

SENATE BILL 1750

By Lundberg

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39,
Chapter 17, relative to criminal offenses.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 3, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

(a) A person commits an offense who, with intent to conceal the person's identity, wears a mask, hood, or device by which a portion of the person's face is so hidden, concealed, or covered so as to conceal the identity of the person while the person is on a public way, public property, or the private property of another without the written permission of the property owner or the occupier of the property to do so.

(b) It is not an offense under this section to:

(1) Wear a traditional holiday costume on the occasion of the holiday;

(2) Lawfully engage in a trade, profession, occupation, or sporting activity where a mask, hood, or device is worn for the purpose of ensuring the physical safety of the wearer or others, or because of the nature of the trade, profession, occupation, or sporting activity;

(3) Wear a mask, hood, or device while engaged in a theatrical production, parade, or masquerade ball; or

(4) Wear a gas mask prescribed in emergency management drills or emergencies.

(c) A violation of this section is a Class A misdemeanor.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020, the public welfare requiring it.