



**SENATE BILL 1602**

By Hatcher

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 13 and Title 55, Chapter 10, relative to leaving the scene of an accident.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-10-101(b)(1), is amended by deleting the subdivision and substituting:

(1) A violation of subsection (a) is a Class E felony.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-10-101(b)(2)(A), is amended by deleting the subdivision and substituting:

(A) It is a Class D felony for any person to fail to stop or to comply with the requirements of subsection (a) when the person knew or should reasonably have known that death resulted from the accident.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect July 1, 2026, the public welfare requiring it.

Amendment No. 1 to SB1602

Gardenhire  
Signature of Sponsor

**AMEND Senate Bill No. 1602\***

**House Bill No. 1967**

by deleting all language after the enacting clause and substituting:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-10-101(b)(2)(A), is amended by deleting the subdivision and substituting:

(A) It is a Class E felony for any person to fail to stop or comply with the requirements of subsection (a) when the person knew or should reasonably have known that death resulted from the accident. In addition to any other punishment that may be imposed for a violation of this subdivision (b)(2)(A), the defendant shall be punished by confinement for not less than one (1) year, of which the defendant shall be required to serve one hundred percent (100%), and a fine of no less than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) and no more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

SECTION 2. This act takes effect July 1, 2026, the public welfare requiring it, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.

Amendment No. 2 to HB1967

Stevens  
Signature of Sponsor

**AMEND Senate Bill No. 1602\***

**House Bill No. 1967**

by deleting all language after the enacting clause and substituting:

SECTION 1. This act is known and may be cited as the "James Bardsley, Jr. Life Protection Act."

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-10-101(b)(2)(A), is amended by deleting the subdivision and substituting:

(A) It is a Class E felony for any person to fail to stop or comply with the requirements of subsection (a) when the person knew or should reasonably have known that death resulted from the accident. In addition to any other punishment that may be imposed for a violation of this subdivision (b)(2)(A), the defendant must be punished by confinement for not less than one (1) year, of which the defendant is required to serve one hundred percent (100%), and a fine of no less than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) and no more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

SECTION 3. This act takes effect July 1, 2026, the public welfare requiring it, and applies to offenses committed on or after that date.