SENATE BILL 9046

By Gilmore

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 29 and Title 50, relative to COVID-19 mask requirements.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 50, Chapter 1, Part 3, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

- (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a private employer may adopt as part of the employer's dress code:
 - (1) For employment, a requirement that each employee must wear a mask suitable to prevent or reduce the transmission of COVID-19; and
 - (2) For service, a requirement that each person located on the employer's business premises must wear a mask suitable to prevent or reduce the transmission of COVID-19.
- (b) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a private employer is immune from civil action for the implementation and reasonable enforcement of a dress code adopted pursuant to subsection (a).
 - (c) As used in this section:
 - (1) "COVID-19" means the novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, and coronavirus disease 2019, including a mutation or variant of the novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, and coronavirus disease 2019;
 - (2) "Employee" means an individual who performs services for an employer for valuable consideration, and does not include a self-employed independent contractor; and

(3) "Private employer" means a person who is required by federal law and regulations to report, for any purpose, remuneration paid to at least one (1) employee.

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

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