

HOUSE BILL 691
By Hargrove

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 6,
Part 3, relative to legal representation.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-6-301(a), is amended by deleting the second and third sentences of the subsection, by redesignating the existing language as subdivision (a)(1), and by adding the following at the end of the subdivision:

All legal services required by such offices, departments, agencies, boards, commissions or instrumentalities of the state shall be rendered by the attorney general and reporter.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-6-301(a), is further amended by adding the following as new subdivisions (a)(2), (a)(3) and (a)(4):

(a)(2) Upon the effective date of this act, all attorney positions of the various offices, departments, agencies, boards, commissions or instrumentalities of the state shall work solely under the supervision and at the direction of the attorney general and reporter. All legal support staff, office and computer equipment, materials, and supplies used by such attorneys and support staff, and all agency records pertinent to litigation or other legal representation of such entity shall be transferred to the office of the attorney general and reporter.

(a)(3) Such attorneys shall be assigned to the office of the attorney general, unless the attorney general assigns such attorneys to a specific department or board.

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With the agreement of the appropriate commissioner, agency, board, commission, or instrumentality, the attorney general shall assign such attorney or attorneys to a commissioner, agency, board, commission, or instrumentality with suitable office space and facilities. The compensation schedules for the assigned attorney positions in effect on the effective date of this act shall continue to be effective.

(a)(4) All funds and positions previously allocated to any office, department, agency, board, commission or instrumentality of state to fund legal staff and legal support staff or to fund the ongoing maintenance of legal recordkeeping shall be transferred to the office of the attorney general and reporter.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-6-302, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety.

SECTION 4. The provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-6-301(c), shall not be affected by the provisions of this act.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.