

HOUSE BILL 969

By Dixie

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 38,
Chapter 8, Part 1, relative to the Public Safety
Through Hiring Act.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 38, Chapter 8, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) This section is known and may be cited as the "Public Safety Through Hiring Act."

(b) A law enforcement agency shall not hire a person as a police officer who was previously employed as a police officer by another law enforcement agency in this state or in any other jurisdiction and who:

(1) Was fired due to disciplinary infractions or while under investigation for misconduct in the line of duty; or

(2) Resigned or retired while under investigation for disciplinary infractions or misconduct in the line of duty.

(c) A law enforcement agency in this state shall inform another law enforcement agency of the dismissal, resignation, or retirement of a police officer if the law enforcement agency has knowledge that the former police officer of the agency:

(1)

(A) Was fired for disciplinary infractions or other serious misconduct in the line of duty; or

(B) Resigned or retired while under investigation for disciplinary infractions or other serious misconduct in the line of duty; and

(2) Is an applicant for the position of police officer with another law enforcement agency.

(d) This section does not apply to a police officer who is exonerated of each allegation against the officer in court or in the disciplinary process undertaken by the law enforcement agency in which the police officer served at the time of the allegation.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.