

HOUSE BILL 1222

By Towns

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37,
relative to reports of missing children.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-10-202, is amended by redesignating the current language as subsection (a) and by adding the following as a new subsection:

(b) A parent who has reasonable cause to believe a child under nine (9) years of age is missing shall report the child missing within twelve (12) hours of discovering the child may be missing. A parent who has reasonable cause to believe a child who is nine (9) years of age or older is missing shall report the child missing within twenty-four (24) hours of discovering the child may be missing. Nothing in this subsection shall prevent a parent from reporting a child missing or law enforcement from investigating a missing child as soon as a parent discovers that the child may be missing.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.