

SENATE BILL 1182

By Burks

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36;  
Title 39 and Title 40, relative to domestic violence.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-3-621, is amended by deleting subsection (b) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(b) Any health care practitioner licensed or certified under title 63, who knows, or has reasonable cause to suspect, that a patient's injuries, whether or not such injuries cause a patient's death, are the result of domestic violence or domestic abuse, shall report such injuries to the department of health, office of health statistics, within fifteen (15) days of the date the practitioner has knowledge that or suspects the cause of such injuries are the result of such violence or abuse. The report shall not disclose the name or identity of the patient, but should include the nature and extent of the patient's injuries, as well as the substance in summary fashion of any statements made by the patient, including comments concerning past domestic abuse with the patient's current spouse or previous partner or partners, that would reasonably give rise to suspicion of domestic abuse. The practitioner shall include any other information upon which the suspicion of domestic abuse is based.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011, the public welfare requiring it.