

HOUSE BILL 3142

By Bell

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-3-610, relative to domestic abuse.

WHEREAS, an order of protection is issued to prevent a person from being subject to domestic abuse, stalking or sexual abuse; and

WHEREAS, it is vital that any sanction for violating an order of protection encourage compliance rather than punishment after the fact; and

WHEREAS, the present sanctions for violating an order of protection are not sufficient incentive for compliance by persons susceptible to their influence; and

WHEREAS, a reduction in domestic violence would greatly benefit some of our most vulnerable citizens; now, therefore,

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-3-610(b), is amended by deleting the language "civil penalty of fifty dollars (\$50.00)" and by substituting instead the language "civil penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500)".

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010, the public welfare requiring it.