

SENATE BILL 649

By Haile

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 16;
Title 36; Title 37 and Chapter 366 of the Public
Acts of 2017, relative to courts.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-902(c), is amended by deleting the subsection and substituting instead the following:

(c) As used in this part, "zero to three court program" or "safe baby court" means any program created within the state that seeks to accomplish the goals stated in subsection (b) and that is established by a judge with jurisdiction over juvenile court matters. Except as provided in Section 6, a zero to three court program has the same powers as the court that created it.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-903(a), is amended by designating the existing language as (a)(1) and adding the following language as a new subdivision (a)(2):

(2) On January 1, 2020, there are established five (5) zero to three court programs throughout this state. These courts are in addition to other zero to three court programs established in the state prior to the effective date of this act.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-903, is amended by deleting subsection (b), and substituting instead the following:

(b) The administrative office of the courts, in consultation with the department of children's services and the council of juvenile and family court judges, shall determine the location of each program. The administrative office of the courts shall establish at

least one (1) program within each of the three (3) grand divisions and shall seek to serve both rural and urban populations.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-903(c), is amended by deleting the language "The department of children's services, in consultation with the administrative office of the courts," and substituting instead the language "The administrative office of the courts, in consultation with the department of children's services,".

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-903(c)(2), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and substituting instead:

(2) Collecting, reporting, and disseminating zero to three court program data, including an annual report to be submitted to the judiciary committees of the house of representatives and the senate. The annual report must summarize the results of the programs' operation during the previous calendar year, including data on outcomes achieved in zero to three courts compared to the outcomes achieved by other courts exercising similar jurisdiction, and any cost savings associated with the achievement of the goals stated in § 37-1-902. All zero to three court programs established on or before January 1, 2018, shall submit program data and an annual report as described in this subdivision (c)(2) by February 1 of each year. All zero to three court programs established on January 1, 2020, shall submit program data and an annual report as described in this subdivision (c)(2) by February 1, 2021, and each following February 1;

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 1, Part 9, is amended by adding the following new section:

(a) In addition to the jurisdiction granted under § 37-1-103 and § 37-1-104, a zero to three court established pursuant to this part has concurrent jurisdiction over:

(1) The driver license revocation or suspension of any individual that is a party to an action before the court; and

(2) Any unpaid fees or fines imposed against an individual who is a party to an action before the court.

(b) Jurisdiction under subsection (a) is concurrent with the court that originally ordered the revocation or suspension or imposed the unpaid fines or fees.

(c) The court may order the reinstatement of a suspended or revoked driver license based on the party's satisfactory progress toward the established goals of the zero to three court. The court may place any reasonable conditions on the reinstatement of such license and may revoke or suspend the previously reinstated license upon the party's failure to adhere to the conditions imposed.

(d) The court may waive any unpaid fees or fines based on the party's satisfactory progress toward the established goals of the zero to three court.

(e) If the court orders the reinstatement of a license that was suspended or revoked or waives unpaid fines or fees, the court must promptly communicate the basis for such order to the court that originally revoked or suspended the license or imposed the fines or fees.

SECTION 7. Section 2 of Chapter 366 of the Public Acts of 2017, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2018, the public welfare requiring it, and shall cease to be effective January 1, 2025.

SECTION 8. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 1, Part 9, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

This part is deleted on January 1, 2025, and no longer effective on or after such date.

SECTION 9. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it, and shall cease to be effective January 1, 2025.