

Board Meetings Policy 1.400

The Background:

Tennessee Code Annotated gives authority to the State Board to create its own meeting policy. Public Chapter 770 took effect July 15, 2020 and moved approval authority of textbook/instructional materials waiver requests from the Department of Education to the State Board. This proposal is to modify the section of the Board Meeting Policy 1.400 listing items that require only one reading (pg. 5-6).

The textbook/instructional materials waiver requests will have already gone through a thorough vetting and review process by the Department of Education prior to coming before the Board. The Department of Education will review all textbook/instructional materials waiver requests and submit their recommendations to the State Board for action. In addition, consideration of these waiver requests on one reading will ensure local education agencies have timely notification of the approval or denial of their waiver requests.

Policy Justification:

T.C.A. § 4-5-230 requires that justification for adopting an item as a policy instead of a rule be submitted to the chair of the Government Operations Committee. This item is proposed to be adopted as a policy because it defines or explains the meaning of a statute or rule and/or concerns only the internal management of state government that does not affect private rights or privileges.

The Recommendation:

The SBE staff recommends acceptance of this item on first reading.