

RESOLUTION NO. 26-07-013

**SPONSORED BY COMMISSIONERS DAVID WELLS, JARED ANDERSON,
AND NICK BRIGHT**

**A RESOLUTION TO ADD EMPLOYEES TO GOVERNMENT CRIME INSURANCE POLICY
IN LIEU OF STATUTORY BONDS**

WHEREAS, various Tennessee statutes require that various county government officials and government employees obtain an official bond which provides coverage in the event the public official does not faithfully discharge the duties of their office or employment; and

WHEREAS, the legislature has amended T.C.A. § 8-19-101 to provide a new alternative for county governments and its officials and employees to meet the bonding requirement by providing that in lieu of bonds, a county may obtain coverage for its officials and employees by obtaining a policy of insurance that provides government crime coverage, employee dishonesty insurance coverage or equivalent coverage that insures the lawful performance by officials and government employees, as long as the policy has limits of liability of not less than \$400,000 per occurrence (See T.C.A. § 8-19-101);

WHEREAS, the amendment to T.C.A. § 8-19-101 provides a more economic and cost saving mechanism for counties, county officials and employees to meet their bonding obligation; and

WHEREAS, many local governments have implemented the provisions of T.C.A. § 8-19-101 by obtaining or adding their officials and employees to a crime insurance policy as a money saving mechanism; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Attorney General has issued an Opinion which provides that the amendment to T.C.A. § 8-19-101 provides a lawful and valid alternative for county governments to meet the bonding requirements for its officials and employees (See Tennessee Attorney General Opinion 2016 Tenn. AG. LEXIS 31); and

WHEREAS, Blount County has in effect, a valid and sufficient crime policy of insurance that would cover its employees in lieu of their statutory bonding requirements; and

WHEREAS, adding Blount County's officials and employees who have a bonding requirement to the County's crime policy of insurance will result in significant savings to Blount County by eliminating the need for multiple individual bonds and would therefore be in the best interest of Blount County and the citizens of Blount County; and

WHEREAS, a majority vote of the Blount County Board of Commissioners is required to take advantage of the new alternative for county governments to meet its bonding requirements by adding its officials and employees to a crime policy.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Blount County Commissioners assembled in regular session at Maryville, Tennessee, on this _____ day of _____, 2026 as follows:

1. Blount County is hereby authorized to add its County officials and County employees that have a statutory bond requirement to the County's policy of insurance that provides government crime coverage, employee dishonesty coverage or equivalent

coverage that insures the lawful performance by officials and their employees which policy shall have limits of liability of not less than \$400,000 per occurrence.

2. When said officials and employees are added to said policy, the same will satisfy the County's bonding requirement and there will be no further need for the individual bonds of the officials and employees so added to said policy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THIS RESOLUTION SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY, THE PUBLIC WELFARE REQUIRING IT.

Duly authorized and approved this _____ day of _____, 2026.

CERTIFICATION OF ACTION

ATTEST

Commission Chairman

County Clerk

County Mayor

Date

- Approved
- Vetoed