



TNN Legislative Report

TNN - 1 - TOP-TIER

SB42/HB557 **VETERANS & MILITARY AFFAIRS: Creates the State Disaster Relief Program.**

Sponsors: Sen. Walley, Page , Rep. Capley, Kip

Summary: Creates the State Disaster Relief Program to be administered by TEMA for the purpose of providing grants to local governments where a natural disaster has occurred that does not exceed the threshold for federal disaster relief. Specifies criteria that a natural disaster in a county must meet in order to qualify for a grant.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 8, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES General Fund FY25-26 \$3,169,700 FY26-27 & Subsequent Years \$3,156,700 Total Positions Required: 2 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE Permissive FY25-26 and Subsequent Years \$3,000,000 EXPENDITURES Permissive FY25-26 & Subsequent Years \$3,000,000

Senate Status: 03/18/25 - Taken off notice in Senate State & Local Government Committee.

House Status: 04/02/25 - Taken off notice in House State & Local Government Committee.

Position: TNN - Support

Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

Comment: TNN - Amend to include nonprofits as sub-grantees?

SB190/HB827 **LABOR LAW: Benefits for terminated employee who is pregnant.**

Sponsors: Sen. Lamar, London , Rep. Glynn, Ronnie

Summary: Requires an employer that terminates the employment of an employee who the employer knows to be pregnant and who is covered under an employer-sponsored health benefit plan to continue to provide coverage under the plan until the employee's pregnancy ends. Requires the terminated employee to notify the employer within 30 days after the date the employee's pregnancy ends in childbirth or otherwise that the pregnancy has ended. Specifies that such notification be a signed written statement indicating the date the pregnancy ended.

Fiscal Note: (Dated March 6, 2025) OTHER FISCAL IMPACT The proposed legislation could have fiscal impacts due to extended health coverage for terminated pregnant employees of state or other governmental agencies and administrative costs. The extent of such impacts cannot be reasonably assumed.

Senate Status: 03/11/25 - Failed in Senate Commerce & Labor Committee after failing to secure a second.

House Status: 02/10/25 - Referred to House Banking & Consumer Affairs Subcommittee.

Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

SB212/HB885 **PUBLIC EMPLOYEES: Agendas for meetings of governing bodies.**

Sponsors: Sen. Gardenhire, Todd , Rep. Todd, Chris

Summary: Expands the requirement that state and local governing bodies make an agenda available to the public prior to regular public meetings of the body to include the governing bodies of certain nonprofit organizations, including nonprofit community organizations that receive federal funding, nonprofit organizations that receive community grant funds from this state or certain funding from local governments, nonprofit organizations created for the benefit of local governments, and nonprofit organizations that provide the metropolitan government of Nashville/Davidson County with certain utility services. Requires, rather than permits, such governing bodies that maintain a website to post the agenda to the website.

Amendment Summary: House Public Service Subcommittee amendment 1 (005268) clarifies that these requirements do not apply to a governing body that is a TennCare vendor. Senate State & Local Government Committee amendment 1 (006843) clarifies that these requirements do not apply to a governing body that is a TennCare vendor. Clarifies that these requirements do not apply to a local governing body that has neither the authority to make binding decisions nor the ability to appropriate funds.

Fiscal Note: (Dated January 20, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 04/02/25 - Senate State & Local Government Committee recommended with amendment 3 (006988). Sent to Senate Calendar Committee.

House Status: 04/03/25 - Set for House State & Local Government Committee 04/08/25.

Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

SB227/HB811 **TORT LIABILITY: Charitable organizations providing housing to persons unlawfully present in the US.**

Sponsors: Sen. Taylor, Brent , Rep. Grills, Rusty

Summary: Allows a charitable organization that provides housing to a person who the charitable organization knows is unlawfully present in the United States to be held liable for a loss, damages, injury, or death resulting from a criminal offense committed by the person who is unlawfully present in the United States while the person is receiving housing services from the charitable organization if the charitable organization's conduct in providing housing constitutes negligence, gross negligence, or willful and wanton misconduct.

Amendment Summary: Senate amendment 1, House Civil Justice Subcommittee amendment 1 (003769) establishes that a charitable organization may be held liable for a loss, damages, injury, or death resulting from a criminal offense committed by a person that is unlawfully present in the United States if: 1) the organization knew the person was unlawfully present in the United States; 2) the person was receiving housing services from the organization when the offense was committed; and 3) the organization's conduct in providing housing constitutes negligence, gross negligence, or willful and wanton misconduct.

Fiscal Note: (Dated January 23, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 04/03/25 - Senate passed with amendment 1 (003769), which establishes that a charitable organization may be held liable for a loss, damages, injury, or death resulting from a criminal offense committed by a person that is unlawfully present in the United States if: 1) the organization knew the person was unlawfully present in the United States; 2) the person was receiving housing services from the organization when the offense was committed; and 3) the organization's conduct in providing housing constitutes negligence, gross negligence, or willful and wanton misconduct.

House Status: 04/03/25 - Set for House Judiciary Committee 04/08/25.

Position: TNN - Oppose

Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

SB270/HB218 **EDUCATION: Universal Pre-K Funding Act.**

Sponsors: Sen. Oliver, Charlane , Rep. Behn, Aftyn

Summary: Enacts the "Universal Pre-K Funding Act," which requires each LEA to establish a pre-kindergarten program that enrolls eligible children. Defines "eligible child" to mean a child who is four years of age on or before August 15 and who resides in the geographic area served by the LEA. Currently, Tennessee's pre-kindergarten program is voluntary and serves only at-risk children. Specifies other requirements for LEAs enrolling children into the universal pre-kindergarten program. To fund the universal pre-kindergarten program, Imposes a data transaction privilege tax on a person's annual gross revenues that are derived from data transactions from digital advertising services in this state. Specifies that the data transaction privilege tax imposed is levied at the rate of 9.5% of the assessable base and applies only to persons with an assessable base of \$50,000,000 or more (13 pp.).

Fiscal Note: (Dated March 15, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES General Fund FY25-26 \$1,772,100 FY26-27 & Subsequent Years \$382,180,500
Total Positions: 37 HB 218 - SB 270 OTHER FISCAL IMPACT To the extent that the state collects revenue from the data transaction privilege tax, those funds will be deposited into the Universal Pre-K Fund. However, the extent and timing of any such future collections cannot be reasonably determined. Due to multiple unknown factors, it is uncertain what costs the Department of Revenue will incur for administration of the tax. It is unknown if LEAs will have sufficient space to accommodate additional pre-K classrooms. For LEAs that do not have the capacity, a mandatory increase in local infrastructure expenditures will occur. However, because the amount of available classroom space is unknown, a precise fiscal impact cannot be estimated with certainty. Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.

Senate Status: 03/26/25 - Failed in Senate Education Committee.

House Status: 03/25/25 - Taken off notice in House K-12 Subcommittee.

Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

SB306/HB459 **COMMERCIAL LAW: Administrative dissolution - entities filing documents with the secretary of state.**

Sponsors: Sen. Briggs, Richard , Rep. Martin, Greg

Summary: Allows the secretary of state to administratively dissolve a cooperative, corporation, LLC, or limited partnership if it files a document containing materially false information knowingly signed by an organizer, director, officer, member, agent, or representative. Allows administrative dissolution or revocation of a foreign corporation's certificate of authority or a foreign limited partnership's registration if the entity is owned or controlled by a foreign government or foreign nongovernment person designated as a foreign adversary by specified entities.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 12, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 03/24/25 - Signed by Senate speaker.

House Status: 03/24/25 - Signed by House speaker.

Executive Status: 03/25/25 - Sent to governor.

Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

Comment: TNN - Grants SOS authority to dissolve corporations and revoke registrations, particularly targeting ownership by foreign adversaries.

SB441/HB478 **CRIMINAL LAW: Carrying of a firearm into an area where firearms are not permitted.**

Sponsors: Sen. Bailey, Paul , Rep. Butler, Ed

Summary: Specifies that a person does not commit an offense if the person possesses or carries a firearm into an area that is posted if, upon the request of an individual authorized to control access to the property, the person immediately leaves the property or stores the firearm in a personal vehicle in accordance with state law.

Amendment Summary: House Criminal Justice Subcommittee amendment 1 (006353) revises the offense of possessing a weapon on property that is properly posted to prohibit such possession such that the offense only applies if the individual intentionally or knowingly possessed the weapon where not authorized. Creates an affirmative defense to prosecution for the offense if, upon the request of an individual authorized to control access to the property, the individual immediately leaves the property or stores the firearm in a personal vehicle in accordance with state law.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 26, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 04/01/25 - Taken off notice in Senate Judiciary Committee.

House Status: 04/02/25 - Taken off notice in House Judiciary Committee.

Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

SB453/HB391 **HEALTH CARE: Solicitation materials to be used by a professional solicitor on behalf of a nonprofit organization.**

Sponsors: Sen. Hatcher, Tom , Rep. Atchley, Fred

Summary: Revises notification requirements for timely filing of fundraising campaign literature by allowing a professional solicitor to file with the secretary of state required solicitation campaign literature or promotional materials, within 90 days after a solicitation campaign has been completed or within 90 days after the end of the fiscal year for a campaign that lasts more than one year. Removes the requirement that a professional solicitor must notify the secretary of state or provide copies of any modification or changes in campaign solicitation literature or promotional materials.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 13, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 03/17/25 - Senate passed.

House Status: 04/03/25 - Set for House State & Local Government Committee Consent 04/08/25.

Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

SB454/HB379 **COMMERCIAL LAW: Solicitation of charitable funds.**

Sponsors: Sen. Hatcher, Tom , Rep. Stinnett, Tom

Summary: Clarifies, by removing certain language, that a professional solicitor includes servants or employees specially employed by or for a charitable organization who are engaged in the solicitation of contributions.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 18, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status: 03/17/25 - Senate passed.
House Status: 03/31/25 - House passed.
Executive Status: 03/31/25 - Sent to the speakers for signatures.
Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

SB563/HB779 EDUCATION: Charitable solicitations - registration exemptions for educational institutions.

Sponsors: Sen. Pody, Mark , Rep. Maberry, Aron
Summary: Corrects a reference in the charitable solicitations law that requires educational institutions be approved as such by the Tennessee public charter school commission rather than the state board of education to be exempt from registration requirements.
Fiscal Note: (Dated January 31, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status: 03/24/25 - Senate passed.
House Status: 04/02/25 - House State & Local Government Committee deferred to the next available consent calendar.
Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

SB580/HB631 FAMILY LAW: Grant program for supporting and funding nonprofit and faith-based child care programs.

Sponsors: Sen. Akbari, Raumesh , Rep. Clemmons, John
Summary: Requires the governor's office of faith-based and community initiatives to establish a grant program for the purpose of supporting and funding nonprofit and faith-based child care programs for children four years of age and younger. Broadly captioned.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 21, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES General Fund FY25-26 \$864,100 FY26-27 & Subsequent Years \$848,500 Total Positions Required: 4
Senate Status: 02/12/25 - Referred to Senate Health & Welfare Committee.
House Status: 02/26/25 - Failed in House Health Subcommittee.
Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

SB686/HB148 EDUCATION: Creates Tennessee Promise completions grant special account in state treasury.

Sponsors: Sen. White, Dawn , Rep. White, Mark
Summary: Creates the Tennessee Promise completion grant special account in the state treasury for purposes of awarding completion grants to certain Tennessee Promise scholarship students. Makes the four-year pilot program established by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission to award completion grants to certain Tennessee Promise scholarship students a permanent program.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 8, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT Tennessee Promise Completion REVENUE General Fund Grant Special Account FY25-26 & Subsequent Years - \$250,000 Tennessee Promise Completion EXPENDITURES General Fund Grant Special Account FY25-26 & Subsequent Years \$250,000
Senate Status: 03/19/25 - Senate Education recommended. Sent to Senate Finance, Ways & Means.
House Status: 04/02/25 - House Finance Subcommittee placed behind the budget.
Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

SB802/HB841 EDUCATION: Establishes the promising futures early learning scholarship program.

Sponsors: Sen. Massey, Becky , Rep. Haston, Kirk
Summary: Establishes the promising futures early learning scholarship program and a fund to provide scholarships for high-quality early learning programs from excess lottery revenues. Broadly captioned.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 22, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT Tennessee REVENUE Promise Promising Futures Early Learning Endowment Fund FY25-26 (\$22,500,000) \$22,500,000 FY26-27 & Subsequent Years (\$22,500,000) \$22,500,000 Promising Futures Early Learning EXPENDITURES General Fund Fund FY25-26 NET \$19,909,100 \$22,500,000 FY26-27 & Subsequent Years NET \$6,863,700 \$22,500,000 Total Positions Required: 9
Senate Status: 02/26/25 - Taken off notice in Senate Education Committee.
House Status: 02/10/25 - Referred to House K-12 Subcommittee.
Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

SB808/HB632 PUBLIC EMPLOYEES: Paid leave for qualified volunteer work.

Sponsors: Sen. Yarbro, Jeff , Rep. Clemmons, John
Summary: Authorizes an employee who has been employed full-time with this state for at least 12 months to receive up to 15 hours of paid leave for certain qualified volunteer work. Specifies that volunteer leave may only be used for absence from duty because of non-state Tennessee community commitments and obligations, such as activities with nonprofit organizations, schools, or community initiatives, as a non-paid volunteer following prior approval from a direct supervisor.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 20, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status: 02/10/25 - Introduced in the Senate
House Status: 02/26/25 - Failed in House Public Service Subcommittee.
Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

SB824/HB985 CRIMINAL LAW: Offense of possession of a weapon in a building or on property that is properly posted.

Sponsors: Sen. Hensley, Joey , Rep. Warner, Todd
Summary: Removes the criminal offense of possession of a weapon in a building or on property that is properly posted. Removes the requirement that the department of safety suspend or revoke a handgun carry permit for a violation of that offense by a handgun permit holder.
Fiscal Note: (Dated March 22, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status: 02/12/25 - Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.
House Status: 03/26/25 - Taken off notice in House Criminal Justice Subcommittee.
Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

SB845/HB1097 LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Reports on and penalties for violations of state law or the state constitution.

Sponsors: Sen. Lowe, Adam , Rep. Sexton, Cameron

Summary: Requires the attorney general and reporter, at the request of a member of the general assembly, to investigate an ordinance, regulation, order, or other official action adopted or taken by the chief executive officer or governing body of a local government or any written policy, written rule, or written regulation adopted by any agency, department, or other entity of the local government that the member alleges violates state law or the Constitution of Tennessee. Creates penalties for violations. Broadly captioned.

Amendment Summary: House Judiciary Committee amendment 1 (006481) authorizes the Attorney General and Reporter (AG) to review whether or not a local government action violates state law or the Constitution of Tennessee. Establishes that, if the AG determines that the local government action violates state law or the Constitution of Tennessee, the AG must notify the local government's chief executive officer specifying the statutory or constitutional provision that the local government has violated. Establishes that if a local government receives a notice, within 60 days from receipt, the local government may: (1) resolve the violation by repealing or revising the local government action to eliminate the violation; or (2) challenge the finding of the AG by filing a special action before a three-judge panel seeking a declaratory judgment that the local government action is consistent with and does not violate state law or the Constitution of Tennessee. Requires the AG to defend the AG's finding in the special action. Requires the AG to instruct the Commissioner of the Department of Finance and Administration (F&A) and the State Treasurer to withhold all funds of the state allotted to the local government, including state-shared taxes, if the entity fails to resolve or repeal the violation within 60 days. Requires the AG to notify the Governor, the Speaker of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the impacted local government that the violation has been resolved. Restores such funding to the local government upon the AG's determination that the issue has been resolved. Requires F&A to hold the withheld funds in reserve and to allocate to the local government once the violation has been resolved. Effective July 1, 2025, and applies to local government actions taken on or after that date and funds allocated or appropriated during or after FY26-27.

Fiscal Note: (Dated March 15, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 04/02/25 - Failed in Senate State & Local Government Committee after adopting amendment 2 (006993).

House Status: 04/03/25 - Set for House State & Local Government Committee 04/08/25.

Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

Comment: TNN - Could withhold state funding to cities like Memphis.

SB958/HB1068 **WELFARE: Creation of a community grant advisory board.**

Sponsors: Sen. Lamar, London , Rep. Hakeem, Yusuf

Summary: Creates in the department of human services a community grant advisory board for the purpose of administering the community-based organizations grant program to financially support eligible nonprofit organizations that serve communities in the areas of education, public health, housing, social issues, and economic and workforce development.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 28, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT REVENUE Community-Based Organization Grant Fund FY25-26 \$1,000,000 Community-Based EXPENDITURES General Fund Organization Grant Fund FY25-26 \$1,109,600 \$1,000,000 FY26-27 & Subsequent Years \$114,000 - Total Positions Required: 1

Senate Status: 03/12/25 - Taken off notice in Senate Government Operations Committee.

House Status: 02/11/25 - Referred to House Health Subcommittee.

Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

SB1071/HB46 **PUBLIC FINANCE: Reimbursement payments to child advocacy centers.**

Sponsors: Sen. Johnson, Jack , Rep. McCalmon, Jake

Summary: Requires that a reimbursement payment to a child advocacy center be completed within 30 days of receipt of a request for reimbursement. Requires payment of a 10 percent late payment fee for failing to make a timely reimbursement to a child advocacy center. Requires the department of children's services to submit to the general assembly an annual report on the timeliness of reimbursement payments to child advocacy centers. Broadly captioned.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 3, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 03/26/25 - Taken off notice in Senate Health & Welfare Committee.

House Status: 03/25/25 - Returned to House clerk's desk.

Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

SB1083/HB622 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Dismantle DEI Act.**

Sponsors: Sen. Johnson, Jack , Rep. Maberry, Aron

Summary: Enacts the "Dismantle DEI Act." Prohibits local governments from basing hiring decisions on any metrics that considers a person's race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or disability, or hiring a candidate in order to achieve any goals to increase diversity, equity, or inclusion in the workplace.

Amendment Summary: House Cities & Counties Subcommittee amendment 1 (005791) enacts the Dismantle DEI Act. Prohibits the state, any local government, any local education agency (LEA), and public institutions of higher education from basing hiring decisions on metrics which consider an applicant's race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or disability; or from hiring a particular candidate in order to achieve any goals to increase diversity, equity, or inclusion in the workplace; however, an applicant's national origin, age, or disability may be considered if such consideration is expressly permitted by a specific provision of state law or a federal statute or regulation. Removes the requirement that the Commissioner of the Department of Education (DOE) recommend a policy to promote educator diversity to local boards of education, which must subsequent adopt such policy.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 3, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 04/02/25 - Senate State & Local Government Committee recommended with amendment 1 (006805). Sent to Senate Calendar Committee.

House Status: 04/03/25 - Set for House State & Local Government Committee 04/08/25.

Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

SB1096/HB414 **EDUCATION: Allows an existing place of worship to be used for educational purposes.**

Sponsors: Sen. Hensley, Joey , Rep. Davis, Elaine

Summary: Permits an existing place of worship to be used for educational purposes without reclassification of the building's occupancy type if certain conditions are met, including the building complying with safety upgrade requirements.

Fiscal Note:

DATE NOT FOUND. HB 414 - SB 1096 Fiscal Review Committee Tennessee General Assembly FISCAL NOTE Mach 11, 2025 Fiscal Analyst: Laura Moore | Email: laura.moore@capitol.tn.gov | Phone: 615-741-2564 SUMMARY OF BILL: Authorizes an existing place of worship to be used for educational purposes without reclassification of the building's occupancy type so long as the existing building meets specific fire safety standards. Declares that such a building in compliance with the specific standards is exempt from needing automatic fire sprinkler systems. FISCAL IMPACT: NOT SIGNIFICANT Assumptions: Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. 68-120-101, the State Fire Marshals Office (SFMO) is required to establish building construction standards. Such standards are required to afford a reasonable degree of safety to life and property from fire and hazards incident to the design, construction, alteration and repair of buildings or structures. The provisions of the legislation will not significantly affect the current regulatory procedures of the SFMO, state, or local governments. Any expenditures required to meet the relevant standards will be borne by private or nonprofit entities. Any fiscal impact to state or local government is estimated to be not significant. IMPACT TO COMMERCE: NOT SIGNIFICANT Assumption: The provisions of the proposed legislation will not result in any significant impact to jobs or commerce in Tennessee. HB 414 - SB 1096 CERTIFICATION: The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Bojan Savic, Executive Director HB 414 - SB 1096 2

Senate Status: 03/18/25 - Taken off notice in Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.

House Status: 02/05/25 - Referred to House Cities & Counties Subcommittee.

Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

SB1286/HB105 **WELFARE: Grants under the child care improvement pilot program - requirements.**

Sponsors: Sen. Johnson, Jack , Rep. Lamberth, William

Summary: Removes the requirement that grants under the child care improvement pilot program be provided explicitly to nonprofit organizations in order to establish or make improvements to a child care agency. Broadly captioned. Part of Administration Package.

Fiscal Note: (Dated January 25, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 03/19/25 - Signed by Senate speaker.

House Status: 03/19/25 - Signed by House speaker.

Executive Status: 03/28/25 - Signed by governor.

Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

Comment: TNN - Will still prioritize nonprofits. Expanding for profits because nonprofit interest only expended \$10m of current \$15m budget for the Non-profit and Employer Workforce Care Partnership Grants (NEW Care Partnership Grants) at DHS. Goal is to fully expend funds for childcare.

SB1287/HB107 **WELFARE: Personal responsibility plans - requirements for parents or caretaker relatives.**

Sponsors: Sen. Johnson, Jack , Rep. Lamberth, William

Summary: Removes the requirement that a parent or caretaker relative enter a personal responsibility plan that requires a child to attend school and receive immunizations and health checks. Removes certain requirements for a parent or caretaker regarding personal responsibility plans. Also removes a 20 percent reduction in temporary assistance payments for failure to comply with personal responsibility plan requirements pertaining to children attending school and children receiving immunizations and health checks. Part of Administration Package.

Fiscal Note: (Dated January 30, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 03/19/25 - Signed by Senate speaker.

House Status: 03/19/25 - Signed by House speaker.

Executive Status: 03/28/25 - Signed by governor.

Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

SB1288/HB106 **WELFARE: Licensing exemption categories for programs that fall within the definition of a child care agency.**

Sponsors: Sen. Johnson, Jack , Rep. Lamberth, William

Summary: Makes various changes to the licensing exemption categories for programs and activities that fall within the definition of a child care agency, including adding gym care and Tennessee professional sport event care program requirements. Specifies that a program that does not provide child care for five or less children in certain circumstances is not subject to licensure. Removes the requirement for a drop in center that provides child care for certain hours to register as casual care. Part of Administration Package.

Amendment Summary: House amendment 1 (004781) clarifies that a home school; a program operated by a church-related school for students whose parents are associated, registered, or participating as a parent-teacher with the church-related school; or any educational or tutorial program designed to support or enhance the education of home school students, is not subject to licensure and does not require an exemption from licensing to operate lawfully. Revises the criteria for "gym care" that children can be in care no longer than two hours a day with a maximum care time limit of 10 hours per week to, instead, a maximum care time limit of 14 hours per week. Adds as another program exempt from licensing under the bill any program or facility operated by, or in affiliation with, any YMCA of the United States that meets all of the following criteria: The program or facility provides care for only school-aged children and holds membership in good standing with the YMCA of the United States and is certified as being in compliance with the purposes, procedures, voluntary standards, and mandatory requirements of the YMCA of the United States. Any such YMCA that applies to participate in state or federally funded programs that require child care licensing by the state as a term of eligibility may elect to apply to the department of human services ("department") for child care licensing and regulation. Upon meeting departmental standards, the YMCA school-aged program may be licensed as a child care center or provider. The staff of each facility or program provide adequate supervision based on the number, ages, and abilities of participating children and take all necessary steps to ensure the safety and health of children. The department is authorized to grant a waiver from any rule concerning grouping of children and adult-to-child ratios for child care centers to a YMCA that is providing after-school child care to mixed groups of school-aged children. Adds that, in analyzing whether the program or activity is exempt pursuant to the bill, unless the department determines upon clear and convincing evidence that the program or activity qualifies for an exemption based upon the criteria set forth in the bill, the department must consider all of the following nonexclusive criteria to determine if the program or activity is clearly distinguishable from child care services typically regulated by the department and otherwise qualifies for exemption from licensing: The sole or primary purpose of the program or activity is to provide specialized opportunities for the child's educational, social, cultural, religious, or athletic development, or to provide the child with mental or physical health services. The time period in which the program or activity provides these opportunities is consistent with a reasonable time period for the completion of the program or activity, considering the age of each child served and the nature of the program. The primary purpose of the program or activity is not routinely available or could not be made routinely available in the typical child care settings regulated by the department. Parents could reasonably be expected to choose the program or activity because of the unique nature of what it offers, rather than as a substitute for full-time, before- or after-school, holiday, or weather-related child care. If the program or activity is regulated by any other federal, state, or local agency, it is required by such other agency to comply with standards that substantially meet or exceed department licensing regulations.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 12, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 03/26/25 - Signed by Senate speaker.
House Status: 03/26/25 - Signed by House speaker.
Executive Status: 03/27/25 - Sent to governor.
Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

SB1367/HB21 TAXES SALES: Exemption - retail sale of food and food ingredients.

Sponsors: Sen. Watson, Bo , Rep. Davis, Elaine
Summary: Exempts from the state sales and use tax the retail sale of food and food ingredients. Broadly captioned.
Fiscal Note: (Dated March 13, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT REVENUE General Fund FY25-26 & Subsequent Years NET (\$808,302,600) EXPENDITURES General Fund FY25-26 \$500,000 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE Mandatory FY25-26 & Subsequent Years \$11,515,500
Senate Status: 03/18/25 - Senate Finance Revenue Subcommittee returned to full committee with a negative recommendation.
House Status: 04/02/25 - Set for House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee 04/09/25.
Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

SB1378/HB1238 EDUCATION: Creates the division of early child care and education.

Sponsors: Sen. Watson, Bo , Rep. Haston, Kirk
Summary: Creates the division of early child care and education within the department of education. Requires this division to be created no later than December 31, 2026. Provides that the commissioner of education will appoint the director. Stipulates that this division is administratively responsible for child care and early educational services funded through state or federal funds, including, but not limited to: the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act and Child Care and Development Fund; the voluntary pre-kindergarten program; the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act for pre-kindergarten children; Head Start programs; and programs funded through the preschool development grant of the Every Student Succeeds Act. Outlines parameters for a unified early child care and education system with a focus on reducing regulatory burdens and simplifying processes for early childhood care and education providers. Provides requirements for a transition advisory council to advise the department of education in developing a two-part transition plan.
Fiscal Note: (Dated March 2, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT REVENUE DHS DOE FY26-27 (\$21,410,400) \$21,410,400 FY27-28 & Subsequent Years (\$42,820,800) \$42,820,800 EXPENDITURES DHS DOE FY25-26 - \$1,160,000 FY26-27 NET (\$16,300,100) \$24,289,700 FY27-28 & Subsequent Years NET (\$33,988,500) \$43,997,800 FEDERAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES DHS DOE FY26-27 (\$160,478,200) \$160,478,200 FY27-28 & Subsequent Years (\$320,956,300) \$320,956,300 OTHER FISCAL IMPACT HB 1238 - SB 1378The Department of Human Services will require a continuation of interdepartmental revenue in an amount of \$1,884,100 in FY25-26 for leased office space. The Department will decrease interdepartmental revenue by \$500,000 in FY26-27 and \$1,000,000 in FY27-28
Senate Status: 03/26/25 - Taken off notice in Senate Education Committee.
House Status: 03/11/25 - House K-12 Subcommittee deferred to final calendar.
Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

SB1417/HB1385 EDUCATION: Reporting of activities by a school support organization.

Sponsors: Sen. Kyle, Sara , Rep. Harris, Torrey
Summary: Requires a school support organization and a group or organization that collects and raises money, materials, property, or securities while representing itself to be a school support organization to annually provide a detailed report of the organization's receipts and expenditures while representing itself to be a school support organization to the department of education by July 1 each year, unless the school support organization is a booster club, parent teacher association, parent teacher organization, or parent teacher support association. Requires the department to publish the reports on the department's website for at least three years from the date by which the report was submitted. Broadly captioned.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 13, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status: 03/31/25 - Senate passed.
House Status: 03/18/25 - House Education Committee recommended. Sent to House Calendar & Rules.
Priority: TNN - 1 - Top-tier

TNN - 2 - SECOND-TIER

SB12/HB151 TAXES PROPERTY: Property tax relief for disabled veteran homeowners.

Sponsors: Sen. Walley, Page , Rep. Gant, Ron
Summary: Changes the reimbursement amount for property tax relief for disabled veteran homeowners. Increases the reimbursement amount from payment on the first \$175,000 of the full market value of the home to payment on the first \$200,000 of the full market value.
Fiscal Note: (Dated January 16, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES General Fund FY26-27 & Subsequent Years >\$4,565,900 OTHER FISCAL IMPACT The extent of any permissive impact on local government expenditures cannot be reasonably determined.
Senate Status: 01/15/25 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.
House Status: 01/28/25 - Referred to House Cities & Counties Subcommittee.
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB36/HB156 TAXES BUSINESS: Business tax exemption for child care agencies.

Sponsors: Sen. Campbell, Heidi , Rep. Clemmons, John
Summary: Exempts child care agencies from business tax. Requires the state to annually allocate the amount of such taxes derived from child care services and received from counties and municipalities in the 2023-2024 fiscal year.
Senate Status: 01/15/25 - Held on Senate clerk's desk.
House Status: 01/28/25 - Referred to House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee.
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB49/HB227 GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION: Sunset - advisory committee for children's special services.

Sponsors: Sen. Jackson, Ed , Rep. Lafferty, Justin

Summary: Extends the advisory committee for children's special services to June 30, 2029.
Fiscal Note: (Dated January 14, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status: 03/18/25 - Signed by Senate speaker.
House Status: 03/17/25 - Signed by House speaker.
Executive Status: 03/28/25 - Enacted as Public Chapter 0048.
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB70/HB248 GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION: Sunset - human rights commission.

Sponsors: Sen. Jackson, Ed , Rep. Lafferty, Justin
Summary: Extends the human rights commission to June 30, 2029.
Fiscal Note: (Dated January 16, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status: 01/15/25 - Referred to Senate Government Operations Committee.
House Status: 02/03/25 - Referred to House Government Operations Committee.
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB82/HB260 GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION: Sunset - standards committee, department of human services.

Sponsors: Sen. Jackson, Ed , Rep. Lafferty, Justin
Summary: Extends the standards committee, department of human services to June 30, 2031.
Fiscal Note: (Dated January 18, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status: 03/03/25 - Signed by Senate speaker.
House Status: 02/28/25 - Signed by House speaker.
Executive Status: 03/21/25 - Enacted as Public Chapter 0031.
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB115/HB57 LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Audit of subordinate agencies.

Sponsors: Sen. Powers, Bill , Rep. Moon, Jerome
Summary: Requires audits of subordinate agencies of a municipality to be completed and submitted to the comptroller of the treasury no later than six months following the end of the municipality's fiscal year. Specifies penalties for a municipality that fails to timely provide the comptroller of the treasury with copies of audits of the accounts and records of all departments, boards, and agencies under the municipality's jurisdiction that receive and disburse funds.
Fiscal Note: (Dated January 25, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status: 03/03/25 - Signed by Senate speaker.
House Status: 03/04/25 - Signed by House speaker.
Executive Status: 03/12/25 - Enacted as Public Chapter 0018.
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB133/HB69 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Verification of voter eligibility.

Sponsors: Sen. Johnson, Jack , Rep. Lamberth, William
Summary: Requires the coordinator of elections, in collaboration with the department of safety and Tennessee bureau of investigation, to create two electronic portals prior to January 1, 2028, for purposes of verifying an applicant's eligibility to vote based upon United States citizenship and conviction of a felony prior to registering the applicant to vote. Requires department of safety to issue lawful permanent residents a temporary driver license, instead of a standard license, to aid in determining voter eligibility for someone who presents a Tennessee driver license as identification. Broadly captioned.
Amendment Summary: Senate State & Local Government Committee amendment 1, House State & Local Government Committee amendment 1 (004931) creates a portal that checks whether a person is a convicted felon or illegal immigrant before they register to vote. Establishes an effective date of January 1, 2028. Senate State & Local Government Committee amendment 2, House Transportation Committee amendment 2 (005586) Requires the creation of an electronic portal through which each county administrator of elections may access information to verify whether a person is a United States citizen before they process the person's application to vote. Requires an administrator who rejects an application to provide a written notice to the applicant.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 3, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES General Fund FY25-26 \$800,000 OTHER FISCAL IMPACT Previously awarded federal grant funds could offset some of the expenditures for the development of electronic portals; however, the extent and timing of any such offset cannot be determined with reasonable certainty. HB 69 - SB 133
Senate Status: 04/02/25 - Senate State & Local Government Committee recommended with amendment 1 (004931) and amendment 2 (005586). Amendment 1 (004931) creates a portal that checks whether a person is a convicted felon or illegal. Amendment 2 (005586), requires the creation of an electronic portal through which each county administrator of elections may access information to verify whether a person is a United States citizen before they process the person s application to vote. Requires an administrator who rejects an application to provide a written notice to the applicant. Sent to Senate Finance, Ways & Means.
House Status: 04/02/25 - Set for House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee 04/09/25.
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB139/HB144 HEALTH CARE: Hospitals that accept Medicaid required to inquire about a person's citizenship status.

Sponsors: Sen. Lowe, Adam , Rep. Zachary, Jason
Summary: Requires hospitals that accept Medicaid to inquire about a person's citizenship status on patient admission or registration forms. Also requires such hospitals to submit a quarterly report to the department of health on the number of hospital admissions and emergency department visits by persons lawfully and not lawfully present in the United States. Requires the department of health to submit an annual report to the governor, speaker of the senate, and speaker of the house of representatives regarding the impact of uncompensated care for persons not lawfully present in the United States and other related information on or before July 1, 2026, and on or before July 1 of each subsequent year. Broadly captioned.
Fiscal Note: (Dated January 31, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status: 01/16/25 - Referred to Senate Health & Welfare Committee.
House Status: 01/28/25 - Referred to House Health Subcommittee.
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB165/HB98 PUBLIC FINANCE: Funding of human resource agencies.

Sponsors: Sen. Walley, Page , Rep. Hicks, Gary
Summary: Increases the amount of funding the state is authorized to match local contributions for funding of human resource agencies.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 19, 2025) OTHER FISCAL IMPACT To the extent the state appropriates the proposed maximum to all human resource agencies in any given year, the increase in state expenditures directly attributable to this legislation will be \$1,980,000 in any such year. In addition, there would be corresponding increases in funding to the human resource agencies. Removing the contribution cap per county may result in a permissive increase in local expenditures. The extent and timing of any permissive increase cannot be reasonably determined.
Senate Status: 04/01/25 - Senate State & Local Government Committee recommended. Sent to Senate Calendar Committee.
House Status: 03/12/25 - House Finance Subcommittee placed behind the budget.
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB171/HB182 PROFESSIONS & LICENSURE: The Ink of Hope Act.

Sponsors: Sen. Massey, Becky , Rep. Littleton, Mary
Summary: Requires each tattoo operator or tattoo artist to complete up to one hour of online or in-person training, at no cost to the applicant, by a nonprofit organization approved by the Tennessee human trafficking advisory council that focuses on how to recognize the signs of human trafficking, how to respond to those signs, how to refer a client to resources for victims of human trafficking, and reporting signs of human trafficking to the Tennessee Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline. Requires certain persons holding a license as of December 31, 2025, to complete up to one hour of online or in-person training by December 31, 2028, and provides that failure to do so will render the license invalid. Provides that the employer of a person, who responds to signs of human trafficking with a client, refers a client to resources for victims of human trafficking, or fails to respond or refer is not civilly or criminally liable for those actions or inactions.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 1, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status: 02/20/25 - Senate passed.
House Status: 03/03/25 - House passed.
Executive Status: 03/12/25 - Enacted as Public Chapter 0019.
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB172/HB7 EDUCATION: Creates the hunger-free campus grant program.

Sponsors: Sen. Massey, Becky , Rep. Hale, Michael
Summary: Creates the hunger-free campus grant program to provide grants to higher education institutions to be used to address hunger on the institutions' campuses. Requires THEC to administer the program. Establishes a separate fund within the general fund to be known as the hunger-free campus grant fund. Specifies that such fund is to be composed of funds specifically appropriated by the general assembly for the grant fund and gifts, grants, and other donations received for the grant fund. Specifies eligibility requirements for higher education institutions for receipt of the grants.
Amendment Summary: House Education amendment 1 (004938) establishes a hunger-free campus grant program. Declares the program will be used to provide grants to eligible private and public higher education institutions in order to address hunger on the institutions' campuses. Requires the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) to administer the program. Creates the HungerFree Campus Grant Fund to be funded by gifts, grants, donations, and funds appropriated by the General Assembly. Establishes criteria under the program that institutions must meet in order to be eligible for such grants and sets guidelines for how grant dollars may be spent. House Finance Subcommittee amendment 1 (006911) specifies that it is the legislative intent that the general appropriations act does not include an appropriation of funds for the hunger-free campus grant program for fiscal year 2024- 2025 or 2025-2026.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 25, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT Hunger-Free Tennessee Locally University of General REVENUE Campus Board of Governed Tennessee Fund Grant Fund Regents Institutions System FY25-26 & - \$301,000 \$76,000 \$75,000 \$75,000 Subsequent Years Hunger-Free Tennessee Locally University of General EXPENDITURES Campus Board of Governed Tennessee Fund Grant Fund Regents Institutions System FY25-26 & \$301,000 \$301,000 \$76,000 \$75,000 \$75,000 Subsequent Years
Senate Status: 04/02/25 - Set for Senate Finance, Ways & Means Committee 04/08/25.
House Status: 04/02/25 - House Finance Subcommittee placed behind the budget after adopting amendment 1 (006911), which specifies that it is the legislative intent that the general appropriations act does not include an appropriation of funds for the hunger-free campus grant program for fiscal year 2024- 2025 or 2025-2026.
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB185/HB173 TENNCARE: Reimbursement rate levels for rural hospitals.

Sponsors: Sen. Jackson, Ed , Rep. Martin, Brock
Summary: Establishes TennCare minimum and maximum reimbursement rate levels for rural hospitals and requires that the reimbursement rate is based on the rural hospital's current federal fiscal year. Provides that, for routine, nonspecialized inpatient services at rural hospitals, the minimum level of reimbursement is 100% and the maximum level is 120%. Specifies that implementation does not require the expansion of Medicaid. Requires the bureau to publish the list of MS-DRGs included in each service category on its website, to update the list annually and to annually furnish an updated list of MS-DRGs directly to participating rural hospitals. Defines relevant terms. Broadly captioned.
Fiscal Note: (Dated January 26, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES General Fund FY25-26 & Subsequent Years \$594,800 FEDERAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES FY25-26 & Subsequent Years \$1,072,300
Senate Status: 03/26/25 - Senate Health & Welfare Committee recommended. Sent to Senate Finance.
House Status: 04/02/25 - Set for House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee 04/09/25.
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB188/HB813 TAXES SALES: Exemption - feminine hygiene products.

Sponsors: Sen. Lamar, London , Rep. Miller, Larry
Summary: Exempts feminine hygiene products from sales tax on the annual sales tax holiday. Defines relevant terms. Broadly captioned.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 20, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT REVENUE General Fund FY25-26 & Subsequent Years NET (\$255,000) LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE Mandatory FY25-26 & Subsequent Years \$3,600
Senate Status: 02/25/25 - Senate Finance Revenue Subcommittee returned to full committee with a negative recommendation.

House Status: 03/12/25 - House Finance Subcommittee placed behind the budget.

Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB246/HB410 EDUCATION: Working group to study and develop best practices for EL educators.

Sponsors: Sen. Gardenhire, Todd , Rep. White, Mark

Summary: Requires the department of education to convene a working group to study and develop best practices, strategies, and programming for English language learner (EL) educators in this state to utilize in educating EL students enrolled in a public school in this state in any of the grades kindergarten through 12. Broadly captioned.

Amendment Summary: House Education Committee amendment 1 (004795) requires the Department of Education (DOE) to convene a working group to study and develop best practices, strategies, and programming for English language learner (ELL) educators to utilize in educating ELL students enrolled in a public school in any of the grades kindergarten through twelve (K-12). Establishes the required membership for the working group and that members of the working group serve without compensation, and are not entitled to receive per diem or reimbursement for any travel expenses. Requires the DOE to submit a report to certain legislative committees outlining the findings of its study and including any recommendations for legislation by January 1, 2026.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 23, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES General Fund FY25-26 \$22,100

Senate Status: 03/06/25 - Senate passed.

House Status: 04/02/25 - House Finance Subcommittee placed behind the budget.

Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB305/HB744 STATE GOVERNMENT: Discrimination on basis of race, color, religion, or national origin.

Sponsors: Sen. Briggs, Richard , Rep. Wright, Dave

Summary: Prohibits an organization or entity receiving financial assistance from this state for programs or activities from denying benefits to, excluding from participation in, or discriminating against a person otherwise eligible for the program or activity on the basis of race, color, religion, or national origin. Broadly captioned.

Amendment Summary: Senate amendment 1, House Department & Agencies Subcommittee amendment 1 (004698) revises the provision prohibiting an organization or entity receiving financial assistance from this state for programs or activities from denying benefits to, excluding from participation in, or discriminating against a person otherwise eligible for the program or activity on the basis of race, color, religion, or national origin, to, instead, only apply to such prohibited conduct on the basis of religion.

Fiscal Note: (Dated March 4, 2025) EXPENDITURES General Fund FY25-26 & Subsequent Years \$78,000 Total Positions Required: 1

Senate Status: 03/17/25 - Senate passed with amendment 1 (004698).

House Status: 04/03/25 - Set for House State & Local Government Committee 04/08/25.

Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB321/HB498 HEALTH CARE: Creates the advisory task force on state reimbursement rates.

Sponsors: Sen. Massey, Becky , Rep. Hale, Michael

Summary: Creates an advisory task force on state reimbursement rates to recommend annual adjustments to ensure adequate compensation for agencies providing healthcare services. Requires the advisory task force members to represent a different health-related profession. Establishes all member appointments are for six-year terms. Establishes that the task force is attached to the department of health for administrative purposes. Requires the commissioner of labor and workforce development to serve as chair of the advisory task force. Authorizes the task force to make recommendations about salaries, benefits, and administrative costs for agencies as well as causes and solutions for the healthcare frontline workforce shortage. Requires the task force to consider a wide range of specified factors affecting the health care agencies. Requires the task force to submit an annual report with recommendations to relevant state officials by August 1 or each year.

Amendment Summary: House amendment 1 (004414) adds as members to the advisory task force (i) the commissioner of children's services or the commissioner's designee and (ii) the commissioner of health or the commissioner's designee. Attaches the task force to the department of labor and workforce and development, instead of the department of health, for administrative purposes. Requires the task force to elect a chair and vice chair for a two-year term at the first meeting, instead of having the commissioner of labor and workforce development serve as chair. Requires the chair to (i) plan the agenda for all meetings; (ii) appoint subcommittees, as deemed necessary; (iii) coordinate with the department of labor and workforce development for logistics of the meetings and posting of the required public notice; (iv) chair each meeting of the task force; and (v) be responsible for the development, production, and submission of the yearly recommendations in the annual report, as prescribed in this amendment. Requires the vice chair to fulfill the requirements and responsibilities of the chair in the chair's absence. Provides that the members of the task force receive no compensation for their service on the task force, nor are the members entitled to per diem or travel expenses for the purposes of carrying out their duties under this amendment. Revises the provision authorizing the task force to conduct meetings by electronic or other means of communication authorized by law as long as a physical quorum is maintained at the location of the meeting where recommendations will be adopted to, instead, authorize the task force to conduct meetings by electronic or other means of communication authorized by law as long as the task force conducts at least one in-person meeting per calendar year. Revises the provision authorizing the task force to determine the reason for and solutions to the healthcare frontline workforce shortage to, instead, only determine the likely reason for such shortage. Authorizes the task force to request relevant qualitative and quantitative data from impacted industries, associations representing such industries, and state agencies. Requires the task force to make recommendations as part of an annual report as described in this amendment.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 4, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES General Fund FY25-26 & Subsequent Years \$13,200

Senate Status: 03/26/25 - Signed by Senate speaker.

House Status: 03/26/25 - Signed by House speaker.

Executive Status: 03/27/25 - Sent to governor.

Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB326/HB354 WELFARE: Toll-free phone service for reporting abuse, neglect, or exploitation of elderly or vulnerable adults.

Sponsors: Sen. Massey, Becky , Rep. Powers, Dennis

Summary: Requires the department of human services to prominently advertise on the home page of the department's website the toll-free telephone service that enables citizens to report abuse, neglect, or exploitation of elderly or vulnerable adults. Broadly captioned.

Fiscal Note: (Dated January 25, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 02/12/25 - Referred to Senate Health & Welfare Committee.

House Status: 02/03/25 - Caption bill held on House clerk's desk pending amendment.

SB345/HB179 CRIMINAL LAW: Offense of criminal abortion - exclusions.*Sponsors:* Sen. Lamar, London , Rep. Hakeem, Yusuf*Summary:* Specifies that the offense of criminal abortion does not include an abortion that was necessary due to a medical emergency affecting the physical or mental health of the pregnant person or performed on a patient whose pregnancy was the result of rape or incest. Broadly captioned.*Fiscal Note:* (Dated January 17, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT*Senate Status:* 02/12/25 - Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.*House Status:* 01/28/25 - Referred to House Population Health Subcommittee.*Priority:* TNN - 2 - Second-tier**SB364/HB225 EDUCATION: Tennessee Full Service Community Schools Act.***Sponsors:* Sen. Briggs, Richard , Rep. Haston, Kirk*Summary:* Repeals the "Tennessee Community Schools Act." Enacts the "Tennessee Full Service Community Schools Act," which authorizes and encourages each local board of education to form a full service community school that integrates pipeline services and systems of support into each of the schools operated by the board to improve student learning and to foster stronger families and healthier communities. Creates a full service community schools grant program to be administered by the University of Tennessee to promote the establishment and sustainability of full service community schools throughout this state. Subject to the availability of funds and beginning January 1, 2026, requires full service community schools grants to be made available to local boards of education to facilitate the development of long-term community partnerships and to secure the necessary resources for planning, staffing, and for the provision of essential services to students and families in the community in accordance with the full service community school's operational model. Specifies requirements for recipients of full service community school grants, including reporting requirements.*Amendment Summary:* House K-12 Subcommittee recommended with amendment 1 (003522) repeals the Tennessee Community Schools Act and enacts the Tennessee Full-Service Community Schools Act. Authorizes and encourages each local board of education to form a full-service community school. Creates a full-service community school grant program to be administered by the University of Tennessee (UT) to promote the establishment and sustainability of full-service community schools throughout the state. Requires grants to be made available to local boards of education by January 1, 2026. Establishes a grant application and approval process. Requires a local board of education that receives a grant to undertake certain assessment, consultation, record-keeping, and reporting duties. Requires the UT to provide continuous evaluation and support to grant recipients and to evaluate the full-service community school's progress. Authorizes the UT to collaborate with at least one statewide coalition to establish best practices on the administration of full-community schools and is required to publish the best practices on the UT's website.*Fiscal Note:* (Dated February 22, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES UT System FY25-26 \$234,200 FY26-27 \$228,200 FY27-28 & Subsequent Years \$224,200 Total Positions Required: 4 OTHER FISCAL IMPACT The amount of funding available for the grant program is unknown. Therefore, the extent and timing of any increase to state expenditures and local revenue cannot be reasonably determined.*Senate Status:* 02/12/25 - Referred to Senate Education Committee.*House Status:* 03/11/25 - Taken off notice in House Education Committee.*Priority:* TNN - 2 - Second-tier**SB392/HB322 CRIMINAL LAW: Creates the offense of human smuggling.***Sponsors:* Sen. Taylor, Brent , Rep. Todd, Chris*Summary:* Creates the offenses of human smuggling and the offense of harboring or hiding, or assisting another in harboring or hiding, within this state an individual who the person knows or should have known has illegally entered or remained in the United States. Authorizes the attorney general to take certain actions against a person or organization who commits or is about to commit a human trafficking offense or an aggravated human trafficking offense. Broadly captioned.*Amendment Summary:* House Criminal Justice Subcommittee amendment 1 (004483) creates a Class E felony offense of human smuggling. Creates a Class A felony offense of aggravated human smuggling. Expands the offense of human trafficking to include promoting the prostitution of a minor. Authorizes the Attorney General and Reporter (AG) to bring an action in state court against a person or organization that is committing, has committed, or is about to commit a human trafficking offense or aggravated human trafficking offense. Creates a Class A misdemeanor offense for harboring, hiding, or assisting another person in harboring or hiding an individual who has illegally entered or remained in the United States, punishable only by a fine of \$1,000 for each person hidden or harbored.*Fiscal Note:* (Dated February 13, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES Incarceration \$4,000*Senate Status:* 04/02/25 - Set for Senate Judiciary Committee 04/08/25.*House Status:* 04/03/25 - Set for House Judiciary Committee 04/08/25.*Priority:* TNN - 2 - Second-tier**SB419/HB5 JUDICIARY: Amount of compensation an injured plaintiff may receive in a civil action.***Sponsors:* Sen. Hensley, Joey , Rep. Bulso, Gino*Summary:* Increases the amount of compensation an injured plaintiff in a civil action may receive for noneconomic damages from \$750,000 to \$1,500,000. Increases the amount of compensation an injured plaintiff in a civil action may receive for noneconomic damages, if the injury or loss is catastrophic in nature, from \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000.*Amendment Summary:* House Civil Justice Subcommittee amendment 1 (005443) establishes that a defendant who commits the Class E felony offense of mailing or delivering an abortion-inducing drug to a patient in this state, and such drug results in the death of an unborn child, is strictly liable in the amount of \$5,000,000 in damages for the wrongful death of a person. Specifies that such liability does not apply to a pharmacist, physician, motor carrier, freight forwarder, or an air carrier.*Fiscal Note:* (Dated January 3, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT*Senate Status:* 04/01/25 - Senate Judiciary Committee recommended with amendment 1 (005576). Sent to Senate Calendar Committee.*House Status:* 04/03/25 - Set for House Judiciary Committee 04/08/25.*Priority:* TNN - 2 - Second-tier**SB423/HB438 LABOR LAW: Posting of regular pay day by employer.***Sponsors:* Sen. Reeves, Shane , Rep. Alexander, Rebecca

Summary: Increases, from two to three, the number of conspicuous places in which an employer is required to post and maintain notices setting forth the regular pay day established by the employer. Broadly captioned.

Fiscal Note: (Dated January 30, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 02/12/25 - Referred to Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.

House Status: 02/05/25 - Held on House clerk's desk.

Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB471/HB178 EDUCATION: Success Sequence Act.

Sponsors: Sen. Bowling, Janice , Rep. Bulso, Gino

Summary: Requires that family life curriculum must include age-appropriate instruction and evidence regarding the positive personal and societal outcomes associated with the method by which a person completes the following in sequential order: obtains a high school diploma or high school equivalency credential; enters into the workforce or pursues a postsecondary degree or credential; enters into marriage; and has children. Provides that the new requirements be implemented beginning with the 2025-2026 school year and each school year thereafter.

Amendment Summary: House Education Committee amendment 1, Senate amendment 1 (004415) changes the effective date to July 1, 2026. Establishes that this bill applies to the 2026-2027 school year and each subsequent year thereafter.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 3, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 03/27/25 - Senate passed with amendment 1 (004415).

House Status: 04/03/25 - Set for House Floor on 04/07/25.

Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB480/HB444 PROPERTY & HOUSING: Tennessee Property Rights Protection Act.

Sponsors: Sen. Bowling, Janice , Rep. Hulsey, Bud

Summary: Deletes the definition of "blighted area" and defines "blighted property" for purposes of condemnation by housing authorities. Clarifies that housing authorities may acquire real property through a negotiated sale without using eminent domain. Authorizes housing authorities to pay more than fair market value for properties that are not blighted but that are in a blighted area. Allows a housing authority to contract with a third-party agent, at the housing authority's expense, for the purpose of negotiating the purchase price of real property within an urban renewal or redevelopment area if the property is not subject to acquisition by eminent domain.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 16, 2025) OTHER FISCAL IMPACT Due to various unknown variables, any fiscal impact to local government cannot be estimated with reasonable certainty.

Senate Status: 03/24/25 - Signed by Senate speaker.

House Status: 03/24/25 - Signed by House speaker.

Executive Status: 03/25/25 - Sent to governor.

Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB516/HB727 WELFARE: Annual report concerning the effectiveness of the drug testing program for TANF applicants

Sponsors: Sen. Crowe, Rusty , Rep. Hicks, Gary

Summary: Requires the department to annually report by December 1 of each year to legislative committees with jurisdiction over the subject matter pertaining to health concerning the effectiveness of the drug testing program for TANF applicants. Broadly captioned.

Fiscal Note: (Dated January 31, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 02/12/25 - Referred to Senate Health & Welfare Committee.

House Status: 02/06/25 - Caption bill held on House clerk's desk.

Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB545/HB460 COMMERCIAL LAW: Unauthorized filings with the secretary of state.

Sponsors: Sen. Stevens, John , Rep. Farmer, Andrew

Summary: Establishes a complaint process with the secretary of state for any person who contends that the person's name or address was included on a document filed with the secretary of state without the person's consent. Specifies requirements for response to and review of complaint by secretary of state.

Senate Status: 02/10/25 - Withdrawn in Senate.

House Status: 02/05/25 - Withdrawn in House.

Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB589/HB169 INSURANCE HEALTH: Coverage by health benefit plan of contraceptives.

Sponsors: Sen. Akbari, Raumes , Rep. Helton-Haynes, Esther

Summary: Expands the definition of "health benefit plan" to mean a hospital, surgical, or medical expense policy; health, hospital, or medical service corporation contract; a policy or agreement entered into by a health insurer, or a health maintenance organization contract offered by an employer; other plan administered by the state; or a certificate issued under those policies, contracts, or plans, which include a policy or contract for health insurance coverage provided under the TennCare program or the CoverKids Act. Requires a health benefit plan that amends, renews, or delivers a policy of coverage on or after January 1, 2026, and that provides coverage for prescription contraceptives, to provide coverage for a 12-month refill of contraceptives obtained at one time by an insured person. Broadly captioned.

Amendment Summary: House Insurance Committee amendment 1 (003958) clarifies that the definition of "contraceptive" means only drugs legally marketed under the federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. Requires a health benefit plan that amends, renews, or delivers a policy of coverage on or after January 1, 2026, and that provides coverage for prescription contraceptives, to provide coverage for a 12-month refill of contraceptives obtained at one time by an insured person unless otherwise prescribed by the healthcare provider. Provides that a health benefit plan that provides coverage must allow the insured to receive the contraceptives onsite, if available. Requires all clinical guidelines be followed.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 12, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES General Fund FY25-26 Up to \$745,500 FY26-27 & Subsequent Years Up to \$1,491,100 FEDERAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES FY25-26 Up to \$81,500 FY26-27 & Subsequent Years Up to \$163,000 LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES Mandatory FY25-26 Up to \$504,800 FY26-27 & Subsequent Years Up to \$1,009,600 Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost. HB 169 - SB 589

Senate Status: 03/25/25 - Taken off notice in Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.
House Status: 03/20/25 - House Calendar & Rules Committee deferred to 03/27/25.
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB591/HB1273 CRIMINAL LAW: Penalties for threatening to commit or failing to report an act of mass violence on the property of a child care agency, preschool, or religious institution.

Sponsors: Sen. Haile, Ferrell , Rep. Cochran, Mark
Summary: Creates the Class E felony of recklessly, by any means of communication, threatening to commit an act of mass violence on the property of a child care agency, preschool, or religious institution. Creates the Class B misdemeanor of failing to report a threat to commit an act of mass violence on the property of a child care agency, preschool, or religious institution.
Amendment Summary: Judiciary Committee amendment 1 (003576) creates a Class E felony for recklessly, by any means of communication, threatening to commit an act of mass violence on the property of a child care agency, preschool, or religious institution. Authorizes, as a condition of bail or other pretrial release, a court to order a defendant to undergo a mental health evaluation to determine whether the defendant poses a substantial likelihood of serious harm to the defendant or others. Creates a Class B misdemeanor for failing to report a threat of mass violence on the property of a child care agency, preschool, or religious institution. Authorizes a sentencing court to order a person convicted of threatening to commit an act of mass violence to pay restitution, including costs and damages resulting from the disruption of the normal activity that would have otherwise occurred but for the threat to commit an act of mass violence. Authorizes the suspension of a juvenile's driving privileges or their ability to obtain a driver license for one year if the juvenile is adjudicated delinquent for a violation. Changes the type of mental health evaluation a court may order as a condition of bail or other pretrial release for a defendant held under the offense of communicating a threat to commit an act of violence on school property or at a school-related activity, from a mental health evaluation for a defendant believed to be incompetent to stand trial to a mental health evaluation to determine whether the defendant requires emergency involuntary admission to inpatient treatment.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 14, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES Incarceration \$12,500 LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES Mandatory FY25-26 & Subsequent Years \$100 Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.
Senate Status: 02/25/25 - Senate Judiciary Committee recommended. Sent to Senate Calendar Committee.
House Status: 02/12/25 - Referred to House Criminal Justice Subcommittee.
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB599/HB519 STATE GOVERNMENT: Governor's Books from Birth Fund nonprofit partner report.

Sponsors: Sen. Rose, Paul , Rep. Leatherwood, Tom
Summary: Increases from 90 to 180 days the period by which a nonprofit public benefit corporation that partners with the Governor's Books from Birth Fund must report to the governor and the speakers of the senate and house of representatives on its operations and accomplishments after the end of the fiscal year of the nonprofit corporation. Broadly captioned.
Fiscal Note: (Dated January 30, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status: 02/10/25 - Introduced in the Senate
House Status: 02/05/25 - Caption bill held on House clerk's desk.
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB612/HB138 EDUCATION: Establishing a fund for career and technical education supports.

Sponsors: Sen. Massey, Becky , Rep. Haston, Kirk
Summary: Creates a special fund to provide grants to local education agencies and public charter schools for the acquisition, retention, or expansion of digital career and technical education curricula through platforms containing comprehensive courses with lesson plans, media rich content and activities, and interactive assessments. Requires the department of education to administer the fund and establish procedures for LEAs and public charter schools to apply for grants.
Amendment Summary: House Education Committee amendment 1 (006196) specifies that it is the general assembly's intent that the fund consists of a nonrecurring appropriation of \$6,000,000 from the general fund to be divided and used evenly during the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years, respectively.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 22, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT REVENUE Career & Technical Education Curriculum Fund FY25-26 & Subsequent Years \$5,000,000 Career & Technical Education EXPENDITURES General Fund Curriculum Fund FY25-26 \$5,017,000 \$5,000,000 FY26-27 & Subsequent Years \$5,007,000 \$5,000,000 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE Permissive FY25-26 & Subsequent Years \$5,000,000
Senate Status: 02/26/25 - Senate Education recommended. Sent to Senate Finance, Ways & Means.
House Status: 04/02/25 - House Education Committee recommended with amendment 1 (006196), which specifies that it is the general assembly's intent that the fund consists of a nonrecurring appropriation of \$6,000,000 from the general fund to be divided and used evenly during the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years, respectively. Sent to House Finance.
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB641/HB536 TRANSPORTATION VEHICLES: Motor vehicle dealer licenses - applicant who is a nonprofit religious organization.

Sponsors: Sen. Campbell, Heidi , Rep. Love Jr., Harold
Summary: Establishes that a motor vehicle dealer who does not have an established place of business is eligible for a motor vehicle dealer license if the applicant is a nonprofit religious organization that is organized or incorporated in this state, has its certificate of incorporation or certificate of authority in good standing with the secretary of state, and has an established program in this state of receiving donations of motor vehicles, donations of motor vehicles to individuals with a demonstrated need of a motor vehicle, and free vehicle repairs to individuals with a demonstrated need of such services.
Amendment Summary: House Transportation Committee amendment 1(004056) Prevents a motor vehicle dealer as it is defined in this bill from engaging in sales or sales related activity.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 19, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT REVENUE Tennessee Motor Vehicle Commission FY25-26 & Every Two Years Thereafter \$400
Senate Status: 03/19/25 - Senate Transportation & Safety Committee deferred to first calendar of next year.
House Status: 03/18/25 - House Transportation Committee deferred to first calendar of next year.
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB643/HB426 TAXES PROPERTY: Exemption - nonprofit religious institution in Davidson County.

Sponsors: Sen. Campbell, Heidi , Rep. Love Jr., Harold
Summary: Exempts a nonprofit religious institution from property taxes, under certain circumstances; applicable in Davidson County.
Amendment
Summary: House Cities & Counties Subcommittee amendment 1 (005458) establishes that if a religious nonprofit organization having property duly-exempt from property tax liabilities moves, in part or in whole, to another parcel of property owned by the organization within the same taxing jurisdiction, then the exemption must be transferred or extended to the new parcel, and the organization is not required to file an application for exemption for the new parcel; provided, the organization maintains its exempt status and uses the new parcel for exempt purposes.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 27, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status: 04/02/25 - Senate State & Local Government Committee deferred to the first calendar of 2026.
House Status: 03/19/25 - Returned to House clerk's desk after adopting amendment 1 (005458).
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB646/HB1278 PUBLIC FINANCE: Establishes the Hurricane Helene disaster recovery fund.

Sponsors: Sen. Crowe, Rusty , Rep. Hill, Timothy
Summary: Establishes the Hurricane Helene disaster recovery fund, from which the Tennessee emergency management agency shall provide county recovery grants and direct assistance recovery grants for certain counties and households impacted by flooding caused by Hurricane Helene.
Amendment
Summary: Senate State & Local Government Committee amendment 1, House State & Local Government Committee amendment 1 (005314) creates the Hurricane Helene County Relief Fund (CRF), administered by the Department of Finance and Administration (F&A), to provide grants to county governments for infrastructure repairs, remediation, and general recovery efforts. Allocates specific grant amounts to designated counties with application processes and auditing requirements to ensure accountability. Requires counties to maintain records of disbursements for oversight by the Comptroller of the Treasury (COT). Specifies the legislative intent includes a \$50,000,000 appropriation to the CRF in FY25-26. Creates the Hurricane Helene Rapid Response Fund, (RRF) administered by the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA), to provide direct financial assistance to eligible individuals recovering from the hurricane. Authorizes TEMA to administer grants. Requires TEMA to develop a standardized online application portal and to establish rules for awarding grants, including eligibility criteria, allowable uses of funds, and procedures for expedited application review and approval. Mandates compliance with auditing and reporting requirements, including recordkeeping for COT to publish an aggregated fund distribution report. Specifies the legislative intent includes a \$50,000,000 appropriation to the RRF in FY25-26.
Fiscal Note: (Dated March 12, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT REVENUE Hurricane Helene Disaster Recovery Fund FY25-26 \$200,000,000 EXPENDITURES General Fund FY25-26 \$200,000,000 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE Permissive FY25-26 \$200,000,000 SB 646 HB 1278
Senate Status: 04/02/25 - Senate State & Local Government recommended with amendment 1 (005314), which creates the Hurricane Helene County Relief Fund (CRF), administered by the Department of Finance and Administration (F&A), to provide grants to county governments for infrastructure repairs, remediation, and general recovery efforts. Allocates specific grant amounts to designated counties with application processes and auditing requirements to ensure accountability. Requires counties to maintain records of disbursements for oversight by the Comptroller of the Treasury (COT). Specifies the legislative intent includes a \$50,000,000 appropriation to the CRF in FY25-26. Creates the Hurricane Helene Rapid Response Fund, (RRF) administered by the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA), to provide direct financial assistance to eligible individuals recovering from the hurricane. Authorizes TEMA to administer grants. Requires TEMA to develop a standardized online application portal and to establish rules for awarding grants, including eligibility criteria, allowable uses of funds, and procedures for expedited application review and approval. Mandates compliance with auditing and reporting requirements, including recordkeeping for COT to publish an aggregated fund distribution report. Specifies the legislative intent includes a \$50,000,000 appropriation to the RRF in FY25-26. Sent to Senate Finance, Ways & Means.
House Status: 04/02/25 - House State & Local Government recommended with amendment 1 (005314), which creates the Hurricane Helene County Relief Fund (CRF), administered by the Department of Finance and Administration (F&A), to provide grants to county governments for infrastructure repairs, remediation, and general recovery efforts. Allocates specific grant amounts to designated counties with application processes and auditing requirements to ensure accountability. Requires counties to maintain records of disbursements for oversight by the Comptroller of the Treasury (COT). Specifies the legislative intent includes a \$50,000,000 appropriation to the CRF in FY25-26. Creates the Hurricane Helene Rapid Response Fund, (RRF) administered by the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA), to provide direct financial assistance to eligible individuals recovering from the hurricane. Authorizes TEMA to administer grants. Requires TEMA to develop a standardized online application portal and to establish rules for awarding grants, including eligibility criteria, allowable uses of funds, and procedures for expedited application review and approval. Mandates compliance with auditing and reporting requirements, including recordkeeping for COT to publish an aggregated fund distribution report. Specifies the legislative intent includes a \$50,000,000 appropriation to the RRF in FY25-26. Sent to House Government Operations Committee.
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB659/HB594 TAXES SALES: Temporary sales periods that a bona fide religious institution may participate in.

Sponsors: Sen. Hensley, Joey , Rep. Doggett, Clay
Summary: Increases, from two to four, the number of temporary sales periods that a bona fide religious institution may participate in and be exempt from registering to collect sales tax on sales directly to consumers made during such temporary sales period.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 27, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT REVENUE General Fund FY25-26 & Subsequent Years (\$52,200) LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE Mandatory FY25-26 & Subsequent Years (\$21,300)
Senate Status: 03/11/25 - Senate Finance Revenue Subcommittee returned to full committee with a negative recommendation.
House Status: 03/05/25 - House Finance Subcommittee placed behind the budget.
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB736/HB669 EDUCATION: Filing of financial condition - associations that administer an educational cooperative plan or scholarship plan.

Sponsors: Sen. Pody, Mark , Rep. Sherrell, Paul
Summary: Extends the date from which not-for-profit corporations and associations that administer scholarships or educational cooperative plans must file a statement of financial condition with the commissioner of commerce and insurance from March 1 to March 30.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 3, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status: 02/12/25 - Referred to Senate Education Committee.
House Status: 02/06/25 - Caption bill held on House clerk's desk.
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB757/HB174 EDUCATION: School lunch menu to be posted on LEA website.

Sponsors: Sen. Yager, Ken , Rep. Gant, Ron
Summary: Requires an LEA to publish the school lunch menu on the LEA's website. Broadly captioned.
Fiscal Note: (Dated January 17, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status: 02/12/25 - Referred to Senate Education Committee.
House Status: 03/11/25 - Taken off notice in House Education Administration Subcommittee.
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier
Comment: TNN - Capiton

SB805/HB68 EDUCATION: Annual written notification of funds available for mental health services.

Sponsors: Sen. Massey, Becky , Rep. Sparks, Mike
Summary: Changes the date, from October 15 to October 1, by which the department of education must notify local education agencies (LEAs) of all state and federal grants available to assist the LEA in expanding mental health services and resources in schools. Broadly captioned.
Fiscal Note: (Dated January 8, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status: 02/12/25 - Referred to Senate Education Committee.
House Status: 01/15/25 - Caption bill held on House clerk's desk.
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB836/HB793 EDUCATION: Authorizes schools to refuse to enroll students who are unlawfully present in the United States.

Sponsors: Sen. Watson, Bo , Rep. Lamberth, William
Summary: Authorizes LEAs and public charter schools to refuse to enroll students who are unlawfully present in the United States. Broadly captioned.
Amendment Summary: Senate Education Committee amendment 1 (004412) requires a local education agency (LEA) or public charter school to require that each student who seeks to enroll in the LEA or public charter school provide documentation establishing that the student is: (1) a citizen of the United States; (2) is in the process of obtaining citizenship; or (3) holds a legal immigration or visa status. Authorizes an LEA and public charter school to enroll students who do not meet one of the residency status criteria upon payment of tuition. Establishes minimum uniform tuition amounts for students. Establishes that an LEA or public charter school shall not refuse to enroll any such student in the LEA or public charter school without first allowing the student to enroll upon payment of tuition. Provides each LEA or public charter school with the discretion as to whether to enroll a student lacking the required documentation and whether to charge tuition. Establishes a student appeal process with the Department of Education. House Education Committee amendment 1 (005269) authorizes a local education agency (LEA) or public charter school to require that each student who seeks to enroll in the LEA or public charter school to produce documentation establishing that the student is: (1) a citizen of the United States; (2) is in the process of obtaining citizenship; or (3) holds a legal immigration or visa status. Authorizes an LEA and public charter school to: (1) enroll students without requiring the production of documentation; (2) condition the enrollment of students on the production of documentation, regardless of whether the documentation produced establishes that a student meets, or fails to meet, one of the criteria; (3) condition the enrollment of a student who does not produce documentation as required by the LEA or public charter school, or whose documentation does not establish that the student meets one of the criteria on the and payment of tuition; or (4) deny enrollment to a student who does not produce the required documentation, or whose documentation does not establish that the student meets one of the criteria, without having to offer the student the option of enrolling in the LEA or public charter school if the student pays tuition. Establishes minimum uniform tuition amounts for students. Establishes a student appeal process with the Department of Education (DOE) and enrollment procedures for LEAs and public charter schools during the appeal. Exempts a student and the parent or guardian of a student who is denied enrollment in, or who is removed from, an LEA or public charter school pursuant to this act from all compulsory school attendance and truancy intervention laws and requirements. Beginning with the 2025-26 school year, requires each LEA and public charter school to document the number of students who enroll in the LEA or public charter school without providing a true copy of the student's birth certificate and to annually report that number to the DOE. Requires the DOE to report such information received from each LEA and public charter school for the immediately preceding school year to the Speakers of the House of Representatives and the Senate by July 1 each year. Senate Finance Committee amendment 1 (006826) amends amendment drafting number 004412. Requires a local education agency (LEA) or public charter school to enroll a school-age student who resides within the geographic boundaries of the LEA or public charter school and who provides documentation establishing that the student is: (1) a citizen of the United States; (2) is in the process of obtaining citizenship; or (3) holds a legal immigration or visa status.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 28, 2025) OTHER FISCAL IMPACT The proposed legislation may jeopardize federal funding to the state and to local governments. However, due to multiple unknown factors, the extent and timing of any decrease in federal funding cannot be determined with certainty.
Senate Status: 04/01/25 - Senate Finance, Ways & Means Committee recommended with amendment 1 (006947), which amends amendment drafting number 004412. Requires a local education agency (LEA) or public charter school to enroll a school-age student who resides within the geographic boundaries of the LEA or public charter school and who provides documentation establishing that the student is: (1) a citizen of the United States; (2) is in the process of obtaining citizenship; or (3) holds a legal immigration or visa status. Sent to Senate Calendar Committee.
House Status: 04/02/25 - Set for House Government Operations Committee 04/07/25.
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB864/HB603 STATE GOVERNMENT: Secretary of state filing office annual report.

Sponsors: Sen. Stevens, John , Rep. Bricken, Rush
Summary: Changes from February 1 to January 15, the date by which the secretary of state must annually report to the governor and general assembly on the operation of the filing office. Broadly captioned.
Fiscal Note: (Dated January 31, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status: 03/18/25 - Taken off notice in Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.
House Status: 02/05/25 - Caption bill held on House clerk's desk pending amendment.
Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB941/HB1337 LOTTERY: Period to apply for charitable gaming events.

Sponsors: Sen. Briggs, Richard , Rep. Lamberth, William
Summary: Establishes a five-day period after the effective date that allows a nonprofit organization to apply to operate a charitable gaming event during the annual period of July 1, 2025 until June 30, 2026.

*Amendment**Summary:*

Senate amendment 1 (004351) adds authorization for a nonprofit organization to submit an annual event application to the secretary of state within five calendar days after the date that this bill becomes a law, for the annual event period beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025. This amendment makes a corresponding change with regard to the omnibus list so that the secretary will transfer the names of organizations that submit an application for the annual event period beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025, under this amendment to the legislative clerks within 10 days after the date that this bill becomes a law.

Fiscal Note:

(Dated February 14, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT REVENUE Division of Charitable Solicitations and Gaming FY24-25 \$300

Senate Status:

04/01/25 - Signed by Senate speaker.

House Status:

04/02/25 - Signed by House speaker.

Executive Status:

04/02/25 - Sent to governor.

Priority:

TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB953/HB977 PUBLIC EMPLOYEES: List of employees participating in retirement system provided by education associations.

Sponsors:

Sen. Powers, Bill , Rep. Burkhardt, Jeff

Summary:

Expands the time in which education associations whose employees participate in the retirement system must submit a list of retired members of the retirement system who are assigned to perform functions or duties for the association as an employee of a subsidiary of the association or an independent contractor to the board of trustees by allowing them to submit the list annually or at such other intervals set by the board. Broadly captioned.

*Amendment**Summary:*

Senate State & Local Government Committee amendment 1, House Public Service Subcommittee amendment 1 (004486) allows political subdivision to adopt a supplemental bridge benefit for members who are in positions covered by the mandatory retirement. Establishes This supplemental bridge benefit will apply to those members retiring on or after the effective date of the resolution adopted by the political subdivision's chief governing body, and who have reached 55 years of age, but less than 62 years of age. Establishes that members retiring between 55 and 60 years of age shall be paid the supplemental bridge benefit for a period not to exceed 7 years after the member's effective date of retirement. Establishes members retiring after reaching 60 years of age, but no later than 62 years of age shall be paid the supplemental bridge benefit until the member reaches 67 years of age.

Fiscal Note:

(Dated February 6, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status:

04/02/25 - Set for Senate Finance, Ways & Means Committee 04/08/25.

House Status:

04/03/25 - Set for House State & Local Government Committee 04/08/25.

Executive Status:

03/10/25 - Joint Council on Pensions released to standing committees with a positive recommendation after adopting amendment 1 (004486).

Priority:

TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB975/HB154 EDUCATION: Deletes obsolete pilot program to improve parent-teacher engagement.

Sponsors:

Sen. Southerland, Steve , Rep. Atchley, Fred

Summary:

Deletes obsolete pilot program to improve parent-teacher engagement that terminated at the end of the 2020-2021 school year. Broadly captioned.

Fiscal Note:

(Dated January 16, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status:

02/12/25 - Referred to Senate Education Committee.

House Status:

02/16/25 - Caption bill held on House clerk's desk.

Priority:

TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB1087/HB177 STATE GOVERNMENT: Department of safety urged to study enforcement of federal immigration laws.

Sponsors:

Sen. Johnson, Jack , Rep. Reeves, Lee

Summary:

Urges the department of safety to study the enforcement of federal immigration laws, detentions and removals, investigations in this state, and immigration-related progress and challenges. Requires the department to submit a report, including findings and recommendations, to the governor and general assembly, if such study is conducted, on or before January 1, 2026. Broadly captioned.

*Amendment**Summary:*

Senate State & Local Government Committee amendment 1, House Department & Agencies Subcommittee amendment 1 (006262) creates an offense for a person who is not lawfully present in the United States to knowingly enter or attempt to enter this state, or to remain in this state after entering prior to the legislation's effective date. Establishes penalties for violating such an offense. Establishes an affirmative defense to prosecution if the defendant has been granted lawful presence or asylum by the federal government, if the defendant's conduct does not constitute a violation of federal statute regarding improper entry by an alien, or if the defendant was approved for benefits under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. Requires a judge to issue a written order that requires a person charged or convicted of a violation of this legislation to leave the state within 72 hours upon completion of the sentence imposed by the court. Specifies that persons convicted are not eligible for release prior to serving the entire sentence. Effective on the nearest January or July 1 after the date on which: (1) the United States Supreme Court issues a judgement overruling, in whole or in part, Arizona v. United States 567, U.S. 387 (2012); (2) one of a few specific illegal entry laws of another state is valid and enforceable for 60 consecutive days, provided that law is not subject to an injunction or other order issued by a court enjoining its enforcement, or; (3) publication in the Federal Register certifying the ratification of an amendment to the United States Constitution that, in whole or in part, grants states the right to enforce or regulate immigration. Senate State & Local Government Committee amendment 2 (006842) adds an age limit of 18 years or older to provisions of the bill on persons who are not lawfully present in the United States and knowingly enters or attempts to enter this state, or knowingly entered this state prior to the effective date of this act, and remains in this state.

Fiscal Note:

(Dated January 18, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 04/02/25 - Senate State & Local Government Committee deferred to the first calendar of 2026 after adopting amendment 1 (006262) and amendment 2 (006842). Amendment 1 (006262) creates an offense for a person who is not lawfully present in the United States to knowingly enter or attempt to enter this state, or to remain in this state after entering prior to the legislation's effective date. Establishes penalties for violating such an offense. Establishes an affirmative defense to prosecution if the defendant has been granted lawful presence or asylum by the federal government, if the defendant's conduct does not constitute a violation of federal statute regarding improper entry by an alien, or if the defendant was approved for benefits under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. Requires a judge to issue a written order that requires a person charged or convicted of a violation of this legislation to leave the state within 72 hours upon completion of the sentence imposed by the court. Specifies that persons convicted are not eligible for release prior to serving the entire sentence. Effective on the nearest January or July 1 after the date on which: (1) the United States Supreme Court issues a judgement overruling, in whole or in part, Arizona v. United States 567, U.S. 387 (2012); (2) one of a few specific illegal entry laws of another state is valid and enforceable for 60 consecutive days, provided that law is not subject to an injunction or other order issued by a court enjoining its enforcement, or; (3) publication in the Federal Register certifying the ratification of an amendment to the United States Constitution that, in whole or in part, grants states the right to enforce or regulate immigration. Amendment 2 (006842) adds an age limit of 18 years or older to provisions of the bill on persons who are not lawfully present in the United States and knowingly enters or attempts to enter this state, or knowingly entered this state prior to the effective date of this act, and remains in this state.

House Status: 04/03/25 - Set for House State & Local Government Committee 04/08/25.

Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB1164/HB633 TAXES SALES: Exemption - retail sale of fresh, frozen, and canned fruit and vegetables.

Sponsors: Sen. Akbari, Raumesh , Rep. Clemmons, John

Summary: Exempts the retail sale of fresh, frozen, and canned fruit and vegetables for human consumption from the food retail sales tax.

Fiscal Note: (Dated March 6, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT REVENUE General Fund FY25-26 & Subsequent Years NET (\$122,097,100) LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE Mandatory FY25-26 & Subsequent Years NET (\$86,746,000)

Senate Status: 03/18/25 - Senate Finance Revenue Subcommittee returned to full committee with a negative recommendation.

House Status: 02/05/25 - Referred to House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee.

Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB1169/HB1215 LOTTERY: Exempts a child care agency from the registration requirements for charitable organizations.

Sponsors: Sen. Akbari, Raumesh , Rep. Johnson, Gloria

Summary: Exempts a child care agency from the registration requirements for charitable organizations. Broadly captioned.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 23, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT REVENUE Division of Business and Charitable Organizations FY25-26 & Subsequent Years (\$14,400)

Senate Status: 02/12/25 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.

House Status: 03/04/25 - Failed due to lack of a second in House Department & Agencies Subcommittee.

Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB1269/HB104 DISABILITY & AGING: Record retention requirements for records regarding services and supports received by persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Sponsors: Sen. Johnson, Jack , Rep. Lamberth, William

Summary: Revises record retention requirements for records regarding services and supports received by persons with intellectual and development disabilities by the department of disability and aging's contracted providers and departmental facilities and clinics, updates outdated cross-references. Broadly captioned. Part of Administration Package.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 14, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 03/19/25 - Signed by Senate speaker.

House Status: 03/17/25 - Signed by House speaker.

Executive Status: 03/28/25 - Enacted as Public Chapter 0047.

Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB1316/HB1330 STATE GOVERNMENT: Less is More Act of 2025.

Sponsors: Sen. Johnson, Jack , Rep. Lamberth, William

Summary: Reorganizes various boards and agencies in Tennessee. Removes the board of court reporting from the list of entities that are set to terminate on June 30, 2025. Specifies participation by electronic or other means. Moves the regulatory power of the board of court reporting to the commissioner of commerce and insurance. Details responsibilities of the delegated powers. Allows an individual whose principal place of business is not in this state but who has a valid license in good standing as a certified public accountant from another state to be granted practice privileges in this state, if at the time the individual was licensed, the individual showed evidence of having successfully completed the Uniform Certified Public Accountant Examination. (20 pp.). Broadly captioned. Part of Administration Package.

*Amendment**Summary:*

Senate Government Operations Committee amendment 1, House Government Operations Committee amendment 1 (004421) enacts the Less is More Act of 2025. Terminates the Board of Court Reporting and moves all rules and regulations of licensing provided to the board under the Tennessee Court Report Act of 2009 to the Department of Commerce and Insurance (DCI). Deletes the provision in statute that grandfathered in the license of a court reporter who was licensed before January 1, 2010. Changes the name of the Tennessee Board of Court Reporting Fund to the Tennessee Court Reporting Fund. Exempts facilities that are operated for the provision of the Employment and Community First CHOICES program and services for comprehensive behavioral support for adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities, or severe behavioral or psychiatric conditions, or any successor program or service, or a home and community-based services waiver approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, from licensing under the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, and moves such licensing requirements under the Department of Disability and Aging. Effective January 1, 2026, authorizes an additional option as one of the requirements for a certificate as a public accountant to include 120 hours of college education with the total educational program including an accounting concentration or equivalent as determined by the State Board of Accountancy. Requires applicants to obtain one to two years of experience depending on the type of completed education before being granted a certificate. Reduces regulations related to certificate issuance and renewals for accountants certified in other states. Removes annual inspection requirements of barber shops, barber schools, or colleges under the Board of Cosmetology and Barber Examiners and requires the Board to establish rules regarding the frequency of inspections. Extends, from six months to two years, the period that an applicant has to apply for a real estate broker's license after passing the examination before being required to retake the examination in order to be eligible for a license. Authorizes a broker who has temporarily retired to submit proof of completion of a commission-approved course consisting of 30 hours of continuing education to reactivate their license. Prohibits a licensed brokers penalty fee of \$100 per month from exceeding 12 months. Authorizes a licensee in good standing with the Commission, whose license has been expired for more than two years, but has not been temporarily retired, to reactivate the license upon payment of the penalty fee accessed for all 12 months and completion of a commission-approved course consisting of 30 hours of continuing education. Deletes the Soil Scientist Licensure Act of 2009, removing all licensing regulation. Renames the Geologist and Soil Scientist Regulatory Fund to the Geologist Regulatory Fund. Authorize any board-run, commission-run, or commissioner-run program in the Division of Regulatory Boards of the DCI that issues a license, to enter into reciprocal agreements with appropriate officials in other jurisdictions to grant licenses to persons or entities licensed in the other jurisdictions who possess sufficient qualifications as established by the regulatory authority of this state to operate across state lines under mutually acceptable terms. Revises provisions governing participation in meetings by electronic means of communication. Deletes the provisions that authorizes a meeting of a governing body over electronic means only as necessary for purposes of a quorum, and authorizes a governing body to meet over electronic means at any point, so long as certain conditions are met and the governing body meets with a quorum physically present no less than once per calendar year. Makes various changes to the composition, appointment rules, and term lengths relative to members of a commission or board. Specifically makes variations of these changes to the following boards or commissions: the Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, Board of the Tennessee Education Lottery, Tennessee Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission (POST), Tennessee Motor Vehicle Commission, Board of Accountancy, Board of Cosmetology and Barber Examiners, Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers, Tennessee Real Estate Commission, Board of Dentistry, Board of Medical Examiners, Board of Optometry, Board of Dispensing Opticians, Board of Respiratory Care, Tennessee Athletic Commission, and the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission. Senate State & Local Government Committee amendment 1, House Finance, Ways & Means Committee amendment 1 (006499) revises Section 12 of the bill regarding responsibilities and duties of the department of commerce and insurance in regard to court reporters and their licensure. Specifies that the commissioner has the duty and responsibility to establish a procedure for the investigation of complaints against licensed court reporters or any person or entity practicing court reporting without a license. Specifies that the commissioner also has the duty and responsibility to promulgate rules pursuant to TCA 20-9-607. All rules must be promulgated in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act. House Finance, Ways & Means Committee amendment 2 (006815) deletes a provision under the Tennessee Education Lottery Implementation Law relative to the price and manner of the sale of lottery tickets and shares that declares certain prohibited payment methods are not to be construed as prohibiting or restricting the direct sale of lottery tickets or shares by the corporation through any form of payment and in any amount.

Fiscal Note:

(Dated March 2, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT REVENUE Geologist and Soil Scientist Regulatory Fund FY25-26 & Subsequent Years (\$6,500) EXPENDITURES Board of Court Reporting Fund FY25-26 & Subsequent Years (\$4,000) OTHER FISCAL IMPACT Passage of this legislation may result in both increases and decreases in state revenue to various boards, and a decrease in state expenditures for travel reimbursement across various governing bodies. However, due to multiple unknown variables, the extent and timing of any such impacts cannot be determined with reasonably certainty. SB 1316 - HB 1330 2

Senate Status:

04/02/25 - Senate State & Local Government Committee recommended with amendment 1 (006499), which revises Section 12 of the bill regarding responsibilities and duties of the department of commerce and insurance in regard to court reporters and their licensure. Specifies that the commissioner has the duty and responsibility to establish a procedure for the investigation of complaints against licensed court reporters or any person or entity practicing court reporting without a license. Specifies that the commissioner also has the duty and responsibility to promulgate rules pursuant to TCA 20-9-607. All rules must be promulgated in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act. Sent to Senate Calendar Committee.

House Status:

04/03/25 - Set for House Floor on 04/10/25.

Priority:

TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB1355/HB1396 **WELFARE: Guaranteed Basic Income Act.**

Sponsors:

Sen. Akbari, Raumesh , Rep. Pearson, Justin

Summary:

Requires the department of human services to develop and implement a program which guarantees eligible residents an annual guaranteed basic income grant starting in 2026. Broadly captioned.

Fiscal Note:

(Dated March 14, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES Guaranteed Basic Income Fund FY25-26 & Subsequent Years \$16,912,935,000 OTHER FISCAL IMPACT In order to administer the Guaranteed Basic Income Act or the Protection Against Automation Act, DHS will need to contract with a third-party entity; however, due to guidelines not yet being established, the scope and cost of that contract cannot be reasonably estimated.

Senate Status:

03/26/25 - Senate Health & Welfare Committee deferred to 04/02/25.

House Status:

03/26/25 - House Health Subcommittee deferred to first calendar of 2026.

Priority:

TNN - 2 - Second-tier

SB1371/HB301 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Regulation of sober living homes by local governments.**

Sponsors:

Sen. Watson, Bo , Rep. Martin, Greg

Summary:

Allows local governments to regulate sober living homes for recovery from alcohol, drug, and substance abuse to the extent such regulation complies with the Fair Housing Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act, including prescribing a distance requirement for such homes from primary schools, preschools, and daycares, regulating the location and operation of such homes, and requiring that prospective residents receive a clinical referral for placement in a sober living home. Broadly captioned.

Senate Status:

02/10/25 - Introduced in the Senate

House Status: 02/05/25 - Withdrawn in House.

Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

HJR146 EDUCATION: Constitutional amendment - local boards of education to approve lotteries conducted by nonprofit school organizations.

Sponsors: Rep. Williams, Ryan

Summary: Proposes an amendment to Article XI, Section 5 of the Constitution of Tennessee to authorize local boards of education to approve lotteries conducted by nonprofit school support organizations. Requires that the net proceeds of the lottery's revenues be allocated to the local education agency to be used for educational or extracurricular purposes.

Amendment Summary: House Department & Agencies Subcommittee amendment 1 (005294) proposes amending Article XI, Section 5 of the Constitution of Tennessee by adding the provision that local boards of education have the power to approve one lottery event per year conducted by a nonprofit school support organization, provided that the net proceeds of the lottery's revenues are allocated to the local education agency to be used for educational or extracurricular purposes and that the lottery event occurs within the geographic boundaries of the school district.

House Status: 04/03/25 - Set for House State & Local Government Committee 04/08/25.

Priority: TNN - 2 - Second-tier

TNN - 3 - THIRD-TIER

SB116/HB140 STATE GOVERNMENT: Audits of human resource agencies.

Sponsors: Sen. Hatcher, Tom , Rep. Stinnett, Tom

Summary: Removes a requirement that audits and working papers prepared by independent public accountants be reviewed by the comptroller of the treasury for annual reports prepared by a governing board operating under the Human Resource Agency Act of 1973.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 20, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 03/20/25 - Senate passed.

House Status: 03/31/25 - House passed.

Executive Status: 03/31/25 - Sent to the speakers for signatures.

Priority: TNN - 3 - Third-tier

SB162 UTILITIES: Prohibits public water system operators from adding fluoride to water systems.

Sponsors: Sen. Hensley, Joey ,

Summary: Prohibits public water system operators from adding fluoride to their water systems.

Fiscal Note: (Dated March 25, 2025) LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES Mandatory FY25-26 & Subsequent Years (\$3,930,800)

Senate Status: 01/27/25 - Referred to Senate Energy, Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee.

Priority: TNN - 3 - Third-tier

SB204/HB565 COMMERCIAL LAW: Tennessee Homebuyer Harassment Prevention Act.

Sponsors: Sen. Oliver, Charlane , Rep. Hemmer, Caleb

Summary: Enacts the "Tennessee Homebuyer Harassment Prevention Act." Limits the number of times that a real estate developer, business entity, or individual working on behalf of the developer or business entity is permitted to contact a property owner to make an unsolicited offer to buy the property owner's property. Makes other changes related to telephone and text message solicitations.

Amendment Summary: Senate amendment 1 (004390) limits, to one time in a calendar year, the number of times that a person is permitted to contact a property owner to make an unsolicited request or offer to buy the property owner's property. Requires a person to provide the property owner with specified contact information prior to making an unsolicited offer. Authorizes a property owner who believes a person has violated the limitation to submit a complaint to the Consumer Affairs Division in the Office of the Attorney General (AG). Requires the AG to begin investigating a complaint within 20 business days from the date the complaint is submitted, and provide written notice of the investigation to the property owner. Authorizes a court to assess a civil penalty up to \$2,000 per violation as well as other reasonable costs and expenses. Prohibits a person from knowingly using any caller identification service to transmit misleading or inaccurate caller identification information to circumvent the limitation and makes doing so an offense of caller identification spoofing. Authorizes a court to issue orders and injunctions to prevent and restrain violations of this Act.

Fiscal Note: (Dated January 30, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 03/10/25 - Senate passed with amendment 1 (004390).

House Status: 03/12/25 - Taken off notice in House Banking & Consumer Affairs Subcommittee.

Priority: TNN - 3 - Third-tier

SB268/HB145 BANKING & CREDIT: TRUMP Act.

Sponsors: Sen. Hensley, Joey , Rep. Bulso, Gino

Summary: Establishes the "Tennessee Reduction of Unlawful Migrant Placement Act" or "TRUMP Act." Prohibits a financial institution in this state from sending or transferring funds electronically to a person or account outside of the United States and its territories without verifying the immigration status of the person who intends to send or transfer the funds. Specifies that a financial institution shall comply with this requirement by requesting from the person a valid form of government identification and maintaining a copy of such identification for a period of two years. Defines "government identification" for such purpose. Changes the definition of resident or citizen of this state to mean citizens of the United States and aliens lawfully present in this state. Requires the parent, guardian, or legal custodian of a pupil who is not lawfully residing in this state, but who attends a public school in this state, to pay tuition.

Fiscal Note:

(Dated March 10, 2025) OTHER FISCAL IMPACT The proposed legislation may result in a decrease to the Tennessee Investment in Student Achievement allocation to school districts for any local education agency or public charter school that realizes a decrease in enrollment due to students unable to pay the tuition and fees. Any impact will occur in the year following disenrollment, the extent of which cannot be estimated. Additionally, the legislation may result in increased revenue to local governments due to an increase in the number of students paying tuition and fees; however, the extent and timing of such an increase can not be determined with reasonable certainty. HB 145 - SB 268 The proposed legislation may jeopardize federal funding to the state and to local governments. However, due to multiple unknown factors, the extent and timing of any decrease in federal funding cannot be determined with any certainty. Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.

Senate Status: 04/01/25 - Taken off notice in Senate State & Local Government Committee.

House Status: 03/26/25 - Failed in House Banking & Consumer Affairs Subcommittee.

Priority: TNN - 3 - Third-tier

SB543/HB467 **COMMERCIAL LAW: Litigation financiers - withdrawing of registration with the secretary of state.**

Sponsors: Sen. Stevens, John , Rep. Reeves, Lee

Summary: Allows a litigation financier that is not a business entity or partnership to withdraw its registration with the secretary of state by filing a form prescribed by the secretary of state, along with a filing fee of \$20.

Senate Status: 02/10/25 - Withdrawn in Senate.

House Status: 02/06/25 - Withdrawn in House.

Priority: TNN - 3 - Third-tier

NO PRIORITY

SB1/HB1 **EDUCATION: Education Freedom Act of 2025.**

Sponsors: Sen. Johnson, Jack , Rep. Lamberth, William

Summary: Enacts the "Education Freedom Act of 2025," which creates 20,000 education freedom scholarships or vouchers for the 2025-2026 school year. Specifies that 10,000 of those scholarships are to be awarded to eligible students who meet certain criteria, which includes a student whose annual household income does not exceed 300 percent of the amount required for the student to qualify for free or reduced price lunch, as provided in the income eligibility guidelines published by the United States Department of Agriculture's food and nutrition service. Requires schools accepting vouchers to administer a "nationally standardized achievement test" to participating students in grades 3-11 or the TCAP test. Subject to appropriation, requires the department of education to award a one-time bonus in the amount of \$2,000 to each teacher employed in a kindergarten through grade 12 public school in this state for the 2024-2025 school year. Designates 80 percent of sports wagering taxes to school construction and maintenance, with priority given to economically distressed counties and those affected by natural disasters (11 pp.) Part of Administration Package.

Senate Status: 01/15/25 - Referred to Senate Education Committee.

House Status: 01/28/25 - Referred to House K-12 Subcommittee.

SB751/HB35 **GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION: MidSouth development district state financial assistance.**

Sponsors: Sen. Yager, Ken , Rep. Hicks, Gary

Summary: Adds the MidSouth development district to the list of development districts to which this state intends to assist financially; specifies an overall state funding level for the nine development districts. Changes the calculation for how much funding each development district will receive.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 8, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES General Fund FY25-26 & Subsequent Years \$995,000 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE Permissive FY25-26 & Subsequent Years \$995,000

Senate Status: 04/02/25 - Set for Senate Finance, Ways & Means Committee 04/08/25.

House Status: 04/02/25 - Set for House Finance, Ways & Means Committee 04/08/25.

SB753/HB6 **EDUCATION: Enrolling of children of LEA employees in voluntary pre-K program.**

Sponsors: Sen. Yager, Ken , Rep. Hale, Michael

Summary: Authorizes LEAs to enroll the LEA's employees' children into the voluntary pre-kindergarten program if space is available after enrollment of at-risk children. Authorizes the LEA to charge the employee tuition and fees for such enrollment.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 3, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 03/31/25 - Senate passed.

House Status: 04/03/25 - Set for House Consent o 04/07/25.

SB758/HB672 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Redefines remediation site.**

Sponsors: Sen. Yager, Ken , Rep. Scarbrough, Rick

Summary: Redefines "remediation site" to include a 501(c)(3) nonprofit entity whose main purpose is to promote industrial development and new nuclear development upon dissolution of the existing nonprofit entity.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 27, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 03/10/25 - Senate passed.

House Status: 04/03/25 - Set for House State & Local Government Committee Consent 04/08/25.

SB867/HB332 **STATE GOVERNMENT: Government Serves the People Act.**

Sponsors: Sen. Stevens, John , Rep. Baum, Charlie

Summary: Requires the commissioner of finance and administration to designate a state official as the state of Tennessee government service delivery coordinator within the department of finance and administration to improve government service delivery by agencies. The commissioner will designate each agency that must comply, and that agency will select an official to be responsible for the government service delivery of the agency. A report must be submitted annually by the commissioner or commissioner's designee to the governor and the speakers of the senate and the house of representatives on current and future government-wide efforts to improve government service delivery by agencies. Broadly captioned.

Fiscal Note: (Dated April 2, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES General Fund FY25-26 \$1,136,000 FY26-27 \$1,936,000 FY27-28 & Subsequent Years \$436,000 Total Positions Required: 1 OTHER FISCAL IMPACT Passage of this legislation may result in additional increases in state expenditures if there are agencies who are unable to comply with the requirements of the legislation utilizing existing personnel and resources. The extent and timing of any additional increases in state expenditures cannot be reasonably determined. HB 332 - SB 867

Senate Status: 02/10/25 - Introduced in the Senate

House Status: 02/04/25 - Referred to House Department & Agencies Subcommittee.

SB990/HB1194 **LABOR LAW: Report on number of employers enrolled in E-Verify.**

Sponsors: Sen. Hensley, Joey , Rep. Cepicky, Scott

Summary: Requires the office of employment verification assistance to, using existing resources, create and publish a report on the number of employers that the office has enrolled in E-Verify or conducted work authorization status checks on behalf of. Broadly captioned.

Fiscal Note: (Dated March 13, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 03/18/25 - Taken off notice in Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.

House Status: 02/12/25 - Caption bill held on House clerk's desk.

SB1084/HB923 **STATE GOVERNMENT: Dismantling DEI Departments Act.**

Sponsors: Sen. Johnson, Jack , Rep. Maberry, Aron

Summary: Enacts the "Dismantling DEI Departments Act," which requires that a department, agency, or other unit of state government, county government, municipal government, metropolitan government, or a public institution of higher education shall not maintain or authorize an office or department that promotes or requires discriminatory preferences in an effort to increase diversity, equity, or inclusion with all mandates, policies, programs, activities, guidance, regulations, enforcement actions, consent orders, or other declarations by such office or department are void. Broadly captioned.

Amendment Summary: Senate State & Local Government Committee amendment 1, House Department & Agencies Subcommittee amendment 1 (006418) enacts the Dismantling DEI Departments Act. Prohibits a department, agency, or other unit of state government, or political subdivision of the state, such as a county, municipal, metropolitan government, or public institution of higher education from maintaining or authorizing an office or department that promotes or requires discriminatory preferences to increase diversity, equity, or inclusion. Declares all mandates, policies, programs, activities, guidance, regulations, enforcement actions, consent orders, or other declarations by such an office, division, or department as void. Declares the prohibition does not apply to such entities that submit a notice in writing to the Comptroller of the Treasury (COT) that compliance with this section would result in a loss of federal funding, to the extent such an exemption is necessary to conform to federally awarded or amended contracts, subcontracts, or postsecondary grants as a condition to receipt of federal funds. Requires the COT to review the notice and upon determination that such would result in federal funding to notify the entity in writing of the exemption. Requires the entity to annually renew in writing the exemption with the COT. Removes the requirement that appointing authorities must strive to ensure certain boards, commissions, committees, and other governing or advisory entities of the executive branch of state government (boards) are represented by members of a certain age, gender, or racial minority. Requires that appointing authorities strive to ensure that all appointments to serve on boards be made based on individual merit, qualifications, and needs. Terminates the Minority-Owned Businesses Advisory Council attached to the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Education Lottery Corporation.

Fiscal Note: (Dated March 12, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 04/02/25 - Senate State & Local Government Committee recommended with amendment 1 (006418), which enacts the Dismantling DEI Departments Act. Prohibits a department, agency, or other unit of state government, or political subdivision of the state, such as a county, municipal, metropolitan government, or public institution of higher education from maintaining or authorizing an office or department that promotes or requires discriminatory preferences to increase diversity, equity, or inclusion. Declares all mandates, policies, programs, activities, guidance, regulations, enforcement actions, consent orders, or other declarations by such an office, division, or department as void. Declares the prohibition does not apply to such entities that submit a notice in writing to the Comptroller of the Treasury (COT) that compliance with this section would result in a loss of federal funding, to the extent such an exemption is necessary to conform to federally awarded or amended contracts, subcontracts, or postsecondary grants as a condition to receipt of federal funds. Requires the COT to review the notice and upon determination that such would result in federal funding to notify the entity in writing of the exemption. Requires the entity to annually renew in writing the exemption with the COT. Removes the requirement that appointing authorities must strive to ensure certain boards, commissions, committees, and other governing or advisory entities of the executive branch of state government (boards) are represented by members of a certain age, gender, or racial minority. Requires that appointing authorities strive to ensure that all appointments to serve on boards be made based on individual merit, qualifications, and needs. Terminates the Minority-Owned Businesses Advisory Council attached to the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Education Lottery Corporation. Sent to Senate Calendar Committee.

House Status: 04/03/25 - Set for House State & Local Government Committee 04/08/25.

SB1140/HB918 **ENVIRONMENT & NATURE: Issuance of temporary hunting licenses for disabled veterans.**

Sponsors: Sen. Crowe, Rusty , Rep. Slater, William

Summary: Requires issuance of temporary hunting licenses, of up to seven-days duration and at no cost, to disabled veterans participating in hunting experiences sponsored and paid for by not-for-profit organizations. Broadly captioned.

Amendment Summary: Senate amendment 1 (005237) adds that the executive director of the wildlife resources agency, or the executive director's designee, must, upon request, issue a temporary group hunting event permit to a not-for-profit organization that sponsors and pays for a hunting experience at no cost to a veteran with any percentage of service-connected disability. Provides that such a temporary group hunting event permit must be for a duration that is no longer than the duration of the hunting experience for which the permit is issued, but in no event may the permit be valid for more than seven days. Such hunting experience must comply with all applicable laws, regulations, and proclamations. Requires participants to provide all information necessary to obtain an individual hunting license in connection with a temporary group hunting event permit, and none of the cost for the permit must be borne by the disabled veteran participant. Requires the executive director, or the executive director's designee, to accept as evidence of service-connected disability a certification from the veterans' administration. Provides that in order to account for lost federal funding to the agency and to comply with present law, the executive director, or the executive director's designee, may collect all pertinent and relevant information to certify the unique individuals taking part in the hunting experience under a temporary group hunting event permit. Authorizes the Tennessee fish and wildlife commission to promulgate rules necessary to effectuate this amendment.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 27, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 03/17/25 - Senate passed with amendment 1 (005237).

House Status: 04/03/25 - House passed.

Executive Status: 04/03/25 - Sent to the speakers for signatures.

SB1185/HB952 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Small Business Growth and Empowerment Act.

Sponsors: Sen. Akbari, Raumesh , Rep. Brooks, Shaundelle
Summary: Enacts the "Small Business Growth and Empowerment Act," which authorizes business tax credits for small businesses hiring locally or providing workforce training. Creates grants for minority-owned and women-owned businesses in underserved areas.
Fiscal Note: (Dated March 14, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENTREVENUE General FundFY25-26 & Subsequent Years (\$624,300) LOCAL GOVERNMENTREVENUE MandatoryFY25-26 & Subsequent Years (\$732,800) OTHER FISCAL IMPACTThe extent of any expenditures from the General Fund, corresponding revenue to the SmallBusiness Growth and Empowerment Fund, and subsequent expenditures from the Fund, beginningin FY25-26, cannot be estimated with reasonable certainty.
Senate Status: 03/18/25 - Taken off notice in Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.
House Status: 02/11/25 - Referred to House Business & Utilities Subcommittee.

SB1190/HB1216 LABOR LAW: Increases hourly minimum wage.

Sponsors: Sen. Akbari, Raumesh , Rep. Johnson, Gloria
Summary: Increases the hourly minimum wage to \$20.00, or the federal minimum wage established pursuant to the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, whichever rate is greater.
Fiscal Note: (Dated March 1, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES General Fund FY25-26 \$47,818,000 FY26-27 & Subsequent Years \$95,299,000 Total Positions Required: 4 LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES Mandatory FY25-26 Up to \$295,994,900 FY26-27 & Subsequent Years Up to \$591,989,900 Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost. SB 1190 - HB 1216
Senate Status: 03/19/25 - Set for Senate Commerce & Labor Committee 03/25/25.
House Status: 03/19/25 - Failed in House Banking & Consumer Affairs Subcommittee for lack of a second.

SB1221/HB971 EDUCATION: Creation of a physical education through community service program.

Sponsors: Sen. Oliver, Charlane , Rep. Parkinson, Antonio
Summary: Authorizes LEAs and public charter schools to create a physical education through community service program by partnering with a community service partner to provide students in grades nine through 12 the opportunity to earn one-half credit in physical education by completing yardwork projects for older persons and persons with disabilities within the community served by the LEA or public charter school. Broadly captioned.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 15, 2025) OTHER FISCAL IMPACT If an LEA or public charter school elects to create a physical education through community service program, a permissive increase in local expenditures may occur. However, due to multiple unknown factors, the extent and timing of any local fiscal impact cannot be determined with certainty.
Senate Status: 02/12/25 - Referred to Senate Education Committee.
House Status: 02/25/25 - Taken off notice in House Education Instruction Subcommittee.

SB1231/HB1264 STATE GOVERNMENT: Prohibits nongovernmental or intergovernmental entity from infringing upon private property rights.

Sponsors: Sen. Pody, Mark , Rep. Hulse, Bud
Summary: Prohibits a nongovernmental or intergovernmental entity in this state from infringing upon or restricting private property rights without due process or an individual's constitutional rights by virtue of pursuing a policy recommendation originating from or traceable to the United Nations, a subsidiary entity thereof, or an international policymaking organization. Makes it an offense for the state or an official or political subdivision in this state to infringe upon or restrict private property rights without due process or an individual's constitutional rights in pursuing United Nations or international policymaking organizational policy.
Senate Status: 02/10/25 - Introduced in the Senate
House Status: 02/10/25 - Introduced in the House

SB1257/HB1384 LABOR LAW: Pay Stub Protection Act.

Sponsors: Sen. Lamar, London , Rep. Harris, Torrey
Summary: Enacts the "Pay Stub Protection Act," which requires an employer to provide a statement to an employee on the employer's payday that contains information regarding the employee's wages and hours worked during a pay period and must provide a statement within 10 days of an employee's request if the employee does not receive a statement on the employer's payday. Broadly captioned.
Amendment Summary: House Commerce Committee amendment 3 (005488) enacts the Pay Stub Protection Act. Requires employers to provide employees, upon request, with written, electronic, or accessible pay statements for each pay period that includes: (1) the employee's name and address; (2) employer's name; (3) total gross and wages for the pay period; (4) itemized additions and deductions; (5) pay date and pay period; (6) hourly wage rate and hours worked for applicable employees; and (7) overtime hours worked. Requires employers to provide pay statements to employees within four business days of the request. Requires the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DLWD) to investigate violations, issue written warnings and assess civil penalties of \$50 to \$500 per violation for repeated noncompliance after a contested case hearing. Prevents individual or private causes of action arising from a violation.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 22, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES General Fund FY25-26 \$165,700 FY26-27 & Subsequent Years \$152,700 Total Positions Required: 2
Senate Status: 03/18/25 - Senate Commerce & Labor Committee deferred to first calendar of 2026.
House Status: 03/19/25 - House Commerce Committee recommended with amendment 3 (005488) after reconsidering its actions and withdrawing amendment 1 (004370). Sent to House Government Operations.

SB1357/HB1399 LABOR LAW: Increases minimum hourly wage.

Sponsors: Sen. Akbari, Raumesh , Rep. Pearson, Justin

Summary: Increases, from \$7.25 to \$20.00, the minimum hourly wage for employees within this state. Prohibits an employer from paying an employee less than 1.5 times the regular wage rate done by the employ in excess of 40 hours per work week. Provides that an action to recovery damages must be instituted within two years from the date wages were due, unless the complaint filed with the court alleges a willful violation, in which case, the action must be instituted within three years. Provides that the right of employees to collectively bargain through representatives of the employees' own choosing remains intact. Defines relevant terms.

Fiscal Note: (Dated March 12, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES General Fund FY25-26 \$95,324,100 FY26-27 & Subsequent Years \$95,299,000 Total Positions Required: 4 LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES Mandatory FY25-26 & Subsequent Years Up to \$591,989,900 Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.

Senate Status: 03/25/25 - Taken off notice in Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.

House Status: 03/26/25 - House Banking & Consumer Affairs Subcommittee took no action.

SB1395/HB1401 **PUBLIC FINANCE: Grant payments under the grant assistance program for nursing home care.**

Sponsors: Sen. Watson, Bo , Rep. Hicks, Gary

Summary: Authorizes grant payments under the grant assistance program for nursing home care to be made either monthly or quarterly.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 8, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 02/10/25 - Introduced in the Senate

House Status: 02/10/25 - Referred to House Delayed Bills Committee.

SB1421/HB1033 **COMMERCIAL LAW: Affirmative defense that may be utilized by a covered entity that is the subject of a data breach.**

Sponsors: Sen. Akbari, Raumesh , Rep. Dixie, Vincent

Summary: Creates an affirmative defense that may be utilized by a covered entity that is the subject of a data breach, if the covered entity's cybersecurity program meets certain criteria at the time the breach occurs.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 26, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 02/10/25 - Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.

House Status: 02/11/25 - Referred to House Civil Justice Subcommittee.

SB1422/HB1166 **CRIMINAL LAW: Investigating the presence of workplace bullying.**

Sponsors: Sen. Akbari, Raumesh , Rep. Parkinson, Antonio

Summary: Requires law enforcement agencies to investigate for the presence of workplace bullying concurrent with investigations of crimes of violence in the workplace. Requires law enforcement agencies to report findings to the TBI. Requires TBI to annually submit a report to the senate judiciary committee and the committee of the house of representatives with subject matter jurisdiction over criminal justice. concerning workplace bullying and violence. Broadly captioned.

Amendment Summary: House Criminal Justice Subcommittee amendment 1 (004630) requires law enforcement agencies (LEAs) to include an inquiry into the presence of bullying when investigating a crime of violence in the workplace.

Fiscal Note: (Dated March 7, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES General Fund FY25-26 \$30,000

Senate Status: 04/01/25 - Failed in Senate Judiciary Committee after adopting amendment 1 (006445).

House Status: 04/02/25 - Taken off notice in House Judiciary Committee.

SB6001/HB6004 **EDUCATION: Education Freedom Act of 2025.**

Sponsors: Sen. Johnson, Jack , Rep. Lamberth, William

Summary: Enacts the "Education Freedom Act of 2025," which creates 20,000 education freedom scholarships or vouchers for the 2025-2026 school year. Specifies that 10,000 of those scholarships are to be awarded to eligible students who meet certain criteria, which includes a student whose annual household income does not exceed 300 percent of the amount required for the student to qualify for free or reduced-price lunch, as provided in the income eligibility guidelines published by the United States Department of Agriculture's food and nutrition service. Requires schools accepting vouchers to administer a "nationally standardized achievement test" to participating students in grades 3-11 or the TCAP test. Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, prohibits an LEA's allocated education funding from decreasing from one year to the next year due to the disenrollment of students from the LEA. If an LEA's TISA allocation decreases from the LEA's TISA allocation for the immediately preceding school year, then the department must allocate additional funds to the LEA in an amount such that the LEA's TISA allocation for the current year is not less than that of the immediately preceding school year. Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, provides that if an LEA experienced disenrollment and received any additional funds and if an LEA's TISA allocation for the current school year is less than the sum total of the LEA's TISA allocation for the immediately preceding school year and the amount of any additional funds received by the LEA, then the department shall allocate additional funds to the LEA such that the LEA's TISA allocation for the current school year is equal to the sum total of the LEA's TISA allocation for the immediately preceding school year and the amount of any additional funds received by the LEA for the immediately preceding school year. Stipulates that disenrollment constitutes the LEA's non-virtual average daily membership for the current school year being lower than the LEA's non-virtual average daily membership for the prior school year. Subject to appropriation, requires the department of education to award a one-time bonus in the amount of \$2,000 to each teacher employed in a kindergarten through grade 12 public school in this state for the 2024-2025 school year. Designates 80% of sports wagering taxes to school construction and maintenance, with priority given to economically distressed counties and those affected by natural disasters (12 pp.). Part of Administration Package.

*Amendment**Summary:*

House amendment 1, Senate Education Committee amendment 1 (002431) enacts the Education Freedom Act of 2025. Establishes an Education Freedom Scholarship (EFS) Program administered by the Department of Education (DOE) for the purpose of providing eligible students in this state with a scholarship to be used toward the cost of attending a Category I, II, or III private school for the 2025-26 school year or subsequent years. Requires each private school that enrolls EFS recipients to annually administer a nationally standardized achievement test or the Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) tests for math and English language arts to recipients in grades three through eleven (3-11), and to provide the results of the tests to the Office of Research and Education Accountability (OREA) within the Comptroller of the Treasury (COT), which must be annually reported to the Education Committee of the Senate and to the committee of the House of Representatives having jurisdiction over elementary and secondary education. In order to assess academic performance, requires the DOE to annually select a statistical sample of recipients enrolled in private schools in any of the grades three through eight who were administered TCAP tests for the prior school year. Beginning with the Tennessee Investment in Student Achievement (TISA) allocations for the 2026-27 school year, if a local education agency's (LEA's) TISA allocation for the current school year is less than the LEA's TISA allocation for the immediately preceding school year, and if the LEA experienced disenrollment, requires the DOE to allocate additional funds to the LEA such that the LEA's TISA allocation for the current school year combined with the amount of any such additional funds is equal to the LEA's TISA allocation for the immediately preceding school year. Beginning with the TISA allocations for the 2027-28 school year, if an LEA has ever received such additional funds, and if an LEA's TISA allocation for the current school year is less than the sum total of the LEA's TISA allocation for the immediately preceding school year and the amount of any additional funds received by the LEA for the immediately preceding school year, then the DOE shall allocate additional funds to the LEA such that the LEA's TISA allocation for the current school year is equal to the sum total of the LEA's TISA allocation for the immediately preceding school year and the amount of any additional funds received by the LEA for the immediately preceding school year. Establishes that any additional funds provided to an LEA must be solely state funded. If an LEA is eligible for the proposed additional funds and Basic Education Program (BEP) Transition Funding or five percent Safety Net funding, then the DOE is required to only award the proposed additional funds to the LEA. Requires the DOE to award a one-time bonus in the amount of \$2,000 to each teacher employed in a kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12) school in this state for the 2024-25 school year. In order to receive the bonus, Requires each local board of education and governing body of a public charter school to adopt a resolution affirming that an LEA or public charter school would like to participate and to submit its resolution to the DOE by June 1, 2025. Excludes teachers employed in a K-12 public school for the 2024-2025 school year and who are members of the General Assembly on the effective date of this act from the bonus eligibility. Requires the State Treasurer (Treasurer) to invest appropriations for the EFS Program and other available program funds, and for any unencumbered funds and any unexpended balance remaining in the account at the end of a fiscal year to be carried forward until expended. Requires the State Treasurer (Treasurer) to distribute 80 percent of the privilege tax collections on sports wagering, otherwise distributed to the Lottery for Education Account, into an account to be known as the Disbursement Account, for use by LEAs for the construction and maintenance of public school buildings. Establishes eligibility criteria for LEAs to receive funds and creates a process for the application and distribution of funds. Requires the Treasurer to disburse, in the order in which completed applications are received, funds to an LEA in an amount equal to \$25 for each student enrolled in the LEA, if the LEA meets certain conditions. Authorizes the Treasurer to charge and deduct from the Disbursement Account an administrative fee to effectuate the distribution of funds to eligible LEAs and to pay all reasonable expenses and services. Specifies that if in any year the net proceeds deposited into the Lottery for Education Account are not sufficient to meet the amount appropriated for education programs and purposes based off State Funding Board projections, then the proposed reallocation of privilege tax collections must be reduced by the amount of deficiency and such amount must be deposited into the Lottery for Education Account.

Fiscal Note:

(Dated January 23, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT LEA School Lottery for Building REVENUE General Fund Education Account Improvement Fund FY25-26 - (\$77,235,700) \$77,235,700 FY26-27 - (\$77,235,700) \$77,235,700 FY27-28 & Subsequent Years - (\$77,235,700) \$77,235,700 LEA School Building EXPENDITURES General Fund TISA Improvement Fund FY25-26 \$347,449,400 \$3,328,700 \$77,235,700 FY26-27 \$191,261,800 NET (\$44,933,600) \$77,235,700 FY27-28 & Subsequent Years >\$191,261,800 NET >(\$44,933,600) \$77,235,700 Total Positions Required: 13 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE Mandatory FY25-26 \$80,564,400 FY26-27 NET \$32,302,100 FY27-28 & Subsequent Years NET Up to \$32,302,100 OTHER FISCAL IMPACT The General Appropriations Act of 2024 allocated recurring funding in the amount of \$144,200,000 for the Education Freedom Scholarship Program, beginning in FY24-25. A precise increase in permissive local expenditures for the construction and maintenance of public school buildings beginning in FY25-26 cannot be quantified.

Senate Status:

02/10/25 - Signed by Senate speaker.

House Status:

02/03/25 - Signed by House speaker.

Executive Status:

02/12/25 - Enacted as Public Chapter 0007.

SB6002/HB6001 STATE GOVERNMENT: Creates the centralized immigration enforcement division within the department of safety.

Sponsors:

Sen. Johnson, Jack , Rep. Lamberth, William

Summary:

Creates within the department of safety the centralized immigration enforcement division, to be administered by the chief immigration enforcement officer, who is to be appointed by the governor. Establishes a grant program for purposes of promoting the enforcement of federal immigration laws. Requires a local government that receives a grant under the grant program to submit quarterly reports to the centralized immigration enforcement division no later than 30 days after the end of the quarter in which the local government receives the grant, and for each quarter thereafter until all grant funding has been expended by the local government. Creates criminal penalties for officials who adopt sanctuary policies and subsequently requires their removal from office upon conviction. Requires the department of safety to issue lawful permanent residents a temporary driver license, instead of a standard license, to aid in determining voter eligibility for someone who presents a Tennessee driver license as identification. Part of Administration Package.

*Amendment**Summary:*

Senate amendment 1 (002322) creates the Centralized Immigration Enforcement Division (CIED) within the Department of Safety (DOS). Establishes that the chief executive of the CIED is the Chief Immigration Enforcement Officer (Chief Officer), who is to be appointed by the Governor. Details the duties of the Chief Officer and authorizes the Commissioner of DOS (Commissioner) to hire staff. Requires the Commissioner, in consultation with the Chief Officer, to attempt to enter into the terms of an agreement between the state of Tennessee and the United States Attorney General concerning the enforcement of federal immigration laws, detention and removals, and investigations in the state. Establishes an Immigration Enforcement Grant Program (Grant Program), to be administered by the Chief Officer, to incentivize local governments to enter into agreements between the respective local government and the United States Attorney General concerning the enforcement of federal immigration laws. Requires funds received for the Grant Program to be deposited into a special account in the state Treasury to be known as the Immigration Enforcement Fund, which may include appropriations from the General Assembly and other grants. Authorizes the Treasurer to invest moneys in the Immigration Enforcement Fund. Stipulates that interest which accrues and any balance remaining unexpended at the end of the fiscal year shall not revert to the General Fund. Authorizes a law enforcement agency (LEA) to negotiate the terms of an agreement between the LEA and appropriate federal officials concerning the enforcement of federal immigration laws without approval from the associated local governing body. Requires a local government that receives a grant to submit quarterly reports to the CIED until all grant funding has been expended and to provide an accounting of the grant funds at any time as determined by the Chief Officer. Requires, under certain conditions including misuse or misappropriation, the Chief Officer to claw back remaining grant funds from a local government. Creates a Class E felony for a state or local official to adopt or enact a sanctuary policy. Requires the Attorney General and Reporter (AG) to initiate an action to remove any such official from office who fails to comply with a court order to repeal or rescind a sanctuary policy and is subsequently convicted. Prohibits the use of a temporary driver license or temporary photo identification as an acceptable proof of identification for the purpose of voting or for any other right or benefit that is exclusive to United States citizens. Prohibits DOS from issuing lawful permanent residents a driver license of any class that is not temporary. Requires a temporary driver license, photo identification license, or permit to include a visually distinctive marker to distinguish the temporary license or permit from one issued to a United States citizen. Requires a lawful permanent resident who renews or reinstates a license or permit after January 1, 2026, to provide proof of United States citizenship in order to retain such license or permit. Requires, if a lawful permanent resident cannot provide proof of United States citizenship, the lawful permanent resident to be issued a temporary version of the license or permit. Effective upon becoming law for the purposes of promulgating rules, redesigning driver licenses, establishing the CIED and the Grant Program, and authorizing law enforcement agencies to enter into agreements with federal officials without local approval. Effective July 1, 2025, for the provisions related to sanctuary policies. Effective January 1, 2026, for the prohibition of the use of temporary licenses and identifications for voting, and for the other requirements related to the issuance and appearance of standard and temporary driver licenses. Terminates the CIED and the Grant Program on January 20, 2029, at 11:59 a.m. Senate amendment 2 (002449) allows the department of safety to maintain any information or records collected or received by the centralized immigration enforcement division or chief immigration enforcement officer confidentially. Creates the immigration enforcement grant program to incentivize local governments and law enforcement agencies to enter into agreements between the respective local government or law enforcement agency, as well as the United States attorney general. Requires the grant program and grants approved under the program to administer by the chief immigration enforcement officer (CIEO). Requires local governments or law enforcement to have a valid, executed agreement between respective local governments or law enforcement agencies, as well as the United States attorney general in order to qualify for a grant. Requires the CIEO to develop the grant application, and establish grant eligibility criteria based on a local governments and law enforcement agencies' commitment to enforcing federal immigration laws. Prohibits the CIEO from issuing more than one grant to a local government or law enforcement agency. Allows grants to be issued in order to fund various resources, equipment, and programs needed to enforce federal immigration laws. Requires any local government or law enforcement agency receiving a grant under the program to submit quarterly reports on the usage of the grant to the centralized immigration enforcement division. Requires the local government or law enforcement agency to remit all remaining grant funds back to the department of safety if the CIEO should find that the grant was insufficiently used to combat illegal immigration.

Fiscal Note:

(Dated January 25, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT REVENUE General Fund Immigration Enforcement Fund FY25-26 - \$20,000,000 FY26-27 & Subsequent Years - \$20,000,000 EXPENDITURES General Fund Immigration Enforcement Fund FY25-26 \$20,563,700 \$20,000,000 FY26-27 & Subsequent Years \$20,545,700 \$20,000,000 Total Positions Required: 4 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE Permissive FY25-26 & Subsequent Years \$20,000,000 EXPENDITURES Permissive FY25-26 & Subsequent Years \$20,000,000 OTHER FISCAL IMPACT If the amount of funds received by a local government through the Grant Program is insufficient to meet the requirements of an agreement with the federal government, such local governments may realize an additional permissive increase in local expenditures. The amount and timing of any such additional expenditures is not known and cannot be reasonably estimated. It is not known whether or not any federal funding will be available for the Grant Program in the future. None has been assumed in this analysis. The proposed legislation requires the DOS to modify existing software and design in order to implement the provision related to driver licenses. It is assumed that this work will be accomplished by the relevant vendor under a current contract provision without additional expenditures to the department. However, if the relevant contract provision is exhausted by this and other legislation subsequently enacted, the department could incur an increase in state expenditures of \$97,000 in FY25-26. SB 6002 - HB 6001 2

Senate Status: 02/10/25 - Signed by Senate speaker.

House Status: 02/11/25 - Signed by House speaker.

Executive Status: 02/12/25 - Enacted as Public Chapter 0001.

SB6003/HB6003 PUBLIC FINANCE: Creates Hurricane Helene interest payment fund.

Sponsors: Sen. Johnson, Jack , Rep. Lamberth, William

Summary: Creates Hurricane Helene interest payment fund within the state treasury and specifies the purpose of the fund is to pay local governments' interest costs for up to three years on money borrowed to pay eligible disaster recovery costs related to Hurricane Helene. Also creates the governor's response and recovery fund within the state treasury and specifies that the purpose of the fund is to respond to, or recover from, an emergency, including agricultural recovery efforts related to an emergency, unemployment assistance related to an emergency, and business recovery assistance related to an emergency.

Fiscal Note: (Dated January 24, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT Hurricane Helene Interest Governors Response and REVENUE Payment Fund Recovery Fund FY25-26 \$110,000,000 \$100,000,000 EXPENDITURES General Fund FY25-26 \$210,000,000 OTHER FISCAL IMPACT The timing and extent of expenditures from the Hurricane Helene Interest Payment Fund and the Governors Response and Recovery Fund and associated increases in local government revenue cannot be quantified with reasonable certainty. Additionally, the extent to which funding from federal or other sources will be available for deposit to the two funds, if any, is unknown. SB 6003 - HB 6003

Senate Status: 02/10/25 - Signed by Senate speaker.

House Status: 02/11/25 - Signed by House speaker.

Executive Status: 02/12/25 - Enacted as Public Chapter 0002.

SB6004/HB6002 VETERANS & MILITARY AFFAIRS: TEMA assisting a political subdivision or local emergency management agency with recovery from disasters and emergencies on public property.

Sponsors: Sen. Johnson, Jack , Rep. Lamberth, William
Summary: Authorizes TEMA to assist a political subdivision or local emergency management agency with recovery from disasters and emergencies on public property at the request of the political subdivision or agency. Suspends certain eligibility requirements for unemployment benefits for eligible claimants who reside or work in counties for which this state has requested a major disaster declaration. Part of Administration Package.
Fiscal Note: (Dated January 26, 2025) OTHER FISCAL IMPACT Due to multiple unknown variables, the timing and extent of any increases in state expenditures cannot be determined with reasonable certainty. Additionally, the timing and extent of any additional FEMA reimbursements cannot be determined with certainty.
Senate Status: 02/10/25 - Signed by Senate speaker.
House Status: 02/11/25 - Signed by House speaker.
Executive Status: 02/12/25 - Enacted as Public Chapter 0003.

SB6007/HB6007 TAXES PROPERTY: Disbursement of payments to property owners whose property was destroyed or damaged by a FEMA-certified disaster.

Sponsors: Sen. Crowe, Rusty , Rep. Faison, Jeremy
Summary: Requires the comptroller to disburse payments to property owners whose real or personal property was destroyed or damaged by a FEMA-certified disaster occurring between September 26, 2024, and September 30, 2024, under certain conditions. Requires the chief executive officer of a governmental entity to approve the deployment of the governmental entity's personnel and equipment outside its boundaries to another governmental entity that has requested emergency assistance during a disaster.
Amendment Summary: Senate amendment 2 (002383) requires that payments be provided to only one owner per property, and if more than one owner seeks payment for the same property, the COT must disburse the payment to the owner who first submits all necessary information and correctly completed documentation. Senate amendment 3 (002578) requires the Comptroller of the Treasury (COT) to disburse payments to owners of real or personal property whose property: (1) was destroyed or damaged by Hurricane Helene between September 26, 2024 and September 30, 2024; and (2) is located in a county included in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) declaration. Specifies that payments are allowed regardless of whether the property was restored or replaced by December 31, 2024. Requires such payments to be equal to 130 percent of the property tax paid by each property owner for tax year 2024. Deletes the provision on December 31, 2025.
Fiscal Note: (Dated January 26, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES General Fund FY24-25 >\$1,931,600 FY25-26 >\$1,931,600
Senate Status: 02/10/25 - Signed by Senate speaker.
House Status: 02/11/25 - Signed by House speaker.
Executive Status: 02/12/25 - Enacted as Public Chapter 0006.

SJR3 STATE GOVERNMENT: Establishes a definition of antisemitism.

Sponsors: Sen. Pody, Mark ,
Summary: Establishes a definition of antisemitism and encourages departments and agencies of state government to use such definition in determining discriminatory intent for any law or policy in this state that prohibits discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin.
Senate Status: 03/27/25 - Senate adopted.

SJR15 CRIMINAL LAW: Human Trafficking Awareness Month.

Sponsors: Sen. Johnson, Jack ,
Summary: Recognizes January 2025 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month.
Senate Status: 02/20/25 - Senate adopted.

SJR22 MISCELLANEOUS: Honors individuals, organizations, and agencies that came to the aid of their fellow citizens during Hurricane Helene.

Sponsors: Sen. Massey, Becky ,
Summary: Honors individuals, organizations, and agencies that came to the aid of their fellow citizens during Hurricane Helene.
Senate Status: 01/27/25 - Referred to Senate Calendar Committee.

HB63 WELFARE: Pilot program to support homeless or potentially homeless families.

Sponsors: Rep. Cepicky, Scott
Summary: Creates within the Tennessee Housing Development Agency the Housing Opportunity and Pathways to Education (HOPE) pilot program to provide support to homeless families and those at risk of homelessness. Broadly captioned.
House Status: 02/03/25 - Withdrawn in House.

HB376 PROFESSIONS & LICENSURE: Discriminatory practices prohibited regarding membership of state regulatory and health related boards.

Sponsors: Rep. Zachary, Jason
Summary: Prohibits the exclusion of persons from membership on state regulatory and health related boards on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, and national origin. Prohibits such boards from establishing or operating under race-based policies pertaining to their composition. Creates a private cause of action against a board and its officers, employees, and agents for violations. Broadly captioned.
House Status: 02/05/25 - Referred to House Department & Agencies Subcommittee.

HJR5 JUDICIARY: Constitutional amendment - to ensure equality of rights based on sex.

Sponsors: Rep. Behn, Aftyn

Summary: Proposes an amendment to prohibit this state or an instrumentality of this state from abridging or denying a person's rights on account of sex.

House Status: 01/29/25 - Referred to House Civil Justice Subcommittee.

HJR76 HEALTH CARE: Expresses support for faith-based recovery programs.

Sponsors: Rep. Hardaway, G.A.

Summary: Expresses support for faith-based recovery programs.

House Status: 02/03/25 - Withdrawn in House.

HJR131 JUVENILES: Acknowledges the importance of positive male role models and mentorship opportunities in schools, nonprofit organizations, and faith-based organizations.

Sponsors: Rep. Sparks, Mike

Summary: Acknowledges the importance of positive male role models and mentorship opportunities in schools, nonprofit organizations, and faith-based organizations.

House Status: 04/03/25 - House adopted.