

SENATE BILL 3272

By Woodson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 3,  
Chapter 15, Part 3, relative to the select oversight  
committee on education.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 3-15-301, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(a) There is hereby created a special joint committee of the general assembly, to be called the select oversight committee on education, for the purpose of studying and considering educational issues and policies that affect the education of Tennesseans.

The committee shall be composed of:

- (1) The chair of the education committee of the senate;
- (2) The chair of the education committee of the house of representatives;
- (3) Three (3) members of the education committee of the senate to be appointed by the speaker of the senate;
- (4) Three (3) members of the education committee of the house of representatives to be appointed by the speaker of the house;
- (5) Four (4) members of the finance, ways and means committee of the senate to be appointed by the speaker of the senate;
- (6) Four (4) members of the finance, ways and means committee of the house of representatives to be appointed by the speaker of the house; and
- (7) Two (2) at-large members, one (1) each from the house of representatives and the senate, to be appointed by the respective speaker.

(b) During the organizational session of each general assembly, the speakers shall reappoint or appoint members to serve on the select oversight committee on education. Any vacancies occurring on the select oversight committee, between organizational sessions, shall be filled by the respective speaker in accordance with subsection (a).

(c) The chairs of the education committees of the senate and the house of representatives shall serve as co-chairs of the committee. The committee may elect other officers as it deems necessary and appropriate.

(d) The committee shall meet at least annually and at the call of the co-chairs. Members of the select oversight committee shall be entitled to reimbursement for their expenses in attending meetings of the committee or any subcommittee thereof at the same rates and in the same manner as when attending the general assembly.

(e) The committee shall report on its activities to the governor and general assembly annually or more often if necessary.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 3-15-302, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

The select oversight committee on education is authorized to:

- (1) Study and consider, on its own motion, upon request of the speaker of the senate or the speaker of the house of representatives or upon referral from the education committee of the senate, the education committee of the house of representatives or the standing subcommittees of the education committee of the house of representatives, any program, initiative or topic affecting education or education policy in Tennessee;
- (2) Appoint subcommittees;
- (3) Conduct hearings;

(4) Request the department of education, the state board of education, the office of education accountability within the office of the comptroller of the treasury, the Tennessee higher education commission, the University of Tennessee system, the board of regents, the Tennessee student assistance corporation, the Tennessee education lottery corporation, the Tennessee advisory commission on intergovernmental relations, the fiscal review committee of the general assembly and other departments, agencies and bodies of state government to study or provide information concerning programs, initiatives or topics affecting education or education policy in Tennessee. All departments, agencies and bodies shall provide assistance to the committee as requested; and

(5) Perform other duties as directed by statute or requested by joint resolution of the general assembly.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect January 1, 2011, the public welfare requiring it.