



# *State of Tennessee*

## **PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 260**

### **SENATE BILL NO. 418**

**By Gardenhire, Taylor, Walley**

Substituted for: House Bill No. 1022

By Doggett, Capley, Fritts, Moody, Todd, White, Reedy

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-11-139 and Section 40-11-142, relative to the release of defendants.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-11-139, is amended by adding the following new subsections:

(d) If a court issues a bench warrant due to a defendant's failure to appear on a felony or on a Class A or Class B misdemeanor that is violent or sexual in nature as determined by the court, or if a defendant is charged with a failure to appear, then the defendant shall be placed on any available state or federal list or database as a fugitive from justice, without limitation, within ten (10) days of the defendant's failure to appear. A surety is not liable for any undertaking if the defendant has not been placed on such a database within the time required by law.

(e) The surety is only responsible for costs in accordance with § 40-11-201.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-11-142(a), is amended by deleting the subsection and substituting instead the following language:

(a) After an officer arrests a person, but prior to the determination of bail for the arrest offense by the judge or magistrate, the arresting officer or the officer's agency must exercise due diligence in determining the existence of any prior arrest or conviction. The results of this investigation must be made a part of the person's law enforcement file.

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

SENATE BILL NO. 418

PASSED: April 17, 2023

  
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RANDY McNALLY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

  
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CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April 2023

  
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BILL LEE, GOVERNOR