- 1 HB189
- 2 163967-2
- 3 By Representative McCutcheon
- 4 RFD: Boards, Agencies and Commissions
- 5 First Read: 05-MAR-15

1	ENGROSSED
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4	A BILL
5	TO BE ENTITLED
6	AN ACT
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8	Relating to the administration of the Department of
9	Senior Services; to amend Sections 38-3-1, 38-3-2, 38-3-3,
10	38-3-4, 38-3-5, 38-3-6, and 38-3-7, Code of Alabama 1975, to
11	clarify that the commissioner shall administer the Department
12	of Senior Services and to clarify that the board serves only
13	in an advisory capacity to the commissioner.
14	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:
15	Section 1. Sections 38-3-1, 38-3-2, 38-3-3, 38-3-4,
16	38-3-5, 38-3-6, and 38-3-7, Code of Alabama 1975, are amended
17	to read as follows:
18	"§38-3-1.
19	"(a) There is hereby created the Department of
20	Senior Services of the State of Alabama, which shall be under
21	the direction and control of the Commissioner of the
22	Department of Senior Services.
23	"(b) There is created an advisory a board of
24	directors which shall consist of 16 members, which shall
25	advise the commissioner in the administration of the
26	department. The advisory board shall be composed of two
27	members of the Senate to be appointed by the President of the

1 Senate; two members of the House of Representatives to be 2 appointed by the Speaker of the House; the Commissioner of the State Department of Labor, the State Health Officer, and the 3 Commissioner of the State Department of Human Resources as ex officio members; and nine members to be appointed by the 5 6 Governor for terms concurrent with the term of the Governor. 7 Of the members appointed by the Governor, one shall be a representative of business, one shall be a representative of 8 labor, one shall be a representative of the medical 9 10 profession, three shall be representatives of senior citizen organizations, and the remaining three shall be responsible 11 12 citizens of the state. Upon reappointment, the membership of 13 the board shall be inclusive and reflect the racial, gender, 14 geographic, urban/rural, and economic diversity of the state. "§38-3-2. 15

"(a) It shall be the duty of the members of the advisory board to meet within 30 days after their appointment, and to elect a chair and other officers from among themselves, who shall serve for a period of two years. Thereafter, the board shall elect a new chair every two years.

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- "(b) It shall be the duty of the board to do all of the following:
- "(1) Collect facts and statistics and make special studies of conditions and problems pertaining to the employment, health, financial status, recreation, social adjustment, or other conditions affecting the welfare of the aging people in this state.

- "(2) Keep abreast of the latest developments in this field of activity throughout the nation, and to interpret its findings to the public commissioner.
 - "(3) Provide for a mutual exchange of ideas and information on national, state, and local levels.
 - "(4) Give a report of its <u>advisory</u> activities to the Legislature, and make recommendations for needed improvements and additional resources to promote the welfare of the aging in this state.
 - "(5) Serve as an advisory body in regard to new legislation in this field to the commissioner.
 - "(6) Coordinate the services of all agencies in this state serving senior citizens and request and receive reports from the various state agencies and institutions on matters within the jurisdiction of the board.

16 "\$38-3-3.

"The <u>advisory</u> board may create <u>advisory</u> subcommittees to undertake special studies as it shall authorize and co-opt into <u>advisory</u> subcommittees persons qualified in any field of activity relating to the welfare of the aging.

22 "§38-3-4.

"The members of the <u>advisory</u> board shall receive no compensation for their services, other than reimbursement for traveling and other expenses actually incurred in the performance of their official duties. The expenses shall be paid in the manner and amount as is provided for other state

officers and employees and persons traveling on official business for the state or any of its departments, institutions, boards, bureaus, commissions, councils, committees, or other like agencies.

"§38-3-5.

"(a) The Governor shall appoint a commissioner for the Department of Senior Services and a confidential secretary and shall prescribe their duties, powers, and authority to carry out the provisions of this article. The commissioner shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor and also shall serve as executive officer and secretary of the board, and shall be a full-time employee of the board. The commissioner, subject to the Merit System law, shall appoint additional personnel as may be necessary in carrying out the provisions of this article.

"(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (d) of Section 41-16-27, the commissioner may contract with providers for the various meals programs administered by the department for periods of up to five years with five additional one-year extension options at the discretion of the commissioner. With respect to any meals programs contract between the department and any food service provider which was executed prior to August 1, 2004, and which remains in effect as of August 1, 2004, a current meals programs contract, the commissioner may, with the written consent of any such food service provider, elect to extend such current meals programs contract with the extension period to be up to five years with

five additional one-year extension options. The extension period shall commence on the day after the end of the current meals programs contract term then in effect. The commissioner may, with the written consent of the food service provider, renegotiate the terms of a current meals programs contract, provided that renegotiation is necessary, in the discretion of the commissioner, to induce the food service provider to enter into a contract extension provided by this subsection and provided further that, in the discretion of the commissioner, the extension of the current meals programs contract will reduce overall costs to the department. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as providing for or affecting any exemption to subsection (a), (b), or (c) of Section 41-16-27.

"§38-3-6**.**

"The board or its commissioner may receive and hold gifts, devises, bequests of money, real estate, and other things of value to be used in the support and development of its department work. Bequests of money shall be deposited by the board into the Alabama Senior Services Trust Fund established and created as a separate fund in the State Treasury.

"§38-3-7.

"(a) All rights, duties, property, real or personal, and all other effects existing in names of the Commission on the Aging, or in any other name by which the agency has been known, shall continue in the name of the Department of Senior

Services. Any existing or future reference to the Commission on the Aging, or any other name by which the agency has been known, in any existing law, contract, or other instrument shall constitute a reference to the Department of Senior Services of the State of Alabama.

- "(b) The Commission on the Aging shall continue in existence as the Board of Directors of an advisory board of directors to the Department of Senior Services.
- "(c) A reasonable transition period for the name change shall be allowed to permit an orderly and cost-effective transition relating particularly to the use of equipment and supplies. All letterhead, business cards, forms, and any other materials in use by the commission containing the name Commission on the Aging shall continue to be used by the Department of Senior Services until the supplies are exhausted. Replacement supplies shall contain the name of the Department of Senior Services.
- "(d) The Code Commissioner, pursuant to Section 29-7-8, at times determined appropriate, shall implement this statutory name change in applicable sections of the Code of Alabama 1975."

Section 2. This act shall become effective immediately following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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3	House of Representatives
4 5	Read for the first time and re- ferred to the House of Representa-
5 6 7	tives committee on Boards, Agencies and Commissions
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9 10	Read for the second time and placed on the calendar 02-APR-15
11	on the carendar
12	Read for the third time and passed
13	as amended 09-APR-15
14	Yeas 95, Nays 2, Abstains 0
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16 17	Jeff Woodard Clerk
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