



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 770

HOUSE BILL NO. 2000

By Representative Harry Brooks

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 2586

By Senator Hensley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 2 and Title 49, Chapter 7, relative to candidates selected as finalists for employment.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-7-154, is amended by adding the following as a new subsection:

(c)

(1) Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b), a search committee may select up to three (3) candidates to be recommended to the governing board of the public institution of higher education for the following positions:

(A) A president of a locally governed state university;

(B) The president of the University of Tennessee system;

(C) A president of a community college; or

(D) A president or director of a Tennessee college of applied technology.

(2) Prior to initiating a search to fill a position listed in subdivision (c)(1), a meeting that is open to the public and subject to the requirements of title 8, chapter 44, part 1, shall be held by the governing board to establish the search process, a timeline, and a statement of qualifications for the position.

(3) No later than fifteen (15) calendar days before the final vote of the governing board to appoint or elect a person to fill a position listed in subdivision (c)(1), records relating exclusively to the candidates identified pursuant to subdivision (c)(1) shall not be treated as confidential and shall be open for public inspection, except for a record otherwise confidential under state or federal law.

(4) No later than seven (7) calendar days before a meeting at which the governing board will vote to appoint or approve the appointment of a candidate to fill a position listed in subdivision (c)(1), the governing board shall hold at least one (1) public forum with the candidate.

(5) A meeting at which the governing board will vote to appoint or approve the appointment of an individual to fill a position identified in subdivision (c)(1) shall be open to the public and subject to the requirements of title 8, chapter 44, part 1.

(6) No later than November 1, 2020, the advisory committee on open government shall submit a report to the governor, the speaker of the senate, and the speaker of the house of representatives evaluating the impact and effectiveness of this subsection (c) and identifying considerations and recommendations relative to its continuation, revision, or expiration.

(7) This subsection (c) shall be repealed on July 1, 2021.

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SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: April 5, 2018



BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RANDY MCNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 19th day of April 2018



BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR