

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 560

By Watson

A RESOLUTION to confirm the appointment of Billie Jeanette Cuervo to the education standards recommendation committee for science.

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-313, requires the state board of education to adopt "[new] sets of standards in science and social studies that fit the needs of Tennessee students in kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12)"; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-310(a), requires that such standards "be adopted through an open, transparent process that allows all Tennesseans an opportunity to participate... and fully implemented in Tennessee public schools in the 2017-2018 school year"; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-313, provides for the creation of the standards recommendation committee for science and social studies to facilitate such process; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-313, further provides that the "standards recommendation committee [be] appointed in the same manner as the standards recommendation committee created in 49-1-312"; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-312(a), provides that the governor shall appoint four (4) members to the standards recommendation committee; and

WHEREAS, Governor Bill Haslam has appointed Billie Jeanette Cuervo to serve on such committee; and

WHEREAS, a National Board certified teacher, Ms. Cuervo has taught biology and environmental science courses at Cleveland High School for sixteen years; she has also taught similar courses as an adjunct at the community college level; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to provide extracurricular science opportunities for her students, Ms. Cuervo has sponsored her high school's Environmental Club, Science National Honor Society, and Science Bowl; she has also coached Science Olympiad; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Cuervo routinely mentors high school students completing original scientific research, several of whom have been recognized by the Tennessee Junior Academy of Science; and

WHEREAS, an active member of her profession, Ms. Cuervo serves on the board of directors of the Tennessee Science Teachers Association; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Cuervo earned a bachelor's degree in science education and a master's degree in environmental science from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga; she is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Science Education at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-312(b), provides that all appointments to the committee "shall be subject to confirmation by the senate and the house of representatives"; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we confirm the appointment of Billie Jeanette Cuervo to the education standards recommendation committee for science for a term that commenced on February 17, 2016, and will expire on January 10, 2017.