SENATE BILL 2756

By Akbari

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, relative to misconduct involving public officials.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 16, Part 4, is amended by adding the following new section:

- (a) A public official commits an offense who intentionally makes a statement or distributes information to the public concerning public health, when the official knows or reasonably should know that the statement or information is false.
 - (b) A violation of this section is a Class E felony.
- (c) As used in this section, "public official" means a person who has been elected to a position in local, state, or federal government.
- SECTION 2. This act takes effect July 1, 2022, the public welfare requiring it.