

HOUSE BILL 3666

By Stewart

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 59, Chapter 8, Part 3; Title 59, Chapter 8, Part 4 and Title 69, Chapter 3, Part 1, relative to coal surface mining.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 59-8-407, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subsection:

( ) In addition to the requirements specified in subsection (a), the mining and reclamation plan submitted by the operator in connection with the operator's application for a permit shall provide for the reforestation of hardwood trees at the same percentage and density as which naturally occur in undisturbed areas within the same locality and at a similar slope and elevation.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 59, Chapter 8, Part 3, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 59-8-3\_\_\_. In addition to any other mining and reclamation plan requirements created pursuant to this chapter or by rule and regulation, such plans shall also provide for the reforestation of hardwood trees at the same percentage and density as which naturally occur in undisturbed areas within the same locality and at a similar slope and elevation.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010, the public welfare requiring it.