

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 1871 – SB 1832

March 14, 2016

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Creates a 12-member Tennessee Great Outdoors Forum (the Forum) for the purpose of evaluating and making recommendations concerning the major challenges to Tennessee's natural resources. The Forum shall be comprised of two legislative members and ten non-legislative members from the private sector knowledgeable about natural resources in Tennessee. Four members will be appointed by the Governor; four members will be appointed by the Speaker of House of Representatives; and four members will be appointed by the Speaker of the Senate; all within 60 days of passage of proposed act.

Authorizes non-legislative members to be reimbursed for travel expenses in accordance with travel regulations promulgated by the Commissioner of Finance and Administration and approved by the Attorney General and Reporter; and legislative members to be compensated pursuant to Tenn. Code. Ann. § 3-1-106.

Requires the Forum to be assisted by a separate 12-member technical advisory committee composed of two representatives each from: the Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry; the Department of Economic and Community Development; the Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC); the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency; the Department of Tourist Development; and the Tennessee Historical Commission.

Requires the Forum to meet at least twice per quarter; and any member who fails to attend at least 50 percent of the scheduled meetings in a six-month period shall be removed from the Forum. Authorizes the Forum to solicit and receive information from private organizations, individuals, and academic institutions. Requires the Forum to submit a detailed report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly and to the Governor by December 30, 2017, after which the Forum will be repealed.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Increase State Expenditures – Exceeds \$22,500/FY16-17
Exceeds \$11,300/FY17-18

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (012855): Deletes and replaces language of the bill without making any substantive changes.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

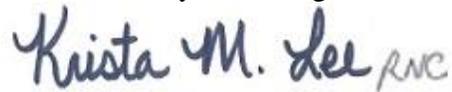
Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- The Forum will be comprised of 12 members and will require 12 meetings.
- The proposed bill also creates a 12-member technical advisory committee. It is assumed such committee members will attend meetings of the Forum throughout the state and will be reimbursed for travel expenses.
- Of the Forum's 12 members, two members are legislative members.
- The increase in state expenditures in FY16-17 for legislative members is estimated to be \$5,497 [(\$204 per diem + \$139.59 mileage reimbursement) x 2 members x 8 meetings]; and in FY17-18 is estimated to be \$2,749 [(\$204 per diem + \$139.59 mileage reimbursement) x 2 members x 4 meetings].
- The remaining 10 non-legislative members of the Forum and the 12 members of the technical advisory committee are eligible to receive expense reimbursement. Each non-legislative member is assumed to be reimbursed for mileage at the same rate as legislative members.
- The increase in state expenditures in FY16-17 for non-legislative members is estimated to be \$24,568 (\$139.59 x 8 meetings x 22 members); and in FY17-18 is estimated to be \$12,284 (\$139.59 x 4 meetings x 22 members).
- All members of the Forum and the technical advisory committee are assumed to attend at least 75 percent of all meetings.
- The total increase in state expenditures in FY16-17 is estimated to exceed \$22,549 [(\$5,497 + \$24,568) x 75.0% attendance rate]; and in FY17-18 is estimated to exceed \$11,275 [(\$2,749 + \$12,284) x 75.0 attendance rate].

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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