

SENATE BILL 7046

By Oliver

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39
and Title 40, relative to stalking offenses.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-315, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

(1) If a person commits stalking, aggravated stalking, or especially aggravated stalking, and the offense was committed due to the defendant's bias motivation against the victim, then the offense is a hate crime and shall be punished one (1) classification higher than otherwise provided in this section.

(2) As used in this subsection (), "bias motivation" means a person intentionally stalked a victim, in whole or in part, because of the person's belief or perception regarding the race, religion, color, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, or gender of the victim.

(3) The sentence of a person that is enhanced under subdivision ()(1) is not subject to enhancement under § 40-35-114(17).

SECTION 2. This act takes effect October 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.