

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 674

By Lamberth

A RESOLUTION to confirm the appointment of Tom Midyett to the State Forestry Commission.

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 11-4-201, provides for the creation of a State Forestry Commission within the Department of Agriculture; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 11-4-201, further provides that the Governor shall appoint seven members to the commission; and

WHEREAS, Governor Bill Lee has appointed Tom Midyett to the State Forestry Commission as the representative of the pulp and paper industry for a term that expires on June 30, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Midyett previously served as General Counsel and Director of Administration for East Tennessee Natural Gas Company (ETNG), and subsequent to corporate restructuring, as the Manager of State Government Relations for ETNG's parent, Tenneco, Inc., with responsibilities for the southern half of the United States; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, Mr. Midyett started Southeastern Advocacy, a government relations, environmental, legal, and management consulting firm that represents Packaging Corporation of America and its major paper manufacturing operation in Hardin County; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Midyett was instrumental in the formation of the Tennessee Paper Council (TPC), a trade group representing all aspects of Tennessee's paper industry; he has served many years as President of TPC and as such is as an ex officio member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Forestry Association; and

WHEREAS, he has been active in numerous civic and volunteer organizations, including the Knoxville Area United Way, the University of Tennessee College of Agriculture, and the boards of directors of the Great Smoky Mountain Council of the Boy Scouts of America, the

Knoxville Opera Company, the Kingston Pike/Sequoyah Hills Neighborhood Association, and the Bearden Council; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Midyett holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Southern Methodist University and a Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, for the past twenty-five years, Tom Midyett has been a positive force in the forestry and paper industry; and

WHEREAS, Tom Midyett is a person of integrity whose benevolence, acumen, and strong commitment to public service have helped to enhance the well-being of this State and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 11-4-201, provides that each member appointed by the Governor to the State Forestry Commission shall be confirmed by joint resolution of the General Assembly; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we confirm the appointment of Tom Midyett to the State Forestry Commission for a term that expires on June 30, 2026.