

SENATE BILL 1013
By Ford

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37,
Chapter 1, Part 5, relative to juvenile courts.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-503, is amended by deleting the current language in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

The director of the administrative office of the courts shall serve as the executive director of the council and provide administrative support as the council may need.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-506(a), is amended by deleting the current language in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(a) The clerk and the youth services staff of each juvenile court shall, each month, report to the executive director such information as the council may require concerning cases handled by such court, including but not limited to, informal adjustments, pretrial diversions, and all other dispositions made by the court concerning all juvenile court cases, including but not limited to delinquency proceedings, unruly proceedings, dependent and neglect proceedings, and special cases such as emancipation proceedings. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 37-1-153 or any other law to the contrary, the council may require identifying information to be reported in order that the council may more accurately track recidivism rates and other pertinent trends relating to juveniles. Notwithstanding the provisions of any law to the contrary, identifying information received by the council shall be confidential and shall not be published, released, or otherwise disseminated except if released as approved by the executive director for the purposes of research relating to activities of the council, and shall be maintained in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations regarding

confidentiality. The council may publish data and make such data available to properly concerned agencies and individuals, or to any person upon request. Any such publication or release of data shall be limited to non-identifying information except as otherwise provided in this section. The council shall develop guidelines and procedures to expunge identifying information collected on juveniles; provided, that such expungement shall occur only after the juvenile reaches the age that is beyond jurisdiction of the juvenile court.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 1, Part 5, is amended by deleting any reference in the part to “executive secretary” and by substituting instead the language “executive director”. The Tennessee Code Commission is directed to replace any reference in the Tennessee Code Annotated to the executive secretary of the council of juvenile and family court judges with a reference to the executive director of the council of juvenile and family court judges.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.