

Teacher Tenure Reform Resolution

Whereas teacher tenure is almost automatically awarded without regard to performance in student learning, and

Whereas there are many legal and managerial hurdles involved in dismissing an ineffective teacher, and

Whereas some administrators would rather retain incompetent teachers than go through the burdensome, expensive, and bureaucratic process involved in dismissal procedures, and

Whereas when ineffective teachers are allowed to stay in the classroom, it's the children who suffer most, and

Whereas Boards of Education should have the flexibility to make decisions based on performance, not seniority, and

Whereas our current system, which institutionalizes mediocrity and failure, is unacceptable, and

Whereas tenure predates subsequent labor laws that guard against discrimination or other employer abuses, and

Whereas our larger legal framework provides protections for teachers,

Therefore, the State Executive Committee of the Tennessee Republican Party supports SB0624/HB0367, which will amend current Tennessee tenure law (TCA Title 49), and urges the members of the 107th Tennessee Legislature to pass the proposed legislation.