

HOUSE BILL 1649

By Bass

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 54, Chapter 5, Part 1, relative to maintenance of state highways.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 54-5-138, is amended by adding the following language as a new subsection:

(c) Effective July 1, 2011, the department of transportation shall transfer primary responsibility for the mowing of rights-of-way and litter collection on state highways to the department of correction. Except as provided in an existing contract entered into by the department of transportation to the contrary, on or after such date the department of correction shall use prison labor to mow rights-of-way and collect litter on state highways, and the department of transportation shall pay for the labor according to rules and regulations prescribed by the commissioner of correction. No such contracts entered into by the department of transportation shall be renewed.

SECTION 2. The commissioner of correction, with the assistance of the commissioner of transportation, is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this act. All such rules and regulations shall be promulgated in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 5.

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