

SENATE BILL 850

By Pody

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 38,  
Chapter 9, relative to civil emergencies.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 38, Chapter 9, is amended by adding the following new section:

(a) The governor or the chief executive officer of a local government shall not require a law enforcement agency or an officer thereof to enforce a provision of an executive order:

- (1) Requiring a private business entity to close;
- (2) Restricting the freedom to assemble peaceably; or
- (3) Restricting the freedom to travel.

(b) Subsection (a) does not prohibit:

- (1) The governor or the chief executive officer of a local government from requiring a law enforcement agency or officer thereof from enforcing a curfew implemented by executive order or other lawful authority for purposes of protecting the health, safety, and welfare of persons or property, or both; or
- (2) Other appropriate state and local agencies and departments from exercising their statutory authority to maintain sanitation standards, conduct inspections of businesses, and perform other lawful duties and functions to prevent the transmission and spread of an epidemic disease in this state.

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