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Alabama's [House Bill 258](#) [4], which would have allowed teachers to present "the theory of creation as presented in the Bible" in any class discussing evolution, "thereby affording students a choice as to which theory to accept," died in committee on March 29, 2018, when the legislature adjourned sine die.

As NCSE previously reported, HB 258 is evidently modeled on a Kentucky law, [Kentucky Revised Statutes 158.177](#) [5] (PDF), enacted in 1976 and still on the books despite its patent unconstitutionality. The sole sponsor of the Alabama bill was Steve Hurst (R-District 35), a legislator noteworthy for his previous proposals to require public school teachers to read a daily prayer in the classroom and to punish sex offenders with surgical or chemical castration.

Writing at *PLoS's* SciComm blog (February 19, 2018), Amanda Glaze — a native of Alabama now teaching at Georgia Southern University — [decried](#) [6] HB 258, arguing, "Legislation that conflates empirical scientific evidence with evidence derived from religious texts can seriously harm efforts to improve science literacy."

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[4] <http://alisondb.legislature.state.al.us/alison/searchableinstruments/2018RS/bills/HB258.htm>

[5] <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/Statutes/statute.aspx?id=3462>

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