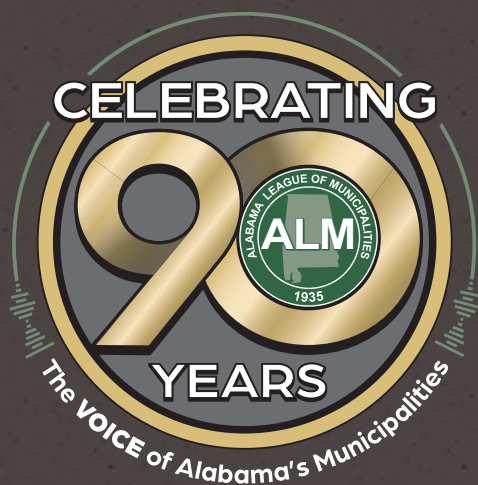


# 2025 ADVOCACY DAY LEGISLATIVE ISSUES GUIDE



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# From the Executive Director's Desk



Dear Members,

Welcome to our annual Advocacy Day! We hope that you will make the most of your time today engaging with elected state officials. Please use this guide to talk about legislative priorities and issues we are monitoring and any others impacting your communities and League membership.

As we celebrate our 90<sup>th</sup> year of serving as the voice of Alabama's municipalities, we invite you to join us for our next big event - NLC's Congressional Cities Conference in Washington, D.C. on March 9-12. Our team has planned several Alabama centric events to allow our officials to engage with the Alabama congressional delegation and hear from respected D.C. lobbyists on the issues being debated in our nation's capital that impact our country and state. Alabama officials are invited to attend the Alabama caucus meeting and reception on Sunday evening, where they will hear from ALM staff, NLC staff and federal lobbyists. We are also working to coordinate individual congressional district receptions for Monday and Tuesday evenings and a plated breakfast with U.S. Sen. Tommy Tuberville and Sen. Katie Britt on Tuesday.

The congressional dinners and Senate breakfast events will require a separate registration. **You MUST register for these ALM events by February 26.** Scan the QR code to register and learn more!



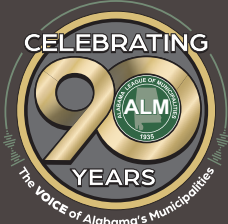
I would like to also remind you to stay engaged by reading our weekly e-newsletter, *State House Advocate*, on Fridays during the legislative session. In it, our advocacy team will share the latest activity on the many proposals being considered by lawmakers. You can also go to [almonline.org](http://almonline.org) to view the SHA and other helpful links related to the session.

Lastly, we encourage you to sign up for the "ALM Text Alert System." These alerts will be critical to getting membership to take immediate action For or Against fast moving legislation. **Scan the QR code to learn how to opt in to this service!**



Thank you for your leadership and for taking an **active** role in our organization. By us ALL working together to advocate for our communities, we can provide citizens with the quality of life they desire while also recruiting and retaining economic investments in these communities we cherish.

Peace be with you,  
Gregory D. Cochran, CAE  
Executive Director, Alabama League of Municipalities



# 2025 ADVOCACY DAY LEGISLATIVE ISSUES GUIDE

Listed below is a summary of the policy recommendations presented at the ALM legislative committee meeting in October 2024. The League will strive to advance these efforts in 2025 and beyond. Please reach out to a member of our team if you have any questions.

## Committee on Community and Economic Development (CED)

- The League supports economic development efforts and legislation as a statewide effort to focus on all aspects of retail, industrial, small business, tourism, IT and entertainment.
- The League supports state agencies, private partners and public/private entities that engage in developing the state of Alabama.
- The League supports the implementation of the state's Economic Development Strategic Plan.
- The League supports additional programs at the state and federal level that will provide dollars to local governments to enhance economic investment efforts.

## Committee on Energy, Environment and Natural Resources (EENR)

- The League supports legislation targeted at educating, training, and certifying water and wastewater operators.
- The League supports legislation that would allow certain retired water and wastewater operators to serve without suspension of their retirement benefits.
- The League supports legislation that provides funding for updating existing stormwater infrastructure.
- The League supports legislation intended to reduce costs related to PFAS regulations.



## Committee on Finance, Administration and Intergovernmental Relations (FAIR)

- The League supports legislation to allow an alternative delivery method for selecting a construction manager for certain projects falling under Title 39 of public works bidding above a certain threshold amount.
- The League supports legislative consideration for design build projects on public works bidding projects.
- The League supports legislation for electronic publication for all public notices as an alternative to newspaper.



## Committee on Human Development (HD)

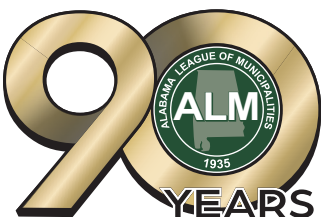
- The League supports the Alabama Department of Mental Health's efforts to combat the youth mental health crisis.
- The League supports the continuation of funding for mental health service coordinators and mental health therapists.
- The League encourages the Alabama Legislature to increase funding for the Alabama Department of Mental Health for inpatient beds to serve youth and others affected.
- The League encourages the Legislature to increase funding for Paths for Success Foundation to expand childcare efforts in Alabama.



## Committee on Public Safety (PS)

- The League supports additional state funding for school resource officers.

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Alabama's Municipalities

# Health Care Access Resolution

## RESOLUTION OF THE ALABAMA LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES IN SUPPORT OF ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE IN ALABAMA

**WHEREAS**, having access to health care is a core component to quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, municipal government is the primary public entity responsible for quality of life for Alabamians; and

**WHEREAS**, municipal governments allocate local resources to support increased access to health care through developing hospital boards and providing ambulance services; and

**WHEREAS**, for more than a decade, Alabama citizens continue to endure a decline in health care availability due to 15 hospital closings, including 7 rural hospital closings and maternity care closings; and

**WHEREAS**, access to health care is vital to the wellbeing of all Alabamians; and

**WHEREAS**, the sustainability of health care requires the recruitment and retention of health care professionals and health care facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the health care insurance coverage gap financially burdens health care facilities, perpetuating a strain of more than \$650 million yearly in uncompensated care, and adds to the struggles of uninsured families; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alabama League of Municipalities hosted two health care summits in 2023 to advocate for better accessibility to health care services; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Alabama League of Municipalities, by and through its Board of Directors, that the Alabama League of Municipalities supports increased funding and statewide policy changes to:

- 1) **Provide accessibility to health care for all Alabamians;**
- 2) **Improve retention and recruitment of health care professionals;**  
**and,**
- 3) **Expand health care services at existing facilities.**

**ADOPTED and APPROVED** this 17th day of October 2024.

**Mark Saliba, Mayor, City of Dothan  
President, Alabama League of Municipalities**

**ATTEST: Greg Cochran, Executive Director,  
Alabama League of Municipalities**

# Contacts

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