

HOUSE BILL 9020

By Todd

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 5; Title 33; Title 50; Title 63 and Title 68, relative to enacting the Tennessee COVID-19 Treatment Freedom Act.

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

SECTION 1. This act is known and may be cited as the "Tennessee COVID-19 Treatment Freedom Act."

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 6, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) The board shall not take adverse action against a physician licensed under this chapter relating solely to the physician's prescription, recommendation, use, or opinion relative to a treatment for COVID-19, including a treatment that is not indicated for COVID-19 or is not recommended or regulated by the department of health, the board, or the federal food and drug administration.

(b) As used in this section:

(1) "COVID-19" means the novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, and coronavirus disease 2019, including a mutation of the novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, and coronavirus disease 2019; and

(2) "Treatment for COVID-19" means a procedure, medicine, drug, therapy, or other form of medical care meant to heal, cure, treat, prevent, mitigate, or otherwise address COVID-19.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 9, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) The board shall not take adverse action against a physician licensed under this chapter relating solely to the physician's prescription, recommendation, use, or opinion relative to a treatment for COVID-19, including a treatment that is not indicated for COVID-19 or is not recommended or regulated by the department of health, the board, or the federal food and drug administration.

(b) As used in this section:

(1) "COVID-19" means the novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, and coronavirus disease 2019, including a mutation of the novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, and coronavirus disease 2019; and

(2) "Treatment for COVID-19" means a procedure, medicine, drug, therapy, or other form of medical care meant to heal, cure, treat, prevent, mitigate, or otherwise address COVID-19.

SECTION 4. For rulemaking purposes, including the promulgation of emergency rules as necessary, this act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act takes effect January 1, 2022, the public welfare requiring it.