

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 979

SENATE BILL NO. 3267

By Harper, Burks

Substituted for: House Bill No. 3412

By Brown, Hardaway, Fincher, Mike Turner, Sherry Jones, Gilmore, Pruitt, Moore, Borchert, Fraley, Stewart, Curtiss, Ty Cobb, Shaw, Bone, Favors, Dean

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37; Title 39 and Title 40, relative to child abuse.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-403(b), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(b) The report shall include, to the extent known by the reporter, the name, address, telephone number and age of the child, the name, address, and telephone number of the person responsible for the care of the child, and the facts requiring the report. The report may include any other pertinent information.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-403(c)(1), is amended by deleting the word "immediately" and substituting instead the language "immediately upon the receipt of such information,".

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-403(c), is amended by adding the following as a new subsection:

(3)(A) If the department receives information containing references to alleged human trafficking or child pornography which does or does not result in an investigation by the department, the department shall notify the appropriate law enforcement agency immediately upon receipt of such information.

(B) If the department initiates an investigation of severe child abuse, including, but not limited to, child sexual abuse, the department shall notify the appropriate local law enforcement agency immediately upon assignment of such case to a department child protective services worker.

(C) Both the department and law enforcement shall maintain a log of all such reports of such information received and confirmation that the information was sent to the appropriate party, pursuant to this subdivision (c)(3).

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-403(i), is amended by adding the following as a new subdivision (1) and renumbering current subdivision (1) and the subsequent subdivisions accordingly:

(1) Any school official, personnel, employee or member of the board of education who is aware of a report or investigation of employee misconduct on the part of any employee of the school system that in any way involves known or alleged child abuse, including, but not limited to, child physical or sexual abuse or neglect, shall immediately upon knowledge of such information notify the Department of Children's Services or anyone listed in subdivision (a)(2) of the abuse or alleged abuse.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 13, 2010



RON RAMSEY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



KENT WILLIAMS, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 27th day of May 2010



PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR