

SENATE BILL 2616

By Hensley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39,  
Chapter 13, relative to assault of a public servant.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 13, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

39-13-116.

(a) As used in this section, "public servant" means:

- (1) Law enforcement officer;
- (2) Firefighter;
- (3) Medical fire responder;
- (4) Paramedic;
- (5) Emergency medical technician;
- (6) Healthcare provider; or
- (7) Any other first responder.

(b) A person commits the offense of assault of a public servant who commits an assault under § 39-13-101 and at the time of the assault:

- (1) The person knew or reasonably should have known that the victim of the assault was a public servant; and
- (2) The victim was discharging or attempting to discharge official duties as a public servant.

(c) Assault of a public servant is a Class E felony.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020, the public welfare requiring it.