

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 808

By Gilmore

A RESOLUTION to urge the Tennessee Department of Education to establish a green cleaning policy for adoption by schools.

WHEREAS, children are vulnerable to and may be severely affected by exposure to chemicals, hazardous waste, and other environmental hazards; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency estimates that human exposure to indoor air pollutants can be two to five times and up to one-hundred times higher than outdoor levels; and

WHEREAS, children, teachers, janitors, and other staff members spend a significant amount of time inside school buildings and are continuously exposed to chemicals from cleaners and other maintenance products; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that the Tennessee Department of Education is hereby urged to establish a green cleaning policy for adoption by schools, whereby only environmentally-sensitive cleaning products shall be purchased and used in the cleaning of such schools.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tennessee Department of Education, in consultation with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, is urged to develop guidelines and specifications for such a green cleaning policy, periodically review such guidelines and specifications, and maintain an updated version of the green cleaning policy with appropriate guidelines and specifications on its website.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared and transmitted to the commissioner of education.