

SENATE BILL 6

By Gardenhire

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 3, Chapter 2; Title 8, Chapter 31 and Title 8, Chapter 6, relative to nepotism.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 31, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) The attorney general and reporter shall investigate all reports of violations of § 8-31-103 within the judicial branch, pursuant to § 8-6-112.

(b) If the attorney general and reporter finds that a violation has occurred, the attorney general shall provide the supervising relative with a report declaring that a violation exists and may levy a civil penalty against the supervising relative whose hiring or transferring of an employee caused the violation of § 8-31-103. The civil penalty must not exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each day the violation occurred after the attorney general issues the report declaring that a violation exists.

(c) A supervising relative to whom a report is issued under subsection (b) may appeal the attorney general's determination of a violation of § 8-31-103 to the chancery court in the jurisdiction in which the supervising relative lives.

(d) A state employee in the judicial branch who has received notice from the attorney general and reporter that the employee has violated § 8-31-103 and fails to remedy the violation within one (1) week of receiving notice or the end of the chancery court's review, if an appeal was made, commits a Class A misdemeanor.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-6-122(a), is amended by adding the following new subdivision:

The attorney general and reporter receives a report of a violation of § 8-31-103.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect July 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.