



**House Agriculture and Forestry Reported Substitute
for HB212**

A BILL

TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

Relating to state waters; to require persons engaging in the business of cutting or uprooting aquatic plants in public waters to use certain methods to remove this plant matter; and to provide criminal penalties for violations.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) Any person engaging in the business of cutting, trimming, severing, or uprooting aquatic plants within public waters, as defined in Section 9-11-80, Code of Alabama 1975, shall employ commercially reasonable methods to remove any cut, trimmed, severed, or uprooted aquatic plant matter from public waters.

(b) (1) A person who violates this section shall be guilty of a Class C misdemeanor and shall be fined not less than five hundred dollars (\$500) to be remitted to the primary enforcing law enforcement agency.

(c) The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources shall adopt rules to implement and administer this section, including establishing commercially reasonable methods of removing any cut, trimmed, severed, or uprooted aquatic plant matter from public waters.



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29 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October
30 1, 2025.