

SENATE BILL 1173

By Swann

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 3, Part 20 and Title 4, Chapter 7, relative to the Tennessee highway patrol.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 3, Part 20, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

The commissioner of safety, in consultation with the commissioner of human resources, shall ensure that a minimum of six (6) Tennessee highway patrol officers are allocated to a county designated as a tier 3 or tier 4 enhancement county, in accordance with § 67-4-2109, that has a size that is greater than six hundred square miles (600 sq. mi.) and a population greater than twenty thousand (20,000) but less than fifty thousand (50,000), according to the 2020 federal census or a subsequent federal census. The officers must be allocated only to fill vacant positions, and if there are not enough vacant positions in the county, then the commissioner of safety, in consultation with the commissioner of human resources, shall reallocate or shift existing vacant positions across the state to such county. Of the positions to be filled, one (1) must be for a sergeant position with the remaining being trooper positions, with none of the positions being for a specialized unit.

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