

HOUSE BILL 2653

By Keisling

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39;
Title 40; Title 41 and Title 47, relative to criminal
justice.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 16, Part 2, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

(a) It is an offense to disseminate a photograph taken inside a state penal institution, operated publicly or privately, of an inmate during a department-approved visitation period, unless the person receiving the photograph is depicted in the photograph.

(b) An official or employee of a state penal institution, operated publicly or privately, shall notify any person creating or receiving a photograph described in subsection (a) at the time of the photograph's creation or distribution that further dissemination of the photograph is prohibited.

(c) As used in this section, "dissemination" means to distribute to another person through email, delivery service, text message, the United States postal service, private display, public display, print media, social media, public or private broadcast, or any other electronic medium.

(d) Venue for a violation of this section is the county in which an inmate described in subsection (a) was committed to a state penal institution.

(e) A violation of subsection (a) is a Class A misdemeanor.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to violations occurring on or after that date.