

**PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 655** 

**SENATE BILL NO. 163** 

## By Walley, Crowe, Niceley

Substituted for: House Bill No. 441

By Shaw, Hardaway

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71, Chapter 6, relative to the Tennessee Adult Protection Act.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 71-6-118(c)(2), is amended by deleting the subdivision and substituting:

(2) Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b), adult protective services:

(A) May report to law enforcement or public health authorities any information from its investigations or records regarding illness, disease, injuries, or any offense for which reports are made confidential under subsection (a) obtained in the course of an investigation; and

(B) Shall provide to the district attorney general a complete and unredacted copy of adult protective services' entire investigative file, including the identity of the person who reported the alleged conduct, upon the commencement of a criminal prosecution for alleged conduct involving an elderly or vulnerable adult victim obtained in the course of an investigation; provided, however, that the identity of the person who reported the alleged conduct must remain confidential, must be exempt from other provisions of law, shall not be a public record, and shall not be disclosed for any other purpose other than criminal investigation or criminal prosecution.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 71-6-118(c), is amended by adding the following as a new subdivision (3) and renumbering the remaining subdivision accordingly:

(3) Upon the return of a criminal indictment or presentment arising from a report of alleged conduct involving an elderly or vulnerable adult victim where the identity of the person reporting the conduct has been provided to the district attorney general pursuant to this subsection (c), the district attorney general shall request and the court shall enter a protective order preventing further release of the identity of the person reporting for any purpose other than criminal prosecution.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect July 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED:

March 28, 2024

12 m. Na RANDY MENALLY SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_ 2024

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BILL LEE, GOVERNOR