



TACIR

The Tennessee Advisory Commission
on Intergovernmental Relations



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Commission Members

FROM: Cliff Lippard *Cliff*
Executive Director

DATE: 31 January 2019

SUBJECT: Staff and Commission Updates

Commission Update

Please join us in welcoming our five newest members, Mayor Buddy Bradshaw, Representative John Crawford, Representative Susan Lynn, Senator Jon Lundberg, and Senator Katrina Robinson. Mayor Bradshaw, in his second term as mayor of Loudon County, was appointed to the Commission on December 18, 2018, by Lieutenant Governor McNally. Representative Lynn, as the newly appointed chairman of the House Finance, Ways & Means Committee, joins us as a statutory member, while Senator Lundberg, the 1st Vice Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, and Senator Robinson, the newly elected senator representing District 33, were both appointed to the Commission by Lieutenant Governor McNally on January 29, 2019. Also on January 29, Representative Crawford, Chair of the House Local Committee, was appointed by Speaker Casada.

On another note, Judge Mark Norris, former TACIR Chairman, will be joining us tomorrow so that we may recognize him for his many years of service and leadership to the Commission and the State of Tennessee. Judge Norris served on the Commission from 2001 through 2018, serving continuously as chair beginning in 2009. He served as a member of the Senate from the 102nd through the 110th General Assemblies and as the Senate Majority Leader from the 105th through the 110th General Assemblies. The resolution thanking Judge Norris for his service is attached.

Finally, the panel to discuss Senate Bill 1989/House Bill 2154 (Cigarette Sales and Escrow Payments) that had been scheduled for this meeting has been cancelled at the request of the panelists. The panel was to have included representatives from the Attorney General's office and attorneys representing Xcaliber Tobacco. Xcaliber is pursuing a settlement with the Attorney General's office and will not be filing another version of the legislation this session. Lobbyists representing Xcaliber plan to request that the Senate and House Finance, Ways and Means Committees withdraw their requests to the Commission for the study.

Staff Update

Senior Research Manager Leah Eldridge will attain 20 years of service to the State of Tennessee this February, and Senior Research Associate Jennifer Barrie attained 5 years of service earlier this month. Please join me in congratulating both.