

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 422

By Scroggs

A RESOLUTION to create a special joint committee to study solid waste management, planning and remedial efforts in areas of rapid growth.

WHEREAS, the "Solid Waste Management Act of 1991" established the basic framework for solid waste management and planning in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, since that time, various areas in Tennessee have experienced unprecedented urban and/or suburban growth, as previously small municipalities have expanded their corporate limits due to rapidly escalating populations; and

WHEREAS, as these "bedroom communities" have continued to grow at a rapid rate, the inadequacy of our municipalities' present role in regional solid waste management and planning has become readily apparent; and

WHEREAS, solid waste management and planning are very important local government functions that directly affect every county and municipality in this state, because such functions can adversely impact a county's or a municipality's capacity for future growth, as well as its ability to provide important services to citizens; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly should conduct comprehensive studies of all issues that affect the health, safety, and welfare of Tennesseans; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That there is hereby created a special joint committee to study solid waste management and planning and solid waste remedial clean-up efforts, especially relative to sanitary landfills, in areas of rapid urban and/or suburban growth in Tennessee, and especially in municipalities that have experienced unprecedented growth in the past ten (10) years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the committee shall consist of three (3) members of the House of Representatives and three (3) members of the Senate, to be appointed by the respective speakers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That in the course of its deliberations, the special joint committee shall review the present statutory role of Tennessee's municipalities in solid waste management and planning, especially in the permitting process for sanitary landfills, and recommend legislation to make appropriate statutory revisions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the special joint committee shall also study the feasibility of legislation that provides for remedial solid waste management and planning and remedial solid waste clean-up efforts in areas, especially municipalities, that have experienced rapid urban and/or suburban growth.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That all appropriate state agencies shall provide assistance to the special joint committee upon request of the chair.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That all legislative members of the special joint committee who are duly elected members of the General Assembly shall remain members of such committee until the committee reports its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the special joint committee shall be convened by the member with the most years of continuous service in the General Assembly; and at its first meeting shall elect a chair, vice-chair, and such other officers the committee deems necessary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the special committee shall timely report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation or interim reports, to the One Hundred Second General Assembly no later than February 1, 2001, at which time the committee shall cease to exist.