

HOUSE BILL 649

By Jernigan

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4,  
relative to the Tennessee historical commission.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 4-11-102, is amended by deleting subsections (a) and (b) and substituting instead the following:

(a)

(1) As of July 1, 2019, the existing membership of the Tennessee historical commission is vacated and reconstituted in accordance with this section.

(2) There is created the Tennessee historical commission, which is composed of the state historian, the state archaeologist, the commissioner of environment and conservation or the commissioner's designee, and the state librarian and archivist, all of whom are nonvoting ex officio members; the governor or the governor's designee as a voting member; and twelve (12) voting members, with four (4) members each being appointed by the governor, the speaker of the senate, and the speaker of the house of representatives. In making appointments to the commission, the appointing authorities shall ensure that:

(A) At least three (3) persons serving on the commission are members of a minority class. Each appointing authority shall appoint one (1) member in accordance with this subdivision (a)(2)(A);

(B) At least six (6) persons serving on the commission have an academic background in history or historic preservation, or both. Each

appointing authority shall appoint two (2) members in accordance with this subdivision (a)(2)(B); and

(C) At least three (3) persons serving on the commission are from each grand division of this state. Each appointing authority shall appoint one (1) member from each grand division of this state in accordance with this subdivision (a)(2)(C).

(3) In order to stagger the terms of the newly appointed commission members:

(A) The governor shall appoint four (4) persons to initial terms of two (2) years, expiring on June 30, 2021;

(B) The speaker of the senate shall appoint four (4) persons to initial terms of three (3) years, expiring on June 30, 2022; and

(C) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint four (4) persons to initial terms of four (4) years, expiring on June 30, 2023.

(4) Following the initial terms, all appointed members of the commission shall serve terms of four (4) years.

(b) In the event of a vacancy for an appointed member of the commission, the respective appointing authority shall fill the vacancy for the unexpired term. Each appointee shall serve until a successor is duly appointed and qualified.

SECTION 2. For the purpose of making appointments, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act shall take effect July 1, 2019, the public welfare requiring it.