

SENATE BILL 501

By Burchett

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 13, Part 1, relative to assaults and aggravated assaults.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-13-102, is amended by deleting subsection (a) in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(a) A person commits aggravated assault who:

(1) Intentionally or knowingly commits an assault as defined in § 39-13-

101; and

(A) Causes serious bodily injury to another;

(B) Uses or displays a deadly weapon; or

(C) Attempts or intends to cause serious bodily injury to another

by strangulation; or

(2) Recklessly commits an assault as defined in § 39-13-101(a)(1); and

(A) Causes serious bodily injury to another; or

(B) Uses or displays a deadly weapon.

(3) For purposes of subdivision (a)(1)(C) "strangulation" means

intentionally or knowingly impeding normal breathing or circulation of the blood

by applying pressure to the throat or neck or by blocking the nose or mouth of

another person.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009, the public welfare requiring it.