

HOUSE BILL 2592

By Rudder

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4;
Title 37; Title 39 and Title 40, relative to sexual
abuse of children.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-603(b), is amended by adding the following as a new subdivision:

(7) The department of children's services, human trafficking advisory council, joint task force on children's justice and child sexual abuse, and the council of juvenile and family court judges shall work together with other appropriate public and private groups, organizations, and agencies, including, but not limited to, Tennessee Counter Trafficking Alliance agencies, to develop a mechanism to identify and provide coordinated services to children involved with the juvenile justice system who have been sexually abused or trafficked for commercial sex acts. The services must be accessible to a child identified as a victim, regardless of the nature or status of the proceedings in the juvenile court and must not be contingent on the child's participation in another program or pretrial diversion. The plan for establishing services must be included in the comprehensive state plan.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-603, is amended by deleting subdivision (b)(1)(C) and substituting:

(C) Working with the specified agency in fulfilling the requirements of subdivisions (b)(2)–(7);

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.