Agenda

Final Reading Item: VI. L.

Repeal Educator Diversity Policy 5.700

The Background:

In February 2021, the State Board of Education (SBE) adopted Policy 5.700 to promote educator diversity, as required by T.C.A. § 49-1-302(g). Recently passed legislation (HB0622/SB1083) requires repeal of Policy 5.700 by prohibiting SBE from adopting a policy that "promotes educator diversity based on race, ethnicity, sex, age, or any other demographic characteristic, rather than on individual merit, qualifications, veteran status, or lawful eligibility criteria."

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

Connection to the Master Plan:

This item aligns with the Master Plan's focus on Engagement and Accountability, which requires SBE to annually amend rule or policy as necessitated by changes in the law.

The Recommendation:

SBE staff recommend approval of this item on first and final reading. Department staff concurs with this recommendation.