

SENATE BILL 1131

By Norris

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 1; Title 37, Chapter 5; Title 38, Chapter 1; Title 39, Chapter 13, Part 5 and Title 39, Chapter 17, relative to reporting by authority figure.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 13, Part 5, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

39-13-520.

(a) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Child" means a person under thirteen (13) years of age;

(2) "Community facility" includes real and personal property, and buildings and equipment for recreation or social assemblies, for educational, religious, social, health, or welfare purposes, including, but not limited to, facilities operated by schools, the Boy or Girl Scouts, the YMCA or YWCA, the Boys and Girls Club, and church or religious organizations;

(3) "Teen" means a person at least thirteen (13) years of age but no more than seventeen (17) years of age;

(4) "Unlawful sexual contact" means child sexual abuse pursuant to § 37-5-103(5) and any offense pursuant to this part; and

(5) "Young adult" means a person at least eighteen (18) years of age but no more than twenty-five (25) years of age.

(b) An authority figure at a community facility who knows or reasonably suspects a child, teen, or young adult has been the victim of an unlawful sexual

contact shall report the known or reasonably suspected unlawful sexual contact to law enforcement authorities.

(c) Any person required to report known or suspected unlawful sexual contact pursuant to subsection (b) who knowingly and willfully fails to do so commits a misdemeanor punishable as follows:

(1) If the victim is a child, a Class A misdemeanor; provided, however, that the maximum fine shall be three thousand dollars (\$3,000);

(2) If the victim is a teen, a Class B misdemeanor; provided, however, that the maximum fine shall be three thousand dollars (\$3,000);
and

(3) If the victim is a young adult, a Class C misdemeanor; provided, however, that the maximum fine shall be three thousand dollars (\$3,000).

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013, the public welfare requiring it.