

HOUSE BILL 2645

By Towns

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, relative to communication between persons with autism spectrum disorder and law enforcement officers.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 20, is amended by adding the following as a new part:

55-20-401.

The commissioner of safety, in consultation with the Tennessee Sheriffs' Association, Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police, and at least one (1) organization that advocates for persons with autism spectrum disorder, shall design and make available blue envelopes that:

(1) Provide written information and guidance on the outside of the envelopes regarding ways to enhance effective communication between a law enforcement officer and a person with autism spectrum disorder; and

(2) Are capable of holding a driver license, registration, and insurance identification card.

55-20-402.

On or after January 1, 2021, upon request by a person with autism spectrum disorder or, if such person is a minor, such person's parent or guardian, the commissioner shall provide to such person, parent, or guardian a blue envelope designed pursuant to § 55-20-401.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring
it.