

HOUSE BILL 1695

By Alexander

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 10, Chapter 7; Title 38; Title 39 and Title 40, relative to minor victims of violent crime.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 38-7-110, is amended by deleting subsection (c) and substituting:

(c)

(1) Except as provided in this subsection (c) and subsection (d), the reports of the county medical examiners, toxicological reports, and autopsy reports are public documents.

(2)

(A) The reports of county medical examiners and autopsy reports of victims of violent crime who are minors are not public documents.

(B) The report of a county medical examiner or autopsy report of a minor victim of a violent crime may be released if:

(i) The minor's parent or legal guardian is not a suspect in the circumstances of the minor's death and the parent or legal guardian consents to the release; or

(ii) A court orders the release of the report upon a showing of good cause.

(C) As used in this subdivision (c)(2), "violent crime" has the same meaning as defined in § 40-38-111.

(3) Medical records of deceased persons, law enforcement investigative reports, and photographs, video, and other images of deceased persons are not public records.

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