

SENATE BILL 3763

By Bunch

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 3,
relative to conflicts of interest of members of the
general assembly.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 3, Chapter 1, Part 1, is amended by adding a new section thereto, as follows:

Section 3-1-123.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b), no member of the general assembly shall vote in committee or in the chamber on any legislation that directly benefits financially the member or a person in the member's immediate family. For the purpose of this section "immediate family" means the spouse and any dependent of the member claimed as such on the member's income tax returns submitted to the internal revenue service.

(b) The provisions of this section shall not apply to the general appropriations act.

(c) A complaint under this section may be filed with the Tennessee ethics commission. If the commission determines that probable cause exists to believe that a member of the general assembly has voted for a measure for personal financial gain, then, except as otherwise provided in § 3-6-306(a)(3), no civil penalty shall be imposed and the commission shall instead report its determination and findings to the ethics committee of the appropriate house of the general assembly.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010, the public welfare requiring it.