

SENATE BILL 2470

By Akbari

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4;
Title 49 and Title 50, relative to diversity.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 50, Chapter 1, is amended by adding the following as a new part:

Notwithstanding another law to the contrary, employers in this state may establish, maintain, and implement policies, practices, and requirements for the employment and conduct of employees in the workplace that are designed to safeguard employees and applicants for employment from discrimination based on race, creed, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity. The policies, practices, and requirements described in this section may be developed and administered through an office of diversity, equity, and inclusion, or another administrative office or program established by the employer.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 7, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

Notwithstanding another law to the contrary, public institutions of higher education in this state may establish, maintain, and implement policies, practices, and requirements for the conduct of the students, faculty, and staff on the campus of the public institution of higher education that are designed to safeguard students, faculty, and staff from discrimination based on race, creed, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity. The policies, practices, and requirements described in this section may be developed and administered through an office of

diversity, equity, and inclusion, or another administrative office or program established by the governing board of the public institution of higher education.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.