

HOUSE BILL 1536

By Weaver

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
Chapter 6, Part 22, relative to textbooks and
instructional materials.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 22, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) After textbooks and instructional materials recommended by the state textbook and instructional materials quality commission are adopted by the state board of education, publishers shall make the textbooks and instructional materials, and all accompanying manuals, workbooks, and other ancillary materials available online for public inspection. Public access may include access via the state textbook depository's website. A textbook and the accompanying instructional materials must be available online until the textbook or instructional materials are replaced with a new textbook or materials adopted by the state board.

(b) Publishers shall provide a copyright notice to be included with any posting of the publishers' textbooks and instructional materials online. Publishers may include in any posting of textbooks and instructional materials online information concerning copyright infringement and the penalties for copyright infringement.

(c) The public may comment on textbooks and instructional materials that are adopted by the state board of education. Public comments must be sent to the department of education by regular mail, email, or in another electronic format as determined by the department. Public comments received by the department must be posted on the department's website; provided, that any comment posted must pertain only to a textbook or a textbook's accompanying instructional materials.

(d) The state board of education is authorized to promulgate rules to effectuate the purposes of this section in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect July 1, 2021, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to all contracts with publishers entered into on and after July 1, 2021.