

SENATE BILL 540

By Johnson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 6,
Chapter 20, relative to local ordinance procedure.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 6-20-215, is amended by deleting subsection (a) in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(a)

(1) Except as provided in subdivision (a)(2), every ordinance shall be read two (2) different days in open session before its adoption, and not less than one (1) week shall elapse between first and second readings, and any ordinance not so read shall be null and void. Any city incorporated under chapters 18–22 of this title may establish by ordinance a procedure to read only the caption of an ordinance, instead of the entire ordinance, on both readings. Copies of such ordinances shall be available during regular business hours at the office of the city recorder and during sessions in which the ordinance has its second reading.

(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (a)(1), the board of commissioners governing any city incorporated under chapters 18–22 of this title may adopt ordinances pursuant to a consent calendar if the board unanimously passes an ordinance approving the consent calendar; provided, the ordinance approving the consent calendar shall require that:

(A) Each ordinance on the consent calendar be considered on two (2) different days in open session before its adoption and that not less than one (1) week shall elapse between first and second consideration;

(B) Copies of each ordinance adopted pursuant to the consent calendar be available during regular business hours at the office of the city recorder and during sessions in which the ordinance has its second reading; and

(C) If any board member objects to an ordinance on the consent calendar, the ordinance shall be removed from the consent calendar and may be adopted pursuant to subdivision (a)(1).

(3) A city that has established a consent calendar pursuant to subdivision (a)(2) may eliminate the consent calendar by passage of an ordinance in the same manner required to create the consent calendar.

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