

**CHAPTER NO. 818**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 3983**

**By Representatives McMillan, Marrero**

**Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 3865**

**By Senators Person, Kyle, Burks**

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated Title 37, relative to juvenile justice.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-5-101, is amended by designating the current language as subsection "(a)" and by adding the following new language, to be designated as subsection "(b)":

(b)

(1) Within the department, there is hereby created a division of juvenile justice to serve children who are adjudicated delinquent.

(2) The deputy commissioner of juvenile justice shall be appointed to lead the division of juvenile justice and shall serve at the pleasure of the commissioner. The commissioner shall appoint a person qualified by training and experience in the area of juvenile justice to perform the duties of deputy commissioner of juvenile justice. The appointee must be a graduate of an accredited college or university and be experienced in the field of juvenile justice.

(3) It is the duty and responsibility of the division of juvenile justice to serve children who are adjudicated delinquent. The deputy commissioner shall have such powers and duties as the commissioner shall prescribe in order to effectively administer, develop and oversee all state programs and services for delinquent children, their families and their communities.

(4) The commissioner shall earmark a sum sufficient to be used exclusively for the division of juvenile justice. This budget shall include all appropriations for residential and non-residential services provided for the prevention of delinquency and the rehabilitation, treatment and training of delinquent youth.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 15, 2006

  
JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
JOHN S. WILDER  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 2nd day of June 2006

  
PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR