SENATE BILL 1339

By Johnson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49 and Title 67, Chapter 6, relative to education funding.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE: SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 3, Part 3, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

The department of education and the comptroller of the treasury shall jointly conduct a study to determine the total amount of funds spent to build, equip, and maintain elementary, middle, and secondary schools in Tennessee from January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2018. This study must include whether the BEP capital outlay component accurately reflects the actual cost to build, equip, and maintain elementary, middle, and secondary schools. The study must be completed by January 1, 2020. The department of education and the comptroller of the treasury shall report the findings to the speaker of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the education committees of the senate and the house of representatives, and the finance, ways and means committees of the senate and the house of representatives by February 1, 2020.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 3, Part 3, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

The department of education shall annually calculate the actual average instructional salary for teachers across the southeastern United States. For any fiscal year in which the actual average weighted salaries in Tennessee are below the southeastern United States average, the department shall report this finding to the speaker of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the education committees of the senate and the house of representatives.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 67, Chapter 6, Part 1, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

The department of revenue and the department of education shall jointly conduct a study to determine the total amount of state and local option sales tax appropriated to kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12) education. This study must also determine the percentage of total state and local sales tax collections appropriated to K-12 education. The study must be completed by January 1, 2020. The departments shall report the findings to the speaker of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the education committees of the senate and the house of representatives, and the finance, ways and means committees of the senate and the house of representatives by February 1, 2020.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon a becoming law, the public welfare requiring

it.