

SENATE BILL 1656

By Stevens

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 10-7-504 and Section 36-3-623, relative to confidentiality of records of shelters, centers, and human trafficking service providers.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-3-623, is amended by deleting the section and substituting the following:

(a) The records of domestic violence shelters, rape crisis centers, and human trafficking service providers shall be treated as confidential by the records custodian of such shelters, centers, or providers unless:

(1) The individual to whom the records pertain authorizes their release;

or

(2) A court approves a subpoena for the records, subject to such restrictions as the court may impose, including in camera review.

(b) As used in this section, "human trafficking service providers" means agencies or groups that are incorporated as a not-for-profit organization for at least six (6) months, are tax-exempt under § 501 of the Internal Revenue Code, codified in 26 U.S.C. § 501, and that have provided services to victims of human trafficking.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018, the public welfare requiring it.