



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 934

SENATE BILL NO. 2380

By Finney, Kyle, Tate, Harper, Burks, Green, Henry

Substituted for: House Bill No. 2266

By Akbari, Camper, Gilmore, Favors, Miller, Jones, Gloria Johnson, Shaw, Johnnie Turner, Powell, Armstrong, Towns, Pitts, Cooper, Hardaway, Stewart

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4 and Title 71, relative to the poverty task force.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71, Chapter 5, is amended by adding the following language as a new part:

71-5-801. The commissioner of the department of human services shall complete a study of poverty in Tennessee, including its implications and potential solution strategies with feedback from departments, agencies, and selected non-governmental organizations serving the affected populations. Such departments, agencies and organizations shall include, but not be limited to the following:

- (1) Department of Children's Services;
- (2) Department of Health;
- (3) The Bureau of TennCare;
- (4) Department of Economic and Community Development;
- (5) The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth;
- (6) The Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability;
- (7) The Room in the Inn program of Middle Tennessee;
- (8) The Catholic Charities in Tennessee;
- (9) The Area Relief Ministries of Jackson, Tennessee;
- (10) The Second Harvest Food Bank of Tennessee;
- (11) The Neighborhood Christian Center of Memphis, Tennessee; and
- (12) The Regional Interfaith Alliance of Jackson, Tennessee.

71-5-802.

(a) The poverty reduction plan shall:

(1) Assess the current and future impact of poverty on the residents of Tennessee;

(2) Examine the existing barriers, services and resources addressing the needs of persons living in poverty and their families; and

(3) Develop a proposed strategy to mobilize the state response to the poverty crisis;

(b) The poverty reduction plan shall include an examination of the following in its assessment and recommendations:

(1) A determination of the economic and human impact of poverty in this state;

(2) A review of the remedies to reduce the number of individuals and families living in poverty in this state;

(3) Information to be utilized as potential legislative remedies for consideration in the One Hundred Ninth General Assembly; and

(4) Needed state policies or responses, including directions for the provision of clear and coordinated services and support to persons living in poverty and strategies to address any identified gaps in services.

71-5-803.

(a) The commissioner and other departments, agencies and selected non-governmental organizations conducting the study shall hold a public meeting and utilize technological means to gather feedback on the recommendations from the general public and from persons and families affected by poverty.

(b) The department shall submit its findings and recommendations to the governor and the general assembly in the form of a state anti-poverty plan by January 15, 2015.

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

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PASSED: April 15, 2014

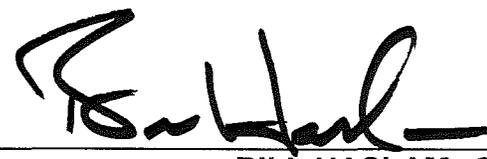


RON RAMSEY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 16th day of May 2014



BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR