

SENATE BILL 260

By Bell

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 29, Part 2 and Title 68, Chapter 55, relative to the traumatic brain injury advisory council.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 4-29-236(a), is amended by deleting subdivision (69) in its entirety.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 4-29-240(a), is amended by inserting the following language as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

() Traumatic brain injury advisory council, created by § 68-55-102;

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-55-102(a), is amended by deleting subdivision (2) in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(2) The advisory council shall be composed of nine (9) members to be appointed by the governor as follows:

(A) Five (5) members shall be family members, survivors, or primary care givers, and no more than two (2) members from this category shall reside in each of the three (3) grand divisions. These members may be appointed from lists of qualified persons submitted by interested brain injury organizations, including, but not limited to, the Brain Injury Association of Tennessee, and institutions of higher learning, including, but not limited to, those under the jurisdiction of the state university and community college system and the University of Tennessee;

(B) One (1) member who is knowledgeable on TBI shall represent the department of mental health and substance abuse services and the department of intellectual and developmental disabilities, who may be appointed from lists of

qualified persons submitted by the department of mental health and substance abuse services and the department of intellectual and developmental disabilities;

(C) One (1) member who has experience in providing special education services or actual therapy to persons with TBI shall represent special education interests within the department of education, who may be appointed from a list of qualified persons submitted by the department of education;

(D) One (1) member who is knowledgeable on TBI shall represent the department of human services, vocational rehabilitation, who may be appointed from a list of qualified persons submitted by the department of human services; and

(E) One (1) member shall be a healthcare professional whose practice includes at least fifty percent (50%) of providing direct care to head-injured individuals or a healthcare provider who provides care to traumatic brain-injured individuals, who may be appointed from lists of qualified persons submitted by interested hospital groups, including, but not limited to, the Tennessee Hospital Association.

(3) In making appointments to the council, the governor shall consult with the interested groups described in subdivision (a)(2) to determine qualified persons to fill the positions on the council.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring

it.