



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 331

HOUSE BILL NO. 108

By Representatives Jernigan, Helton

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 379

By Senators Yarbrow, Yager

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 5; Title 6; Title 7; Title 49 and Title 50, relative to harassment of government employees.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 50-1-502, is amended by adding the following language as new, appropriately designated subdivisions:

() "Employee" means an employee of any county, metropolitan government, municipality, or other political subdivision of this state;

() "Harassment" means two (2) or more instances of contact serving no legitimate purpose directed at an employee, in connection with that person's status as an employee, that a reasonable person would consider alarming, threatening, intimidating, abusive, or emotionally distressing and that does or reasonably could interfere with the performance of the employee's duties;

() "Instance of contact" means a direct communication or physical touching;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 50, Chapter 1, Part 5, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

A county, municipal, or metropolitan government may, through its attorney, seek an injunction against a person who commits harassment against an employee. The injunction may be sought in any court of competent jurisdiction having the power to grant injunctions. Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize any cause of action unrelated to a person's status as an employee.

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

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PASSED: April 29, 2019



GLEN CASADA, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RANDY MCNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 10th day of May 2019



BILL LEE, GOVERNOR