

HOUSE BILL 2579

By Ragan

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4;
Title 5; Title 6; Title 7 and Title 8, Chapter 8,
relative to immigration.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 6, Chapter 54, Part 3, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) A chief of police may negotiate the terms of a memorandum of understanding between a municipality and the United States department of homeland security concerning the enforcement of federal immigration laws, detention and removals, and investigations in the municipality.

(b) The memorandum of understanding shall be signed on behalf of the municipality by the chief of police and the mayor, or as otherwise required by the appropriate federal agency.

(c) The chief of police shall designate that appropriate employees of the police department be trained pursuant to the memorandum of understanding.

(d) Employees certified as trained in accordance with a memorandum of understanding between the municipality and the United States department of homeland security pursuant to this section are authorized to enforce federal immigration laws while performing within the scope of their authorized duties as law enforcement officers.

(e) Funding shall be provided pursuant to the Homeland Security Appropriation Act of 2018, or subsequent federal funding sources, and if federal funding is not sufficient to cover training pursuant to the memorandum of understanding, local funding is authorized, subject to appropriation by the local legislative body.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 8, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) A sheriff may negotiate the terms of a memorandum of understanding between a county and the United States department of homeland security concerning the enforcement of federal immigration laws, detention and removals, and investigations in the unincorporated areas of the county.

(b) The memorandum of understanding shall be signed on behalf of the county by the sheriff and the county mayor, or as otherwise required by the appropriate federal agency.

(c) The sheriff shall designate that appropriate employees of the sheriff's department be trained pursuant to the memorandum of understanding.

(d) Deputies certified as trained in accordance with a memorandum of understanding between the county and the United States department of homeland security pursuant to this section are authorized to enforce federal immigration laws while performing within the scope of their authorized duties as deputies.

(e) Funding shall be provided pursuant to the Homeland Security Appropriation Act of 2018, or subsequent federal funding sources, and if federal funding is not sufficient to cover training pursuant to the memorandum of understanding, local funding is authorized, subject to appropriation by the local legislative body.

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