

HOUSE BILL 344

By Hardaway

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4;
Title 38, Chapter 6; Title 54 and Title 58, Chapter
2, relative to emergency communication.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 54-21-122, is amended by adding the following language as a new subsection:

(h)

(1) Beginning January 1, 2010, upon application for a permit, or permit renewal, for any changeable message sign with a digital display, the applicant shall sign a statement accepting as a condition of initial operation, or renewal of existing operation, acceptance of the department's emergency communication policy. Such statement shall be required from each person applying, or renewing, regardless of the date upon which a changeable message sign with a digital display was placed, or is placed, in operation.

(2) By December 31, 2009, the department, in consultation with the Tennessee bureau of investigation and the Tennessee emergency management agency, shall develop an emergency communication policy for placing federal, state and local emergency notifications on any changeable message signs with a digital display operated under any permit issued by the department. Such policy shall include, but is not limited to, notifications for Amber alerts, silver alerts, defense emergencies and weather emergencies.

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