

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 30

By Ketron

A RESOLUTION concerning solid waste planning.

WHEREAS, the One Hundred and Fifth General Assembly passed Chapter 462 of the Public Acts of 2007 concerning several aspects of solid waste including planning for the handling and disposal of solid waste; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation faithfully worked to develop new regulations with the involvement of citizens and local solid waste managers; and

WHEREAS, the Solid Waste Disposal Control Board did not approve the regulations which were primarily concerned with counting solid waste and local government reports; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 462 of the Public Acts of 2007 stated that if the Solid Waste Disposal Control Board considered a rule, the Board must consider the use of incentives, disincentives, public education, costs and benefits of recycling, and the widely varying circumstances of the different solid waste regions; and

WHEREAS, the Solid Waste Disposal Control Board did not consider the very real costs of not recycling, including multiple landfills in Tennessee that are leaking and polluted; and

WHEREAS, the Solid Waste Disposal Control Board did not consider multiple examples where private business jobs are created and profits made by composting food waste and unrecycled paper, which cleans the landfills as well as recycles construction waste; and

WHEREAS, the One Hundred and Sixth General Assembly passed Chapter 698 of the Public Acts of 2010, authorizing Tennessee State University and Middle Tennessee State University to research and develop methods to address how to use the materials in solid waste as raw materials to create jobs, business and compost; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that the General Assembly commends the Department of Environment and Conservation, the Solid Waste Disposal Control Board, and citizens, including public works managers, from across the state for their efforts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Assembly directs there be further planning aimed at composting food waste and unrecycled paper by private business as well as recycling and reusing construction waste.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation work with Tennessee State University and Middle Tennessee State University to secure federal and private funding for solid waste planning as well as actively involve federal agencies on their university campuses.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the general assembly places high priority on private business's composting and recycling construction waste to eliminate polluted landfills, and to create jobs, and instructs the Department of Environment and Conservation and the Solid Waste Disposal Control Board to work toward this goal with Tennessee State University and Middle Tennessee State University, citizens, and public solid waste managers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this joint resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.