

HOUSE BILL 1681

By Moody

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 3; Title 10, Chapter 7; Section 49-1-106; Section 49-1-107; Section 49-1-302; Section 49-1-613; Section 49-1-908; Section 49-4-903; Section 49-6-109 and Section 49-6-4216, relative to governmental entities performing research.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 4-3-308, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety and substituting instead the following language:

(a) There is established within the office of the comptroller of the treasury an office of research and education accountability, which shall conduct research, analyses, evaluations, and other projects as may be assigned to it by the general assembly or the comptroller, or that the office may determine to be necessary to inform discussions and decisions in the general assembly.

(b) The office of research and education accountability shall be accorded access to and may examine any information, records, books, data, or reports maintained by any agency of this state, whether or not the information is subject to public inspection. Each agency shall fully cooperate with the office of research and education accountability in providing such access in the performance of the duties of the office. The office of research and education accountability shall maintain inviolate any privileged or confidential information so acquired and any record or writing so defined by law.

(c) The office of research and education accountability shall report its findings annually to the general assembly.

(d) As used in this section, "agency" means:

(1) Any department, board, commission, institution, office, or agency of state government; and

(2) Any county, county having a metropolitan government, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state, including any school district, school system, or special school district, and the state board of education acting on behalf of any special school listed in § 49-50-1001.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-106, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-107(d), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-302(a)(17), is amended by deleting the third and fourth sentences in the subdivision in their entireties.

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-613(b), is amended by deleting the second and third sentences in the subsection in their entireties.

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-908, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety.

SECTION 7. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-903(e), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety.

SECTION 8. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-109, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety.

SECTION 9. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-4216(d)(4), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety.

SECTION 10. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-4216(e), is amended by deleting the language ", and include such information in the report required to be filed under subdivision (d)(4)".

SECTION 11. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.