

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

ROBERT BENTLEY
GOVERNOR



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STATE OF ALABAMA

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

To The House of Representatives of Alabama
Alabama State House
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I herewith transmit to you a message from the Governor, returning House Bill No. 116, without the Governor's signature and approval, but with the attached veto message.

Done on this S day of March, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David B. Byrne Jr." followed by a stylized "2".
David B. Byrne, Jr.
Chief Legal Advisor

(OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

ROBERT BENTLEY
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STATE OF ALABAMA

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

To The House of Representatives of Alabama
Alabama State House
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am returning to you, the body in which it originated, House Bill 116 without my signature.

As currently drafted, this bill provides inadequate training requirements for the emergency security force members. The bill simply requires that a member receive the "training deemed necessary by the sheriff or the chief of police . . ." While I am confident that the sheriff or chief of police is perfectly able to supervise the volunteer force, I believe that the Legislature should provide more specific and more extensive training requirements. Every law enforcement officer in the state, whether volunteer or paid, must receive a sufficient amount of training in order to cope with the emergencies that may arise. For instance, other local reserve officers must comply with the qualifications in § 11-42-210(c) of the Alabama Code, conditioning the powers of a local reserve officer on certain training requirements of the Alabama Peace Officers' Standards and Training Commission. These volunteers will most likely be armed, are meant to protect our children from harm, and will be indemnified by the state. Failure to provide for specific, applicable training would create an unacceptable high-risk situation with the possibility of dire consequences, including the injury or death of a child, teacher, or a volunteer member.

For the foregoing reasons, I hereby veto House Bill No. 116, and I encourage you to join me in this decision.

Done on this 4th day of March, 2013.

Respectfully,

Robert Bentley
Robert Bentley
Governor