



**State of Tennessee**  
**PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 286**

**SENATE BILL NO. 703**

**By Southerland**

Substituted for: House Bill No. 1257

By Faison, Hawk, Powers, Holt, Gotto, Niceley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 44, Chapter 15 and Title 53, relative to honey.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 53, is amended by adding the following as a new chapter:

53-15-101. All honey that is sold or offered for sale in this state shall be prominently labeled as being either one hundred percent (100%) pure honey or not pure honey. Only honey that contains no additives may be labeled as one hundred percent (100%) pure honey.

53-15-102. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to require the Department of Agriculture to test, or cause to be tested, any honey.

53-15-103.

(a)(1) Any person who suffers an injury or death, or an ascertainable loss of money or property, as a result of a violation of this chapter, may bring an action individually to recover actual damages.

(2) The action may be brought in a court of competent jurisdiction in the county where the alleged violation took place or is taking place, or in the county in which such person resides, has such person's principal place of business, conducts, transacts, or has transacted business, or, if the person cannot be found in any of the foregoing locations, in the county in which such person can be found.

(b)(1) The trial court may award reasonable expenses, including court costs, discretionary costs and reasonable attorneys' fees to a plaintiff who prevails in a proceeding that is brought pursuant to this chapter.

(2) On termination of the proceeding, the trial court may require the plaintiff to pay any defendant's reasonable expenses, including court costs, discretionary costs and reasonable attorneys' fees, incurred in defending the proceeding if the court finds that the proceeding was commenced without reasonable cause.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

SENATE BILL NO. 703

PASSED: May 16, 2011

  
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RON RAMSEY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

  
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BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 27 day of May 2011

  
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BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR