



# TACIR

The Tennessee Advisory Commission  
on Intergovernmental Relations



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## ***MEMORANDUM***

**TO:** Commission Members

**FROM:** Cliff Lippard *Cliff*  
Executive Director

**DATE:** 12 December 2018

**SUBJECT:** Staff and Commission Updates

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### **Commission Update**

We learned with great sadness that former Commission member Representative Charles Sargent passed away on November 13, 2018. Chairman Sargent was a valued member of the Commission for 8 years, served 22 years in the legislature, from the 100<sup>th</sup> through the 110<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, and was the chair of the House Finance, Ways and Means Committee. He is survived by his wife Nancy, his three children, and two grandchildren. A resolution memorializing his service to the State of Tennessee is attached.

In other news, we are happy to congratulate longtime TACIR Chairman Mark Norris on his recent confirmation as a federal judge on the US District Court of Western Tennessee. Judge Norris served on the Commission from 2001 through 2018, serving continuously as chair beginning in 2009. He served as a member of the Senate from the 102<sup>nd</sup> through the 110<sup>th</sup> General Assemblies and as the Senate Majority Leader from the 105<sup>th</sup> through the 110<sup>th</sup> General Assemblies. A resolution thanking Judge Norris for his many years of service and leadership to the Commission and the State of Tennessee is attached.

Senator Thelma Harper has also reached an important milestone, retiring from the General Assembly after serving in the 96<sup>th</sup> through 110<sup>th</sup> General Assemblies. Over the course of her storied career, she served as chair of the Senate Government Operations Committee, vice chair of the Senate State and Local Government Committee, and as a

member on numerous committees and subcommittees. She has served on the Commission since 2017. A resolution commemorating her long career of service is attached.

We would also like to take this opportunity to commemorate and thank two other departing members, Brentwood City Commissioner Betsy Crossley and Representative Tim Wirgau. Commissioner Crossley has served on the Commission since 2014 and Chairman Wirgau since 2015. Both were extremely active members whose service will be missed. Resolutions honoring their service are attached.

Additionally, we are happy to welcome two new members. Mayor Kevin Brooks of Cleveland, Tennessee, was appointed on November 6, 2018, by Governor Haslam to serve on the Commission, and Mayor Rogers Anderson of Williamson County was appointed on December 5, 2018, by Speaker of the House Harwell. Before being sworn in as mayor this past September, Mayor Brooks represented the 24<sup>th</sup> District of the Tennessee House of Representatives for 12 years. Mayor Anderson was recently elected to his fifth term as county mayor; before holding that office, he served as a county commissioner for 16 years. Please join me in welcoming Mayor Brooks and Mayor Anderson to the Commission.

And, concluding commission updates for this quarter, we are happy to announce that longtime member County Executive Jeff Huffman has been reappointed to the Commission by Speaker of the House Harwell.

### **Staff Update**

Research Manager Mark McAdoo has attained 25 years of service to the State of Tennessee, and Senior Research Associate Nathan Shaver has attained 5 years of service.

Also, Senior Research Associate Dave Keiser graduated from the LEAD Tennessee program on December 10, becoming the sixth member of our staff to graduate from this comprehensive leadership course for state employees.

Please join me in congratulating all three on their accomplishments.