

SENATE BILL 1577

By Lamar

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37,
relative to the interrogation of juveniles.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-126, is amended by adding the following as a new subsection:

(d)

(1) When a child has been taken into custody due to suspicion that the child committed a delinquent act or unruly conduct, a law enforcement officer conducting a formal interview or interrogation of the child at a law enforcement facility concerning any violation of state or federal law by the child shall make a video or audio recording of the interview or interrogation.

(2) It is an exception to the requirement in subdivision (d)(1) if:

(A) The law enforcement officer in good faith believed the interview or interrogation was being recorded, and a technical issue with the equipment prevented the recording; or

(B) Exigent circumstances existed at the time of the interview or interrogation that prevented visual or audio recording.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect July 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.