

SENATE BILL 2460

By Finney

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,  
relative to STEM education.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 1, Part 2, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

The department of education shall biennially survey the LEAs and public charter schools to determine what programs the LEAs and charter schools have developed or are using to support and encourage the study of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Each LEA or charter school shall provide the department with any information that it has on the success of its program or programs in encouraging students to excel in STEM classes. The department, with the assistance of STEM faculty from the institutions in the board of regents and the University of Tennessee systems, shall evaluate these programs to determine best practices in pre-kindergarten through grade twelve (pre-K-12) STEM education. The department shall also consider whether an LEA's or charter school's program can be easily replicated by teachers in other LEAs or charter schools. The department shall report its initial findings and conclusions, as well as any recommendations for legislation to support and encourage STEM education, to the education committees of the senate and house of representatives by December 31, 2015. Thereafter, the department shall file its biennial report with the education committees of the senate and house of representatives by December 31 of each odd-numbered year.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring

it.