

Legislative Alert

AFA is supporting legislation to limit government's authority to exercise eminent domain rights to condemn private property. Current law provides that the state and a municipal or county governing body may exercise the power of eminent domain for the purpose of constructing, maintaining, or operating streets and roadways, government buildings, and park and recreation facilities. SB105, sponsored by Senator Tom Whatley, would provide that for eminent domain purposes, park and recreation facilities do not include trails for biking and hiking.

Opposing the bill are certain municipalities that obviously believe that bike trails are legitimate uses of the government's power to take property. We disagree.

The bill can be found here:

<http://alisondb.legislature.state.al.us/ALISON/SearchableInstruments/2021RS/PrintFiles/SB105-int.pdf>

The bill has passed out of committee and is awaiting consideration before the full Senate. In order for a vote to occur, the Senate Rules Committee must place it on a Special Order Calendar.

Please contact members of the Committee to encourage them to support placing the bill on the calendar. Members of the Rules Committee are Chairman Jabo Waggoner, Vice Chairman Clay Scofield, and Senators Gerald Allen, Jimmy Holley, Steve Livingston, Tim Melson, Arthur Orr, Greg Reed, Rodger Smitherman, Linda Coleman-Madison and Vivian Figures. The contact information for these Senators can be found at

<http://www.legislature.state.al.us/aliswww/ISD/Senate/ALSenators.aspx>

