

HOUSE BILL 550

By Gillespie

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,  
relative to robotics education.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 10, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) There is created the robotics education task force.

(b) The robotics education task force is composed of nine (9) members as follows:

(1) The commissioner of education, or the commissioner's designee, who serves as the chair of the task force;

(2) The commissioner of economic and community development, or the commissioner's designee;

(3) The executive director of career and technical education for the department of education, or the executive director's designee;

(4) The commissioner of labor and workforce development, or the commissioner's designee;

(5) A representative of the Tennessee STEM Innovation Network, appointed by the governor;

(6) A representative of the STEM Leadership Council, appointed by the governor;

(7) Two (2) high school teachers with experience in the field of robotics, appointed by the governor; and

(8) One (1) person with experience in the field of robotics, appointed by the governor.

(c) The purpose of the task force is to research opportunities for expansion of robotics education programs in the kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12) curriculum.

(d)

(1) Members of the task force serve without compensation or reimbursement for any expenses incurred while participating in the business of the task force.

(2) Vacancies must be filled in the same manner as the original appointments.

(e) In making appointments, the governor shall strive to ensure that the task force is inclusive and composed of members who are diverse in race, sex, geographic residency, perspective, and experience.

(f) The task force meets at the call of the chair.

(g) The task force must adopt the task force's findings and recommendations by a majority vote of the task force's total membership.

(h) A state agency must provide assistance to the task force at the request of the chair. The task force is administratively attached to the department of education.

(i) The task force shall hold at least one (1) public meeting and utilize technological means, such as webcasts, to gather feedback from the general public on the task force's recommendations.

(j)

(1) The task force shall submit a report of the task force's findings and recommendations, including feedback gathered from the general public, to the chief clerks of the house of representatives and the senate and the chairs of the

education committees of the house of representatives and the senate no later than February 1, 2023.

(2) This section is repealed on February 1, 2023.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.