

SENATE BILL 2231

By Jackson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 7, Chapter 63, Part 1; Title 38 and Title 55, relative to traffic stops.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 38, Chapter 3, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) A law enforcement officer who is conducting a traffic stop of a motor vehicle must attempt to ensure that the traffic stop occurs in a safe location unless the officer determines that it would not be in the interest of public safety.

(b) As used in this section, a "safe location":

(1) Means a location that protects both the officer and motorist from passing vehicles by providing sufficient space for the free passage of other vehicles and sufficient visibility of the stopped vehicles;

(2) Includes, but is not limited to, a parking lot, public or private driveway, or full shoulder of a highway that can accommodate the stopped vehicles without obstructing the main-traveled part of the highway; and

(3) Does not include the main-traveled part of the highway or the paved or unpaved portion of an entrance or exit ramp of a highway.

(c) This section does not apply to traffic stops for suspected violations of § 55-10-401, traffic stops of motor vehicles fleeing the scene of a crime, emergency situations, or situations where the motor vehicle poses an immediate threat to the officer or other individuals.

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