 requirements of subsection (a).

59 Section 2. Beginning January 1, 2025, each individual
60 elected or appointed to serve as mayor or as a member of the
61 governing body of any municipality who has already completed
62 the training required by Section 1 shall enroll in,
63 participate in, and satisfactorily complete, annually, at
64 least five hours of continuing education courses pertaining to
65 any of the subjects listed in Section 1.

66 Section 3. Any training provided pursuant to this act
67 shall be developed in consultation with the Alabama Ethics
68 Commission, the Attorney General's Office, and the Department
69 of Examiners of Public Accounts.

70 Section 4. (a) All expenses incurred by an individual
71 related to any training required by this act, including, but
72 not limited to, the cost of the training and the reasonable
73 costs of lodging, travel, and meals, shall be paid from the
74 general fund of the municipality.

75 (b) This act shall apply to all municipalities
76 incorporated under Title 11 of the Code of Alabama 1975.

77 Section 5. This act shall become effective on January
78 1, 2025.