



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 868

SENATE BILL NO. 1705

By Niceley, Southerland, Bowling

Substituted for: House Bill No. 1542

By Bailey, Fitzhugh, Butt, Swann, Halford, Calfee, Travis, Keisling, Holt, Lollar, Ragan, Faison, Matheny, Hawk, Coley, John DeBerry, Windle, Marsh, Timothy Hill, Moody, Pitts, Jones, Odom, Shaw, Jernigan, Powell, Tidwell, Kent Williams, Dale Carr, Gloria Johnson, Parkinson, Weaver, Eldridge, Hall, Camper, Cooper, Shepard, Towns, Akbari, Evans, Johnnie Turner, Mitchell, Kevin Brooks

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, relative to state employment.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 50, Part 1, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

8-50-1__.

(a) This section shall apply only to employees of the department of transportation who, as of September 1, 2013, were employed in a highway maintenance job classification that did not require a high school diploma or state-approved high school equivalency certification as a minimum qualification, which classification shall be abolished on September 1, 2015, and who will be eligible for full service retirement from state service on or before September 1, 2016.

(b) Subject to the job analysis process prescribed by, and with the approval of, the department of human resources, the department of transportation is authorized to create a new job classification that shall not require a high school diploma or state-approved high school equivalency certification as a minimum qualification. The job responsibilities, placement, location, and number of the positions in this job classification are to be determined based upon the operational needs of the department of transportation. The salary grade of this job classification shall be determined after performance of the job analysis prescribed by, and with the approval of, the department of human resources, but in any event shall not exceed a salary grade fifteen (15).

(c) The job classification established pursuant to subsection (b) shall be available only to employees of the department of transportation meeting the requirements established in subsection (a) who have attempted to obtain, but have been unsuccessful in obtaining, a high school diploma or state-approved high school equivalency certification by or before September 1, 2015; provided further, that to be eligible for a position in this job classification, the employee must meet the minimum qualifications established pursuant to subsection (b). For the purpose of verifying that an employee has attempted to obtain a high school diploma or state-approved high school equivalency certification, the employee must complete a department-approved program to obtain the high school diploma or equivalency certification, which in the case of the high school equivalency certification shall include, but not be limited to, an attempt to pass the required high school equivalency tests.

(d) To obtain a position in the job classification established pursuant to subsection (b), an employee meeting the requirements established in subsections (a) and (c) must apply, interview, be selected for, and be placed in such a position by no later than September 1, 2015.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming law, the public welfare requiring it; however, this act shall expire and be of no force or effect after September 1, 2016.

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PASSED: April 14, 2014

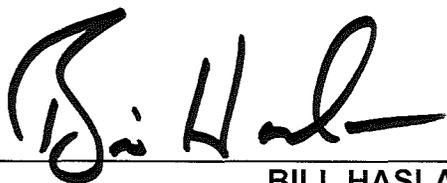


RON RAMSEY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 18th day of May 2014



BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR