

HOUSE BILL 1562

By Mitchell

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4;
Title 8; Title 12, Chapter 3; Title 12, Chapter 4 and
Title 50, relative to commissioners of the
departments of state government.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 3, Part 1, is amended by adding the following new section:

(a) During the twelve-month period immediately following a commissioner's or deputy commissioner's departure from departmental service, the commissioner or deputy commissioner shall not seek or accept employment with a private business entity that contracted with the department during the commissioner's or deputy commissioner's tenure of service as commissioner or deputy commissioner.

(b) The Tennessee ethics commission may administratively assess a civil penalty, not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), if a former commissioner or former deputy commissioner knowingly violates this section.

(c) The Tennessee ethics commission may seek injunctive relief in the chancery court of Davidson County to prevent a former commissioner or former deputy commissioner from engaging in a continuing violation of this section.

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