

HOUSE BILL 1640

By Dennis

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 29, Chapter 26; Title 47, Chapter 18 and Title 68, Chapter 11, relative to certain civil actions for damages.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 29, Chapter 26, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

29-26-123

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Healthcare liability action" means any civil action against a healthcare provider or providers in which the claimant alleges injury related to the provision of or failure to provide health care services; and

(2) "Healthcare provider" means a healthcare facility licensed under title 68 as a nursing home, home for the aged or assisted-living facility or the employee of a healthcare provider involved in the provision of healthcare.

(b) Any healthcare liability action, regardless of any other claims, causes of action or theories of liability alleged in the complaint that is brought against a healthcare provider shall be considered a medical malpractice action and shall be brought in accordance with and governed by this chapter.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to any cause of action accruing on or after the effective date of this act.