

SENATE BILL 1780

By Crowe

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 40  
and Title 71, Chapter 6, relative to abused  
persons.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 71-6-119, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(a)

(1) It is an offense to knowingly, other than by accidental means, physically abuse or grossly neglect a disabled adult or elderly person if the abuse or neglect results in mental or physical harm.

(2) A violation of this subsection (a) is a Class D felony.

(b)

(1) It is an offense to knowingly, other than by accidental means, physically abuse or grossly neglect a disabled adult or elderly person if the abuse or neglect results in serious mental or physical harm.

(2) In order to prosecute and convict a person for a violation of this subsection (b), it is not necessary for the state to prove the adult sustained serious bodily injury as required by § 39-13-102, but only that the elements set out in subdivision (b)(1) occurred.

(3) A violation of this subsection (b) is a Class C felony.

(c) For purposes of this section, “disabled adult” and “elderly person” have the same meanings as defined in § 71-6-120(a).

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014, the public welfare requiring it.