



State of Tennessee
PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 787

HOUSE BILL NO. 2861

By Representative Harry Brooks

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 2511

By Senator Bell

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, relative to programs signifying completion of high school or its equivalent.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-903, is amended by adding the following language as a new subsection (e):

(e) In light of the stated intention of the American Council on Education to create a new GED® test aligned with the common core state standards, THEC shall study whether any changes should be made to the requirements for receipt of Tennessee HOPE lottery scholarships by recipients of GED diplomas under § 49-4-908. The department of labor and workforce development, division of adult education, the department of education and the office of research and education accountability in the office of the comptroller of the treasury shall assist THEC. THEC shall report its progress in determining whether any changes should be made to the requirements for receipt of Tennessee HOPE lottery scholarships by recipients of GED diplomas to the education committees of the house of representatives and the senate by February 1, 2013. THEC shall report its final findings and conclusions and make any recommendations for changes to the statute to the general assembly by January 14, 2014.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 3, Part 14, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

49-3-14__. The department of labor and workforce development, with the assistance of the department of education, the state board of education and THEC, shall develop and implement a program for individuals who did not graduate from high school that will provide a means, other than the GED® tests, to obtain a credential signifying completion of high school or its equivalent. The department of labor and workforce development shall report its progress in developing and implementing such program to the education committees of the house of representatives and the senate by February 1, 2013. The department shall submit its final report with recommendations for any needed legislation to the general assembly by January 14, 2014.

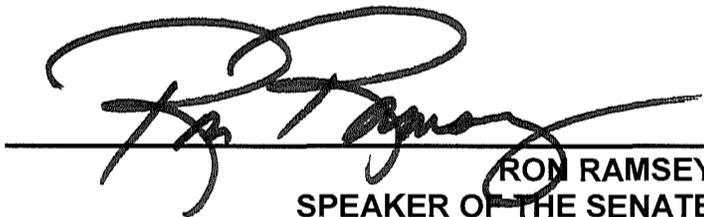
SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: APRIL 9, 2012



BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RON RAMSEY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 23rd day of April 2012



BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR