SENATE BILL 3886

By Marrero B

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 9, Part 6, relative to child passenger restraint in motor vehicles.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-9-602(a), is amended by deleting subdivisions (1) and (2) in their entirety and by substituting instead the following language:

(1) Any person transporting any child, under one (1) year of age, or any child, weighing twenty-five pounds (25 lbs.) or less, in a motor vehicle upon a road, street or highway of this state is responsible for the protection of the child and properly using a child passenger restraint system in a rear facing position, meeting federal motor vehicle safety standards in the rear seat if available or according to the child safety restraint system or vehicle manufacturer's instructions.

(2) Notwithstanding § 55-9-603, any person transporting any child, one through three (1-3) years of age weighing greater than twenty-five pounds (25 lbs.), in a motor vehicle upon a road, street or highway of this state is responsible for the protection of the child and properly using a child passenger restraint system in a forward facing position, meeting federal motor vehicle safety standards in the rear seat if available or according to the child safety restraint system or vehicle manufacturer's instructions.

SECTION 2. The department of health and department of safety are encouraged to disseminate the new requirements for child passenger restraint systems in this act to parents, caregivers and the general motoring public.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect January 1, 2011, the public welfare requiring it.