

SENATE BILL 2003

By Stevens

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4;  
Title 8; Title 9 and Title 71, relative to refugee  
resettlement.

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 24 of the Constitution of Tennessee, provides that "No public money shall be expended except pursuant to appropriations made by law."; and

WHEREAS, this provision endows the legislature with the constitutional authority to allocate the State of Tennessee's funds; now, therefore,

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

SECTION 1. The governor is prohibited from making any decision or obligating the state of Tennessee in any way with regard to resettlement of refugees, unless the governor has previously been authorized to do so by joint resolution of the general assembly. A joint resolution by the general assembly with regard to refugee resettlement authorizes the governor to make such decision for no more than one (1) year from the date the resolution is adopted.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it, and unless otherwise prohibited by the United States or Tennessee constitution, it is the intent of the general assembly that all applicable provisions be given retroactive application to actions taken by the governor prior to, on, and after that date.