

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 1025

SENATE BILL NO. 3317

By Kelsey

Substituted for: House Bill No. 2522

By Matheny, Carr, Curtiss, Todd, Litz, Hardaway, Bass

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 8, relative to sheriffs and sheriff's employees.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-8-419, is amended by deleting subsection (a) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following language:

(a)(1) No person holding a position in the classified service shall take an active part in any political campaign while on duty.

(2)(A) No employee of the sheriff's department shall solicit money for political campaigns; provided that such restriction shall not prohibit an employee, including a deputy sheriff, who is running for an elected office from soliciting and accepting campaign contributions for such person's own election campaign if the person is not on duty or in uniform when such activities occur.

(B) No employee of the sheriff's office shall make any public endorsement of any candidate in any campaign for elected office; provided that, if an employee or deputy sheriff is running for an elected office then such restriction shall not apply to that employee or deputy sheriff's own campaign.

(3) A deputy sheriff shall not use such position to reflect the deputy sheriff's personal political feelings as those of the sheriff's department or to exert any pressure on anyone to influence that person's political views.

(4) No employee while on duty, nor any officer while in uniform, shall display any political advertising or paraphernalia on such person's body or automobile.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-8-402, is amended by designating the existing language as subsection (a), by deleting the language "This part" and by substituting instead the language "Except as provided in subsection (b), this part"; and by adding the following language to be designated as subsection (b):

(b) On or after the effective date of this act, § 8-8-419 (a)(2) shall apply in any particular county which has adopted or which after the effective date of this

act makes this part applicable to such county, and shall also apply in any other county, notwithstanding any private act, resolution, personnel policy or charter provision to the contrary, which has adopted or which adopts a sheriff's civil service law.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 24, 2010



RON RAMSEY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



KENT WILLIAMS, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 9th day of June 2010



PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR