HOUSE BILL 860

By Weaver

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, relative to student discipline.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3401, is amended by adding the following language as a new subsection:

(i) Notwithstanding subsection (a) or (b) or any other law to the contrary, if a pupil is determined, via a fair and thorough investigation made by the principal or the principal's appointed representative, to have acted in self-defense under a reasonable belief that the student, or another to whom the student was coming to the defense of, may have been facing the threat of imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury, which the student honestly believed to be real at that time, then, at the principal's recommendation, the student may not face any disciplinary action.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3401, is further amended by deleting subdivision (a)(11) in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(11) One (1) or more students initiating a physical attack on an individual student on school property or at a school activity, including travel to and from school or a school activity;

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013, the public welfare requiring it.