

HOUSE BILL 2792

By Johnson G

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2 and Title 40, Chapter 29, relative to restoration of voting rights.

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

SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Restore the Right to Vote Act."

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-29-201(b), is amended by deleting the language "after May 18, 1981".

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-29-202, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

A person rendered infamous and deprived of the right of suffrage by the judgment of any state or federal court is eligible to apply for a voter registration card and have the right of suffrage restored upon the person's release from custody for any sentence of imprisonment imposed by the court for the infamous crime.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-29-203(a), is amended by deleting the subsection and substituting instead the following:

(a) A person eligible to apply for a voter registration card and have the right of suffrage restored, pursuant to § 40-29-202, shall be issued a certificate of voting rights restoration upon a form prescribed by the coordinator of elections, by:

(1) The warden or an agent or officer of the incarcerating authority upon the person's release from custody for any sentence of imprisonment; or

(2) The department of correction or the person's parole officer or probation officer if the person was released from custody prior to July 1, 2020.

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-29-204, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety.

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-29-205, is amended by deleting the language "the board of parole and any other authority that may discharge a person to whom this part applies" and substituting instead the language "the board of parole, and any other authority that may discharge or supervise a person to whom this part applies".

SECTION 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to persons rendered infamous and deprived of the right of suffrage by the judgment of any state or federal court before, on, or after the effective date.