

HOUSE BILL 1166

By Glynn

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2 and Title 40, relative to restoration of voting rights.

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

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

(a) When an individual rendered infamous and deprived of the right of suffrage by the judgment of a state or federal court becomes eligible to apply for a voter registration card and have the right of suffrage restored pursuant to § 40-29-202(a), the person issuing the pardon, discharging the individual from custody, or granting a certificate of final discharge shall:

(1) Notify the county election commission in the county that is the home of record of the individual;

(2) Complete the appropriate portions of the certificate of restoration of voting rights form; and

(3) Send the completed certificate of restoration of voting rights form to the appropriate criminal court clerk.

(b) Upon receiving the certificate of restoration of voting rights form under subsection (a), the criminal court clerk shall verify that the individual has no outstanding financial obligations pursuant to § 40-29-202(b) or (c). If the individual has no outstanding financial obligations, then the criminal court clerk shall complete the appropriate portions of the certificate of restoration of voting rights form and forward the form to the appropriate county election commission. If the individual has remaining

financial obligations, then the criminal court clerk shall inform the individual of the amount and the method by which the financial obligations may be met.

(c) Upon receiving the notification under subsection (a) and certificate under subsection (b), the county election commission shall contact the individual to provide assistance to the individual with registering to vote. The county election commission shall verify that the individual is eligible to register and that there are no other impediments to the right of suffrage being restored before the individual is allowed to register.

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