

**State of Alabama Code Regarding Hazing**

Hazing is defined as follows:

- (1) Any willful action taken or situation created, whether on or off any school, college, university, or other education premises, which recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health of any student, or
- (2) Any willful act on or off any school, college, university, or other educational premises by any person alone or acting with others in striking, beating, bruising, or maiming; or seriously offering, threatening, or attempting to strike, beat, bruise, or maim, or to do or seriously offer, threaten, or attempt to do physical violence to any student of any such educational institution or any assault upon any such students made for the purpose of committing any of the acts, or producing any of the results to such student as defined in this section.
- (3) The term hazing as defined in this section does not include customary athletic events or similar contests or competitions, and is limited to those actions taken and situations created in connection with initiation into or affiliation with any organization. The term hazing does not include corporal punishment administered by officials or employees of public schools when in accordance with policies adopted by local boards of educations.
- (4) No person shall engage in what is commonly known and recognized as hazing, or encourage, aid, or assist any other person thus offending.
- (5) No person shall knowingly permit, encourage, aid, or assist any person in committing the offense of hazing, or willfully acquiesce in the commission of such offense, or fail to report promptly his knowledge or any reasonable information within his knowledge of the presence and practice of hazing in this state to the chief executive officer of the appropriate school, college, university, or other education institution in this state. Any act of omission or commission shall be deemed hazing under the provisions of this section.
- (6) Any person who shall commit the offense of hazing shall be guilty of a Class C misdemeanor as defined by Title 13A.
- (7) Any person who participates in the hazing of another, or any organization associated with a school, college, university, or other educational institution in this state which knowingly permits hazing to be conducted by its members or by others subject to its direction or control, shall forfeit any entitlement to public funds, scholarships, or awards which are enjoyed by him or by it and shall be deprived of any sanction or approval granted by the school, college, university, or other educational institution.

Nothing in this section shall be construed as in any manner affecting or repealing any law of this state respecting homicide, or murder, manslaughter, assault with intent to murder, or aggravated assault. (Acts 1981, No. 81-824, p. 1466).