

HOUSE BILL 1798

By Harmon

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4;  
Title 12; Title 13; Title 54 and Title 67, relative to  
creating a rural infrastructure fund.

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

SECTION 1. There is created a special joint committee to study the establishment of a rural infrastructure fund to assist economically distressed rural areas of the state.

SECTION 2. The special joint committee shall consist of three (3) members of the house of representatives, one (1) representing each grand division of the state, and three (3) members of the senate, one (1) representing each grand division of the state, to be appointed by the respective speakers.

SECTION 3. The department of economic and community development and all other appropriate state agencies shall provide assistance to the special joint committee upon request of the chair.

SECTION 4. All legislative members of the special joint committee who are duly elected members of the general assembly shall remain members of such committee until the committee reports its findings and recommendations to the general assembly. Non-legislative members shall serve without compensation.

SECTION 5. The special joint committee shall be convened by the member with the most years of continuous service in the general assembly, and at its first meeting shall elect a chair, vice-chair, and such other officers the committee deems necessary from among its legislative membership.

SECTION 6. The special joint committee shall timely report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the one hundred seventh general assembly no later than March 1, 2012, at which time the committee shall cease to exist.

SECTION 7. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.