

HOUSE BILL 7087

By Johnson G

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39
and Title 40, relative to stalking offenses.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-315, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

(1) If a person commits stalking, aggravated stalking, or especially aggravated stalking, and the offense was committed due to the defendant's bias motivation against the victim, then the offense is a hate crime and shall be punished one (1) classification higher than otherwise provided in this section.

(2) As used in this subsection (), "bias motivation" means a person intentionally stalked a victim, in whole or in part, because of the person's belief or perception regarding the race, religion, color, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, or gender of the victim.

(3) The sentence of a person that is enhanced under subdivision ()(1) is not subject to enhancement under § 40-35-114(17).

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