

SENATE BILL 347
By Cooper

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 21, relative to remedies under the Tennessee Human Rights Act.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 4-21-306, is amended by adding the following language as an appropriately designated subsection:

(c) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary provided in Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 4-21-306 (a), in any case involving discriminatory practices prohibited by this chapter, including but not limited to, discriminatory housing or public accommodation involving a newspaper or other print media, who directly or indirectly make, print, publish, circulate, issue, display, post or mail a written, printed, oral or visual communication, notice, statement, advertisement or sign which indicates, directly or indirectly, a limitation, specification, or discrimination as to race, color, creed, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin or an intent to make such limitation, specification or discrimination, the remedies of this chapter shall not apply to or against the newspaper or other print media, except solely as to a civil reprimand or penalty, as follows:

(1) If the respondent has not been adjudged to have committed any prior unlawful discriminatory practices, a written finding of discriminatory practices and reprimand which the commission may publish, or cause to be published, providing the names of the newspaper or other print media that have been determined to have engaged in a discriminatory practice;

(2) If the respondent has been adjudged to have committed one (1) unlawful discriminatory practice during the two (2) year period ending on the date of the filing of the complaint, an amount not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500);

(3) If the respondent has been adjudged to have committed two (2) unlawful discriminatory practices during the three (3) year period ending on the date of the filing of the complaint, an amount not to exceed twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2,500);

(4) If the respondent has been adjudged to have committed three (3) or more unlawful discriminatory practices during the five (5) year period ending on the date of the filing of the complaint, an amount not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on July 1, 2001, the public welfare requiring it.