

SENATE BILL 2113

By Lundberg

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4 and Title 62, relative to the Tennessee automotive racing commission.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 3, Part 22, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) There is created the Tennessee automotive racing commission, referred to in this section as the "commission," for the purpose of promoting and supporting the growth of the automotive racing industry in this state.

(b) The commission is attached to the department of tourist development for administrative purposes only.

(c) The commission is composed of nine (9) members, as follows:

(1) The commissioner of tourist development or the commissioner's designee;

(2) The commissioner of transportation or the commissioner's designee;

(3) One (1) member of the house of representatives and one (1) member of the senate, both appointed by the governor as non-voting members; and

(4) Five (5) persons with experience in or knowledge of the racing industry in this state, including the areas of operations, executive leadership, marketing, sales, or the industry generally. Such members are appointed by and shall serve at the pleasure of the governor.

(d) Legislative members of the commission must be appointed for two-year terms and shall serve only so long as they remain members of the general assembly.

Such persons may be reappointed as members of the commission. Any legislative vacancy on the commission must be filled by appointment by the governor, for the purpose of serving out the remainder of the unexpired term.

(e) Commission members shall receive no compensation for their service as members, nor are they entitled to receive per diem or travel expenses in carrying out their duties under this section.

(f)

(1)

(A) The commissioner of tourist development shall call the first meeting of the commission, at which time the commission shall elect a chair.

(B) The chair shall serve a one-year term, with terms to begin on June 30 and expire on July 1 of each year, and may be appointed for up to two (2) consecutive one-year terms.

(2) A majority of members of the commission shall constitute a quorum for official administrative business.

(g)

(1) In order to stagger the terms of the five (5) commission members appointed under subdivision (c)(4), the governor shall make initial appointments as follows:

(A) Two (2) members are appointed for terms of two (2) years, which expire on June 30, 2026;

(B) One (1) member is appointed for a term of three (3) years, which expires on June 30, 2027; and

(C) Two (2) members are appointed for terms of four (4) years, which expire on June 30, 2026.

(2) Following the expiration of members' initial terms as prescribed in subdivision (g)(1), all terms shall begin on July 1 and terminate on June 30, four (4) years thereafter.

(3) All members shall serve until the expiration of the term to which they were appointed and until their successors are appointed and qualified.

(4) Vacancies on the commission must be filled in the same manner as the initial appointment.

(h) For purposes of conducting official business of the commission, a quorum consists of no less than four (4) members.

(i) The commission shall compile an annual report to the governor and the general assembly detailing the commission's activities on or before December 31 of each year. The report must include an accounting of funds received and expended during the year covered by the report, the outputs and outcomes achieved during the year covered by the report, and whether those achievements meet the commission's plan and overall program goals. The commission shall make the report available to the public on the department of tourist development website.

(j)

(1) Money appropriated for use by the commission must be used to:

(A) Increase the number of racing organizations, races, and racing events in this state;

(B) Improve the quality of racing in this state; and

(C) Promote the automotive racing industry in the state.

(2) The commission may receive gifts, donations, grants, and funds to promote its activities and to support ongoing programs. All funds raised by the commission must be used in accordance with this part.

(3) All funds received by the commission shall be held by the department and accounted for separately for such use.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 4-29-247(a), is amended by inserting the following as a new subdivision:

Tennessee automotive racing commission, created by this act;

SECTION 3. For the purpose of appointing members to the commission, this act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act takes effect July 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.