

HOUSE BILL 148

By Hazlewood

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39
and Title 40, relative to criminal gangs.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-15-401, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subsection (i):

(1) Any person who intentionally commands, induces, compels, or otherwise causes, including by use of threats or violence, a minor to commit a criminal gang offense, as defined in § 40-35-121, commits child abuse. Prosecution under this subsection (i) shall not require conviction of the minor for the criminal gang offense committed.

(2) A first violation of this subsection (i) is a Class A misdemeanor. A second or subsequent violation of this subsection (i) is a Class E felony.

(3) Nothing in this subsection (i) shall preclude prosecution for any other applicable offense.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017, the public welfare requiring it.