

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 70

By Gresham

A RESOLUTION to encourage the Tennessee Education Association Board of Directors to seek the repeal of National Education Association Resolution I-17.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Education Association (TEA) is the Tennessee affiliate of the National Education Association (NEA); and

WHEREAS, the National Education Association will hold its next Annual Meeting and Representative Assembly in Boston, Massachusetts, on June 25-30, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Education Association is charged with sending delegates to the National Education Association 2017 Annual Meeting and Representative Assembly to represent Tennessee teachers; and

WHEREAS, each delegate sent to the National Education Association 2017 Annual Meeting and Representative Assembly has the ability to offer amendments on NEA legislation, policy statements, and resolutions, as well as the organization's constitution; and

WHEREAS, since 1985 the National Education Association has advocated for the protection of abortion rights; and

WHEREAS, National Education Association Resolution I-17, related to family planning, advocates for taxpayer funding of abortion; and

WHEREAS, a 2016 poll, conducted by Middle Tennessee State University, showed that the majority of Tennesseans believe that abortion should be illegal either in most cases or all cases; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, 12,373 children lost their lives through abortion in Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Education Association is strongly encouraged to pass a resolution calling for the repeal of National Education Association Resolution I-17 at the National Education Association 2017 Annual Meeting and Representative Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tennessee Education Association is also strongly encouraged to send delegates to the National Education Association 2017 Annual Meeting and Representative Assembly that are dedicated to repealing National Education Association Resolution I-17.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared and transmitted to the President of the National Education Association, the President of the Tennessee Education Association, and each member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Education Association.