

HOUSE BILL 539

By Harris

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 1 and Title 38, Chapter 8, relative to the questioning of juveniles.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 1, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) When a child has been taken into custody due to suspicion that the child committed a delinquent act, an interview or interrogation of the child concerning a violation of state or federal law must:

- (1) Be recorded, by video or audio; or
- (2) Be conducted in the presence of an attorney who represents the child.

(b) The requirements of subsection (a) are not subject to waiver.

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