



State of Tennessee

PRIVATE CHAPTER NO. 28

HOUSE BILL NO. 1560

By Representative Wright

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 1548

By Senator Swann

AN ACT to amend Chapter 187 of the Private Acts of 1945; and any other acts amendatory thereto, relative to the ownership and operation of a non-profit hospital by Blount County, Tennessee.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1 of Chapter 187 of the Private Acts of 1945 is hereby amended and restated as follows:

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee that Blount County, Tennessee is hereby authorized and empowered to build, purchase, own and/or operate and maintain a non-profit hospital in said County subject to the following terms:

(a) The County may operate and manage the hospital itself or may retain a non-profit corporation to operate and manage the hospital;

(b) If the County retains a non-profit corporation to operate and manage the hospital, the County shall enter into a written agreement with such non-profit corporation establishing the scope and term of the services to be provided by the non-profit corporation as such manager and the County shall select each such manager based upon recognized competence and integrity and not upon competitive bids;

(c) Any non-profit corporation selected to serve as the manager of the hospital shall not be deemed the owner of any assets of the hospital, and any assets of the hospital held by such manager shall be held in trust for the benefit of the County;

(d) The County, either acting on its own or through a manager as set forth in a management agreement, shall have all powers of a private act hospital authority as provided in the Private Act Hospital Authority Act of 1996, which is codified as Part 6 of Chapter 57 of Title 7 of the Tennessee Code Annotated;

(e) The County may terminate its relationship with a manager of the hospital as provided in the written agreement with the manager or if no written agreement has been entered into, upon written notice to such manager, and upon any such termination, the manager shall convey and/or transfer all assets of the hospital that are held by the manager to the County;

(f) The County may exercise any or all powers relating to the hospital through a manager as its corporate agent as provided in Section 7-57-302 of the Tennessee Code Annotated; and

(g) If the County ceases to operate and/or manage the hospital, either through the retention of a nonprofit corporation to operate and/or manage the hospital under this Section 1, or by selling the hospital to a third party, the written agreement between the County and such entities must require that all signage located in prominent places on the exterior and interior of the structure designating the hospital as the "Blount Memorial Hospital" on the effective date of this act remain in such locations in perpetuity as a lasting tribute to the men and women who served this state and our country with valor during World War II.

HB1560

This requirement applies to signage on all structures located on hospital property designating such location as the "Blount Memorial Hospital". The signage must be of a size that is equal to or greater than any other signage erected on such structures resulting from such agreement to operate, manage, lease, or sell the hospital. This subsection (g) does not prohibit the repair or replacement of such signage from time to time, as warranted, provided that the requirements of this subsection (g) are satisfied.

SECTION 2. This act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the county legislative body of Blount County. Its approval or nonapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of the county legislative body of Blount County and certified by such officer to the Secretary of State.

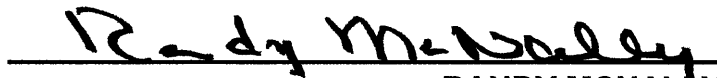
SECTION 3. For the purposes of approving or rejecting the provisions of this act, it shall be effective upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, it shall become effective as provided in Section 2.

HOUSE BILL NO. 1560

PASSED: April 19, 2023



CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RANDY MCNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 11th day of May 2023



BILL LEE, GOVERNOR