

County Decision-Making

Please support HB 193 by Rep. Randy Davis

HB 193 is a proposed constitutional amendment that would give county government limited decision-making authority to carry out management and administrative activities. This bill is designed in part to allow local governments to make decisions that currently require local legislation—which can sometimes clog the legislative process.

The contents of the bill were developed through detailed negotiations with local elected officials, ALFA, and the Association of County Commissions of Alabama. All parties have agreed to its provisions.

This bill does not grant “Home Rule” powers to counties, so this is not “Home Rule”.

In fact, language in the bill specifically prohibits the levying of taxes or fees, and prohibits any program that would “infringe on a citizen’s rights with respect to the use of his or her private property.”

The proposal simply provides for county commissions to carry out management and administrative activities in the following areas:

- County Personnel Programs, Policies and Procedures;
- Community Programs for clean roadways, public facilities, and public property;
- Public Transportation;
- Operation of county offices; and
- Emergency Assistance Programs.

The bill clearly states that these powers do not supersede general or local laws, that the county commission cannot use these powers to change the salary of other elected officials, and that the county commission cannot in any way alter or interfere with the duties of other elected officials.

There is also a specific provision for citizen input into any proposed programs, policies, or procedures by providing notice and opportunity to be heard at a county commission meeting where such matters are to be considered.

Questions? Call the Association of County Commissions at 334-263-7594

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