

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 593

By Haile

A RESOLUTION to direct the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations to study the overall effects on public education relative to having multiple school districts operating in the same county.

WHEREAS, in many counties across Tennessee, there are municipal or special school districts in operation in addition to the county-operated school district; and

WHEREAS, current law allows for the creation of additional municipal school districts and establishes requirements for sharing revenue—both operational expenses and bonded indebtedness for capital construction—among school districts within a county affecting the fiscal health and operations of the county school system; and

WHEREAS, these requirements may create structural disparities in the resources available to county and municipal or special school districts and may unnecessarily increase the level of local government indebtedness for capital projects; and

WHEREAS, the creation of new school districts has in the past created conflict regarding the ownership of existing school buildings and facilities; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (TACIR) is directed to perform a study of the overall effects on public education relative to the laws and regulations related to the sharing of resources among school districts located in the same county and the effect of the operation within a county of municipal or special school districts in addition to the county school system.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is the legislative intent that TACIR shall conduct this study using its existing resources.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all appropriate state departments and agencies shall assist TACIR as requested.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that TACIR is requested to report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, upon conclusion of the study to the chairs of the Education Committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives.