



ACT #2026-396

1 SB279
2 4UFVAR3-3
3 By Senator Chambliss
4 RFD: County and Municipal Government
5 First Read: 10-Feb-26





1 Enrolled, An Act,

2
3
4 Relating to general contracting; to amend Section
5 34-8-7, Code of Alabama 1975, to provide additional services
6 to the list of exemptions to the requirements of the general
7 contracting law.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

9 Section 1. Section 34-8-7, Code of Alabama 1975, is
10 amended to read as follows:

11 "§34-8-7

12 (a) The following shall be exempted from this chapter:

13 (1) The practice of general contracting, as defined in
14 Section 34-8-1, by an authorized representative of the United
15 States Government, the State of Alabama, or an incorporated
16 town, city, or county in this state, which is under the
17 supervision of a licensed architect or engineer, provided any
18 work contracted out by the authorized representative shall
19 comply with the definition in this chapter for general
20 contractor.

21 (2) The construction or repair of any residence or
22 private dwelling or any residential swimming pool.

23 (3) A person, firm, or corporation constructing a
24 building or other improvements on his, her, or its own
25 property, provided that any of the work contracted out
26 complies with the definition in this chapter for general
27 contractor. A municipal governing body or municipal regulatory
28 body may not enact any ordinance or law restricting or



29 altering this exemption. Any municipal ordinance or regulation
 30 that conflicts with this exemption is repealed effective June
 31 11, 2015.

32 (4) The installation, repair, maintenance, or removal
 33 of facilities, equipment, or systems used in or substantially
 34 related to the generation, transmission, or distribution of
 35 electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications in an
 36 emergency by a utility regulated by the Public Service
 37 Commission, or any entity engaged in the generation,
 38 transmission, or distribution of electric power, natural gas,
 39 or telecommunications, or any of their respective general
 40 contractors or subcontractors, provided the work is performed
 41 under the supervision of a licensed architect or engineer. For
 42 purposes of this subdivision, the term "emergency" is defined
 43 as a situation whereby service to the consumer has been
 44 interrupted or may be interrupted if work to remedy the
 45 emergency is not performed and completed within 60 days, and
 46 such other situations that are determined to be an emergency
 47 in the discretion of the board.

48 (5) The repair, maintenance, replacement,
 49 reinstallation, or removal of facilities, equipment, or
 50 systems used in or substantially related to the generation,
 51 transmission, or distribution of electric power, natural gas,
 52 or telecommunications on a routine, regular, or recurring
 53 basis by a utility regulated by the Public Service Commission
 54 or any entity engaged in the generation, transmission, or
 55 distribution of electric power, natural gas, or
 56 telecommunications or any of their respective general



contractors or subcontractors, provided the work is performed under the supervision of a licensed architect or engineer.

(6) Routine or regular maintenance, repair, replacement, reinstallation, or removal of equipment, specialized technological processes, or equipment facility systems as determined by the board with regard to scope, frequency, and specialty of the work to be performed.

(7) Routine landscape maintenance work that includes cutting grass; trimming, replacing, and removal of bushes, shrubs, and similar items; the placement and removal of pine straw, mulch, bark, and similar ground covers; and pressure washing services and other routine ground maintenance.

(8) The provision of temporary labor by a labor broker or other temporary labor provider that provides workers to a general contractor to perform work under the supervision and control of that general contractor. For the purposes of licensing, temporary workers are deemed to fall under the license of the general contractor to whom they are provided. This exemption does not allow labor brokers or other temporary labor providers to act as subcontractors or to assume a scope of work for a project as a subcontractor.

(9) Routine or regular maintenance, repair, or removal of the following, as determined by the board with regard to scope, frequency, and specialty of the work to be performed:

- a. Existing security and access control systems.
- b. Existing lighting and filter systems.
- c. Existing plumbing, air conditioning, and electrical systems.



d. Existing paint on painted surfaces.

(10) Routine cleaning, waste disposal, and janitorial services, including the cleaning, stripping, and waxing of floors.

~~(b) The exemptions provided in subsection (a) shall exclude a swimming pool contractor. Provided, however, a person, firm, or corporation constructing a swimming pool on his, her, or its own property shall be exempted from this chapter.~~

~~(e)~~ (b) A subcontractor, as defined in Section 34-8-1(c), is subject to and shall comply with this chapter as specified for a general contractor except as follows:

(1) A subcontractor shall pay one-half of the fees required in this chapter for a general contractor.

(2) No bid limits shall be established for a subcontractor.

(3) A subcontractor shall submit with license application and renewals a statement of financial condition as prescribed by the board.

(4) A subcontractor shall furnish three references from any combination of the following: Licensed general contractors, registered professional engineers, or registered architects, or qualified person, as declared by the board, for whom they have worked. If a subcontractor has only been employed by one company, the subcontractor shall provide the following: Three or more jobs he or she has worked on, the amounts of the contracts, the time period of the contracts, the location of the contracts, and a statement of experience.



113 (5) A subcontractor is not required to be licensed at
114 the time a project is bid, but must be licensed with the board
115 prior to beginning work on the project.

116 (6) A general contractor license and license number
117 issued by the board to subcontractors shall denote
118 subcontractor status.

119 (7) A subcontractor is not required to sit for any
120 examination before being licensed."

121 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October
122 1, 2026.



SB279 Enrolled

[Signature]

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

[Signature]

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SB279

Senate 25-Feb-26

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed
the Senate, as amended.

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

House of Representatives
Passed: 02-Apr-26

By: Senator Chambliss

APPROVED

4.9.2026

TIME

12:50 pm

Kay Ivey

GOVERNOR

Alabama Secretary Of State

Act Num....: 2026-396
Bill Num....: S-279

SPONSOR

SENATE ACTION

CO-SPONSORS

1 Chamberlain

I hereby certify that the Resolution as required in Section C of Act No. 81-889 was adopted and is attached to the Bill, SB 279.

yeas 34 nays 6 abstain 0

PATRICK HARRIS,
Secretary

I hereby certify that the notice & proof is attached to the Bill, SB 279 as required in the General Acts of Alabama, 1975 Act No. 919.

PATRICK HARRIS,
Secretary

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Senate Conferees

HOUSE ACTION

DATE: 2-26 2026

RD 1 RFD 44513

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

This bill having been referred by the House to its standing committee on CR SB was acted upon by such committee in session, and returned therefrom to the House with the recommendation that it be Passed, w/amend(s) w/sub This 11th day of March, 2026.

John Lee Chairperson

DATE: 3-11 2026

RF RD 2 CAL

DATE: 20

RE-REFERRED ☐ RE-COMMITTED ☐

Committee _____

I hereby certify that the Resolution as required in Section C of Act No. 81-889 was adopted and is attached to the Bill, SB 279.

YEAS 912 NAYS 1

JOHN TREADWELL,
Clerk

FURTHER HOUSE ACTION (OVER)