

HOUSE BILL 2563
By Byrd

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 11, to prohibit specific geographic restrictions on the distance between parent and branch offices of home care organizations.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 11, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

(a) As used in this section, the term:

(1) "Branch office" shall mean a location from which a home care organization provides services within a portion of the total geographic area served by the parent organization;

(2) "Home care organization" shall mean an entity as defined by Section 68-11-201(9); and

(3) "Parent home care organization" shall mean the organization that develops and maintains administrative controls of subunits and/or branch offices.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter or any other law to the contrary, no specific geographic restrictions shall be imposed with respect to the distance between parent and branch offices of home care organizations. Each branch office shall be located sufficiently close to the parent organization to share administration, supervision, and services in a manner that renders it unnecessary for the branch independently to meet the requirements for licensing as a home care organization.

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