

SENATE BILL 909

By Overbey

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 1, Part 1, relative to evidence based criteria for funding certain programs in the department of health.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-1-125(b)(1), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(b)

(1) With the long-term emphasis on procuring services whose methods have been measured, tested, and demonstrated to improve client outcomes, the department of health, and any other state agency that administers funds related to in-home visitation programs, in order to prevent undue disturbance to existing department programs, shall ensure that fifty percent (50%) of the funds expended for in-home visiting services are used for evidenced-based models during fiscal year 2011-2012 and that seventy-five percent (75%) of such funds are used for evidenced-based programs during fiscal year 2012-2013 and each fiscal year thereafter.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-1-125(a)(1)(B), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(B) Scientific research using methods that meet high scientific standards, evaluated using either randomized controlled research designs, or quasi-experimental research designs with equivalent comparison groups. The effects of such programs must have demonstrated with two (2) or more separate client

samples that the program improves client outcomes central to the purpose of the program;

SECTION 2. The commissioner is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations for the administration of this act. All such rules and regulations shall be promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

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