

ALABAMA FAIR BALLOT COMMISSION
AUGUST 4, 2026
ALABAMA STATE CAPITOL
SUITE S-203 (OLD ARCHIVES ROOM)
600 DEXTER AVENUE
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

Commissioners present were:

Chairman Patrick Moody, Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture and Industries, and on behalf of Commissioner Pate
Vice Chairman Jimmy Entrekin
Mr. Zack Wilson, Senior Legal Counsel for the Governor, and on behalf of Governor Ivey
Mrs. Connie Rowe, Chief of Staff for the Lieutenant Governor, and on behalf of Lieutenant Governor Ainsworth
Mr. Mike Jones, Jr., General Counsel for the Secretary of State, and on behalf of Secretary of State Allen
Mr. Andrew Westcott, General Counsel for the Speaker of the Alabama House of Representatives, and on behalf of Speaker Ledbetter
Ms. Meridith Blackburn
Mr. Anthony Windom
Mr. Steve Dunn
Mr. Myles Mayberry
Ms. Sarah Telofski
Mr. James Parnell
Ms. Mary Margaret Carroll (portion of the meeting, non-voting)
The Honorable Linda Coleman-Madison, Member, Alabama State Senate

Commissioners absent were:

Ms. Caleigh M. Hart
Mr. Brannon Denning
Ms. Carole Smitherman
Mr. Jordan Plaster
Ms. Stephanie Smith
The Honorable Bob Fincher, Member, Alabama House of Representatives
The Honorable Arnold Mooney, Member, Alabama House of Representatives
The Honorable Juandalynn Givan, Member, Alabama House of Representatives
The Honorable Tom Butler, Member, Alabama State Senate
The Honorable Chris Elliott, Member, Alabama State Senate

WELCOME

Chairman Moody called to order the meeting at 9:34 a.m. and welcomed everyone.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Dunn gave the invocation and led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

ROLL CALL & ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF QUORUM

Chairman Moody directed Laney Rawls to call the roll. Laney Rawls called the roll and advised Chairman Moody that a quorum was present. With a quorum in attendance, the Commission transacted the following business, to-wit:

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF NOTIFICATION OF MEETING PURSUANT TO THE ALABAMA OPEN MEETINGS ACT

Commissioner Jones informed the Commission that today's meeting was posted on the Alabama Open Meetings Act website, compliant with applicable law, on July 9, 2026.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 2, 2026 MEETING

Chairman Moody asked the members if they had any changes to the February 2, 2026, meeting minutes at which time no Commissioners voiced any revisions. Chairman Moody asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER PARNELL, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MAYBERRY, TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 2, 2026 MINUTES OF THE ALABAMA FAIR BALLOT COMMISSION.

Ayes: 12 Commissioners: Chairman Moody, Vice Chairman Entrekin, Zack Wilson, Connie Rowe, Mike Jones, Jr., Andrew Westcott, Meridith Blackburn, Anthony Windom, Steve Dunn, Myles Mayberry, Sarah Telofski, James Parnell

No: 0 Commissioners: (None)
Abstain: 0 Commissioners: (None)

MOTION PASSED.

DISCUSSION AND PREPARATION OF BALLOT STATEMENT 1 FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTION OF ALABAMA OF 2022

Chairman Moody opened the discussion by explaining the history and purpose of the Fair Ballot Commission. Chairman Moody and Vice-Chairman Entrekin provided the Commissioners with relevant background information related to Statewide Amendment 1. The Commissioners then discussed revisions. After discussion, a motion was made to approve the final ballot statement as follows:

Current law generally provides that if the office of Lieutenant Governor becomes vacant during a term of office, the vacancy remains until the next regular election for that office. The Alabama Constitution also sets the pay of the Lieutenant Governor and certain legislative officers.

If approved, this amendment would require an election to fill the office of Lieutenant Governor for the remainder of an unexpired term if the office becomes vacant more than 60 days before the next general election in which state officers are elected.

The amendment would also authorize the Legislature to set the pay of the Lieutenant Governor and officers of the Legislature by joint resolution.

In addition, the amendment would require expenditures of legislative funds for travel by members of the Legislature to be approved by an officer elected by the members of that legislative chamber.

If the majority of voters vote “yes” on Amendment 1, the Alabama Constitution will be changed.

If the majority of voters vote “no” on Amendment 1, the Alabama Constitution will not be changed.

There are no costs or taxes associated with Amendment 1.

The Constitutional authority for passage of Amendment 1 is set forth in accordance with Sections 284 and 285 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, and the election laws of the State of Alabama.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER JONES, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WINDOM, TO APPROVE THE FINAL BALLOT STATEMENT FOR PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 1.

Ayes: 12 Commissioners: Chairman Moody, Vice Chairman Entrekin, Zack Wilson, Connie Rowe, Mike Jones, Jr., Andrew Westcott, Meridith Blackburn, Anthony Windom, Steve Dunn, Myles Mayberry, Sarah Telofski, James Parnell

No: 0 Commissioners: (None)

Abstain: 0 Commissioners: (None)

MOTION PASSED.

**DISCUSSION AND PREPARATION OF BALLOT STATEMENT 2 FOR THE
PROPOSED CONSTITUTION OF ALABAMA OF 2022**

Chairman Moody and Vice-Chairman Entrekin provided the Commissioners with relevant background information related to Statewide Amendment 2. The Commissioners then discussed revisions. After discussion, a motion was made to approve the final ballot statement as follows:

Currently, each county has a board of education that operates independently. A process allowing the merger of two or more county boards of education does not currently exist in the Alabama Constitution.

If approved, this amendment would allow two or more neighboring county boards of education to agree to merge their county school systems into one multi-county school system by formal resolution of the affected county school boards.

Before a merger could occur, the State Board of Education would be required to conduct a study of the proposed merger, including its potential effects on students, families, educational programs, transportation, finances, taxes, and school operations. The study must be published before the merger could be finalized.

If at least 25 percent of the qualified voters in any of the affected county school systems submits a written protest, the proposed merger could not take effect unless it is approved by a majority of the voters in each of the affected counties at the next general election. In addition to a majority of voters in each county, the amendment also requires that the merger be approved by an overall majority of the votes cast in all the affected counties.

The amendment would also require the State Board of Education to adopt rules to implement the merger process. The Legislature could pass laws to implement approved mergers.

If the majority of voters vote “yes” on Amendment 2, the Alabama Constitution will be changed.

If the majority of voters vote “no” on Amendment 2, the Alabama Constitution will not be changed.

There are no costs or taxes associated with Amendment 2.

The Constitutional authority for passage of Amendment 2 is set forth in accordance with Sections 284 and 285 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, and the election laws of the State of Alabama.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER JONES, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MAYBERRY,
TO APPROVE THE FINAL BALLOT STATEMENT FOR PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL
AMENDMENT 2.

**Ayes: 12 Commissioners: Chairman Moody, Vice Chairman Entrekin, Zack Wilson,
Connie Rowe, Mike Jones, Jr., Andrew Westcott, Meridith
Blackburn, Anthony Windom, Steve Dunn, Myles Mayberry,
Sarah Telofski, James Parnell**

No: 0 Commissioners: (None)
Abstain: 0 Commissioners: (None)

MOTION PASSED.

**DISCUSSION AND PREPARATION OF BALLOT STATEMENT 3 FOR THE
PROPOSED CONSTITUTION OF ALABAMA OF 2022**

Chairman Moody and Vice-Chairman Entrekin provided the Commissioners with relevant background information related to Statewide Amendment 3. The Commissioners then discussed revisions. After discussion, a motion was made to approve the final ballot statement as follows:

Currently, the Alabama Constitution does not require local boards of education to adopt policies requiring each public K-12 school to conduct the Pledge of Allegiance each school day or to adopt policies allowing student-initiated and student-led prayer.

If approved, this amendment would require each local board of education to adopt a policy requiring each public K-12 school to conduct the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag at the beginning of each school day and give students the opportunity to voluntarily recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

The amendment would also require each local board of education to adopt a policy allowing student-initiated and student-led prayer in public K-12 schools. No student could be required to participate in the prayer, and students would have the right to opt out of participating in the Pledge of Allegiance or the prayer based on their own beliefs. Reported violations would be reviewed by the local superintendent of education.

If the majority of voters vote “yes” on Amendment 3, the Alabama Constitution will be changed.

If the majority of voters vote “no” on Amendment 3, the Alabama Constitution will not be changed.

There are no costs or taxes associated with Amendment 3.

The Constitutional authority for passage of Amendment 3 is set forth in accordance with Sections 284 and 285 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, and the election laws of the State of Alabama.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER ROWE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DUNN, TO
APPROVE THE FINAL BALLOT STATEMENT FOR PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL
AMENDMENT 3.**

**Ayes: 12 Commissioners: Chairman Moody, Vice Chairman Entrekin, Zack Wilson,
Connie Rowe, Mike Jones, Jr., Andrew Westcott, Meridith**

**Blackburn, Anthony Windom, Steve Dunn, Myles Mayberry,
Sarah Telofski, James Parnell**

No: 0 Commissioners: (None)
Abstain: 0 Commissioners: (None)

MOTION PASSED.

**DISCUSSION AND PREPARATION OF BALLOT STATEMENT 4 FOR THE
PROPOSED CONSTITUTION OF ALABAMA OF 2022**

Chairman Moody and Vice-Chairman Entrekin provided the Commissioners with relevant background information related to Statewide Amendment 4. The Commissioners then discussed revisions. After discussion, a motion was made to approve the final ballot statement as follows:

Currently, the Alabama Constitution does not require local boards of education to adopt policies requiring each public K-12 school to broadcast or allow the performance of the first stanza of The Star-Spangled Banner during school hours.

If approved, this amendment would require each local board of education to adopt a policy requiring each public K-12 school to broadcast the first stanza of The Star-Spangled Banner at least once each week during school hours. A local board of education could instead allow the first stanza of The Star-Spangled Banner to be performed during school hours by a school-approved band, choir, vocal group, or vocalist using the version archived by the Library of Congress.

If the majority of voters vote “yes” on Amendment 4, the Alabama Constitution will be changed.

If the majority of voters vote “no” on Amendment 4, the Alabama Constitution will not be changed.

There are no costs or taxes associated with Amendment 4.

The Constitutional authority for passage of Amendment 4 is set forth in accordance with Sections 284 and 285 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, and the election laws of the State of Alabama.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER PARNELL, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ENTREKIN,
TO APPROVE THE FINAL BALLOT STATEMENT FOR PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL
AMENDMENT 4.**

**Ayes: 12 Commissioners: Chairman Moody, Vice Chairman Entrekin, Zack Wilson,
Connie Rowe, Mike Jones, Jr., Andrew Westcott, Meridith
Blackburn, Anthony Windom, Steve Dunn, Myles Mayberry,
Sarah Telofski, James Parnell**

No: 0 Commissioners: (None)
Abstain: 0 Commissioners: (None)

MOTION PASSED.

**DISCUSSION ON VENUES TO INFORM THE PUBLIC OF THE BALLOT
STATEMENTS**

Chairman Moody asked Commissioner Jones to remind the Commission of how the public will be informed of the approved ballot statements, consistent with previous practices of the Secretary of State's Office. Commissioner Jones reminded the Commission that the Secretary of State's Office works with the state's ballot production vendor to place the approved ballot statement on all of Alabama's sample ballots which will be available in paper form throughout Alabama and online on the Secretary of State's website. Commissioner Jones confirmed the intention of the Secretary of State's office to handle the publication of these proposed ballot statements in the same manner.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other further business coming before the Commission, Chairman Moody asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:11 a.m.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER JONES, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOODY, TO
ADJOURN THE AUGUST 4, 2026 MEETING OF THE ALABAMA FAIR BALLOT
COMMISSION.

**Ayes: 12 Commissioners: Chairman Moody, Vice Chairman Entrekin, Zack Wilson,
Connie Rowe, Mike Jones, Jr., Andrew Westcott, Meridith
Blackburn, Anthony Windom, Steve Dunn, Myles Mayberry,
Sarah Telofski, James Parnell**

No: 0 Commissioners: (None)
Abstain: 0 Commissioners: (None)

MOTION PASSED.

APPROVED:

Chairman Patrick Moody