

SENATE BILL 640

By Tracy

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
Chapter 6, Part 30, relative to remediation and
truancy.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3021, is amended by adding
the following language as new subsection (c):

(c)

(1) The principal of a school shall report promptly to the director of schools, or the director's designated representative, the name of any student required to attend a remedial program who has been absent from the remedial program five (5) times without adequate excuse. The principal shall make the report after the fifth unexcused absence whether the absences have been consecutive or not. The principal shall also report each successive accumulation of five (5) unexcused absences by the student.

(2) If a student's unexcused absences from remedial instruction are reported to the director of schools, or the director's representative, then the director, or the director's representative, shall proceed, pursuant to § 49-6-3007, in the same manner as required for unexcused absences from the regular school day. The appropriate judge having juvenile jurisdiction in the county shall deal with the case in such manner as the judge may determine to be in the best interest of the child, consistent with §§ 37-1-132, 37-1-168 and 37-1-169 and in the event the child is adjudicated to be unruly, the judge may assess a fine of up to fifty dollars (\$50.00) or five (5) hours of community service, in the discretion of the judge, against the parents or legal guardians of such student.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3009, is amended by adding the following language as new subsection (d):

(d) Parents, guardians or other persons having control of a child who is required to attend remedial instruction under § 49-6-3021 commit educational neglect as defined in subsection (a), if the child is truant from the instruction.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013, the public welfare requiring it.