

HOUSE BILL 1810

By Wright

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 1 and Title 40, relative to assisting persons in distress.

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

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

(a)

(1) Any person at the scene of an emergency who knows or reasonably should know that another person is exposed to or has suffered serious bodily injury shall, to the extent the person can do so without endangering themselves or others, provide reasonable assistance to the exposed or injured person unless care or reasonable assistance is already being provided to the exposed or injured person by others.

(2) A person reasonably should know that another person is exposed to or has suffered serious bodily injury if the other person has obvious signs of recent, visible trauma.

(b) As used in this section, "reasonable assistance" means notifying or attempting to notify law enforcement, rescue, medical, or other first responder personnel by phone or other available means for the purpose of obtaining aid for an exposed or injured person.

(c) A person who knowingly violates this section commits a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by fine only.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020, the public welfare requiring it.