



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 985

SENATE BILL NO. 2748

By White, Bailey, Bowling, Rose

Substituted for: House Bill No. 2583

By Eldridge, Hardaway, Helton, Howell, Curcio, Littleton, White, Ragan, Todd

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 5; Title 39, Chapter 15, Part 4 and Title 71, Chapter 3, Part 5, relative to children.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-15-401, is amended by deleting subsection (h) and substituting:

(h) As used in this section, "adversely affect the child's health and welfare" may include, but is not limited to, adverse effects on the emotional and mental health and welfare of the child, the natural effects of starvation or dehydration, or acts of female genital mutilation, as defined in § 39-13-110.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 71-3-505, is amended by deleting subsection (a) and substituting:

(a)(1) A person or entity operating a child care agency, as defined in § 71-3-501, without being licensed by the department commits a Class A misdemeanor.

(2) It is a Class E felony for a person or entity to operate a child care agency:

(A) While a suspension of a license issued by the department is in effect;

(B) Following the effective date of a denial or revocation of a license by the department; or

(C) Without being licensed by the department and within ten (10) years of a previous finding by the department that the person or entity operated a child care agency without being licensed by the department.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect July 1, 2022, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: April 18, 2022



RANDY McNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 3rd day of May 2022



BILL LEE, GOVERNOR