

HOUSE BILL 676

By Cooper B

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 16,
relative to signage for a "Litigant's Bill of Rights".

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 16, Chapter 3, Part 8, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

16-3-822. The administrative office of the courts is directed to develop signage and shall be responsible for posting such signage outside of each courtroom of each state or local court in this state that details a "Litigant's Bill of Rights". Each sign would inform litigants, in language that is readily understandable by a non-lawyer, of a general statement of their rights and the options available for redress when their rights are violated. The sign would include a general explanation of due process of law, the canons of judicial conduct , the rules of professional conduct, the general procedural format followed in courtrooms in this state, and the process for appropriately filing complaints against lawyers and judges.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009, the public welfare requiring it.