

JAMIE WOODSON Speaker Pro Tempore

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Speaker Pro Tempore of the Senate State of Tennessee

Knox County 6th Senatorial District

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Dear Friends:

Thank you for the privilege of serving you as your state senator. Representing you in the Tennessee General Assembly and as Speaker Pro Tempore of our State Senate has been among my life's greatest honors. I am grateful beyond words for the trust and confidence you placed in me by electing me to the Senate, and before that, along with the voters of Jefferson County, electing me to the House of Representatives.

President Theodore Roosevelt said, "Far and away the best prize that life has to offer is the chance to work hard at work that is worth doing." As a legislator, supporting and improving public education in Tennessee is work worth doing and has truly been my passion. There is no higher priority for parents, school systems, and our great state.

My legislative service has afforded me the opportunity to make substantive and meaningful contributions to our state's education system. Among my proudest achievements is participating in the collaboration that resulted in Tennessee's successful First to the Top reform strategy.

In 2009, I was asked to serve on the steering committee of the Tennessee State Collaborative on Reforming Education (SCORE), chaired by former U.S. Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist. In this role, I have worked with dedicated Tennesseans determined to think big in terms of moving our state's education system forward.

Recently, I was offered the position of President and Chief Executive Officer for SCORE. After much consideration, I have decided to accept this opportunity. In this role, I will advise SCORE's Board of Directors, Steering Committee, and partner organizations as we move forward with the important goal of ensuring that every Tennessee child graduates high school prepared for college or the workforce. I invite you to visit SCORE's website at www.tnscore.org to learn more about its important work.

As a result of these new responsibilities, I have tendered my resignation from the State Senate effective July 1, 2011, or at the close of business on the last day of session,

whichever comes first. My new work with SCORE will begin at that time. In the next few months, I look forward to finishing the important work that is currently before the General Assembly.

On a personal note - although my new duties will require that I spend a good deal of time traveling across the state, my husband, Bill, and I will continue to have our primary residence in Knoxville.

While I will sincerely miss representing you as your state senator, I believe that this is a natural continuation of the work in which I have been engaged and gives me the opportunity to dedicate 100 percent of my efforts to improving public education in our state. Tennessee has become a national leader in education reform, and I am excited to continue my public service by being on the front lines of improving public education at such a critical time.

Once again, thank you for the honor of serving you in our Tennessee General Assembly. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may ever be of service to you or your family, both during the next few months as your state senator, and in the future.

Yours in service,

Jamie Woodson

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