



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 728

SENATE BILL NO. 1670

By Massey, Campbell, Rose

Substituted for: House Bill No. 1922

By Butler, Leatherwood, Wright, Sherrell, Russell, Hemmer, McCalmon, Capley, Hawk, Hill, Bulso, Cepicky, Eldridge, Moody, Slater, Burkhart, Alexander, Helton-Haynes, Grills

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36, Chapter 1, Part 1 and Title 68, Chapter 11, Part 2, relative to the voluntary surrender of an infant.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-11-255(a)(1), is amended by deleting the subdivision and substituting:

(1) "Facility" means a hospital as defined in § 68-11-201, a birthing center as defined in § 68-11-201, a community health clinic, an out-patient walk-in clinic, a fire department that is staffed twenty-four (24) hours a day, a law enforcement facility that is staffed twenty-four (24) hours a day, an emergency medical services facility, an emergency communications center, or a nursing home;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-11-255(a), is amended by inserting the following as new subdivisions:

() "Emergency communications center":

(A) Means a location that is staffed twenty-four (24) hours a day and that is primarily used for:

(1) Receiving communications from the public requesting law enforcement, fire, medical, or other emergency services;

(2) Dispatching law enforcement, fire, medical, or other emergency resources to respond to requests for service; and

(3) Facilitating communications among law enforcement, fire, medical, or other emergency services personnel;

() "Nursing home" means a nursing home as defined in § 68-11-201, that is located in a county that does not have a hospital or a fire station that is staffed continuously on a twenty-four-hour basis every day by a licensed emergency medical services provider.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-11-255(a)(3)(C), is amended by deleting the language "located inside a participating police station, fire station, or hospital" and substituting "located inside a participating police station, fire station, hospital, nursing home, or emergency communications center".

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-11-255(a)(3)(D), is amended by deleting the language "visible to a police station, fire station, or hospital staff" and substituting "visible to staff of the police station, fire station, hospital, nursing home, or emergency communications center where the newborn safety device is located".

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-11-255(b), is amended by inserting the following as a new subdivision:

(4) Notwithstanding this subsection (b) to the contrary, an emergency communications center without a newborn safety device may decline to receive possession of a newborn infant. An emergency communications center that declines to receive possession of a newborn infant is not a facility as that term is defined in subdivision (a)(1).

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-11-255, is amended by inserting the following as a new subsection:

() A nursing home must be approved by the health facilities commission for the installation of a newborn safety device.

SECTION 7. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: April 4, 2024


RANDY McNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE


CAMEROL SEXTON, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 19th day of April 2024


BILL LEE, GOVERNOR