



July 22, 2024

Chapter VI - Education/Schools

Dear Reader:

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We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with county government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other CTAS website material.

Sincerely,

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Chapter VI - Education/Schools

Board of Education

Private Acts of 1939 Chapter 137

SECTION 1. That in all counties in Tennessee having a population of not less than 16,200 nor more than 16,230, according to the Federal Census of 1930, or any subsequent Federal Census, the administration, management, government, supervision, control and conduct of the public school affairs, and all powers and duties pertaining to, connected with, or in any manner necessary and/or incident to the proper conduct and control of the public school affairs, both elementary and high school, in such counties, the employment of teachers and labor, the erection, repairing and/or maintenance of buildings, the furnishing of materials, labor, supplies and equipment, shall be vested in a Board of School Commissioners to be elected by popular vote by the qualified voters of counties of this State to which this Act shall apply, in the manner, form, and for the terms hereinafter provided, and with the powers, duties and privileges herein conferred and granted, and for the compensation stated.

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Board of School Commissioners of Hardin County shall consist of ten (10) members, with one to be elected from each of ten (10) school districts. The school districts shall be coextensive with the ten (10) magisterial districts of the county respectively. The current members of the Board of School Commissioners shall serve their respective districts for the terms indicated as follows:

1. School district 1 - one (1) member shall serve until August 31, 1986.
2. School district 2 - one (1) member shall serve until August 31, 1982.
3. School district 3 - one (1) member shall serve until August 31, 1984.
4. School district 4 - one (1) member shall serve until August 31, 1986.
5. School district 5 - one (1) member shall serve until August 31, 1982.
6. School district 6 - one (1) member shall serve until August 31, 1984.
7. School district 7 - one (1) member shall serve until August 31, 1986.
8. School district 8 - one (1) member shall serve until August 31, 1982.
9. School district 9 - one (1) member shall serve until August 31, 1984.
10. School district 10 - one (1) member shall serve until August 31, 1982. His successor shall serve until August 31, 1984.

As terms expire, successors shall be elected at the preceding August General Election to take office on September 1st for terms of six (6) years.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1939, Chapter 324
Private Acts of 1972, Chapter 382
Private Acts of 1982, Chapter 262

SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That each District School Commissioner shall be at least twenty-one (21) years of age, a resident of the School District from which he is elected, and have no less than a high school diploma or a General Equivalency Diploma (GED), and that the several District School Commissioners in such counties shall constitute a County Board of School Commissioners and have all the powers, duties and privileges, and shall be subject to the same penalties that are now provided by law governing County Boards of Education in Tennessee, together with the additional powers and duties, privileges and restrictions hereinafter stated. Any incumbent District School Commissioner on the effective date of this Act shall be able to succeed himself in office without limitation as to the number of terms.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1972, Chapter 382
Private Acts of 1975, Chapter 8

SECTION 4. That the first County Board of School Commissioners created under this Act shall be as follows: For District No. 1, E. A. Woody; District No. 2, Hardin Garrett; District No. 3, Lee Hardin; District No. 4, W. O. Mangum, Mrs. A. R. Williams; District No. 5, Newt Phillips; District No. 6, Grady Counce; District No. 7, R. E. Harlow; District No. 8, Dr. J. H. Taylor; District No. 9, L. E. Weatherford; District No. 10, Willie P. Smith; District No. 11, Earl Bingham, and the members of the Board herein named shall hold office until September 1, 1940, and until their respective successors shall be elected and qualified as prescribed by law. The several District School Commissioners herein named shall immediately upon the passage of this Act, upon call by the Chairman or Secretary, meet at the courthouse of such county and

qualify and organize by the election of one of their number as Chairman as provided for in Section 7 hereof. The Chairman shall preside over all meetings of said Board and in his absence or at his request the member constituting a quorum may elect one of their body as a Chairman pro-tem. A majority of the members of said Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business. The County Superintendent shall be ex-officio Secretary of the Board.

SECTION 5. That at the regular August Election, 1940, and at each regular August election thereafter, there shall be elected by the qualified voters of each county to which this Act shall apply, one District School Commissioner in each magisterial district in such county to be voted for by the qualified voters of such magisterial district, the terms of office of such officers to begin on September 1, following their election, and to continue for two years or until their respective successors are elected and qualified. The Election Commissioners shall issue to all persons so elected a certificate of election in the same manner as the election of other county officers are now certified.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1939, Chapter 324
Private Acts of 1972, Chapter 382

SECTION 6. That when a vacancy occurs in said Board of School Commissioners by the death, resignation or the removal from the district from which such member was elected, or the failure of one or more of the District School Commissioners to qualify as provided in this Act, the Election Commissioners of the County shall immediately call and hold an election at the several precincts in the magisterial district in which such vacancy occurs to fill such vacancy, or the vacancy may be filled at the next regular August election.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1972, Chapter 382

SECTION 7. That on the fourth Monday in September following each regular August election the District School Commissioners shall meet at the Courthouse in their respective counties and take and subscribe to the oath required of all county officials before some officer authorized to administer such oath and shall organize said County Board of School Commissioners by the election of one of their body by a majority of those present as the Chairman. The said County Board of School Commissioners shall meet and hold a session on the fourth Mondays in June, September, December, March, and second Monday in April of each year, and at such other times as may be deemed necessary to hold any adjourned meeting, or upon call by the Chairman of the Board upon three days written notice when in his opinion it is deemed necessary or proper to the conduct of the school affairs. The County Superintendent shall have power to call the Board in special session at any time he deems necessary for any purpose upon five days' written notice and on petition of four of the members of the Board the County Superintendent shall be required to call a meeting on three days' written notice, but no member of the Board of School Commissioners shall receive compensation for more than fifteen days in any one calendar year.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1939, Chapter 324

SECTION 8. That the County Superintendent of Public Instruction shall be ex-officio Secretary of the County Board of School Commissioners but he shall have no vote on any question of any matter of such School Commissioners. He shall attend all meetings of such Board and keep a true, accurate and complete record of all the acts of such Boards, the names of teachers, and the amounts paid to each, the names of laborers, material men and contractors, the amount of labor, materials, supplies furnished by each prices paid for same, whether upon competitive bids or not, and all such other records shall be kept by him as is now or that may hereafter be required by law to be kept, and such record shall at all times be open for inspection by any person or persons who may request to examine or copy same, and said Secretary shall also meet with the Chairman of the County Board of School Commissioner at such other times as may be deemed necessary or proper to the proper performance of their duties, and to carry out the provisions of this Act, all such services to be performed by the Superintendent as Secretary of such Board without additional compensation other than his annual salary. And he will collect data as to the needs of the several schools, new buildings, equipment, labor, supplies, repairs and fuel, and submit same to the meeting of the Board of School Commissioners; and prepare necessary information for bidders, advertisements for bids, as hereinafter provided, and neither he nor the Chairman of the Board shall have the right or authority to let such contracts for labor, material, equipment, buildings, fuel or supplies without the express direction and authority of the Board in regular session, and not then unless the gross amount to be expended shall be less than One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars.

SECTION 9. That the Board of School Commissioners in the Counties to which this Act shall apply shall have exclusive supervision and control of all public schools, both elementary and high schools, and all other maintained in whole, or in part, by public school funds and they shall elect all teachers in such schools and fix their salaries and make all contracts for such services; provided, however, that the County Superintendent of Schools shall pass upon the fitness and qualifications of all teachers in either the elementary or high schools of the Counties to which this Act applies and it shall be the duty of the County Superintendent of Schools to recommend to the County Board of School Commissioners at the regular meeting of the County Board of School Commissioners on the 4th Monday in April of each year, or at any

adjourned meeting thereof, or any subsequent meeting of said Board, the teachers for the schools of the County for the following year and all applications for positions of teaching in the schools of the Counties to which this Act shall apply shall file such application in writing, with the Superintendent prior to the 4th Monday in April where a position is sought for the following school year. It shall also be the duty of the Superintendent to advise the Board as to the total number of teachers in the elementary and high schools of the Counties to which this Act shall apply allotted by the State Department of Education prior to the selection of teachers for the following year.

The Board of School Commissioners shall select and elect, upon recommendation of the County Superintendent as aforesaid, all the teachers for the elementary and high schools of the Counties to which this Act shall apply at the regular meeting of the Board on the 4th Monday in April of each year, the teachers so elected to serve the next succeeding scholastic year at the places designated by the Board, however the Board shall have the right to adjourn such meeting from time to time until all of the teaching positions in the Counties to which this Act shall apply are filled.

The Board of School Commissioners in all Counties to which this Act shall apply shall have the power and authority to employ janitors and truant officers, bus drivers and other laborers and employees necessary to erect, repair, furnish, improve and maintain suitable school buildings, grounds, fixtures, equipment, supplies and to acquire by gift or purchase and to hold real estate for school purposes. An said Board shall in all things have the power and perform all the duties now imposed by law on County Boards of Education, or by the Commissioner of Education, as is now provided by the general laws of the State of Tennessee, or that may hereafter be enacted effecting the administration of the school affairs of the State. And such Boards shall have the exclusive possession and control of all public school property, both real and personal, now belonging to, in the custody of, or within the control of the school authorities of such Counties, or any Board of Education thereof, or that may hereafter be acquired.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1939, Chapter 324
 Private Acts of 1939, Chapter 382
 Private Acts of 1941, Chapter 287

SECTION 10. That the County Board of School Commissioners herein created shall have the power and authority to enter into contracts and agreements with persons, firms, or corporations for the erection, purchase, repair or maintenance of its buildings and property, equipment and supplies, and for any other purpose deemed necessary by the Board of School Commissioners to carry out the provisions of this Act or the general law applicable to public school affairs, or in the proper discharge of the duties imposed by this Act. Provided, that in all cases for the employment of janitors, bus drivers, or for transporting pupils to school and in other cases for labor, materials, fuel, equipment or supplies, or the erection, repair or maintenance of any building, part of building, or grounds where the cost shall exceed the sum of One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars, no contract shall be entered into or made until after due advertisement of said shall have been made in some newspaper published in such county for three consecutive weeks, setting forth the amount, quality and description of such services, labor, materials, supplies or equipment desired, and the time within which written and sealed bids for same shall be received, and in all cases a cash deposit shall be made with such bids equal to fifteen per centum of the amount bid to guarantee the performance of such contract if awarded, such deposits to be returned immediately to unsuccessful bidders, and the successful bidder when the contract shall have been fully completed; and when such deposit is made with such written and sealed bids, and the Board of School Commissioners at some session shall open same, a quorum being present, such contracts shall in all cases be awarded to the lowest bidder.

SECTION 11. That no member of the County Board of School Commissioners, nor the County Superintendent of Public Instruction, nor any member of his or her immediate family, nor any teacher in any of the public schools of the State, or any firm or corporation, in which either of the persons above named are directly interested shall be a bidder upon any of the contracts to be awarded, or furnish any equipment, labor, fuel, materials, lands or supplies, or directly or indirectly receive any of the profits from same or the sale thereof, or hold any interest in any check, warrant, voucher or moneys expended for such.

SECTION 12. That the violation of any of the provisions of Section 9, 10, and 11 of this Act is declared to be a misdemeanor and all persons convicted of same shall be adjudged to pay a fine of not less than \$5.00 nor more than \$250.00 for each offense, and upon conviction shall forfeit any office, position or contract, respect the administration and management of the public school affairs in such county, or held under the terms and provisions of this Act, and shall be ineligible to hold any office under the terms of this Act for a period of five years from and after the date of such conviction, such provisions and penalties to be made a part of the judgment of the court upon such conviction.

SECTION 13. That each member of the County Board of School Commissioners, other than the Chairman, shall receive the sum of Seven (\$7.00) Dollars per day, and the Chairman of such Board shall

receive Seven (\$7.00) Dollars per day for each day in actual attendance upon the sessions of such Board, but no member shall draw compensation for more than fifteen days in any one calendar year, such sums to be paid out of the school funds of the County by the Trustee of such county upon the warrant of the County Judge or Chairman after a certificate has been filed by the County Superintendent of Public Instruction with such County Judge or Chairman, showing the names of such members in attendance at the end of any one session and number of days attended by each. Provided, however, that the Chairman of such Board shall receive One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars per annum in addition to his per diem compensation, said addition compensation to be paid quarterly out of the general funds of the County by the Trustee of such County upon the warrant of the County Judge or Chairman after a certificate has been filed by the County Superintendent of Public Instruction with such County Judge or Chairman, showing that the said Chairman has been duly qualified as Chairman and has performed the regular duties of that office for the preceding quarter.

As amended by:

Private Acts of 1939, Chapter 483

Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 885

SECTION 14. That it is the intention and purpose of this Act to provide for the full and complete administration of the public school affairs of the counties of the State of Tennessee to which this Act shall apply, and the complete conduct and control of the public school affairs in such county, and that if any section or part thereof shall be declared unconstitutional, such sections shall be considered severable, and such shall not affect the validity of the numerous other and different provisions of this Act, but the same shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 15. That all laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act be and the same are hereby repealed, and this Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: February 2, 1939.

COMPILER'S NOTE: For additional provisions relative to the compensation of the chairperson and members of the board, see Private Acts of 1961, Chapter 186, and Private Acts of 1998, Chapter 165, reproduced following this act.

Private Acts of 1998 Chapter 165

SECTION 1. Chapter 709 of the Private Acts of 1923, as amended by Chapter 137 of the Private Acts of 1939, and Chapter 186 of the Private Acts of 1967, is amended by deleting Sections 1 and 2 added by Chapter 186 of the Private Acts of 1967 and any other text relative to compensation of board members and substituting instead the following:

Beginning September 1, 1998, the compensation of each member of the Hardin County Board of School Commissioners is seventy-five dollars (\$75) a month for attendance at a regularly scheduled monthly meeting. Each member shall also receive as compensation thirty-seven dollars and fifty cents (\$37.50) for attendance at any additional meeting of the board.

SECTION 2. This act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Legislative Body of Hardin County. Its approval or nonapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of the County Legislative Body and certified to the Secretary of State.

SECTION 3. For the purpose of approving or rejecting the provisions of this act, it shall be effective upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, it shall become effective as provided in Section 2.

Passed: April 27, 1998.

Private Acts of 1961 Chapter 186

SECTION 1. That at the expiration of the term of the incumbent Chairman of the Board of Education in Hardin County, his successor in office shall be paid a salary and compensation of \$500.00 per annum and at the expiration of the term of office of each incumbent member of the Board of Education of Hardin County, their successors shall be paid a salary and compensation of \$300.00 per annum for their services as such member.

SECTION 2. That the compensation provided herein shall be payable quarterly to the said members by warrants drawn against the school fund.

SECTION 3. That all laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act be and the same are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. That this Act shall have no effect unless the same shall be approved by a two-thirds vote of the Quarterly County Court within one year after the approval of this Act by the Governor of Tennessee. The action of the Quarterly County Court hereon shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of said county

and certified by said officer to the Secretary of State.

SECTION 5. That this Act shall become effective from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 3, 1961.

Superintendent

Private Acts of 1911 Chapter 635

SECTION 1. That in all counties of this State having a population of not less than 17,515 nor more than 17,525, according to the Federal Census of 1910 or any subsequent Federal Census, the County Superintendent of Public Instruction shall be elected by the qualified voters of said counties for a term of four years; said Superintendents of Public Instruction shall be elected at the regular August election, and their terms of office shall begin the first day of September following; provided, that the first election held under this Act shall be held in August, 1912, and the Superintendents then elected shall not be qualified nor enter upon the duties of said office until the expiration of the incumbent in said office under the election of the County Court, to wit: until January, 1913, and shall serve only until the qualification of his successor to be elected under the next regular election herein provided for, to wit: in the year 1916.

SECTION 2. That this Act shall in no way affect the duties, qualification, or compensation of the County Superintendent, but the same shall remain as now fixed by law, except that certificate of qualification to be furnished and filed with the County Judge or Chairman of the County Court shall be filed not later than the first Monday in April preceding any regular election.

SECTION 3. That all laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act be, and the same are, hereby repealed; and that this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: July 4, 1911.

Education/Schools - Historical Notes

Board of Education

The following acts once affected the board of education in Hardin County but are no longer operative.

1. Acts of 1907, Chapter 236, created a Board of Education and an Advisory Board for every county in the State, abolishing all District Directors of Education. Each county court would divide the county into a minimum of five school districts, to be composed of whole civil districts. One member of the Board of Education would be elected, from each district. The duties of the Chairman of the Board, the Secretary, and the members of the Board are defined. The compensation of the members of the Board would be set by the county court between \$1.50 and \$3.00 per day, not to exceed thirty days per year. An Advisory Board of three members would be elected from each school district every two years. Its duties were to assist the Board as set forth in the act. This act did not apply to city schools and several counties other than Hardin County were exempted from its application.
2. Acts of 1909, Chapter 302, was an amendment to the general school law concerning Boards of Education and applied to Giles, DeKalb, Rutherford, Hickman, Benton, Decatur, Coffee, Hardin, McNairy, and Bedford Counties. The duties of the Chairman of the Board, the Secretary, and the members of the Board were set forth in the act. For example, each member of the board was required to make an accurate report of the status of the schools in his district to the County Superintendent of Public Instruction before August 1st of each year to be written on the forms furnished by the school system. The members were responsible for determining the scholastic population in July of each year.
3. Private Acts of 1915, Chapter 430, required each member of the Board of Education in Hardin County to appoint in their respective districts a special Advisory whose term of office would be concurrent with that of the Board member. The Advisory would devote special attention to the school building in the district and attend to needed repairs and ascertain the feelings of the people concerning the teachers and other personnel. The Advisory would receive no compensation. A vacancy in the office would be filled by an appointment. Women with five years teaching experience were eligible to serve as Advisors. Nothing in the act was to be construed as diminishing the powers of the Board of Education.
4. Private Acts of 1921, Chapter 738, amended Acts of 1909, Chapter 302, above, by providing that each member of the Board of Education shall take the scholastic population of his respective

District on the blank forms furnished by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Board members would be paid \$2.50 per day for their attendance at Board meetings and \$1.50 per day while visiting schools.

5. Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 709, created a Board of Education with ten members, one from each of the ten civil districts, and one from any civil district created in the future, who would be elected at the general election on the first Thursday in August, 1924. A Referendum to be held on September 8, 1923, was to determine whether the act would become effective.
6. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 785, abolished the County Board of Education of Hardin County and created a seven member Board of School Commissioners to be elected from the county at large for four-year terms. The Commissioners were required to be over twenty-one years old, of good moral character, residents and qualified voters of the county, able to read and write, and no more than four Commissioners could belong to the same political party. The Board would have supervision and control of all the schools, both elementary and secondary, and all others which were supported by public taxation. They would perform all the duties of the old Board of Education. The members would elect a chairman from their own number and the Superintendent of Public Instruction would act as ex officio Secretary, keeping all Board records. The Board members would be paid \$3.00 per day for each day in attendance, payable out of the County general funds. The act named A. L. Hughes, A. M. Patterson, W. W. Roberts, Bernice Nance, J. B. Franks, H. C. Smith, and J. E. Oldham as members of the first Board.

General Reference

The following acts constitute part of the administrative and political heritage of the educational structure of Hardin County but are no longer operative since they have either been superseded, repealed, or failed to receive local approval.

1. Public Acts of 1833, Chapter 42, provided that the chairman of any free school trustees, or the clerk of any church in the Counties of Lawrence, Wayne, Hardin, and McNairy, would be entitled to have surveyed and laid down on the general plan of the particular district any quantity of vacant land, not exceeding four acres, for the erection of a school house, or a meeting house, and the said property so entered would be construed as belonging to the Trustees or to the church with all the privileges of ownership.
2. Private Acts of 1833, Chapter 249, created and incorporated the Savannah Academy in Hardin County. The act named as Trustees for the Academy, Orville Harrison, James LeVive, John Houston, Richard Stephens, Arthur B. Campbell, Joseph N. Baker, and Robert Watt, each of whom would be sworn and bonded. They would select a Secretary and Treasurer from their own number and were entitled to receive the money for the Hardin County Academy from the Bank of the State of Tennessee.
3. Acts of 1837-38, Chapter 161, named James Irwin, David Robinson, Reuben Day, John J. Williams, Christopher H. McGinnis, Michael L. Woods, and Samuel Davis to the Board of Trustees for the Savannah Academy in Hardin County, constituting it as a body corporate.
4. Acts of 1847-48, Chapter 63, required the Trustee of Hardin County to distribute, pro rata, the school monies in his possession to the school districts of the County.
5. Acts of 1847-48, Chapter 154, Section 6, appointed James Scott, W. H. Cherry, James Irwin, and A. M. Hardin as the Trustees for a female branch of the County Academy of Hardin County to be established in or near the town of Savannah as the Trustees were to consider proper. The Trustees would receive one-half of the State funds paid to the County Academy for its support. This academy would be governed by the rules and regulations established by the Board.
6. Acts of 1851-52, Chapter 140, amended Acts of 1847-48, Chapter 154, above, so that there would be five Trustees elected to manage the affairs of the female branch of Savannah Academy, all of whom would be elected in the same manner, for the same length of time, and who would have the right to exercise the same rights and privileges, as all other duly constituted Trustees.
7. Private Acts of 1865-66, Chapter 93, recited that Savannah Female College was located in Savannah in 1861 under the sponsorship of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a spacious and commodious brick building was started but never completed. The act incorporated the school as the "Savannah Female College" under the patronage of the church and with all incidental corporate powers. The incorporators were A. G. McDougal, G. M. Hamilton, Thomas Maxwell, W. H. Cherry, John S. Irwin, Thomas Davy, L. H. Broyles, Jr., Robert J. Williams, William Russell, A. H. Kendel, Elijah Harbour, John McDougal, D. F. Street, James Williams, N. M. D. Kemp, J. C. Walker, John A. Smith, W. K. Hardin, and Thomas H. Mabry. The institution would be exempt from taxation so long as it was being used for educational purposes.

8. Public Acts of 1875, Chapter 131, allowed the land which had been held for the common schools in Hardin County to be sold with the consent of the County Court. The County Court would authorize a person to survey the land, divide it into the most attractive lots possible, and return a plat to County Court. The Chairman of the Court would cause publication of notice of the sale. The County Court was empowered to convey title, collect the sale proceeds, and adjudicate all the claims and disputes. The net proceeds would be divided among the school districts according to the scholastic population.
9. Acts of 1903, Chapter 483, abolished the sixty-eight and sixty-ninth School Districts of Hardin County and the land formerly belonging to those Districts was attached to the fifteenth School District of the County.
10. Acts of 1905, Chapter 209, created a special school district in the Fourth Civil District of Hardin County which would be known as School District No. 9. The act described the land contained in the new district. The directors of the Fourth Civil District were directed to pay over to the Trustees of the new District its pro-rated share of all school funds. The County Superintendent of Public Instruction was required to appoint three directors for the District who would serve until the next regular election when their successors would be elected by the people. The Directors were to possess the same rights and powers enjoyed by other District Directors of the schools.
11. Acts of 1907, Chapter 363, created an independent school district in the First Civil District of Hardin County. The act described the area included in the district but also stated that the district included the following inhabitants: Jim Coffman, Watt Hardin, Will Symms, Arthur Porter, Ben Beckham, Jeff Walker, Dock King, the Mitchells, Wash Hamilton, Riley Hamilton, Matt Davis, Jim Davis, Lee Hardin, Bill Brasier, Lige Brasier, Elisha Brasier, Lum Clifton, John Simpson, Lum Robertson, Arthur Porter, Lum Bell, Leonard Bell, and Henry Bell.
12. Acts of 1909, Chapter 236, was a compulsory school attendance law for Blount and Hardin Counties. All children between eight and sixteen years of age were required to attend the public schools for 80 days, or 16 weeks, or as long as the school term lasted. Days would be four hours or longer, and no child could be excused except by the Superintendent. One could attend a private, or parochial school, or be taught by a competent person at home and meet the requirements of the act. Arrangements were included for a child to obtain working papers if he helped support his family. Those who were poverty stricken could obtain aid from the Commissioners of the Poor who could arrange support for the family or the child in school. The Board of Education could furnish free text books. Temporary absences could be excused by a teacher or principal, who were required to keep sufficient records of attendance. Any person or business hiring a child not excused from school could be prosecuted and fined. The Sheriff, the Deputies, and the Constables of the County were charged with the enforcement of the act.
13. Private Acts of 1911, Chapter 671, was a school attendance law for Hardin County, which directed that each child in the County between the ages of 8 and 16 years be sent to school at least 75 days, or for as long as school was in session unless they were excused by the Board of Education. Children legally could be sent to private, parochial, or to other schools having the educational qualifications. Illness of the child or hardship was acceptable as an excuse for failure to attend. The Commissioners of the Poor could provide for a child of extreme poverty to attend school, pay his family, and buy his clothes and books. Teachers or the principal could excuse temporary absences.
14. Public Acts of 1925, Chapter 115, Section 33, was part of the act which is codified as Title 49 of the Tennessee Code Annotated. This section abolished all special school districts which were not taxing districts, and those which were taxing districts were allowed to hold referenda on the question of their abolition. When all the debts of the school district were paid, the district would join the county system, if desired.
15. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 783, created a special school district in the area of the northeast corner of McNairy County, and the southeast corner of Chester County along the western border of Hardin County because it was not possible for the three counties to maintain separate school districts there. Some 150 children of school age resided in the area. Each county would contribute \$900 toward the cost of erecting a school building to be located as near to the center of the area as possible, and would contribute to the continuing expenses of the school in proportion to the average daily attendance of pupils from each county. The operation and maintenance of the district would be the responsibility of the Boards of Education of each County acting jointly.
16. Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 862, authorized the Commissioners of the Town of Savannah to transfer to Hardin County the building located in Savannah and known as the City Elementary School Building. The transfer would be first submitted to the voters for approval. The building

would be used by the County for school purposes.

17. Private Acts of 1933, Chapter 131, amended Public Acts of 1925, Chapter 115, above, by exempting Hardin County from the application of the general act, which required the establishment and maintenance of at least one county high school in every county of the state offering at least one full four year course of study approved by the State Board of Education.

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