

HOUSE BILL 286

By Byrd

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55,  
Chapter 10, Part 2, relative to transportation of  
drugs or contraband

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 10, Part 2, is amended by  
adding the following as a new section:

(a) As used in this section:

(1)

(A) "Compartment" means any box, container, space, or  
enclosure:

(i) That is intended or designed to conceal, hide, or  
otherwise prevent the discovery of contraband; and

(ii) That is within or attached to a motor vehicle; and

(B) "Compartment" includes any of the following:

(i) False, altered, or modified fuel tanks;

(ii) Original factory equipment of a vehicle that is modified,  
altered, or changed to accommodate or contain contraband; and

(iii) A box container, space, or enclosure that is fabricated,  
made, or created from or added to the existing structure of a  
vehicle;

(2) "Contraband" means any property, item, or substance which is  
unlawful to produce or possess under state or federal law; and

(3) "Vehicle" means any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer.

(b) A person commits a Class A misdemeanor who knowingly possesses, uses, or controls a vehicle that has a compartment, and the compartment contains:

(1) Contraband; or

(2) Evidence of prior storage, concealment, or transportation of contraband.

(c) A person may be prosecuted and convicted for both the possession of contraband and a violation of subsection (b) if both are applicable.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017, the public welfare requiring it.