

Amendment No. 1 to HB0440

Casada
Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 422*

House Bill No. 440

by deleting all language after the enacting clause and by substituting instead the following:

SECTION 1.

(a) There is hereby created a special joint committee to study services provided to traumatic brain injury survivors in Tennessee.

(b) The study shall determine:

(1) What efforts the state of Tennessee can undertake to help survivors receive the physical and mental therapy they need to increase their confidence, pride, and dignity;

(2) What efforts the state of Tennessee can initiate to help survivors continue their careers;

(3) What efforts the state of Tennessee can provide to decrease the need survivors have for government assistance;

(4) Steps the state of Tennessee can take to educate families about their ability to encourage survivors to reach their highest potential; and

(5) Steps the state of Tennessee can take to educate and encourage businesses that survivors, with proper accommodation, are capable of contributing to their success.

(c) The study should:

(1) Provide the state of Tennessee with numerous opportunities to help traumatic brain injury survivors become more self-sufficient and less dependent on government assistance;

(2) Provide Tennessee's business community with more employment options and more opportunities for tax breaks for hiring disabled citizens;

(3) Determine what cost Tennessee would incur from providing these services; and

(4) Put Tennessee at the forefront of treatment for survivors of traumatic brain injuries.

(d) The committee shall consist of three (3) members of the House of Representatives and three (3) members of the Senate, to be appointed by the respective speakers.

(e) All appropriate state agencies shall provide assistance to the special joint committee upon request of the chair.

(f) All legislative members of the special joint committee who are duly elected members of the general assembly shall remain members of such committee until the committee reports its findings and recommendations to the general assembly.

(g) The special joint committee shall be convened by the member with the most years of continuous service in the general assembly, and at its first meeting shall elect a chair, vice-chair, and such other officers the committee deems necessary. The committee may meet when the general assembly is meeting in session or in committee. If the committee meets when the general assembly is not in session or in committee, then members of the committee shall not be entitled to any reimbursement for expenses under Tennessee Code Annotated, § 3-1-106 for such meetings.

(h) The special committee shall timely report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the One Hundred Eighth General Assembly no later than February 1, 2013, at which time the committee shall cease to exist.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring

it.