

State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 834

SENATE BILL NO. 1832

By Lamar, Yarbrow, Akbari, Kyle

Substituted for: House Bill No. 2226

By Love, Hemmer, Camper, Hardaway, Alexander, Helton-Haynes, Clemmons, McKenzie, Towns

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 63 and Title 68, relative to maternal health.

WHEREAS, according to a 2020 Tennessee Department of Health report, maternal mortality rates in Tennessee have doubled from 15.5 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2013 to 29.4 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2020; and

WHEREAS, black women in Tennessee are three to four times more likely to die from pregnancy-related complications compared to white women; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, the Tennessee Maternal Mortality Review Committee found that over 60% of maternal deaths in Tennessee are preventable; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee ranks 43rd in the nation for its level of maternal healthcare support; and

WHEREAS, it is proper that the General Assembly provide funding to Tennessee community organizations and undertake other legislative initiatives to improve maternal outcomes for women in this State; now, therefore,

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-3-605(9), is amended by redesignating the existing subdivision (9) as subdivision (10) and inserting the following as a new subdivision (9):

(9) Four (4) members appointed by the commissioner of health who are from community-based organizations and include:

(A) One (1) member from the middle grand division of this state, as defined in § 4-1-203;

(B) One (1) member from the eastern grand division of this state, as defined in § 4-1-202; and

(C) Two (2) members from the western grand division of this state, as defined in § 4-1-204, including:

(i) One (1) member from a municipality with a population of not less than six hundred thirty-three thousand one hundred (633,100) and not more than six hundred thirty-three thousand two hundred (633,200), according to the 2020 federal census or a subsequent federal census; and

(ii) One (1) member from a municipality with a population of not less than sixty-eight thousand two hundred (68,200) and not more than sixty-eight thousand two hundred ten (68,210), according to the 2020 federal census or a subsequent federal census; and

SECTION 2. This act takes effect July 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: April 18, 2024




RANDY McNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 1st day of May 2024



BILL LEE, GOVERNOR