

HOUSE BILL 2611

By Mitchell

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 3 and Title 4, Chapter 8, relative to possession of signs in legislative office buildings and the state capitol.

WHEREAS, the First Amendment to the United States Constitution guarantees the people the right to free speech; and

WHEREAS, Article I, Section 19 of the Constitution of the State of Tennessee provides in part that "The free communication of thoughts and opinions, is one of the invaluable rights of man, and every citizen may freely speak, write, and print on any subject, being responsible for the abuse of that liberty."; now, therefore,

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

SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as "The 2018 Freedom of Speech Act."

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 3, Chapter 1, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

All individuals shall be permitted to bring signs into, and to possess and display signs while present in, any public building where legislative offices are located.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 8, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

All individuals shall be permitted to bring signs into, and to possess and display signs while present in, the state capitol building.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.