

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 836

By Johnson

A RESOLUTION to confirm the appointment of J. Ford Little to the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission.

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 70-1-201, provides for the creation of the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 70-1-201(a), further provides that the governor shall appoint nine members to the commission; and

WHEREAS, Governor Bill Lee has appointed J. Ford Little to serve on the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission to represent the 2<sup>nd</sup> District; and

WHEREAS, subject to confirmation, Mr. Little will serve a term on the commission that expires on February 28, 2029; and

WHEREAS, a member of Woolf, McClane, Bright, Allen & Carpenter, Mr. Little is a veteran trial lawyer who has a wealth of knowledge and experience in construction law, commercial litigation, and product liability/toxic tort; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Little has been involved in the trials and appeals of cases before federal and state courts around the country and has represented clients in mediations and arbitrations in several states; he has an AV Rating by Martindale-Hubbell and has been named among the Best Lawyers in America by *U.S. News & World Report* and *Best Lawyers* since 2009; and

WHEREAS, a native of Knoxville, J. Ford Little holds a Bachelor of Science degree with high honors in Accounting from the University of Tennessee and a juris doctorate from Vanderbilt University; he was named a Fellow in the Knoxville Bar Foundation in 2010, is a member of the State Board of the Associated Builders and Contractors, and is involved in the Associated General Contractors of Tennessee, Construction Financial Management Association, and Tennessee Association of Construction Counsel; and

WHEREAS, he is also a past president of The University of Tennessee Alumni Association and past chair of the University of Tennessee Past Presidents Council; he has served on the University of Tennessee Alumni Association Board of Governors and UTK Chancellor's Associates and is a former board member of the Dogwood Arts Festival and the Helen Ross McNabb Center. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Helen Ross McNabb Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Little is an avid hunter and outdoorsman; his early memories of fishing on Center Hill Lake with the aid of local Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) officers informed his lifelong respect and appreciation for TWRA; he has hunting and fishing experience on the Clinch River and Center Hill Lake, in Knoxville, Putnam County, White County, the city of Rugby, Northeast Alabama, South Dakota, and Wyoming; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Little's experience and dedication to wildlife and conservation issues would be a tremendous asset to the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 70-1-201(b)(1), provides that the members appointed to the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission by the governor shall be confirmed by the Senate Energy, Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee and the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee and by joint resolution of the General Assembly; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby confirm the appointment of J. Ford Little to a six-year term on the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission, such term to expire on February 28, 2029.