

SENATE BILL 2278

By Dickerson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4;  
Title 53 and Title 68, relative to the financing of  
healthy food.

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

SECTION 1. The commissioner of economic and community development, in consultation with the commissioner of health is directed to study issues relating to “food deserts” and the lack of access to healthy food in rural areas of this state. The study shall identify low-income and underserved rural areas in this state where residents lack significant access to healthy foods, including fresh produce. The study shall also evaluate policy options, including financial assistance, which could enhance the availability of healthy foods in such rural areas while providing a means of fostering economic development. The commissioner of economic and community development shall report the findings and any recommendations of the study, including possible beneficial legislation, to the general assembly on or before January 15, 2015.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.