

SENATE BILL 1012

By Bell

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55
and Title 56, relative to financial responsibility.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56, Chapter 7, Part 11, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

(a)

(1) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, an insurer issuing policies of automobile liability insurance or motor vehicle liability insurance shall, upon request of either the named insured or the department of safety, promptly issue to that person or the department written verification as to the existence of that coverage.

(2) Upon the request of the insured, an insurer may issue the verification as to the existence of that coverage in an electronic format to a mobile electronic device to the extent available. This section does not require an insurer to provide the verification of coverage in an electronic format in real time.

(b) For purposes of this section, “mobile electronic device” means a portable computing and communication device that has a display screen with touch input or a miniature keyboard.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 12, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

(a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, evidence of financial responsibility required pursuant to this chapter may be provided by using a mobile electronic device.

For purposes of this section, “mobile electronic device” means a portable computing and

communication device that has a display screen with touch input or a miniature keyboard.

(b) When a person provides evidence of financial responsibility using a mobile electronic device pursuant to this section to a peace officer, the peace officer shall only view the evidence of financial responsibility and is prohibited from viewing any other content on the mobile electronic device.

(c) Whenever a person presents a mobile electronic device pursuant to this section, that person assumes all liability for any damage to the mobile electronic device.

SECTION 3. The commissioner of safety is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this act. All such rules and regulations shall be promulgated in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 5.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013, the public welfare requiring it.