

SENATE BILL 939

By Oliver

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 3;  
Title 4; Title 8 and Title 9, relative to the impact of  
legislation on certain demographic groups.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 3-2-107(a)(2), is amended by adding  
the following new subdivision:

(C)

(i) As used in this subdivision (a)(2)(C), "Tennessee racial impact statement" means a statement that provides a data analysis outlining the potential effects of a general bill, resolution, or amendment on increasing or decreasing racial disparities in this state using available data, including how distinct demographic groups are likely to be affected in specified policy areas, including child protective services, criminal justice, consumer protection, education, housing, public health, juvenile justice, public welfare, and voting rights.

(ii)

(a) Within twenty-four (24) hours following a standing committee or subcommittee of either house placing a general bill or resolution on the committee's or subcommittee's calendar for action, a member of the general assembly may submit a request by email to the executive director requesting that a Tennessee racial impact statement be prepared by the fiscal review committee for inclusion in the fiscal note on the bill or resolution.

(b) A sponsor of an amendment to a pending measure on which a fiscal note is required by this section may, at the time of requesting a fiscal note on the amendment as provided in subdivision (a)(1), request a Tennessee racial impact statement be prepared by the fiscal review committee for inclusion in the fiscal note.

(c) Prior to a standing committee or subcommittee of either house commencing a hearing to consider the committee's or subcommittee's calendar, a member of the committee or subcommittee may, with regard to an amendment that has been filed with the committee or subcommittee for a bill or resolution on the calendar, submit a request by email to the executive director requesting that a Tennessee racial impact statement be prepared by the fiscal review committee for inclusion in the fiscal note on the amendment.

(d) Prior to either house convening a floor session to consider a regular or message calendar, a member of the general assembly may, with regard to an amendment that is filed with the chief clerk of the respective house to a bill or resolution on the calendar, submit a request by email to the executive director requesting that a Tennessee racial impact statement be prepared by the fiscal review committee for inclusion in the fiscal note on the amendment.

(iii) If a timely request for a Tennessee racial impact statement is made pursuant to subdivisions (a)(2)(C)(ii)(a)-(d), then the Tennessee racial impact statement must be available for the appropriate committee, subcommittee, or house when considering the bill, resolution, or amendment, as applicable.

(iv) The executive director shall make any revisions to an existing fiscal note that the director may deem as necessary for inclusion of a Tennessee racial impact statement timely requested pursuant to subdivisions (a)(2)(C)(ii)(a)-(d).

(v) Each state department, agency, board, or commission shall provide information to the executive director or fiscal review committee staff upon request regarding preparation of the Tennessee racial impact statement. The executive director and fiscal review committee staff may draw on existing expertise within the departments of economic and community development, human services, human resources, finance and administration, the TennCare bureau, and any other state agency or official, to perform the functions required by this subdivision (a)(2)(C).

SECTION 2. This act takes effect July 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.