

SENATE BILL 882

By Harris

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39
and Section 40-35-121, relative to criminal gangs.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 3, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

(a) A person commits an offense who intentionally commands, induces, compels, or otherwise causes, including by use of threats, violence, or bullying, another to join a criminal gang, as defined in § 40-35-121. Prosecution under this section shall not require conviction of the other person for a criminal gang offense.

(b)

(1) A first or second violation of subsection (a) is a Class B misdemeanor.

(2) A third or subsequent violation of subsection (a) is a Class A misdemeanor.

(c) Nothing in this section shall preclude prosecution under any other law.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017, the public welfare requiring it.