



TACIR

The Tennessee Advisory Commission
on Intergovernmental Relations



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Suite 508
226 Capitol Boulevard Building
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0760
Phone: (615) 741-3012
Fax: (615) 532-2443
www.state.tn.us/tacir

MEMORANDUM

TO: TACIR Commission Members

FROM: Harry A. Green
Executive Director

DATE: September 16, 2008

SUBJECT: Commission Member Update

Introduction of New Members

The Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations would like to recognize and welcome its new Commission Members:

County:

Mayor Larry Waters, Sevier County

Municipal:

Mayor Keith McDonald, Bartlett

Resolutions for Former Members

Attached is a resolution honoring the memory of former Sumner County Executive Hank Thompson. County Executive Thompson's dedication to the residents of Hendersonville and Sumner County was remarkable. His memory will reside forever in those who knew and loved him. (See Attachment A).

Also attached is a resolution honoring Mayor Sharon Goldsworthy's thirteen years of meritorious service to the Advisory Commission. Mayor Goldsworthy was a valuable and highly qualified member, and we hope to see her return to the Commission in the future. (See Attachment B).

Tennessee Child Passenger Protection Act of 1977

In 1977, former TACIR Chairman John T. Bragg, Commissioner Emeritus Senator Douglas Henry, and former Representative Mike Murphy sponsored innovative legislation making it mandatory for children to be restrained in a safety seat. Tennessee was the first state in the nation to adopt such legislation and within six years, every state had adopted similar legislation to save children's lives.

On January 29, 2008, Governor Bredesen signed House Joint Resolution 759 recognizing the thirtieth anniversary of the Tennessee Child Passenger Protection Act. (See Attachment C).

TACIR would like to commend these exemplary individuals for sponsoring this pioneering legislation which has saved the lives of countless children in Tennessee.

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Sumner County Executive R.J. "Hank" Thompson.

WHEREAS, the members of the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations were greatly saddened to learn of the untimely passing of County Executive R. J. "Hank" Thompson; and

WHEREAS, County Executive Hank Thompson was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, he graduated from Isaac Litton High School in 1957 and attended the University of Tennessee, Martin prior to graduating from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in 1962; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from college, he began working for the Tennessee Valley Authority and served in various positions with acumen and alacrity for twenty-eight years before retiring in 1990; and

WHEREAS, he began his career in public service by serving as a Sumner County Commissioner from 1980 to 1990; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, Hank Thompson was elected Mayor of Hendersonville, Tennessee, and served as Mayor until 2000; and

WHEREAS, he was elected Sumner County Executive in 2002 and was re-elected in 2006, and served in that capacity until his death; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, County Executive Thompson lent his time and talent to a number of worthy organizations, including serving on the board for the Jason Foundation, Forward Sumner County Economic Council, North Tennessee Workforce

Board, the Mid-Cumberland Human Resource Agency, Greater Nashville Regional Council, Regional Transportation Authority, the Sumner County Resource Authority, the Tennessee Municipal League, Youth Incorporated, and Children Are People, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, County Executive Hank Thompson founded and chaired the Vision 2000 project, designed to help guide Sumner County into the new millennium; and

WHEREAS, County Executive Thompson was appointed to the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations by Lieutenant Governor John S. Wilder on August 31, 2006 and faithfully served with distinction as a member of the Commission until his death; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations should pause to remember the exemplary life of this extraordinary public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TENNESSEE ADVISORY COMMISSION ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS, that we hereby honor the memory of Sumner County Executive Hank Thompson, reflecting fondly upon his exceptional service to the people of Sumner County and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our most heartfelt condolences to the family of County Executive Hank Thompson.

A RESOLUTION to honor Mayor Sharon Goldsworthy of Germantown, Tennessee, for thirteen years of meritorious service on the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this body should pause to honor members of the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations upon completion of their terms, who have performed their duties with the utmost integrity and whose efforts have ensured proper attention to a myriad of issues in fulfillment of the Commission's mission to serve as a forum for the discussion and resolution of intergovernmental problems, to provide high quality research support to state and local government officials in order to improve the overall quality of government in Tennessee, and to improve the effectiveness of the intergovernmental system to better serve the citizens of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Sharon Goldsworthy earned her bachelor's degree in journalism from Kansas State University before beginning her career in public service; and

WHEREAS, in 1992, Mayor Goldsworthy was elected as an alderman in Germantown, Tennessee, and in this capacity represented the Board of Mayor and Alderman on the Cable TV Commission, Economic Development Commission, Sister City Program, Telecommunications Task Force, and Shelby County Community Compact; chaired the Old Germantown Streetscape Committee; and served on the Planning Commission, Design Review Commission, Environmental Commission and Education Commission; and

WHEREAS, she was elected Mayor of Germantown in 1994 and was re-elected for three additional terms in 1998, 2002, and 2006, and continues to serve her community in that capacity; and

WHEREAS, throughout her career, Mayor Goldsworthy has served her community and state in various capacities including serving on the State Air Pollution Control Board, the Governor's Council on Excellence in Higher Education, the Metro Area Stormwater Steering Committee Phase II, the Chickasaw Basin Authority, the Memphis and Shelby County Metro Planning Organization's Transportation Planning Board, the Regional Rail Steering Committee, and the Metropolitan Economic Development Forum; chairing the metro area Clean Air Coalition and serving as President of the Tennessee Women in Government, the West Tennessee Mayors Association, the University of Memphis Society and the Kiwanis Club of Germantown and District Director of the Tennessee Municipal League; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Sharon Goldsworthy was appointed to the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations by Governor Don Sundquist in 1995 and has faithfully served with distinction as a member of this Commission for thirteen years; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TENNESSEE ADVISORY COMMISSION ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS, that we hereby honor and commend Mayor Sharon Goldsworthy for her countless contributions to this Commission and for her honorable and dedicated service to the good people of the great state of Tennessee.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 759

By Hood

A RESOLUTION recognizing the thirtieth anniversary of The Tennessee Child Passenger Protection Act of 1977.

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee has a long and storied history of care and concern for its citizens, from the very old to the very young, and is especially proud of certain pieces of legislation that have been enacted out of concern for the safety and well-being of Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, one such piece of legislation of which this Body is especially proud is The Tennessee Child Passenger Protection Act of 1977 which, when it became effective on January 1, 1978, distinguished Tennessee as the first among these United States to pass legislation requiring the use of child passenger restraints; and

WHEREAS, The Tennessee Child Passenger Protection Act of 1977, which required all children under the age of four in parent-owned automobiles to be restrained in an infant or child seat, arose from the committed actions of the late Dr. Robert S. Sanders, Chairman of the Accident Prevention Committee, member of the Tennessee Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, and an official with the Rutherford County Health Department; and

WHEREAS, the act's origins lie with the Accident Task Force, established by the State Health Planning Council in 1973; the recommendations of the Task Force, made in April of 1974 with the unanimous approval of the Health Planning Council, called for legislation requiring the use of seat belts and child restraint systems; and

WHEREAS, though the act failed to gain the approval of the Legislative Committee of the State Health Planning Council in February of 1975, it did gain the endorsement of several medical organizations, including the Tennessee Pediatric Society, the Tennessee Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Tennessee Medical Association, the Tennessee

Trauma Committee of the American College of Surgeons, the Tennessee Public Health Physicians, the Stones River and Rutherford County Academy of Medicine, the Tennessee Committee on Emergency Services, the Tennessee Medical Association Auxiliary, the Physicians for Automotive Safety, and the Accident Prevention Section of the American Academy of Pediatrics; and

WHEREAS, John Bragg and Mike Murphy and Senator Douglas Henry introduced child restraint legislation before the General Assembly in 1976, but it was voted down by the House Calendar Committee on March 9, 1976; and

WHEREAS, its sponsors and supporters were committed to the importance of the legislation, however, and toiled tirelessly to bring it back to the forefront; their labors were rewarded when The Tennessee Child Passenger Protection Act of 1977, as House Bill 300, gained the required votes for passage in April of 1977; and

WHEREAS, upon becoming effective on January 1, 1978, the act became the first law of its kind in the country, a testament to the forward thinking and concern possessed by the members of the Tennessee General Assembly; the importance and timeliness of The Tennessee Child Passenger Protection Act of 1977 was reflected both by the adoption of similar legislation by many other states soon thereafter and, more importantly, by the fifty percent reduction in fatalities of children in this age group between 1978 and 1983; and

WHEREAS, by 1984, the other forty-nine states had followed Tennessee's example and enacted legislation requiring the use of safety restraints for children in automobiles; the increased use of child restraint systems resulted in a thirty-six percent decline on a nationwide basis of motor vehicle occupant deaths among children under the age of five between 1980 and 1984; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee has remained at the forefront of child restraint legislation and is currently one of only eighteen states that require children eight and younger or under forty-nine pounds to be restrained in a booster seat, a law which is second-to-none; and

WHEREAS, January 1, 2008, marked the thirtieth anniversary of The Tennessee Child Passenger Protection Act of 1977, a legislative success that is wholly deserving of recognition; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby recognize the thirtieth anniversary of The Tennessee Child Passenger Protection Act of 1977, applauding its role in the protection of thousands of young lives and commemorating the act's landmark status and pioneering role in the passage of child restraint legislation throughout the United States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.