



# *State of Tennessee*

## **PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 315**

**SENATE BILL NO. 597**

**By Kelsey**

Substituted for: House Bill No. 988

By Littleton

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2, Chapter 7, Part 1, relative to the use of certain devices in polling places.

WHEREAS, the general assembly finds that Tennesseans are increasingly using their mobile electronic and communication devices to assist them in making election decisions; and

WHEREAS, the general assembly finds a voter's nondisruptive efforts to obtain election information are to be encouraged; now, therefore,

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2, Chapter 7, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section thereto:

(a) A county election commission shall not prohibit a voter from using a mobile electronic or communication device at a polling place for informational purposes to assist the voter in making election decisions. A county election commission may require that any mobile electronic or communication device be silenced while in use at the polling place.

(b) Any voter using a mobile electronic or communication device as allowed in subsection (a) shall be prohibited from using the device for telephone conversations, recording, or taking photographs or videos while inside the polling place.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2016, the public welfare requiring it.

SENATE BILL NO. 597

PASSED: April 13, 2015

  
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RON RAMSEY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

  
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BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April 2015

  
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BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR