

HOUSE BILL 554

By Littleton

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 7; Title 16, Chapter 2 and Title 38, Chapter 6, relative to crimes against children.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 7, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) Each district attorney general shall designate at least one (1) person currently employed within the judicial district as an assistant district attorney general as the lead prosecuting attorney for the judicial district in cases involving crimes committed against children.

(b) Each assistant district attorney designated as the lead prosecuting attorney in cases involving crimes against children pursuant to subsection (a) shall attend annual training on the investigation of crimes against children provided by the Tennessee bureau of investigation.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 38, Chapter 6, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) The Tennessee bureau of investigation shall implement a course or courses of instruction, composed of live instruction, telecommunication, video, or other medium, or any combination of methods, for the annual training of assistant district attorneys general who have been designated as lead prosecutors in crimes committed against children.

(b) The course or courses of instruction must emphasize;

(1) The dynamics of investigating crimes committed against children;

(2) Appropriate investigative and communication techniques for crimes committed against children; and

(3) Protection of victims.

SECTION 3. This act is not an appropriation of funds, and funds must not be obligated or expended pursuant to this act unless the funds are specifically appropriated by the general appropriations act.

SECTION 4. This act takes effect July 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.