

RECOMPILATION OF THE CONSTITUTION

ALABAMA'S SIX CONSTITUTIONS

- 1819 Statehood: “First Principles”*
- 1861 Secession: “Prompt and Decided Measures”
- 1865 Return to the Union: “The Sudden Transition of Affairs”
- 1868 Reconstruction: “The Discharge of our New Obligations”
- 1875 Return to Pre-war: “The Results of the War are to Reversed”
- 1901 Current: “The New Instrument”

*from: We the People: Alabama's Defining Documents, by Scotty E. Kirkland

HISTORY OF SUCCESSFUL REFORM EFFORTS

- Judicial Article: ratified 1973
- Suffrage Article: ratified 1996
- “Official” Recompilation: Section 29-5A-24
(originally undertaken following passage of Act 2003-312)
- 2011 Constitutional Revision Commission
 - Distribution of Powers Article: ratified 2016
 - Impeachment Article: ratified 2016
 - Corporations Article: ratified 2014
 - Banking Article: ratified 2014
 - Local Amendments Section 294.01: ratified 2016
 - County Administrative Powers Section 43.02: ratified 2016

HISTORY OF FAILED REFORM EFFORTS

- Proposed 7th Constitution: passed by Legislature in 1983 but removed from ballot by Supreme Court, *State of Alabama v. Manley*, 441 So. 2d 864 (Ala. 1983)
- Section 256 Revisions
 - Act 2003-203: Proposed Amendment 2 (2004)
 - Failed by fewer than 2000 votes of nearly 1.4 million cast
 - Act 2011-353: Proposed Amendment 4 (2012)

BACKGROUND FOR COMMITTEE

- Act 2019-271 (Amendment 951 ratified 2020):

“The Legislature, upon the recommendation of the Director of the Legislative Services Agency through a proposed draft, may arrange this constitution, as amended, in proper articles, parts, and sections removing all racist language, delete duplicative and repealed provisions, consolidate provisions regarding economic development, arrange all local amendments by county of application during the 2022 Regular Session of the Legislature, and make no other changes.”

ROLE OF COMMITTEE

- Created by Act 2021-523
 - Collaborate with Legislative Services Agency
 - Hold Public Hearings to Gather Input
 - Promote Transparency

PROPOSED COURSE OF ACTION

- July Meeting
 - Elect Chair and Vice Chair
 - Discuss Background and Distribute Materials
- August Meeting
 - Public Hearing
 - Discussion of Arrangement of Local Amendments
- September Meeting
 - Discussion of Racist Language
- October Meeting
 - Discussion of Economic Development Provisions

ACTION ITEMS

- Possible Formation of Subcommittees
- Return Scheduling Poll
- Other Business

QUESTIONS