

HOUSE BILL 7027

By Lamberth

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 33;  
Title 39 and Title 40, relative to mental health  
evaluation and treatment for criminal defendants.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 33-7-304, is amended by deleting the section and substituting the following:

(a) The cost of evaluation and treatment under this part will be a charge upon the funds of the state. If the court finds the defendant financially able to pay all or part of the costs and expenses for the evaluation and treatment, the court may order the defendant to pay all or part of the costs and expenses. Payment must be made to the clerk of court for remittance to the person, agency, or facility to whom compensation is due, or, if the costs and expenses have been paid by the state, to the appropriate office of the state.

(b) When a court orders a defendant charged with a misdemeanor to be evaluated under § 33-7-301(a), the court shall order that any inpatient evaluation be completed within thirty (30) days of admission to the facility.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect October 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.