

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 785

By Lamberth

A RESOLUTION to confirm the appointment of Larry Zehnder to the Heritage Conservation Trust Fund Board.

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 11-7-104(a), provides for the creation of the Heritage Conservation Trust Fund Board; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 11-7-104(b), provides that the Governor shall appoint eleven members to the board; and

WHEREAS, Governor Bill Lee has appointed Larry Zehnder as a member of the Heritage Conservation Trust Fund Board for a term that expires on October 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Larry Zehnder is an esteemed parks and recreation professional who has dedicated his career to helping cities and counties develop, honor, and promote their open spaces and natural areas; and

WHEREAS, after recognizing that parks development was his calling, Mr. Zehnder earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Recreation and Parks Administration from Clemson University and then received his certification as a parks and recreation professional via the National Recreation and Parks Association, of which he is still an active member; and

WHEREAS, he was recruited and appointed by the City of Chattanooga to transform its municipal parks system, and he quickly implemented innovative new programs and facilities that improved engagement and renewed community stakeholder enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, after retiring from this post, Mr. Zehnder helped establish a water park facility at the Hamilton County-owned Chester Frost Park; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Zehnder has also completed park planning and administration for Athens, Tennessee; Norfolk, Virginia; and Charleston, South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Zehnder consults as a planner for Barge Design Solutions, assessing and guiding strategic planning and mission statements for municipal parks departments throughout the South, and participates on the advisory committee for the Cumberland Trails and Great Eastern Trails; and

WHEREAS, he also volunteers with the National Park Partners and is a Fellow of the Tennessee Recreation and Parks Association, which presented him with a Distinguished Professional Award in recognition of his contributions to the State in 2008; and

WHEREAS, he was likewise honored by Clemson University's George B. Hartzog Jr. Environmental Awards Program with the 2011 Benton H. Box Award; and

WHEREAS, Larry Zehnder is a person of integrity and an active citizen 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 11-7-104(b)(2), provides that each member appointed by the Governor to the Heritage Conservation Trust Fund Board shall be subject to confirmation by each house 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 Larry Zehnder to the Heritage Conservation Trust Fund Board for a term to expire on October 31, 2025.