

SENATE BILL 1512

By Massey

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-4-115; Title 8, Chapter 8, Part 2; Title 37, Chapter 5; Title 38, Chapter 3 and Title 40, Chapter 7, Part 1, relative to persons arrested for criminal offenses.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 40, Chapter 7, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) It is the duty of every booking agency to inquire of each person arrested:

(1) Whether the person is the parent or legal custodian of any children under the age of eighteen (18);

(2) Who is each child's next of kin; and

(3) Who has physical custody of each child and the location of each child while the person is in law enforcement custody.

(b) Each booking agency shall develop procedures for notifying the department of children's services to initiate a welfare check on children based on the information provided in accordance with subsection (a).

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-5-106, is amended by adding the following as a new subsection:

The department, through child protective services, shall conduct a child welfare check upon notification by a law enforcement booking agency pursuant to Section 1.

SECTION 3. For purposes of promulgating rules and establishing procedures, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act shall take effect July 1, 2018, the public welfare requiring it.