



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 567

HOUSE BILL NO. 1166

**By Representatives Harris, Stewart, Clemmons, Parkinson, Hardaway, Gloria Johnson,
Lamar, Hazlewood, Camper, Love, Helton**

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 644

By Senators Robinson, Akbari, Campbell, Massey

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 2, Part 4 and Title 37, Chapter 5, relative to siblings in foster care.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 2, Part 4, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) An agency shall provide a child in foster care with contact information for each sibling who is also in foster care and who is not placed in the same home as the child if maintaining contact with the sibling is in the best interests of each sibling.

(b) A child in foster care must not be punished for behavioral problems by restricting contact with the child's sibling.

(c) As used in this section, "sibling" includes full siblings, half siblings, and step-siblings.

SECTION 2 This act takes effect July 1, 2021, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: May 4, 2021



CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RANDY MCNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 26th day of May 2021



BILL LEE, GOVERNOR