

HOUSE BILL 1251

By Smith

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 38, Chapter 6, Part 1, relative to the submission, testing, and preservation of human biological specimens.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 38-6-113, is amended by adding the following new subsections:

(e) In order to preserve and maintain admissible evidence in criminal cases and permit the bureau to predict and stabilize the laboratory's workload, any local law enforcement official submitting human biological specimens for use in a criminal investigation shall do so as soon as reasonably possible after collection and preparation of the specimen for submission to the bureau.

(f) The bureau shall devise a fee schedule for the testing and handling of human biological specimens. The schedule shall be devised on a sliding scale to encourage prompt submissions from law enforcement officials by charging the lowest fee for a specimen submitted less than ten (10) days from the date of collection and a progressively higher fee for specimens submitted more than ten (10) days from the date of collection.

SECTION 2. For the purpose of establishing the fee schedule required by subsection (b), this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, including the fee schedule taking effect, this act shall take effect September 1, 2015, the public welfare requiring it.