SENATE BILL 1840

By Herron

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 7, relative to loose material hauled in certain motor vehicles.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-7-109, is amended by deleting subsection (a) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following language:

(a) Any truck, or other motor vehicle, with an open bed, that is operated on any highway, road, or street open for public use in this state, shall be loaded so that any loose material transported in the truck or other motor vehicle remains at least four inches (4") below the walls of the open bed, measured at the front, back and sidewalls; but the load may be piled higher in the center of the open bed, and such open bed shall be covered by a tarpaulin. "Loose material" includes any substance that could spill, drop off, or blow away from the open bed when the vehicle is operated. "Loose material" does not include materials such as sand or salt that are purposely discharged from truck beds to clear roadways or improve traction, and does not include water sprayed on streets for purposes of sanitation.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-7-109, is further amended by deleting subdivision (d)(2) in its entirety and redesignating the remaining language accordingly.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011, the public welfare requiring it.