

HOUSE BILL 480

By Beck

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 5;  
Title 6; Title 7; Title 13 and Title 68, relative to  
private clubs.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 7-51-1401, is amended by adding the following language as a new subdivision:

( ) "Private club" means any club or organization that does not permit the general public access to its facilities or activities. Access is denied to anyone who does not adhere to the rules of membership; provided, that the club or organization possesses the following characteristics:

(A) The club is located in any county having a metropolitan form of government with a population of more than five hundred thousand (500,000), according to the 2010 federal census or any subsequent federal census;

(B) The club does not provide membership to persons under twenty-one (21) years of age;

(C) The club's members do not vote on the admittance of new members;

(D) The club accepts applications for membership without a current member's recommendation; and

(E) The club contains rooms for couples and other themed rooms for members.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 7, Chapter 51, Part 14, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

(a)

(1) A private club shall not locate within one thousand feet (1,000') of a child care center, private school, public school, charter school, public park, or place of worship.

(2) For the purposes of subdivision (a)(1), measurements shall be made in a straight line in all directions, without regard to intervening structures or objects, from the nearest point on the property line of a parcel containing a private club to the nearest point on the property line of a parcel containing a child care center, private school, public school, charter school, public park, or place of worship.

(b) A private club shall not extend membership or offer access to the club to a person who must comply with title 40, chapter 39, part 2, as a sexual offender or violent sexual offender.

(c) This section shall apply to any county having a metropolitan form of government with a population of more than five hundred thousand (500,000), according to the 2010 federal census or any subsequent federal census, upon the adoption of a resolution by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the county legislative body.

SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, then the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to that end the provisions of this act shall be severable.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.