

SENATE BILL 139

By Gardenhire

AN ACT to amend Chapter 297 of the Private Acts of 1976; as amended by Chapter 125 of the Private Acts of 1977; Chapter 80 of the Private Acts of 1985; Chapter 99 of the Private Acts of 1985; Chapter 71 of the Private Acts of 2012; and any other acts amendatory thereto, relative to a hospital authority created to operate Baroness Erlanger Hospital, T.C. Thompson Children's Hospital and other facilities.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 297 of the Private Act of 1976, as amended by Chapter 125 of the Private Acts of 1977, and any other acts amendatory thereto, is amended by deleting Section 1 and by substituting instead the following as a new Section 1:

Section 1.

A governmental Hospital Authority known as the Chattanooga – Hamilton County Hospital Authority, having being established by Chapter 297 of the Private Acts of 1976, as amended by Chapter 125 of the Private Acts of 1977 and other subsequent private acts shall hereafter operate in accordance with this Act. The purpose of the Hospital Authority is to operate Erlanger Health System, including Baroness Erlanger Hospital, T.C. Thompson Children's Hospital and such other facilities and services as determined by the Hospital Authority's Board of Trustees. The facilities and services of Hospital Authority shall be made available without regard to race, religion or national origin, and to indigent patients in accordance with policies established by the Board of Trustees..

SECTION 2. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to that end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 3. This Act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the legislative body of Hamilton County. Its approval or non-approval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of the county legislative body of Hamilton County and certified to the Secretary of State.

SECTION 4. For the purposes of approving or rejecting the provisions of this Act, it shall be effective upon becoming law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, it shall become effective as provided in Section 3.