



## State of Tennessee

### PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 67

HOUSE BILL NO. 1120

**By Representatives Russell, Gillespie, Littleton, Lynn, Eldridge, Leatherwood, Camper, Ragan, White, Garrett, Love, Beck, Miller**

**Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 617**

**By Senators Akbari, Walley, Campbell, Jackson, White, Yarbro**

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, relative to the department of children's services.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 5, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) The department shall make chaplain services available on a regular basis to juveniles who are housed in a youth development center.

(b) The department shall not require a juvenile to attend or make use of the chaplain services.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 5, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

The department shall provide training to all persons employed by the department as youth service officers on best practices for behavior management and conflict resolution in the context of supervision of juvenile justice youth. The training must be conducted annually.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 5, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

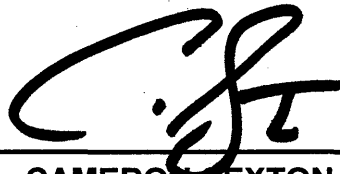
(a) Children sixteen (16) years of age or older who have been committed to the department for a determinate period of time and are housed in a hardware secure residential facility or youth development center, shall be housed separately from children less than sixteen (16) years of age.

(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), the department may house children less than sixteen (16) years of age with determinately committed children sixteen (16) years of age or older in applicable facilities if the department deems it necessary for the safety and well-being of the children less than sixteen (16) years of age, or to otherwise comply with the requirements of § 37-5-214.

SECTION 4. This act takes effect January 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.

HOUSE BILL NO. 1120

PASSED: March 13, 2023



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CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



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RANDY MCNALLY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March 2023



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BILL LEE, GOVERNOR