

SENATE BILL 1902

By Niceley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,  
Chapter 9, relative to diversity.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 9, Part 1, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

(a)

(1) The University of Tennessee system and its institutions shall not spend more than two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000) per year on diversity, multicultural, or sustainability programs. The amount spent on these programs shall include, but not be limited to, the salaries and benefits of all faculty or staff members who are required as part of their job duties to work on diversity, multicultural, or sustainability programs, office supplies and expenses, and expenditures for travel, educational seminars, conferences, and other functions that support these programs.

(2) No more than sixty percent (60%) of the amount allocated for diversity, multicultural, or sustainability programs shall be spent for programs at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

(b)

(1) The funds allocated to diversity, multicultural, or sustainability programs shall be clearly itemized in the University of Tennessee system budget each year according to the institution to which funds for these purposes are to be disbursed. The university shall not disburse funds that have been allocated to one institution in the budget to another institution. The university shall not

disburse funds that have been allocated for purposes other than diversity, multicultural, or sustainability programs to diversity, multicultural, or sustainability programs.

(2) An employee of the University of Tennessee system or one (1) of its institutions whose primary responsibilities and duties are in areas unrelated to diversity, multicultural, or sustainability programs shall not participate in diversity, multicultural, or sustainability programs during the times when the employee is to perform work duties.

(c) The University of Tennessee system shall report annually in writing to the general assembly the amount of money spent on diversity, multicultural, and sustainability programs. The funds expended shall be broken down by the program for which they were expended and the institution where the funds were expended.

Additionally, the report shall identify:

(1) All system or institution employees associated with diversity, multicultural, and sustainability programs;

(2) The salary and specific duties of each such employee;

(3) The cost of benefits for each such employee;

(4) An itemization of seminars and conferences attended by each such employee and expenses associated with attendance;

(5) The cost of producing any diversity, multicultural, or sustainability program, seminar, or conference by the University of Tennessee system or one (1) of its institutions; and

(6) Any costs of operating a diversity office that are unrelated to costs incurred under subdivisions (c)(1)-(5).

(d)

(1) Employees of the University of Tennessee system or one (1) of its institutions whose duties are related to diversity, multicultural, or sustainability programs, shall only work and have duties in areas related to:

(A) Nondiscrimination;

(B) Recruitment of minority students; and

(C) Recruitment of minority faculty or administrators.

(2) Although employees whose duties are related to diversity, multicultural, or sustainability programs may work on recruitment of minority faculty or administrators, they may not otherwise be involved in the hiring of faculty or administrators for the University of Tennessee system or any of its institutions.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016, the public welfare requiring it.