

HOUSE BILL 1337

By Hardaway

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 1, Part 4; Title 49, Chapter 5, Part 1; Title 63, Chapter 23; Title 63, Chapter 6, Part 2; Title 63, Chapter 7, Part 1 and Title 63, Chapter 9, relative to child safety training.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 1, Part 4, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

(a) By January 1, 2018, the department shall develop instructional guidelines for child safety training programs for members of professions that frequently deal with children who may be at risk of abuse. The instructional guidelines shall be used by the licensing boards listed in subsection (b) to create child safety training programs, which will train the professionals on the common signs of child abuse and child sexual abuse, how to identify children at risk of abuse or sexual abuse, and the reporting requirements of this part. The department shall work with each licensing board to ensure that the child safety training program created by the board fully and accurately reflects the best practices for identifying and reporting child abuse and child sexual abuse as appropriate for each profession.

(b) The following licensing boards shall create, in conjunction with the department, child safety training programs as required by subsection (a):

- (1) State board of education, created by § 49-1-301;
- (2) Board of medical examiners, created by § 63-6-101;
- (3) Board of osteopathic examination, created by § 63-9-101;
- (4) Board of nursing, created by § 63-7-201; and

(5) Board of social worker licensure, created by § 63-23-101.

(c) After July 1, 2018, a professional seeking license renewal from one (1) of the boards listed in subsection (b) shall complete a child safety training program prior to the board granting the professional a renewal.

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