

NEWS RELEASE

Luther Strange

Alabama Attorney General



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AG ANNOUNCES PASSAGE OF MORE BILLS IN LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE

Legislation approved on Sham Legal Proceedings, Disarming Officer

(MONTGOMERY) – Attorney General Luther Strange announced the passage today of more bills in his legislative package, with the final approval of House Bill 99 regarding sham legal proceedings, and Senate Bill 91 which creates the crime of disarming a law enforcement or corrections officer. The two bills passed both chambers of the legislature without a dissenting vote and now go to the Governor for his signature.

House Bill 99 sponsored by Rep. Randy Wood will protect law enforcement and Alabamians from sham legal proceedings. Attorney General Strange included this bill in his legislative package upon the strong recommendation of members of law enforcement to fight such efforts to intimidate or hinder officers in the discharge of their duties.

Senate Bill 91 sponsored by Sen. Tammy Irons provides tough penalties for the disarming of a law enforcement officer. Previously, state law provided no specific crime for disarming a law enforcement or corrections officer. This bill makes it a Class C felony to intentionally remove a firearm or weapon, or to deprive a law enforcement or corrections officer of its use when the officer is acting within the scope of his duty and the person reasonably should have known that it was a law enforcement or corrections officer.

“I am pleased that the Legislature has acted to approve these bills, which are important to law enforcement and to the citizens of Alabama,” said Attorney General Strange. “I want to thank those whose dedicated efforts made this possible, and particularly those who sponsored these bills and helped in moving them forward to successful passage: Rep. Randy Wood along with Senators Cam Ward & Jerry Fielding for the sham legal proceedings bill, and Sen. Tammy Irons and Rep. Lynn Greer for the disarming of an officer bill. Because of the commitment of these leaders and others, law enforcement will have better tools to protect the people of Alabama.”

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