



Alabama small businesses deserve the Lawsuit Fairness Act of 2024

(H.B. 420/S.293)

Lawsuit abuse is a hidden tax on small businesses in Alabama. Fixing these problems is not only about making the legal system work correctly — it is about relieving small businesses from unfair financial burdens.

In Alabama, the financial impact of lawsuit abuse leads to the loss of nearly 35,000 jobs across industries and adds up to \$2.3 billion lost in personal income.

Lawsuit abuse in Alabama costs the average Alabamian \$731 per year and the average family \$1,016 per year.*

** Based on the "Economic Benefits of Tort Reform" report from The PerryMan Group. 2021*

If passed by the state legislature and signed into law, the Lawsuit Fairness Act would:

- ✔ Impose reporting requirements on companies financing lawsuits
- ✔ Protect employers who admit fault in direct negligence cases by limiting the claims a defendant can file for the case
- ✔ Reduce defendants' liability in cases involving independent contractors
- ✔ Ensure cases are considered in the counties where accidents take place
- ✔ Restrict advertisements from stating payouts received in lawsuits unless using the exact amount awarded from the settlement
- ✔ Allow evidence of seatbelt use to be admissible in personal injury cases
- ✔ Restrict medical bill expenses to verified payments or reasonably estimated amounts
- ✔ Cap emotional and distress damages to \$1 million
- ✔ Assert that experts testifying must meet national standards to permit their testimony in court

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