



December 20, 2024

General Sessions Court

Dear Reader:

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We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with county government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other CTAS website material.

Sincerely,

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General Sessions Court

Mental Health Commitment Jurisdiction

Private Acts of 2007 Chapter 43

COMPILER'S NOTE: This act purports to amend Private Acts of 1955, Chapter 357, which according to our records did not receive the required local approval and never went into effect. This act also purports to increase the compensation of a judge mid-term, which may be subject to challenge under Article VI, Section 7 of the Tennessee Constitution which prohibits increasing or diminishing the compensation of judges during the time for which they are elected.

SECTION 1. Chapter 357 of the Private Acts of 1955, and any other act amendatory thereto, is amended in Section 2, by designating the existing language as subsection (a) and by adding the following language as subsection (b):

(b)(1) Pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 16-15-501(c), the General Sessions Court of Weakley County shall be granted mental health commitment jurisdiction in accordance with the provisions of this subsection. The court shall have jurisdiction to exercise the duties and powers set forth in Tennessee Code annotated, title 33, chapter 6, part 4, regarding the emergency custody and hospitalization of persons believed to be mentally ill, due to a mental hospital or treatment source being located in the county. (2) Upon granting of mental health jurisdiction, the base compensation of the judge for the General Sessions Court, as adjusted by any applicable cost-of-living increases and other supplements, shall be increased by five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per annum, even if the salary increase should compute to a level in excess of the cap described in Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 16-15-5003(b)(3), in accord with applicable provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 16-15-5003(g).

SECTION 2. This act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the legislative body of Weakley County prior to August 31, 2007. Its approval or nonapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of Weakley County and certified to the secretary of state.

SECTION 3. For the purpose of approving or rejecting the provisions of this act, it shall be effective upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, it shall become effective as provided in Section 2.

Passed: May 3, 2007.

Private Acts of 1990 Chapter 200

SECTION 1. Pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 16-15-5003(g), effective September 1, 1994, the base compensation, as adjusted by any applicable cost-of-living increases, of the General Sessions Judge of Weakley County shall be increased by the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per annum. Such compensation shall be paid out of the general fund of the county.

SECTION 2. This act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the legislative body of Weakley County prior to August 31, 1990. Its approval or nonapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of such legislative body and certified by him to the Secretary of State.

SECTION 3. For the purpose of approving or rejecting the provisions of this act, it shall be effective upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, it shall become effective upon being approved as provided in Section 2.

Passed: April 12, 1990.

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