



# *State of Tennessee*

## **PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 801**

### **SENATE BILL NO. 1512**

**By Massey**

Substituted for: House Bill No. 2192

By Littleton, Dawn White, Coley, Moody, Hardaway, Terry, Parkinson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-4-115; Title 8, Chapter 8, Part 2; Title 37, Chapter 5; Title 38, Chapter 3 and Title 40, Chapter 7, Part 1, relative to persons arrested for criminal offenses.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 38, Chapter 3, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) Each law enforcement agency shall ensure that, whenever a person is arrested and taken into custody by an officer of the agency, the person is asked whether that person is the parent or legal custodian of any children that will be left unattended by the person's arrest. From this information, the officer shall determine whether the child or children will be endangered by the parent or legal custodian's absence following an arrest.

(b) Each law enforcement agency shall develop policies and procedures for conducting welfare checks on any child identified under subsection (a) as endangered. A welfare check may be performed by the arresting agency or another agency responsible for ensuring the safety and welfare of children.

(c) In the event the arrested person fails to inform the arresting law enforcement agency of any endangered children described in subsection (a), no arresting law enforcement agency, nor its personnel, shall be liable.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018, the public welfare requiring it.

SENATE BILL NO. 1512

PASSED: April 12, 2018

  
RANDY McNALLY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

  
BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April 2018

  
BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR