

# SB 837 • Tennessee

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 1, relative to certain conditions of personhood.

Passed Both Chambers

Risk: Low

Amendment

Last Action (Apr 28, 2026): Effective date(s) 04/23/2026

## Summary

SB 837 clarifies that 'person' does not include AI, algorithms, software, or machines in Tennessee law.

## Business Impact

If you operate AI systems in Tennessee, you must ensure compliance with personhood definitions to avoid legal ambiguities.

## Key Provisions

- Defines 'person' to exclude artificial intelligence and related technologies.
- Clarifies legal status of AI, algorithms, and machines in Tennessee law.

## Compliance Checklist

- Review and update legal definitions in company policies | Who: All businesses using AI in Tennessee | Penalty: Potential legal ambiguities if not updated

## Industries Affected

Artificial Intelligence

Technology

## Bill Sponsors

Name	Party	Role
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Mark Pody	R	Sponsor
Todd Gardenhire	R	Sponsor
Janince Bowling	R	Sponsor

## Roll Call Votes

Date	Description	Yea	Nay	Result
2026-04-08	FLOOR VOTE: REGULAR CALENDAR PASSAGE ON THIRD CONS	93	2	Passed
2026-04-06	FLOOR VOTE: as Amended Third Consideration	26	6	Passed
2026-03-24	SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: Recommended for passag	8	1	Passed

## Amendments

- SA0922 — 2026-03-30 (Not Adopted)

## Related Bills

- HB 849 (TN)

## Official Source

<https://wapp.capitol.tn.gov/apps/Billinfo/Default?BillNumber=SB0837&ga;=114>

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