SENATE BILL 2601

By Marrero B

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 59, Chapter 8, Part 4 and Title 69, Chapter 3, Part 1, relative to coal surface mining.

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

SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Fish Before Coal Act".

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 59-8-406, is amended by adding the following language as a new subsection:

(n) A permit for surface coal mining that would impact a stream that has fishing as a designated use shall not be issued to an applicant unless and until the commissioner makes a finding that such mining activity would not cause a diminution of the stream as a fishing resource in the state.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010, the public welfare requiring it.