

HOUSE BILL 158

By Casada

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2, Chapter 19, Part 2; Title 49, Chapter 2 and Title 49, Chapter 5, relative to public school employees.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-19-201(2), is amended by deleting the punctuation “;” and substituting instead the following:

. “Public lands, offices, buildings, vehicles, and facilities” include those owned and used by a local education agency (LEA);

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-19-201, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

“Teacher” means any person employed in a public school system as a teacher, helping teacher, teacher’s aide, librarian, principal, supervisor, director of schools, or member of the administrative staff.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-19-201(3), is amended by deleting the language “teachers, as defined by § 49-1501,”.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-19-201(3), is further amended by deleting the punctuation “.” at the end of the first sentence in the subdivision and substituting instead “, including teachers.”.

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-19-206, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated subsection:

It is unlawful for any teacher to display campaign literature, banners, placards, streamers, stickers, signs, or other items of campaign or political advertising on behalf of any party, committee or agency or candidate for political office, on the premises of any

building or land owned by a local education agency (LEA), or to use any of the facilities of the LEA, including equipment and vehicles, for such purposes. This subsection does not apply to the display of campaign banners, placards, streamers, stickers, signs, or other items of campaign or political advertising on LEA-owned property or the use of LEA equipment, when the display or use is a part of and solely for the purpose of the LEA's program of student education relative to the electoral process.

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-19-207(b)(2), is amended by deleting the language "persons duly qualified as candidates for public office and teachers, as defined by § 49-1501," and substituting instead "and persons duly qualified as candidates for public office".

SECTION 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015, the public welfare requiring it.