

SENATE BILL 2655

By Watson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8,  
Chapter 6, relative to the right of the general  
assembly to intervene in certain litigation.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-6-109, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

(f)

(1) Notwithstanding this section or § 8-6-106, the speaker of the house of representatives and the speaker of the senate, jointly, or a majority of the members of both houses of the general assembly may intervene in any proceeding to defend the constitutionality of a challenged statute or to assert the general assembly's authority under article II, § 3 of the Constitution of Tennessee. Nothing in this subsection affects, impairs, or abridges the rights of any legislator under existing law.

(2) The speakers and general assembly shall at all times act as an agent of the people of this state, and this state shall indemnify the speakers and general assembly for any costs and expenses associated with any action authorized by this subsection (f), to be paid out of any money in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated, upon the certification of the speakers to the commissioner of finance and administration.

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