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SENATE BILL 2827 By
Jackson

HOUSE BILL 2610
By West

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 39, Chapter 17; Title 62 and Title 70, relative to firearms instruction.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-1351(e), is amended by deleting the language "department approved handgun safety course" and by substituting instead the language "handgun safety course approved by the commissioner of commerce and insurance".

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 3, Part 13, is amended by adding a new section thereto, as follows:

Section 4-3-1306.

(a) The commissioner shall certify all persons conducting firearms instruction for compensation in this state. The commissioner shall review the qualifications of all persons wishing to teach for compensation firearms safety and use before issuing certification to such persons. Persons teaching handgun courses shall be certified pursuant to this section. All persons certified shall be of good moral character.

(b) In certifying persons pursuant to this section, the commissioner shall develop categories of certification to include, but not be limited to, hunter safety, handguns, rifles, shotguns, edged weapons, law enforcement, and private protective services. The commissioner shall determine the hours of training required for each category. All training of persons wishing to conduct firearms training shall include classes on ethics and laws pertaining to firearms.

(c) The commissioner shall set a reasonable fee for receiving certification as a firearms instructor. Such fee shall not exceed two hundred dollars (\$200) annually.

(d) A violation of this act is a Class C misdemeanor.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect January 1, 2003, the public welfare requiring it.