EVENT BRIEFING MEMO: Service-Learning Conversation

Vasco A. Smith, Jr. County Administrative Building ★ 160 N Main Street, 5th Floor ★ Memphis, TN 38104

EVENT DATE AND TIME: August 16, 2018 | 3:15 – 4:45 PM

**Commissioner Lead:** Mark Gearan

**Support Commissioner:** Avril Haines

**Staff Lead:** Keri Lowry

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**Support Commissioner:** Avril Haines

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE:
Service-Learning is a teaching and learning strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection to enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities. Through service-learning, young people—from kindergarteners to college students—use what they learn in the classroom to solve real-life problems. They not only learn the practical applications of their studies, they become actively contributing citizens and community members through the service they perform. Service-learning can be applied in a wide variety of settings, including schools, universities, and community-based and faith-based organizations. It can involve a group of students, a classroom, or an entire school. Students build character and become active participants as they work with others in their school and community to create service projects in areas such as education, public safety, and the environment. In Tennessee, Service-Learning is an elective that is offered for grades 10-12 and is designed to provide a comprehensive service-learning approach focused on ethical, social and intellectual skill development.

The purpose of this meeting is:

➢ To provide Commissioners an opportunity to engage with leaders, practitioners, and students involved in serving learning programs in Tennessee.

PARTICIPANTS:
Participants will be approximately 5-7 and will include service-learning trainers, teachers, and implementers. Key participants include:

- LaDonna Young, Dean of Humanities, Social Sciences and Mathematics at Southwest Tennessee Community College
- Shannon Little, Department Chair of Social & Behavioral Sciences and Education at Southwest Tennessee Community College
- Zac Carr, Assistant Director, Leadership and Service at University of Memphis
- Jim Snell, Executive Director at Volunteer Tennessee
- Robin Corindo, Tennessee Director at Corporation for National and Community Service
AGENDA:
3:15 – 3:20 PM  Welcome remarks
3:20 – 3:35 PM  Roundtable introductions
3:35 – 4:35 PM  Roundtable discussion
4:35 – 4:45 PM  Closing remarks

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:
The questions below are provided for guidance only and are not intended to serve as a protocol or script for the meeting.
Any other question as it relates to the scope of the Commission’s work:

- Is a military draft or draft contingency still a necessary component of U.S. national security?
- Are modifications to the selective service system needed?
- How can the United States increase participation in military, national, and public service by individuals with skills critical to address the national security and other public service needs of the nation?
- What are the barriers to participation in military, national, or public service?
- Does service have inherent value, and, if so, what is it?
- Is a mandatory service requirement for all Americans necessary, valuable, and feasible?
- How does the United States increase the propensity for Americans, particularly young Americans, to serve?