

HOUSE BILL 1023

By Potts

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 5; Title 6; Title 7; Title 16; Title 17; Title 18; Title 19; Title 20; Title 22; Title 27; Title 29; Title 39 and Title 40, relative to environmental courts.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 22-2-101(b), is amended by deleting the language "Except as provided in § 22-4-101" and substituting the language "Except as provided in § 22-4-101 and subsection (d)".

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 22-2-101, is amended by adding the following as a new subsection:

(d) Any county with an environmental court may, by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the county legislative body, authorize the empanelment of juries pursuant to this chapter and other applicable laws for the purpose of conducting jury trials in a general sessions court when exercising the jurisdiction of an environmental court. In any county that acts pursuant to this subsection (d), the procedure for empaneling juries in environmental court is the same as the procedure for empaneling juries in circuit and criminal courts.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.