



TACIR

The Tennessee Advisory Commission
on Intergovernmental Relations



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MEMORANDUM

TO: TACIR Commission Members

FROM: Harry A. Green
Executive Director

DATE: June 29, 2011

SUBJECT: New Legislative Bill Referrals to TACIR

During the 2011 legislative session, five bills were referred to TACIR for study, and two additional resolutions were initially to be sent but failed. Of those, the Commission has decided to study one of the two. The bills referred include:

- One PC 1101 bill dealing with extraterritorial zoning;
- One bill related to door to door political campaigns;
- One bill related to election laws;
- Two bills related to the governing boards of water utility districts.

The chart below provides a brief description of each bill.

Bill Number	Sponsors	Description
SB 347/ HB 125	S: Haynes H: Sargent	Deletes a provision in TCA § 6-58-106 that requires the approval of a county legislative body prior to a municipality adopting and enforcing subdivision regulations and a zoning ordinance within a planning region if that municipality has a planning region outside of the corporate limits. Before the adoption of Public Chapter 1101, the approval of the county legislative body was not required; only proper notice and public hearing. The bill was referred to TACIR since it is an amendment to PC 1101, and there was not

		agreement among all interested parties. The General Subcommittee of the House State and Local Government Committee referred the bill to TACIR at the request of the sponsor.
SB 2035 / HB 779	S: Ford H: Brown	<p>Requires local law enforcement officials to make a reasonable effort to have a visible presence during the time a door to door campaign is scheduled in an area upon the written request of the public official conducting such a campaign.</p> <p>The bill was filed because of an incident in Representative Brown's last campaign when a door to door volunteer was met at the door with a man armed with a loaded gun pointed at the volunteer. She requested that the bill be sent to TACIR for a study. The General Subcommittee of the House State and Local Government Committee referred the bill.</p>
SB 1872 / HB 472	S: Kyle H: Pitts	<p>Requires the state election coordinator to study the feasibility of permitting registered voters who reside outside the precinct listed as their permanent residence to vote only for candidates running for statewide office at the precinct where they reside.</p> <p>The example given by the sponsor was to permit college students to vote at their local precinct even though their permanent residence was at another location. The bill was passed by the Senate; however, the House State and Local Government Committee voted to send it to TACIR for study.</p>
SB 830 / HB 1295	S: Summerville H: Hensley	<p>Requires commissioners of certain water utility districts in Lawrence County to be elected by the customers of the utility district.</p> <p>The bill passed through the House committees and was approved on the floor. The Senate State and Local Government Committee voted to send the bill to TACIR for study.</p>
SB 500 / HB 479	S: Burks H: Curtiss	<p>Authorizes a water utility district in the eastern portion of White County with over 1,000 customers to change the manner in which vacancies are filled and commissioners selected.</p> <p>The House bill, as amended, requires an election of the customers to fill vacancies on the board of commissioners. It passed through the House committees and was approved on the floor. The Senate State and Local Government Committee voted to send the bill to TACIR for study.</p>

There were two joint resolutions filed to require a study by TACIR, but neither was fully passed by both houses. TACIR will be studying SJR 103. For information purposes HJR 204 is also included below.

SJR 103	S: McNally	<p>Directs TACIR to study problems local governments are experiencing with vacant, blighted properties and recommend solutions to assist local governments to ameliorate such problems by returning such properties to beneficial use.</p> <p>This resolution was generated as a result of some significant problems in the City of Oak Ridge that stem from the temporary housing units that were erected by the federal government in the early 1940s as housing for workers on the Manhattan Project. They were to have been removed after the war but never were. They were sold to private owners, and now most of them are in a dilapidated condition. While the temporary housing units are unique to Oak Ridge, the problem of blight affects many cities and parts of cities. The resolution was passed by the Senate but was never brought up in the House.</p>
HJR 204	H: Haynes and others	<p>Directs TACIR to study funding of fire service, both paid and volunteer. The bill was amended in the House to make it applicable only in areas of the state with volunteer fire service, subscription fire service or no fire service.</p> <p>The bill passed the House but failed in the Senate State and Local Government Committee when there was no motion on the resolution.</p>