

**68<sup>th</sup> Annual Tennessee YMCA**

# **YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT**

**Sponsored by the YMCA Center for Civic Engagement**



**February 25–28, 2021**

**Democracy must be learned by each generation.**

# 68th General Assembly of the YMCA Youth in Government

GOVERNOR  
LUCY PFEIFFER

CHIEF OF STAFF  
JAKE HARRIS

## HOUSE LEADERSHIP

Speaker of the Red House  
**Garrison Brothers**  
**Comfort Markwei**  
Speaker Pro-Temp of the Red House  
**Haley Hamilton**  
Floor Leader of the Red House  
**Gerrica Jones**  
**Madeline Wyatt**  
Speaker of the Blue House  
**Wade Mathews**  
Speaker Pro-Temp of the Blue House  
**Paige Ryan**  
Floor Leader of the Blue House  
**Rudra Patel**  
**Angelie Quimbo**

## HOUSE STAFF

Chief Clerk of the Red House  
**Abigail Frank**  
Chief Clerk of the Blue House  
**Garner Cherry**  
Red House Sergeant at Arms  
**Madeleine McDaniel**  
Blue House Sergeant at Arms  
**Russell Drowota**

## SENATE LEADERSHIP

Lieutenant Governor of the Red Senate  
**Tabetha Anderson**  
**Colin Fisher**  
Speaker Pro-Temp of the Red Senate  
**Eunise Garcia**  
Floor Leader of the Red Senate  
**Seo Yoon Yang**  
Lieutenant Governor of the Blue Senate  
**Rosa Anderson Barrera**  
Speaker Pro-Temp of the Blue Senate  
**Alexis Perez**  
**Emily Stoddard**  
Floor Leader of the Blue Senate  
**Emma Pierucki**

## SENATE STAFF

Red Chief Engrossing Clerk  
**Emma Burton**  
Chief Clerk of the Red Senate  
**Lottie Miller**  
Chief Clerk of the Blue Senate  
**Caroline Johnston**  
Red Senate Sergeant at Arms  
**Rodolfo Beltran**  
Blue Senate Sergeant at Arms

Isabella Allen

## SUPREME COURT

Chief Justice  
**Nevaeh Morris**  
Associate Justices  
**Muntrinee Mon**  
**Baylor Woods**  
**Emma Wu**  
**Yao Xiao**  
Attorney General  
**Madelyn Outman**  
Solicitor General  
**Ethan Kennan**

## PRESS CORPS

Managing Editor  
**Whit Barrett**  
Blog and Copy Editor  
**Carmen Witt**  
Social Media Director  
**Milla Kicinski**

## LOBBYIST

Head Lobbyist  
**Finn Shirley**

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**Tennessee YMCA Center for Civic Engagement**  
**YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT**  
**CONFERENCE AGENDA**  
**Capitol Conference**

**Thursday, February 25, 2021**

9:00AM	Opening Ceremony Posted Watch any time before session beings
1:30–2:30PM	Virtual Luggage Room (Optional- time to test Zoom for delegates & advisors)
2:30–3:30PM	Live Stream of Opening Ceremony
3:00PM	Officer Meeting
3:30–5:45PM	Senate Committees House Committees Governor’s Cabinet Supreme Court Lobbyists Press Corps
5:45PM	Dinner on your own
6:45– 7:30PM	Live Stream of Gubernatorial Debate
7:30–9:30PM	Senate Committees House Committees Governor’s Cabinet Supreme Court Lobbyists Press Corps

# Friday, February 26, 2021

8:15AM	Officer Meeting
9:00–11:00AM	Senate Committees House Committees Governor's Cabinet Supreme Court Lobbyists Press Corps
11:00AM–12:00PM	Lunch on your own
12:00PM	All Conference Session State of the State- Governor Lucy Pfeiffer
12:30–2:30PM	Red & Blue Senate Sessions Red & Blue House Sessions Governor's Cabinet Supreme Court Lobbyists Press Corps
2:30–3:30PM	Break
3:30–5:30PM	Red & Blue Senate Sessions Red & Blue House Sessions Governor's Cabinet Supreme Court Lobbyists Press Corps
5:30–6:30PM	Dinner on your own
6:30–7:30PM	Candidate Town Hall
7:30PM–9:00PM	Social Activities Trivia Game Night- Among Us

# Saturday, February 27, 2021

**\*\*Polls Open from 9:30am until 7:00pm\*\***

8:15AM	Officer Meeting
9:00–11:00AM	Red & Blue Senate Sessions Red & Blue House Sessions Governor's Cabinet Supreme Court Lobbyists Press Corps
11:00AM–12:30PM	Lunch on your own
12:30–3:00PM	Red & Blue Senate Sessions Red & Blue House Sessions Governor's Cabinet Supreme Court Lobbyists Press Corps
3:00–4:00PM	Break
4:00–6:00PM	Red & Blue Senate Sessions Red & Blue House Sessions Governor's Cabinet Supreme Court Lobbyists Press Corps
6:00–7:00PM	Dinner on your own
7:00–9:00PM	Social Activities Tom Foolery Committee Game Night 2.0
9:00–11:00PM	Crisis & Final Case

## **Sunday, February 28, 2021**

8:15AM	Officer Meeting
9:00–11:00AM	Red & Blue Senate Sessions Red & Blue House Sessions Governor's Cabinet Supreme Court Lobbyists Press Corps
11:00AM–12:30PM	Lunch on your own
12:30–1:30	Red & Blue Senate Sessions Red & Blue House Sessions Governor's Cabinet Supreme Court Lobbyists Press Corps
1:30PM	Closing Ceremony

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## **Saturday, May 1, 2021**

12:00 – 2:00 PM	YIG Showcase (by invitation only)
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# State of Tennessee

Lucy Pfeiffer  
Governor

My fellow Tennesseans,

This year, it is my profound honor to officially welcome you to the 68th annual Tennessee Youth in Government conference. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your participation in this year's conference. The dedication that you all have shown is inspiring and motivational, not only to your officers, but also to all those looking on. In a time where concern for the future is at the forefront of the minds of most Americans, your appreciation of and continued passion for YIG gives me hope.

Every year brings challenges, but 2020 presented a unique set of obstacles. As we experienced these difficulties, I found that what we have learned from YIG formed a special skill set, perfectly tailored to cope with the situation around us. From a political perspective, we are well equipped to understand policy and advocate for ourselves, but we also have the luxury of knowing what true servant leadership looks like. For the past three years, our governors and conference leaders have done a fantastic job of embodying the core YMCA values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility. This is a standard that we must expect of all our leaders, at this conference, in our state government, and at a national level.

If there is anything that you take away from this weekend, let it be a renewed respect for the democracy that we live in. Our government is one of unity in the face of division, and it is our responsibility to be informed members of the next generation. Please remember this weekend to hold yourself and those around you accountable to those four core values, and to keep an open mind as you participate.

As we move into 2021 together, I hope that our conference will set the tone for a year motivated not by competition or resentment, but rather understanding and appreciation for the opinions, experiences, and values of our fellow Americans. With unreserved hope for the future and unwavering faith in your abilities, I firmly believe that this conference will be a positive force in each of your journeys with civic engagement.

Yours in Service,

*Lucy Pfeiffer*

Lucy Pfeiffer  
Governor of the 68th Annual Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government Conference





# WELCOME *from the* GOVERNOR

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Dear Friends,

On behalf of the State of Tennessee, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 68<sup>th</sup> Annual YMCA Youth in Government Conference. As a long-time YMCA volunteer, I am thrilled to see that Youth in Government has been able to continue its tradition of success during this difficult year. While I will miss seeing YIG delegates here on Capitol Hill, I commend you for your ongoing commitment to civic engagement.

As you gather virtually from near and far, I hope you find inspiration as you listen to your peers, participate in debates, and interact with others who care about making Tennessee the best it can be. I trust that you will use this experience to become responsible, respectful, and engaged citizens in your communities. I am certain that you will make our state proud.

Maria and I send our very best wishes. We hope your weekend is full of fascinating conversations, good friends, and fun.

Warmest regards,

Bill Lee

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# TENNESSEE YMCA CENTER FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT ADMINISTRATION

**Executive Director**  
Susan A. Moriarty

**Associate Director**  
Elise Addington Dugger

**Director of West TN District**  
Kelley Clack

**Program Director**  
Tyler Dorr

## CONTACTING US

Susan Moriarty  
Office: 615-743-6237  
Cell: 615-482-1857  
[smoriarty@ymcamidtn.org](mailto:smoriarty@ymcamidtn.org)

Elise Addington Dugger  
Office: 615-743-6237  
Cell: 901-674-1185  
[edugger@tennesseecce.org](mailto:edugger@tennesseecce.org)

Tyler Dorr  
Office: 615-743-6237  
Cell: 615-829-3452  
[tdorr@tennesseecce.org](mailto:tdorr@tennesseecce.org)

Kelley Clack  
Cell: 901-359-3547  
[kclack@ymcamemphis.org](mailto:kclack@ymcamemphis.org)

**Web Address**  
[www.tennesseecce.org](http://www.tennesseecce.org)

**State Office Address**  
YMCA Center for Civic Engagement  
1000 Church Street  
Nashville, TN 37203  
Fax: 888.724.2810

**TENNESSEE YMCA  
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT  
DELEGATE ROSTER**

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Component</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Comm.</b>	<b>Bill Number</b>
Abston	Eliza	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S-3	BSB-21-3-3
Alam	Amna	Valor College Prep	Blue House	Representative	H-1	BHB-21-1-4
Alam	Areeba	Valor College Prep	Red House	Representative	H-4	RHB-21-4-2
Allen	Isabella	Clarksville Academy	Officer	Blue Senate Sgt at Arms	S-1	BSB-21-1-2
Almalem	Itamar	White Station	Red House	Representative	H-4	RHB-21-4-1
Alonzo	Julieth	East Ridge	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Alvarado	Edward	Central Magnet	Red House	Representative	H-1	RHB-21-1-5
Anderson	Tabetha	Lebanon	Officer	Red Lieutenant Governor	S-1	
Anderson	Miya	Clarksville Academy	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Anderson Barrera	Rosa	Baylor School	Officer	Blue Lieutenant Governor	S-3	
Andrews	Lily	Signal Mountain	Red House	Representative	H-3	RHB-21-3-4
Arrington	Logan	Fairview	Blue House	Representative	H-1	BHB-21-1-2
Atwood	Rebekah	White House	Blue House	Representative	H-2	BHB-21-2-5
Bandy	Clarke	Signal Mountain	Red House	Representative	H-1	RHB-21-1-3
Barrett	Whit	Smyrna	Officer	Managing Editor		
Beltran	Rodolfo	Antioch	Officer	Red Senate Sgt at Arms	S-1	RSB-21-1-5
Bengin	Suzy	Valor College Prep	Blue House	Representative	H-4	BHB-21-4-3
Bhatt	Asha	Hillwood	Blue House	Representative	H-4	BHB-21-4-5
Bilderback	Brooklyn	Fairview	Red House	Representative	H-4	RHB-21-4-4
Bonner	Alliese	Green Hill	GovCab	Environment & Conservation		
Bradley-Shoup	Oliver	Signal Mountain	Red House	Representative	H-1	RHB-21-1-3
Brinkman	Ellie	Lebanon	Blue Senate	Senator	S-1	BSB-21-1-3
Brothers	Garrison	Central Magnet	Officer	Speaker of the Red House	H-1	
Brown	Julianna	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S-3	BSB-21-3-3
Bruce	Sophie	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H-2	BHB-21-2-4
Bryant	Mark	Father Ryan	Blue House	Representative	H-2	BHB-21-2-1
Buchanan	Anna	White House	Red House	Representative	H-1	RHB-21-1-4
Burton	Emma	Independence	Officer	Red Chief Engrossing Clerk		
Cabrera Lorenzo	Stephanie	East Ridge	Blue House	Representative	H-3	BHB-21-3-5
Carter	Grace	Smyrna	Red House	Representative	H-3	RHB-21-3-2
Carter	Addison	East Ridge	Red Senate	Senator	S-3	RSB-21-3-2
Caruthers	Lorelei	White House	Blue House	Representative	H-2	BHB-21-2-5
Caruthers	Phoenix	White House	Red House	Representative	H-2	RHB-21-2-3

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Component</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Comm.</b>	<b>Bill Number</b>
Champ O'Connell	Carter	Valor College Prep	Red House	Representative	H-4	RHB-21-4-2
Chenoweth	Maggie	White House	Red House	Representative	H-1	RHB-21-1-4
Cherry	Garner	Green Hill	Officer	Blue House Clerk		
Cherry	Amber	Valor College Prep	Press	Journalist		
Ciampa	Mark	Father Ryan	Blue House	Representative	H-2	BHB-21-2-1
Clemons	Jackson	Independence	Red Senate	Senator	S-2	RSB-21-2-3
Clyde	Makenzie	Clarksville Academy	Blue Senate	Senator	S-2	BSB-21-2-2
Conard	Dylan	Valor College Prep	Blue House	Representative	H-4	BHB-21-4-3
Crain	Connor	Clarksville Academy	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Crowder	William	Signal Mountain	GovCab	Children's Services		
Disch	Marlie	Independence	Blue House	Representative	H-3	BHB-21-3-1
Douglas	Nicholas	Collierville	Lobbyist	Lobbyist		
Drowota	Russell	Central Magnet	Officer	Blue House Sgt at Arms	H-1	BHB-21-1-6
Dungan	Abigail	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H-3	BHB-21-3-4
Falkner	Bebe	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S-2	BSB-21-2-4
Fannin	Blake	Fairview	Blue House	Representative	H-1	BHB-21-1-2
Fisher	Colin	Signal Mountain	Officer	Red Lieutenant Governor	S-2	
Fisher	Seth	Signal Mountain	Red Senate	Senator	S-3	RSB-21-3-4
Fly	Kyndle	Green Hill	Blue House	Representative	H-3	BHB-21-3-2
Foley	Ava	Green Hill	Blue Senate	Senator	S-1	BSB-21-1-5
Foley	Mya	Green Hill	Blue Senate	Senator	S-2	BSB-21-2-3
Frank	Abigail	Signal Mountain	Officer	Red House Clerk		
Gaither	Sally	Central Magnet	Blue House	Representative	H-2	BHB-21-2-3
Garcia	Eunise	Collegiate School	Officer	Red Senate Speaker Pro-Temp	S-3	
Gardner	Hardy	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S-1	BSB-21-1-1
Garmon	Amy	White House	Red House	Representative	H-2	RHB-21-2-3
Ginther	Cambria	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H-1	BHB-21-1-1
Gordon	Ava	Independence	Blue House	Representative	H-1	BHB-21-1-5
Hamilton	Haley	Collegiate School	Officer	Red House Speaker Pro-Temp	H-4	
Hamlet	Kayla	Lebanon	Red House	Representative	H-1	RHB-21-1-2
Hancock	Tripp	Page	Red House	Representative	H-2	RHB-21-2-4
Harnage	Nikki	Clarksville Academy	Red Senate	Senator	S-3	RSB-21-3-1
Harris	Grace	Central Magnet	Blue House	Representative	H-2	BHB-21-2-3

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Component</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Comm.</b>	<b>Bill Number</b>
Harris	Jackson	Father Ryan	Blue House	Representative	H-2	BHB-21-2-1
Harris	Jake	Central Magnet	Officer	Chief of Staff		
Hayes	Jackson	Independence	Blue House	Representative	H-1	BHB-21-1-5
Heath	John	Lebanon	Red House	Representative	H-3	RHB-21-3-3
Hertenstein	Rachel	Independence	Blue House	Representative	H-4	BHB-21-4-1
Hewitt	Kelsey	Signal Mountain	Red House	Representative	H-3	RHB-21-3-4
Hill	Abby	Green Hill	Blue Senate	Senator	S-1	BSB-21-1-5
Holderby	Hannah	Green Hill	Blue Senate	Senator	S-2	BSB-21-2-3
Hopper	Abigail	Lebanon	Red Senate	Senator	S-2	RSB-21-2-4
Hsi	Mu	Smyrna	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Humphrey	Annabel	Green Hill	Blue House	Representative	H-3	BHB-21-3-2
Hutchens	Reece	Page	Red House	Representative	H-2	RHB-21-2-4
Johnson	Benjamin	Smyrna	Red House	Representative	H-2	RHB-21-2-2
Johnston	Caroline	Clarksville Academy	Officer	Blue Senate Clerk		
Jones	Gerrica	Collegiate School	Officer	Red House Floor Leader	H-2	RHB-21-2-1
Karamustafic	Aisha	Smyrna	Press	Journalist		
Kennan	Ethan	Central Magnet	Officer	Solicitor General		
Khokhar	Seth	White Station	Red House	Representative	H-4	RHB-21-4-1
Kicinski	Milla	Hillwood	Officer	Social Media Director		
Kleinlein	Perry	Central Magnet	Press	Journalist		
Koerner	Reagan	Green Hill	Blue House	Representative	H-3	BHB-21-3-2
Lee	Sharon	Collierville	Red House	Representative	H-3	RHB-21-3-5
Lee	Kalisa	Collegiate School	Red Senate	Senator	S-1	RSB-21-1-4
Longino	Nya	Smyrna	Red House	Representative	H-3	RHB-21-3-2
Lyst	Spencer	Independence	Blue House	Representative	H-3	BHB-21-3-1
Makhkamjonova	Sami	Hillwood	Blue House	Representative	H-4	BHB-21-4-5
Mancini	Mica	Page	Red Senate	Senator	S-2	RSB-21-2-5
Markwei	Comfort	Central Magnet	Officer	Speaker of the Red House	H-2	
Marsden	Will	Signal Mountain	Blue Senate	Senator	S-3	BSB-21-3-2
Mastin	Cooper	Signal Mountain	Red Senate	Senator	S-3	RSB-21-3-4
Mathes	Madison	Lebanon	Red House	Representative	H-4	RHB-21-4-5
Mathews	Wade	Lebanon	Officer	Speaker of the Blue House	H-3	
McDaniel	Maddie	Father Ryan	Officer	Red House Sgt at Arms	H-1	RHB-21-1-1

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Component</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Comm.</b>	<b>Bill Number</b>
Mcelfresh	Jadin	Hillwood	Blue Senate	Senator	S-3	BSB-21-3-4
Mclemore	Audrey	Signal Mountain	Blue Senate	Senator	S-3	BSB-21-3-5
Medeiros	Juliana	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H-3	BHB-21-3-4
Mesler	Ryan	White Station	Red House	Representative	H-3	RHB-21-3-1
Miller	Lydia	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H-1	BHB-21-1-1
Miller	Reese	Lebanon	Red House	Representative	H-2	RHB-21-2-5
Miller	Cade	Signal Mountain	Lobbyist	Lobbyist		
Miller	Lottie	Signal Mountain	Officer	Red Senate Clerk		
Mitchell	Daryl	Lebanon	Blue Senate	Senator	S-1	BSB-21-1-3
Mon	Muntrinee	Signal Mountain	Officer	Associate Justice		
Montalbano	Maria Luisa	Page	Red Senate	Senator	S-2	RSB-21-2-5
Morris	Nevaeh	Smyrna	Officer	Chief Justice		
Morton	Hannah	Signal Mountain	Red Senate	Senator	S-2	RSB-21-2-2
Murdoch	John	Lebanon	Red Senate	Senator	S-1	RSB-21-1-3
Myers	Conner	White House	Red House	Representative	H-2	RHB-21-2-3
Narrell	Katherine	Central Magnet	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Nash	Brayden	White Station	Red House	Representative	H-4	RHB-21-4-1
Nashi	Mark	Signal Mountain	Blue Senate	Senator	S-2	BSB-21-2-1
Nauhria	Ashmita	Collierville	Red House	Representative	H-3	RHB-21-3-5
Nguyen	Asia	Lebanon	Red House	Representative	H-2	RHB-21-2-5
Nicolau	Jasmine	Central Magnet	Red House	Representative	H-1	RHB-21-1-5
Nita	Margaret	Green Hill	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Nkrumah	Blessyn	Valor College Prep	Blue House	Representative	H-1	BHB-21-1-4
Olson	Claire	Central Magnet	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Onafowokan	Moyin	Central Magnet	Blue House	Representative	H-2	BHB-21-2-3
Ortiz	Jessica	Collegiate School	Blue Senate	Senator	S-3	BSB-21-3-1
Outman	Madelyn	Green Hill	Officer	Attorney General		
Patel	Rudra	Hillwood	Officer	Blue House Floor Leader	H-2	BHB-21-2-6
Patel	Siya	East Ridge	Red Senate	Senator	S-3	RSB-21-3-2
Perez	Alexis	Antioch	Officer	Blue Senate Speaker Pro-Temp	S-1	
Pfeiffer	Lucy	Mt. Juliet	Officer	Governor		
Phillips	Miranda	Lebanon	Red Senate	Senator	S-3	RSB-21-3-5
Pierucki	Emma	Lebanon	Officer	Blue Senate Floor Leader	S-1	BSB-21-1-3

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Component</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Comm.</b>	<b>Bill Number</b>
Platt	Sydney	Valor College Prep	Blue House	Representative	H-1	BHB-21-1-4
Pyo	Huiyoun	Clarksville Academy	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Quimbo	Angelie	Hillwood	Officer	Blue House Floor Leader	H-1	BHB-21-1-3
Ray	Hailey	Clarksville Academy	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Reynolds	Siri	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S-1	BSB-21-1-1
Roehler	Sofia	Green Hill	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Rogers	Augusta	Signal Mountain	Blue Senate	Senator	S-1	BSB-21-1-4
Rushton	Isabella	Central Magnet	Press	Journalist		
Ryan	Paige	Baylor School	Officer	Blue House Speaker Pro-Temp	H-3	
Sam	Nikitha	Collierville	Red House	Representative	H-3	RHB-21-3-5
Sasraku	Jelissa	Smyrna	Red House	Representative	H-2	RHB-21-2-2
Schwartz	Theresa	Clarksville Academy	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Sciaraffo	Isabelle	Fairview	Red House	Representative	H-4	RHB-21-4-4
Severn	Will	Central Magnet	GovCab	Health		
Shah	Suren	Central Magnet	Red Senate	Senator	S-2	RSB-21-2-6
Shaver	Will	Valor College Prep	Blue House	Representative	H-4	BHB-21-4-3
Shaw	Connor	Lebanon	Red House	Representative	H-1	RHB-21-1-2
Shipley	Selby	Clarksville Academy	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Shirley	Finn	Mt. Juliet	Officer	Head Lobbyist		
Shive	Jude	Valor College Prep	Red House	Representative	H-4	RHB-21-4-2
Shome	Gina	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H-1	BHB-21-1-1
Shumpert	Kiley	Signal Mountain	Blue Senate	Senator	S-1	BSB-21-1-4
Siddiki	Isra	Valor College Prep	Blue House	Representative	H-3	BHB-21-3-3
Sisson	Amelia	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H-2	BHB-21-2-4
Smith	Corben	East Ridge	Blue House	Representative	H-4	BHB-21-4-2
Stewart	Katherine	Lebanon	Red House	Representative	H-4	RHB-21-4-5
Stoddard	Emily	East Ridge	Officer	Blue Senate Speaker Pro-Temp	S-2	
Stover	Terumi	Green Hill	GovCab	Finance & Administration		
Talley	Amber	Hillwood	Blue House	Representative	H-4	BHB-21-4-5
Taylor	Rayna	Central Magnet	Red House	Representative	H-1	RHB-21-1-5
Tela	Kemi	Father Ryan	Red House	Representative	H-1	RHB-21-1-1
Thigpen	Maddox	Lebanon	Red House	Representative	H-3	RHB-21-3-3
Uddin	Fazeela	Valor College Prep	Blue House	Representative	H-3	BHB-21-3-3



<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Component</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Comm.</b>	<b>Bill Number</b>
Vasquez	Bellali	East Ridge	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Vaughn	Erin	East Ridge	Blue House	Representative	H-4	BHB-21-4-2
Vazquez	Monica	Page	Red Senate	Senator	S-2	RSB-21-2-5
Venkateswaran	Samiksha	Page	Blue House	Representative	H-2	BHB-21-2-2
Villanueva	Esther	East Ridge	Blue House	Representative	H-3	BHB-21-3-5
Villarosa	Alvin	Smyrna	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Vite	David	Collegiate School	Blue Senate	Senator	S-3	BSB-21-3-1
Walpole	Rachel	Lebanon	Red House	Representative	H-1	RHB-21-1-2
Walters	Aubrey	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S-2	BSB-21-2-4
Wheaton	Joshua	Central Magnet	GovCab	Financial Institutions		
Wiggs	Noelle	Fairview	Red Senate	Senator	S-1	RSB-21-1-2
Wilford	Annie	White Station	Red House	Representative	H-3	RHB-21-3-1
Witt	Carmen	Collierville	Officer	Blog and Copy Editor		
Wolde	Amira	Hillwood	Blue Senate	Senator	S-3	BSB-21-3-4
Womble	Jonathan	Central Magnet	GovCab	Correction		
Woodcock	Briana	Lebanon	Red House	Representative	H-4	RHB-21-4-5
Woods	Baylor	Central Magnet	Officer	Associate Justice		
Wu	Emma	Signal Mountain	Officer	Associate Justice		
Wyatt	Madeline	Signal Mountain	Officer	Red House Floor Leader	H-4	RHB-21-4-3
Wyckoff	Ella	Independence	Red Senate	Senator	S-3	RSB-21-3-3
Wyckoff	Miles	Independence	Red Senate	Senator	S-3	RSB-21-3-3
Xiao	Yao	Central Magnet	Officer	Associate Justice		
Yang	Seo Yoon	Signal Mountain	Officer	Red Senate Floor Leader	S-1	RSB-21-1-1
Yoo	Lydia	Collierville	Red Senate	Senator	S-2	RSB-21-2-1

# **ELECTION 2021**

**When will the polls be open?**

**All day Saturday,  
starting at 9:30 am!**

**When will the polls be closing?**

**At 7:00pm on Saturday!**

**\*\*Remember- Voting is online! The  
link to vote can be found under  
Elections in your Conference App.**

# CAPITOL YIG BALLOT

\* DENOTES OFFICES FOR WHICH YOU WILL BE VOTING

## **GOVERNOR\***

Garner Cherry  
Colin Fisher  
Abigail Hopper  
Comfort Markwei

## **RED LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR\***

Isabella Allen  
Lottie Miller  
Emma Pierucki

## **WHITE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

(LG) William Severn  
(PT) Rudra Patel

## **BLUE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

(LG) Jackson Harris  
(PT) Siri Reynolds

## **SPEAKER OF THE RED HOUSE**

(S) William Crowder  
(PT) Alliese Bonner

## **SPEAKER OF THE WHITE HOUSE\***

Sally Gaither  
John Murdoch

## **SPEAKER OF THE BLUE HOUSE\***

Angelie Quimbo  
Terumi Stover

## **RED FLOOR LEADER**

(S) Caroline Johnston  
(H) Ava Foley

## **WHITE FLOOR LEADER**

(H) Mark Ciampa  
(S) Daryl Mitchell

## **BLUE FLOOR LEADER**

(S) Eliza Abston  
(H) Hardy Gardner

# **YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT RULES OF PROCEDURE**

**Introductory Note:** Youth in Government (YIG) is modeled after the Tennessee General Assembly. The circumstances at YIG require many of its rules of procedure to vary from the practices of the General Assembly. In questions or issues not addressed by the following rules, the YMCA Center for Civic Engagement staff may look to other authorities for guidance.

## **I. Presentation of Bills or Resolutions**

- A. Patrons of bills should make every effort to write a bill in compliance with the expectations of the YIG conference. The CCE staff may remove inappropriate bills from the dockets of their respective chambers regardless of committee rankings.
- B. When presenting their bills, patrons should uphold expectations for appropriate behavior. Disruptive behavior is subject to disciplinary action. Patrons should not use props of any kind while presenting their bills.
- C. Patrons may yield extra time from their introduction to their summation. Delegates speaking “pro” on those bills may also yield time to the patrons’ summation. Unused time from the patrons’ summation is yielded to the presiding officer (chair).
- D. Patrons may invoke Patron’s Rights during debate on their bill when a delegate has offered factually incorrect information about the text of their bill. Patron’s Rights allows the patrons ten seconds of uninterrupted speaking time to offer correct information. The patrons must wait until the speaker has concluded their remarks before exercising these rights.

## **II. Amendments to Bills**

- A. Patrons of bills may submit minor amendments to their bills immediately prior to presenting their bill to their appointed committee. These amendments should be limited to simple corrections and should not change the substance or intent of the bill. Once the patrons have begun their presentation, they may not submit amendments to their bill for the duration of the conference.
- B. The title of a bill may not be amended. Delegates must make every effort to ensure that proposed amendments do not make a bill omnibus.
- C. Any amendments must be written on the appropriate form, be legible, and be germane.
- D. Amendments must be recognized by the chair before the final round of debate on the bill, i.e. before the chair has recognized the last “pro” speaker.
- E. The patrons of the resolution must declare any amendment “friendly” (if they agree with the proposed amendment) or “unfriendly” (if they disagree).

1. Friendly amendments may be passed without debate through voice acclamation.
  2. Unfriendly amendments are debated in the appropriate format. The amendment's sponsor acts as the patron of the amendment, and the patrons of the resolution have the right to be the first con speaker in the debate.
- F. In chambers, the chair may recognize a maximum of two (2) amendments to any bill.
- G. Amendments must be in one of three forms:
1. TO DELETE... You must be specific about what part of the bill you are deleting.
  2. TO INSERT... You must be give specific wording to be inserting and the specific location of where it is to be inserted.
  3. TO SUBSTITUTE... A combination of the above.
- H. If a bill is adopted in the first chamber and amended in the second chamber, it must return to the first chamber for consideration of the amendments. When the bill is returned to the first chamber, the patron should make one of two motions below. Both motions are debatable and require a simple majority for adoption. Rejecting the amendments of the other chamber removes the bill from the docket.
1. "I move that the amendments be adopted and the bill be made to conform to the Senate/House version."
  2. "I move that the amendments be rejected."

### **III. Debating Bills, Amendments, and other Motions:**

- A. Delegates to the General Assembly may speak when recognized by the chair. Delegates' remarks must be relevant to the items on the agenda at any given time. Delegates from other chambers or components (Governor's Cabinet, Supreme Court) may only speak with permission of the CCE staff.
- B. Once recognized, delegates must identify themselves to the session with their name and school.
- C. Delegates recognized as speakers in debate have the right to do two of the following things with their speaker's time. Speakers must inform the chair of their intentions before continuing to:
1. Address the floor/session
  2. Ask the patrons of the bill a series of questions
  3. Yield the remainder of their time to another delegate in the session
  4. Make a motion. Motions should be made after one of the previous actions.
- D. Speaker's time: unless otherwise indicated by the chair, each speaker shall have one minute to address the floor. Speakers who have been yielded time by another delegate may not yield any further time. Unused speakers' time is yielded to the chair.

E. Should delegates wish to debate a debatable motion other than the main motion, debate is limited to two rounds; each speaker shall have 20 seconds of speaking time; the delegate who originally made the motion has the right to be the first 'pro' speaker.

F. Intent Speeches: delegates may submit intent speeches during debate on bills in chambers.

1. Intent speeches are limited to 2 minutes and delivered between the end of technical questions on the bill and the beginning of debate on the bill.
2. Intent speeches may only address the chamber; intent speakers must identify themselves and request permission to address the floor.
3. Intent speakers may not yield their time to another delegate, ask the patrons questions, or make a motion.
4. Intent speeches do not count as rounds of debate.
5. Delegates may only deliver one intent speech during the conference.

#### **IV. Conducting Business**

A. Two-thirds (67%) of the assigned delegates shall constitute a quorum of the General Assembly and committees. A quorum must be present for any session to conduct the business on its docket.

B. All delegates are expected to maintain decorum, i.e. appropriate behavior, during all sessions. Delegates behaving inappropriately are subject to disciplinary action by conference officers and the CCE staff. The Delegate Code of Conduct defines further expectations for appropriate delegate behavior.

C. The CCE staff and calendar committee shall prepare the dockets for committees and chambers. The House, Senate, and their committees may amend their dockets in the following ways:

1. Add bills passed by the other chamber
2. Postpone bills to a specific time. If a bill is postponed to a certain time, it automatically has the highest priority for consideration at that time.
3. Amendments to the docket should be done only with clear, compelling reasons. The motion to amend the docket is not debatable and requires a simple majority to pass.

#### **V. Motions**

A. These motions require a second. Motions shall be ranked as follows:

1. Adjourn
2. Recess
3. Previous Question
4. Amendment
5. Adopt a Bill (Main Motion)

B. A motion shall be in order when it outranks all other pending motions. For instance, if a motion to recognize an amendment is pending, moving the previous question shall be in order.

1. Adjourn: A motion to adjourn must be made by the floor leader. It is non-debatable and shall be voted on immediately. It takes a simple majority for passage and should include the time the house is adjourning to, except for the final motion to adjourn, which shall specify no time (adjourn sine die).
  2. Previous Question: This is the method for ending debate immediately. It requires a two-thirds majority to pass. The previous question may be moved on any of the motions that rank below it. However, if more than one motion is pending, the person moving the previous question should specify which motion the previous question applies to. For instance, if there is a motion to amend a bill, the previous question may be moved on the motion to amend or the motion to adopt the bill. If it is moved on the motion to adopt the bill, it implicitly includes the motion to amend. If the previous question is adopted, the house will first vote on the amendment and then on the motion to adopt the bill. If the previous question applies only to the amendment, the house will vote on the amendment then continue debating the bill. **Note:** moving the previous question ends debate. The sponsors' summation is not part of the formal debate, so a successful previous question motion will begin the sponsors' summation. Should the chamber wish to forego the summation, then a motion to suspend the rules to that effect is in order.
  3. Main Motion: This is the actual consideration and vote on whether or not to adopt a bill as presented to the house by its sponsors. The bill is debatable and is subject to all motions listed above.
- C. Incidental Motions and Points: Incidental motions are matters which need to be brought before the house immediately. They must pertain to the business before the house. They have no rank among themselves and outrank all other motions, except to recess or adjourn. Only one incidental motion may be pending at a time.
1. Point of Order: If a delegate feels the rules of order are not being applied, s/he may make a point of order, requesting the chair to make a ruling on the question involved. If the chair does not recognize the infraction, s/he may ask the delegate to explain the complaint. This motion does not require a second. This point should be used constructively and with discretion.
  2. Appeal: After the chair has made a ruling on a matter, such as a point of order, the chamber can review that decision. The appeal is subject to the general rules of debate, and the chair may explain the decision. The chair does not have to relinquish the chair during the discussion. It takes a 2/3 majority to overrule the Speaker's decision.
  3. Suspend the Rules: When the house desires to consider a motion or do something that would violate these rules, it can suspend the Rules. A motion to suspend the rules requires a second and requires a two-thirds majority for passage. A motion to suspend must include the purpose for suspending the rules. Once that purpose has been accomplished, the rules are automatically back in effect.

4. Point of Personal Privilege: A request to make the debate surrounding more comfortable (ex. If a delegate is not speaking loud enough, the room is too hot or too cold, etc.) This point should be used with discretion.
5. Point of Information: A request for facts affecting the business at hand – directed at the chair. This point should be used with discretion.

## **VI. Voting**

- A. Each delegate seated in chambers and committees has one vote on all motions.
- B. Delegates should not abstain on votes on bills or amendments without a clear reason for doing so. Abstentions are effectively 'no' votes. There are no abstentions on procedural motions.
- C. The majority required to pass motions is found on the Table of Motions in the bill book and the Delegate Manual.
- D. During voting procedure, delegates should not leave or enter the room until the results of the voting have been determined by the chair.
- E. Majorities: any bill or amendment shall require a simple majority (more ayes than nays) to pass with these exceptions: a) Any bill proposing an amendment to the Tennessee State Constitution, and b) a motion to reconsider a bill to overturn the Governor's veto, requires a constitutional majority for passage. For the purposes of Youth in Government, a constitutional majority shall be a majority of voting members seated in the chamber (50% +1). Abstentions count as 'nays' in a constitutional majority.

## **VII. Miscellaneous:**

- A. Companion Bills: The CCE staff may appoint as Companion Bills any bills submitted to different chambers of the Youth in Government by different sponsors that have the same intent and content. In such cases, should each chamber pass its Companion Bill, both bills shall be sent to the Governor's Cabinet without being sent to the other chamber for its approval. Should one Companion Bill be amended by one house, then the patron of the Companion Bill in the other house should use the motion to adopt the other chamber's amendments described above.



# TENNESSEE YMCA CENTER FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

# TABLE OF MOTIONS

Motion	When Another has the Floor	Second	Debatable	Amendable	Vote	Reconsider
Main Motion (Bill or resolution)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Only with permission from CCE staff
Adjourn	No	Yes	No	No	Majority	No
Amend	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes
Appeal	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	2/3	n/a
Postpone to a certain time	No	Yes	Yes	No	Majority	n/a
Previous Question (end debate)	No	Yes	No	No	2/3	No
Recess	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority	No
Reconsider	No	Yes	Yes	No	2/3	No
Point of Personal Privilege	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Suspend the Rules	No	Yes	No	Yes	2/3	No
Withdraw Motions	No	No	No	No	Majority	n/a
Point of Information	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Point of Order/ Parliamentary Inquiry	Yes	No	No	No	No	No

## BRIEF DEFINITIONS:

**Adjourn:** this action ends the session and is only in order with the permission of the CCE staff.

**Appeal:** a legislative body may appeal a decision of its presiding officer if 2/3 of its members think that the chair has made an incorrect ruling on a procedural matter.

**Reconsider:** motions to reconsider any motion are only in order with the permission of the CCE staff.

**Point of Personal Privilege:** this point should be used to address delegates' comfort or ability to participate in the conference session, i.e. climate control issues, PA volume, etc.

**Suspension of the Rules:** a successful motion to suspend the rules affects only the main motion at hand. Suspended rules are 'back' once voting/ranking procedures are complete.

**Point of Information:** these points are questions directed to the chair for factual information relevant to the debate at hand. The chair may redirect the question to a delegate who is likely to have an answer.

**Point of Order:** these points are questions directed to the chair asking for clarification of rules of procedure.

# UNDERSTANDING THE COMMITTEE PROCESS

## What should delegates do during committee?

### 1. Evaluate Bills

- Evaluate bills using the criteria on the ranking form, i.e., Presentation, Feasibility, Statewide Impact, Research, and Content.
- Will the end result be a meaningful contribution to a value-oriented society?
- Will it have a positive effect on a significant number of citizens?
- Is its issue worthy of legislative consideration?
- Is the bill in conflict with the Constitution? (And if so, then has the bill been written in the form of a Constitutional Amendment?)
- Does the bill provide for the concise accomplishment of its intended purposes?

### 2. Make Amendments

- Proposed amendments given in committee should be attached to the respective bill, with the proponents name(s) (persons offering the amendment) listed on the amendment. Any delegate may propose an amendment on any bill. The committee will vote on the proposed amendment. In order to submit an amendment for vote, use only the proper amendment form, and clearly indicate whether the amendment is FAVORABLE or UNFAVORABLE to its patrons.
- A majority vote is required to pass an amendment in committee. Proponents should be prepared to present and defend the amendment on the floor as debate will take place on an amendment if it is deemed unfriendly by the bill patrons.
- Committee proposed amendments will be considered on the floor.

### 3. Debate (The rules for debate are listed in the Rules of Procedure)

### 4. Rank Bills

- After each bill has been considered and some action has been taken, the committee will rank the respective bill. Red House/Senate bills will be ranked separately from Blue House/Senate bills.
- Each BILL TEAM will rank each bill on the ranking form provided, based upon the instructions given by the Chair. (This means each team will fill out only ONE ranking sheet.)
- Please be sure to write legibly on your ranking form. If there are any questions regarding legibility, the form in question will be thrown out.

# FORMAT FOR DEBATE

## I. Committee

**Two minutes - Introduction**

**Two minutes - Technical Questions**

**+/-Five minutes - Con/pro debate**

**One minute - Summation**

## Amendments

**One minute - Introduction**

**Two rounds - Con/pro debate**

**One minute - Summation**

## II. General Assembly/Plenary

**Two minutes - Introduction**

**One minute - Technical Questions**

**Three rounds - Con/pro debate**

**Two minutes - Summation**

## SAMPLE COMMITTEE RANKING FORM

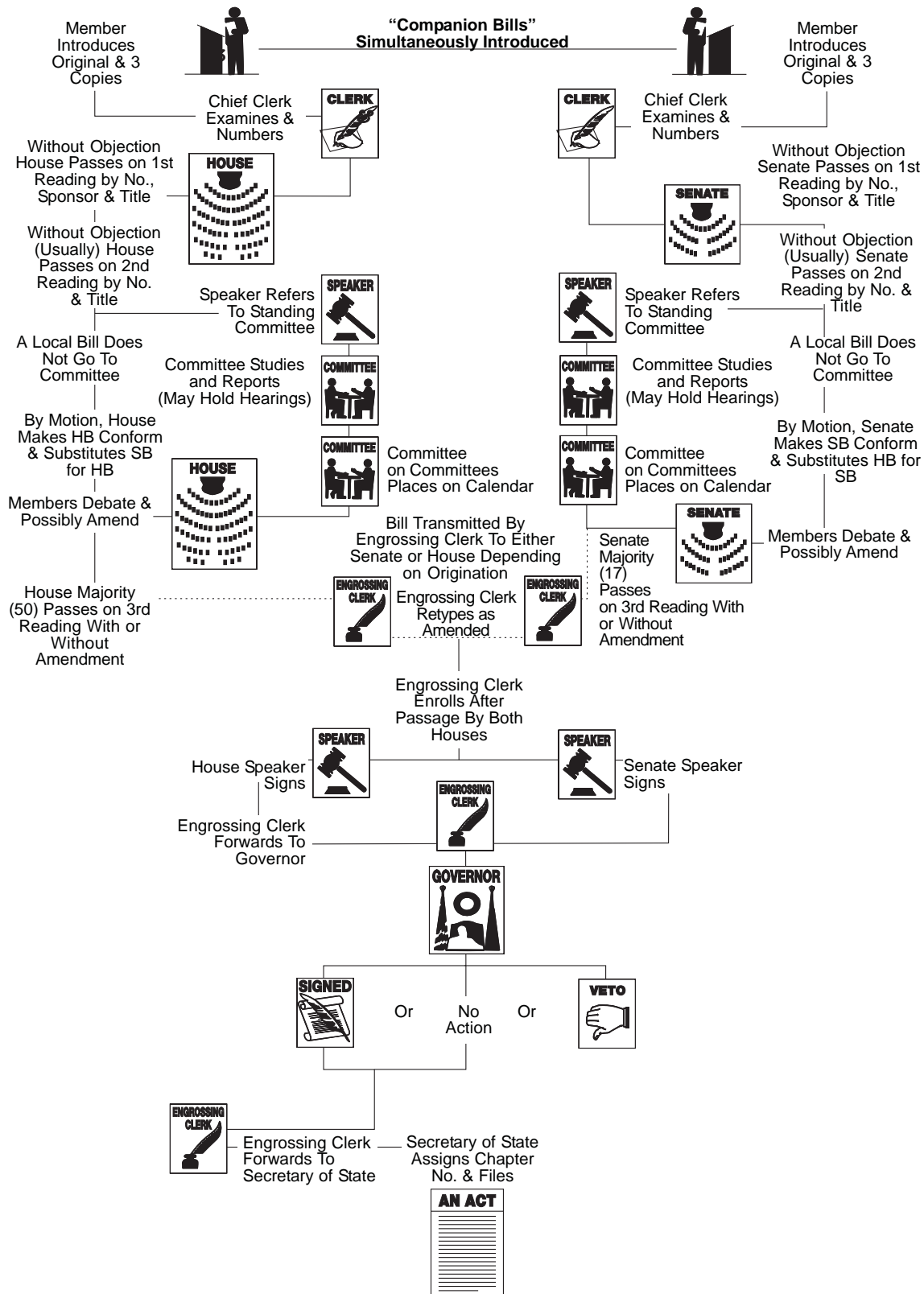
Best 1...2...3...4...5 Worst

	Bill #	Innovation	Feasibility	Statewide Impact	Content & Research	Presentation	Total
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
13							
14							
15							
16							
17							
18							
19							
20							
21							
22							

# How a Bill Becomes a Law in the General Assembly

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## SENATE



# LEGISLATIVE GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**Act:** A statute (law) enacted by the legislature and signed by the governor or after 10 days allowed to become law without his signature.

**Adjournment:** Termination of a session for that day, with the hour and day of the next meeting being set prior to adjournment.

**Amendment:** Modification of a bill or resolution by adding or deleting the language of proposed legislation.

**Appropriations Act:** An act which appropriates money from the state treasury during a fiscal year to implement the state operating budget. Money may be provided for other items of expenditure, such as local projects, through this act.

**Bill:** A bill is proposed legislation introduced to enact a new law or change or repeal an existing law.

**Original:** The bill introduced into the legislature and used throughout the legislative process until engrossed.

**Engrossed:** A bill as passed by a house with corrections or adjustments made for amendments.

**Enrolled:** A bill as finally passed by both houses and prepared for signature of the presiding officers of both houses and transmittal to the governor for signature or veto.

**Prefiled:** A bill filed between legislative sessions with the chief clerk of either house. Prefiled bills are numbered and printed in preparation for the session.

**Budget:** The budget is the recommended appropriations of state revenues presented by the Governor to the General Assembly in the form of a document for its consideration during the legislative session. It is filed with the chief clerks in the form of a bill and known during the budget process as the Appropriations Bill.

## **Calendar:**

**Consent:** A bill calendar used to allow rapid floor consideration for final passage of noncontroversial bills.

**Regular:** Written calendars (lists of bills to be considered for third reading) required to be posted in the Senate Chamber at least 24 hours prior to consideration by the Senate or in the House Chamber at least 48 hours prior to consideration by the House. Senate rules limit the Senate calendar to 14 general bills, plus holdovers, while House rules place the maximum at 25, including any bills held over from previous calendars or any bills set by special order and excluding only those bills "bumped" or objected to on a Consent Calendar.

**Chief Clerk:** A non-member selected by the speaker of each house to serve as its administrative officer. Bills are filed with the chief of each house.

**Committee:** A group of legislators of one or both houses which conducts studies and/or makes recommendations to the Senate and/or House.

**Conference:** A committee composed of members of both houses created to propose to the two houses a means to resolve differences in a bill when the one house does not concur in amendments made by the opposite house which refuses to recede from its action. Members are appointed by the speakers of each house.

**Joint:** A committee composed of members of both houses.

**Select:** A committee established by the speaker of a house composed of members of that house for a designated purpose.

**Standing:** A permanent committee of the Senate or House with subject matter jurisdiction defined by rules of its house, which functions both during and between legislative sessions to conduct public hearings on proposed legislation, review proposed administrative rules, make its own studies of problems, make reports and recommendations to the house it serves.

**Companion Bill:** Identical copies of a bill introduced in both the Senate and House.

**Executive Order:** A written document issued by the governor to effectuate a purpose over which he has authority.

**Fiscal Note:** A statement prepared by the Fiscal Review Committee submitted in connection with a bill, resolution or amendment to indicate its fiscal effect or estimated dollar implications as to cost or revenue.

**Fiscal Year:** The twelve-month period for which appropriations, budgets and financial reports are made. The state's fiscal year commences on July and ends the following June 30.

**Item Veto:** Power exercised by the governor to veto specified items (single amounts of money) of an appropriation bill, while signing the remainder of the bill into law.

**Legislative Intent:** The purpose for which a measure is introduced and/or passed.

**Majority:** A constitutional majority in the Tennessee Senate is 17 votes; in the House, 50 votes.

**Resolution:**

**Joint:** Legislation requesting a study or expressing the views or sentiments of both houses but originating in one house. After passage, the joint resolution (e.g. House Joint Resolution 55 or Senate Joint Resolution 34) is signed by both speakers and the governor.

**Simple:** Legislation expressing the views of one house. After passage, a House Resolution or Senate Resolution is signed by the respective speaker of the house.

**Session:**

**Regular:** The 90-legislative-day session held over a two-year general assembly. A general assembly will convene on the second Tuesday of January in an odd-numbered year, meet for an organizational session, and recess for about two weeks. Upon returning, the general assembly will typically meet until mid-to-late May when it adjourns. In an even-numbered year, no organizational session or recess will take place, and regular session will usually end around mid-to-late April depending upon the number of legislative days used.

**Extraordinary:** A session of the legislature held in the interim between regular sessions, called for a specific number of days by the governor or upon petition of two-thirds of the members elected to each house. It is restricted to matters specifically enumerated in the call. Frequently referred to as a special session.

**Sine die Adjournment:** Final adjournment at the completion of a session.

**Suspension of the Rules:** Parliamentary procedure whereby actions can be taken which would otherwise be out of order. A two-thirds vote of each body present and voting is required to adopt a motion to suspend the rules

**Title:**

Brief description of a bill's contents appearing on a bill. A bill's content cannot be any broader than its title.

**Vote:** Formal expression of will or decision by the legislative body.

**Yield:** The relinquishing of the floor to another member to speak or ask a question.

# SCRIPT FOR CCE YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT DEBATE

## by Tucker Cowden, MHMS

\*Outside of this guide, consult additional TN YMCA CCE supplements and Robert's Rules of Order

\*Script is written with the assumption of more than one patron for the bill. If there is only one presenting patron, change statements to the singular (i.e. "Does the Patron" instead of "Do the Patrons").

### Overview

Youth in Government (YIG) debate should be seen in the context of the actual Tennessee General Assembly, where delegates act as State Senators and Representatives and the items debated are called **bills**. Because of this setting, YIG delegates should have well-developed opinions on important state issues. This applies especially to the bill that you are presenting. It should address not only an issue that the delegates think is important, but one that is relevant to the current affairs of Tennessee and could actually be introduced to the General Assembly, and it should be **very well-researched**. Furthermore, delegates are to be completely in character, acting as if YIG were the actual TN General Assembly (so refer to the conference as "the state of Tennessee" or "the House/Senate" (depending on which you are a delegate in)).

### Asking Technical Questions (after being recognized by the chair)

**Speaker:** [States Name, States School, States **One** Question (must be a question that merits a response of yes, no, a number, a definition, or a short, expository rather than persuasive answer) (the question is directed to the presenting delegates)]

### Con/Pro Debate (after being recognized)

\*Delegates may take one or two of the three actions listed below (ask questions, speak to the floor, yield time to another delegate), but may not only yield time to another delegate (you can only ask questions or only speak, but cannot only yield time). Also, if you are yielding time, you must ask to do this **before** beginning your speech or questions, and then state that you yield your time when you are finished with the first part.



**Speaker:** (States Name, States School) and...

To Ask A Series of Questions

**Speaker:** Do the Patrons yield to a possible series of questions? (**Not:** “a series of possible questions,” or “a question.”)

**Chair:** They do so yield

**Speaker:** (To Patrons) (Asks Questions and receives answers for up to two minutes, depending on the committee/house’s time structure).

\*It is important to note that questions asked as a Con speech should seek to criticize, or at least show skepticism for, the given bill. Those asked as a Pro speech should do the opposite, emphasizing the positive aspects of the bill.

To Address the Assembly

**Speaker:** May I address the floor?

**Chair:** That is your right.

**Speaker:** (Speaks to fellow delegates, not the patrons, for the allotted amount of time either in favor of (pro speech) or against (con speech) the bill).

\*You should never use the words “Con” or “Pro” in your speech unless referring to “a previous con speaker,” etc. Con and Pro are not nouns or verbs that can be used to show your support or dislike of a bill (so **do not** say “I con this bill”).

To Yield Remaining time after one of the above to a fellow delegate:

**Speaker:** May I yield the remainder of my time to a fellow delegate?

**Chair:** That is your right. Please specify a delegate.

**Speaker:** [Names the delegate to be yielded to (refer to him/her by last name)]  
(Takes first action)

\*Delegates being yielded to should have the same opinion (pro or con) on the bill as the speakers that yield to them.

Motions (must be made before the last con speech)

**Speaker:** (Shouts) Motion!

**Chair:** Rise and state your motion.

**Speaker:** (States Name, States School, States Motion—see table of motions in delegate manual)

**Chair:** [Takes it from there (decides if the motion is in order or not, asks for a second to the motion, and conducts a vote, usually by voice acclamation)]

# AWARDS DISTRIBUTION & CRITERIA

## Distribution:

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Outstanding Bill in the Red and Blue House  
Outstanding Bill in the Red and Blue Senate  
Outstanding Statesperson in the Red and Blue House  
Outstanding Statesperson in the Red and Blue Senate  
Outstanding Attorney Team  
Outstanding Written Argument  
Jenny Faenza Outstanding Justice Award (Chosen by the Court component leader)  
Outstanding Lobbyist (Chosen by the Lobbyist component leader)  
Outstanding Press Member (Chosen by the Press Corps leader)  
Outstanding Governor's Cabinet Member (Chosen by the GovCab leader)  
National Affairs Delegates  
National Affairs Alternates

## Outstanding Bill Criteria

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Bills are considered for awards based on the following factors:

- Feasibility
- Statewide Impact
- Correct Written Format
- Evidence of Research
- Submission by Conference Deadline
- In keeping with the YMCA core values of Honesty, Caring, Respect & Responsibility

## Outstanding Statesperson Criteria

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Delegates are considered for awards based on the following criteria:

- Cooperative & Respectful approach to legislation and peers
- Use of proper parliamentary procedure
- Positive Attitude
- Excellent Communication
- Leadership by example with regard to conference rules and regulations
- Bill submitted by Conference Deadline
- Behavior in keeping with the YMCA core values of Honesty, Caring, Respect & Responsibility

## National Affairs Criteria

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Must meet general criteria for both Outstanding Bill & Statesperson  
Sophomore, Junior, or Senior in High School  
Must have participated in Youth in Government at least 1 year prior to current YIG.  
Has made an outstanding contribution to the TN YMCA YIG and/or to their local YIG club

# YMCA CENTER FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

## DELEGATE CODE OF CONDUCT

The purpose of the YMCA Center for Civic Engagement is to educate its participants on the processes of government at the city, state, national, and international levels, in the hopes of beginning what will be a lifetime of civic engagement for our alumni.

Given such, a code of conduct has been developed to help ensure that every delegate receives the maximum benefits possible as a result of their participation. This code of conduct is applicable to adults as well as student delegates. With that in mind, the following code of conduct has been adopted:

- All individuals participating in the YMCA Center for Civic Engagement Conferences will conduct themselves in a respectable and positive manner and present a good and decent reflection of themselves, their school, and their community. Any delegate in violation of this should expect consequences.
- All participants share equally the responsibility for their actions when violations of the code are witnessed. Those who decide to be present when a violation occurs, shall, by their choice, be considered a participant in the violation. In this program there are no “innocent by-standers.”
- Plagiarism of outside sources will not be allowed for any delegates. If evidence of plagiarism exists, delegates can expect to be disciplined by the YMCA Center for Civic Engagement. Authors of plagiarized documents will be dismissed from the conference.
- All bill and resolution submissions should be serious in nature and align with Y core values. Submission of resolutions or bills that CCE staff deems offensive, disrespectful, not serious in nature, or otherwise violating the Y core values will result in the entire team being deregistered from the conference.
- Dress code for the conference is business attire. Business attire includes: Suits, dresses, long skirts, blouses or sweaters, blazers, slacks, and appropriate dress shoes.
- Business attire does NOT include: Jeans, skirts shorter than 1 inch above the knee, strapless or spaghetti strap style tops, bare midriffs, bare backs, sandals, flip-flops, athletic shoes, Converse sneakers, or Birkenstocks.
- Possession and or use of alcoholic beverages, drugs (unless prescribed), tobacco products, electronic cigarettes, or pornography by any participant will result in an immediate expulsion from the conference. Parents and school administration will be notified of the expulsion as soon as possible, and students should be aware they might also be subject to further disciplinary action by their respective schools with regard to specific school policies.
- All delegates are to participate in all scheduled sessions.
- Physical, psychological, verbal, nonverbal, written, or cyber bullying is prohibited.
- Social media shall only be used in a positive and encouraging manner. Any participant involved in any way dealing with negative activity toward the CCE program or any participant in the CCE program will be held responsible for the violation and will be disciplined accordingly, up to and including legal action.
- Visitor Policy: Only registered persons will be able to log into sessions. Delegates must log in to Zoom using the Zoom account noted in their registration. Any non-delegate wishing to observe proceedings must contact the CCE staff directly.
- CCE elections are a conference wide event. All elections and campaigns will proceed following the YMCA core values of honesty, caring, respect, and responsibility. Any campaign violating these values will be removed from the ballot.

- Violation of any conference guidelines may result in dismissal from the conference and or the suspension of your school for the next CCE Conference.
- Violation of any conference guidelines may result in the removal of a student from the conference awards list.
- Appropriate Video Call Etiquette:
  1. When registering/signing-in for any video call or meeting, please use your registered First & Last Name, as well as your school. Example: "Jane Doe- CCE School". This helps us to ensure the privacy of our meetings.
  2. Please find a quiet area and call-in at the scheduled time so you can be fully present.
  3. Please do your best to keep background noise or distractions to a minimum.
  4. Delegates should present themselves in a professional manner.
  5. Please do not walk around with your phone or computer.
  6. Please do not take your phone or computer to the bathroom.
  7. Photos and videos of others without their expressed consent is prohibited.
  8. Delegate should not add virtual backgrounds.
  9. Delegates should not use props during sessions.
  10. Vulgar language, including swearing, name-calling or shouting/yelling at others is prohibited.
  11. When communicating in the chat box, please do not send links or information that is not pertinent to the CCE conference or aligned with our YMCA values.
- The YMCA Center for Civic Engagement staff reserves the right to make amendments to the Delegate Code of Conduct at any time.

## WAIVER

Some sessions may be live streamed via the internet. I understand that my child or ward's image and voice may be broadcast via electronic or other means.

In consideration for my child or ward being permitted to utilize the facilities, services and programs of YMCA of Middle Tennessee, I, on behalf of myself and my child or ward, and his or her heirs, personal representatives, assigns and next-of-kin, do hereby agree to the following:

I hereby give permission to the YMCA to use indefinitely, without limitation or obligation, photographs, film footage, or tape recordings which may include my child's or ward's image or voice for the purpose of promoting or interpreting YMCA programs and activities. I, as a parent or guardian of the above named minor, hereby give my permission for my child or ward to use the facilities and services of the YMCA and to participate in the programs offered by the YMCA.

I HAVE READ AND AGREE, INDIVIDUALLY AND ON BEHALF OF SAID CHILD OR WARD, TO BE BOUND BY ITS TERMS.

Delegate Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

# **COMPONENT LEADERS**

The Center for Civic Engagement would like to send a special thank you to our 2021 YIG Component Leaders!

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Jess Newman

## **Press Corps**

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**Nevaeh Morris**

Associate Justices

**Muntrinee Mon**

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Hailey Ray & Selby Shipley-Clarksville Academy

Connor Crain-Clarksville Academy

Sofia Roehler & Margareta Nita -Green Hill High School

Katherine Narrell & Claire Olson-Central Magnet High School

Alvin Villarosa & Mu Hsi-Smyrna High School

Bellali Vasquez & Julieth Alonzo-Clarksville Academy

Huiyoun Pyo-Clarksville Academy

Miya Anderson & Theresa Schwartz-Clarksville Academy



# **TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT**



**SENATE  
COMMITTEE 1  
Tabetha Anderson  
& Alexis Perez**



68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**RED SENATE**



**Sponsors: Seo Yoon Yang**  
**Committee: Senate - Health & Welfare**  
**School: Signal Mountain High School**

**AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT UNIVERSAL BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR  
FIREARM PURCHASES**

1 Be it Enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth Legislature

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, shall be  
4 defined as follows:

5 A) Firearm - Any type of gun or automated weapon, including but not limited  
6 to a shotgun, rifle, or handgun

7 B) Gun violence - Actions in which the intent of an individual is to harm,  
8 damage, or kill someone through the use of a firearm including, but not  
9 limited to, domestic violence, homicide, suicide, robbery and assault, and an  
10 endangerment to the public health or welfare

11 C) Universal Background Check - The process of using state or federal  
12 records and databases to verify that an individual has not previously been  
13 designated as ineligible to possess or purchase a firearm

14 D) Unlicensed seller - An individual who possess and transfer firearms for  
15 monetary gains without obtaining and possessing a Federal Firearms License  
16 including but not limited to individuals who sell firearms online, at gun  
17 shows, or through other means of private purchase

18 E) Licensed seller - An individual who has been appropriately holds a Federal  
19 Firearms License

20 F) Private firearm transfers - incidents in which firearms are transferred  
21 through non-public gun sales at, including but not limited to, gun shows, flea  
22 markets, online gun stores, or similar conditions often without the use of a  
23 background check

24 G) Service recipient - the individual, group, company, or any related entity to  
25 which firearms have been transferred as a service

26 H) Point of Contact State - a state in which the background checks for  
27 weapons including firearms can be checked through the use of state records,  
28 in conjunction with federal records and databases provided to the state

29  
30 Section 2: This act will issue universal background checks for private firearm  
31 transfers when an individual is expecting to purchase or possess a firearm,  
32 through due process and fair assessment, with the private seller following the  
33 background check protocols currently set in place

- a) The seller must have access to documentation of the potential purchaser through gathering information presented on their current identification
  - i) Acceptable forms of identification include but is not limited to
    - 1. Current driver's license, including the issue and expiration date
    - 2. Current passport
    - 3. Military ID
    - 4. Alien, temporary, permanent resident card
    - 5. U.S. Certification of Naturalization
- b) The seller must appropriately fill out and submit a firearm transaction record in accordance to state and federal law, dutifully obtaining the signature of the potential purchaser on the transaction record
- c) The seller must contact the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) to check the criminal history of the potential purchaser, providing the TBI information including but not limited to
  - i) Federal firearms license number of the seller
  - ii) Place of sale/transfer
  - iii) Make, model, and caliber of firearm being purchased
  - iv) Identification number and information of the potential purchaser
- d) The seller must receive the individual approval number from the TBI, dutifully noting it in the firearm transfer record, before completing the sale or transfer
- e) The seller must additionally act in accordance to the following responsibilities
  - i) Maintaining records of every firearm sale
  - ii) Publishing the aforementioned records to law enforcement for thorough inspection
  - iii) Report suspicious cases of multiple sales by singular individuals
  - iv) Report any theft or disappearance of firearms

Section 3: Through universal background checks in every firearm transfer, the implementation of this bill effectively assesses individuals who may be prohibited from possessing or purchasing a firearm due to the following reasons, including but not limited to

- a) Persons who have been convicted or are currently standing trial for domestic violence including but not limited by:
  - i) Persons including family or household members, a present or past legal spouse, or a person who shares a child (blood or adopted)
  - ii) Persons who have or are living with the extreme risk individual for a period of time
  - iii) Intimate partners
- b) Persons with severe mental health issues including but not limited to
  - i) Persons who have attempted or threatened to attempt suicide
  - ii) Persons with background of willing or court-ordered hospitalization for depression, violent tendencies, being potentially harmful to themselves or others, experienced post-traumatic stress disorder with inability to control their actions
  - iii) Persons otherwise deemed by a court as unfit to responsibly care for themselves and possess a firearm
- c) Persons convicted as court-issued stalkers
- d) Persons identified as firearm traffickers or having a history of illicit firearm trafficking
- e) Persons attempting to or involved in gun related homicide events

f) Persons with a background of threatening violence involving firearms of any kind

Section 4: Any cleared or approved background check, extended to private and unlicensed transfers through this act, is subject to removal or denial deemed appropriate by the following individuals including but not limited to

a) TBI officials

b) Law enforcement officers

c) Court judges

Section 5: Background checks related to private and unlicensed firearm transfers will be subject to any future legislation or amendments passed to the background check system of firearm transfers abiding to Federal Firearm Licensed sellers

Section 6: The implementation of universal background checks in both public or private firearm sale effectively protects the welfare of individuals and the general welfare, and does not impede upon the individuals' unalienable rights as the current background checks process used will only be extended to ensure that individuals prohibited from gun possession are not able to obtain firearms

Section 7: If enacted, this bill will have no cost to the state

Section 8: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed

Section 9: This act shall take effect on January 1, 2022, the public welfare requiring it



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED SENATE**



**Sponsors: Noelle Wiggs  
Committee: Senate - Education  
School: Fairview High School**

**AN ACT TO PUT FIRE EXTINGUISHERS IN EVERY CLASSROOM**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:

2  
3 To the General Assembly,

4  
5 Section 1) Terms in the bill will be defined as follows unless directly stated  
6 otherwise:

7 Fire extinguisher- A mechanism used to put out fires. Contains Carbon  
8 Dioxide. Can also be used as a defence device.

9 ABC fire extinguisher- A combination of grade a (trash, wood, paper), grade b  
10 (liquids and chemicals), and grade c (electrical equipment).

11 Violation- Act against guidelines and/or law.

12  
13 Section 2) Every classroom must have an accessible fire extinguisher within it.

14  
15 Section 3) The fire extinguisher must be able to be accessed within fifteen  
16 seconds from any point in the room. The fire extinguishers must be bought  
17 and replaced every 10 years to avoid expiration.

18  
19 Section 4) This addition of the fire extinguishers will cost \$1,650,000 initially  
20 and \$165,000 for every following year and will be funded through the  
21 Tennessee Department of Education budget.

22  
23 Section 5) The fire extinguisher must be a grade ABC fire extinguisher.

24  
25 Section 6) This shall be added to the school inspections.

26  
27 Section 7) Inspectors will check for the grade, up to date, and accessibility.

28  
29 Section 8) Violators of this law shall be fined:

30 \$400 (four-hundred dollars) per classroom in violation and will have three  
31 weeks to comply with guidelines for a first offense

32 \$600 (six-hundred dollars) per classroom in violation and two weeks to  
33 comply with guidelines for a second offense

34 \$800 (eight hundred dollars) per classroom in violation for a third offense  
35 and the school shut down until guidelines are complied with.

36

37 Section 9) The county will also be fined \$150 (one-hundred fifty dollars) for  
38 each offense per classroom in violation.

39

40 Section 10) All offenses will be tracked by the Tennessee state government.

41

42 Section 11) All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby  
43 repealed.

44

45 Section 12) This act will be enacted by the state upon passage, and schools  
46 must comply with guidelines by August 1, 2022.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED SENATE**



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**Sponsors: John Murdoch  
Committee: Senate - Commerce and Labor  
School: Lebanon High School**

**AN ACT TO REQUIRE CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES TO USE CARBON  
NEGATIVE CONCRETE IN CONSTRUCTION.**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2

3 Terms in this act are defined as follows:

4 Carbon Negative Concrete: Concrete that acts as a carbon sink and has no  
5 carbon footprint.

6 Carbon Sink: An object or product that consumes more carbon than it  
7 produces.

8

9 The Tennessee construction division will require all manufacturing and  
10 construction companies involved in construction within the city limits to build  
11 with carbon-negative concrete which will act as a carbon sink.

12

13 Construction companies or individuals that do not deal with respect to this  
14 law shall be fined \$10,000.

15

16 This bill shall have no cost associated with it.

17

18 All laws or parts in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

19

20 This bill shall take effect on January 1, 2024.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED SENATE**



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**Sponsors: Kalisa Lee  
Committee: Senate - Government Operations  
School: Collegiate School**

**An Act to Divide Tennessee Electoral College Votes Proportionally**

1 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

2 a.) Electoral College: a body of people representing the states of the US, who  
3 formally cast votes for the election of the president and vice president.

4 b) Elector: An individual chosen to represent a state based on state popular  
5 vote for a party, often represented as a candidate on a ballot.

6 c) United States Constitution: The supreme law of the United States of  
7 America

8 d) President: The head of the United States executive branch and  
9 commander in chief for which an election is held every four (4) years

10 e.) Electoral College Votes: The number of votes allocated to a state to  
11 determine that state's preferred Presidential candidate

12  
13 Section 2: The 11 electoral college votes allocated to the state of Tennessee  
14 will be divided based on the percentage of votes cast for each candidate in  
15 the presidential elections. The process will proceed as follows:

16 Votes are cast and collected at polling locations.

17 Votes are tallied and percentages for each candidate are found using a  
18 precise rounding system.

19 Using the specific percentages found the number of electoral college votes  
20 cast to each candidate is proportional to the percentage found.

21  
22 Section 3: The implementation of this voting procedure will come at no  
23 additional cost to Tennessee.

24  
25 Section 4: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

26  
27 Section 5: This act will take effect January 1, 2022





68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**RED SENATE**



**Sponsors: Rodolfo Beltran**  
**Committee: Senate - Health & Welfare**  
**School: Antioch High School**

**AN ACT TO MANDATE MASKS STATEWIDE TO PREVENT THE SPREAD  
OF COVID-19**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

4 Mask: a covering made of fiber or gauze and fitting over the nose and mouth  
5 to protect against dust or air pollutants, or made of sterile gauze and worn to  
6 prevent infection of the wearer or (in surgery) of the patient

7 Mandate: an official order or commission to do something

8 Statewide: extending throughout a particular US state.

9 CDC: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

10 Safety Guidelines: frequent hand washing, physical distancing of at least 6  
11 feet, and wearing a mask when going out in public

12  
13 Section 2: CDC recommends that people wear masks in public settings, at  
14 events and gatherings, and anywhere they will be around other people. This  
15 bill mandates masks to be worn inside any public building, which includes  
16 retailers, restaurants, churches, schools and universities within the State of  
17 Tennessee. The bill also mandates masks to be worn around large  
18 gatherings, even outdoors.

19  
20 Section 3: The bill allows Tennesseans the option to wear masks outside,  
21 with safety guidelines of at least 6 feet of another person are met. If not  
22 met, then masks will be mandated.

23  
24 Section 4: There will be no cost to the state.

25  
26 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby  
27 repealed.

28  
29 Section 6: The law will go into effect immediately upon passage.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE SENATE**



**Sponsors: Hardy Gardner, Siri Reynolds  
Committee: Senate - Education  
School: Central Magnet High School**

**An Act to Promote Librarianship in Tennessee**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT,  
2

3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

4 a. Librarian- a person with an MLS (Master's in Library Science) degree, MLIS  
5 (Master's in Library and Information Sciences) degree, or equivalent.  
6

7 Section 2: The state of Tennessee is to create a scholarship fund in order to pay  
8 for the education of aspiring librarians who intend to work in a public library  
9 within the state of Tennessee for at least five (5) years after graduation.  
10

11 Section 3: This scholarship will hereafter be referred to as the "Mary Utopia  
12 Rothrock Scholarship" after historic Tennessee librarian Mary Utopia  
13 Rothrock, an employee of the Tennessee Valley Authority who brought  
14 libraries to remote locations within Tennessee.  
15

16 Section 4: This scholarship fund will be managed by a committee of qualified  
17 individuals chosen by the Tennessee Department of Education.  
18

19 Section 5: Any Tennessee high school or college senior who intends to study library  
20 science and remain employed as a librarian in a public library, public K-12 school, or  
21 public institution for higher education in Tennessee for at least five (5) years post-  
22 graduation will be eligible to apply for the Mary Utopia Rothrock Scholarship. Upon  
23 receiving this scholarship, students enter a good faith agreement with the State of  
24 Tennessee to seek employment as previously outlined.  
25

26 Section 6: This act will cost \$5,000,000 total across 10 years and will be  
27 funded through a combination of the budget for the Tennessee Department of  
28 Education and the Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation's budget from  
29 the Tennessee Lottery, allowing for approximately 50 students total to receive  
30 funds to account for either the six total years of study required to obtain an  
31 appropriate bachelor's degree as well as a master's degree in library science or  
32 the two years of graduate study, provided they have an appropriate bachelor's  
33 degree. Half of this money will be distributed to local governments (to be  
34 decided after the passage of this bill by the State Department) and earmarked

35 for creating and improving the accessibility of positions in public libraries for  
36 people holding master's degrees in library science.

37  
38 Section 7: If enacted, this bill may be revisited after the 10-year period has elapsed.

39  
40 Section 8: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

41  
42 Section 9: This act shall take effect on October 1st, 2021.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE SENATE**



---

**Sponsors: Isabella Allen  
Committee: Senate - Education  
School: Clarksville Academy**

**An Act to Change the Grading Scale in all Public Schools to a 10 point  
scale instead of a 7 Point Scale**

1 Section 1: Terms in this bill are defined as follows unless used in another context:

2 GPA- Grade Point Average

3 Grade scale- translates numeric grades to letter grades

4 Dual classes- college classes you can take while still in high school

5  
6 Section 2: The average GPA in Tennessee is 3.32. In Tennessee, getting  
7 good grades is in the top 5 reasons teens are stressed.

8  
9 Section 3: Currently, public high schools in Tennessee use a 7 point grading  
10 scale.

11 Which is:

12 A- 93-100

13 B- 85-92

14 C- 77-84

15 D- 70-76

16 F- 69 & below

17  
18 Section 4: I propose changing the 7 point grading scale to a 10 point grading  
19 scale *in high schools starting with the freshman class of the 2021- 2022*  
20 *school year.* This will not affect the classes of 2022, 2023, and 2024..

21 Colleges use a 10 point scale, so high school students who take dual college  
22 classes in high school use it already. This would also put less stress on high  
23 school students for getting a good grade.

24  
25 Section 5: The 10 point grading scale is as follows:

26 A- 90-100

27 B- 80-89

28 C- 70-79

29 D- 60-69

30 F- 59 & below

31  
32 Section 6: This act, if enacted, will take place on July 1st, 2021.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE SENATE**



---

**Sponsors: Emma Pierucki, Daryl Mitchell, Ellie Brinkman  
Committee: Senate - Health & Welfare  
School: Lebanon High School**

---

**An Act to Require High School Students to be Taught CPR**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE STATE OF TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act are as follows:

4 CPR - an emergency procedure that combines chest compression often with  
5 artificial ventilation in an effort to manually preserve intact brain function  
6 until further measures are taken to restore spontaneous blood circulation and  
7 breathing in a person who is in cardiac arrest.

8  
9 Section 2: This act requires all highschool students to be taught the basics of  
10 performing CPR and first aid. This will not only benefit their general  
11 knowledge for possible emergencies or risks, but also allow preparation for  
12 situations involving family members and friends. Enacting this bill would add  
13 another part to the normal high school curriculum. In order to graduate, this  
14 course will be required to pass. This course will be interactive and hands-on.  
15 An example being using equipment such as CPR manikins. A normal CPR  
16 class roughly takes 60-90 minutes. This means that the course would only  
17 take 2-3 days for a class to complete. The teachers would have to take a 2  
18 and a half hour CPR instruction course to be able to demonstrate and explain  
19 the correct way to perform CPR.

20  
21 Section 3: This bill will also lead to the decrease in household deaths due to  
22 Cardiac Arrest. The American Heart Association states that more than  
23 350,000 cardiac arrests occur outside the hospital each year. To add on, they  
24 also state that bystander CPR improves survival by 45%.

25  
26 Section 4: It cost around \$40 for an adult to get certified to be able to teach.  
27 Making the total cost for teacher certification 40,000. A manikin kit includes  
28 an adult, child, and infant manikin cost about \$350. It would be the district's  
29 responsibility to pay for these costs. This bill is a small change not requiring  
30 any money from the State of Tennessee but from the districts.

31  
32 Section 5: This would go into effect starting August 1st, 2021.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE SENATE**



**Sponsors: Kiley Shumpert, Augusta Rogers  
Committee: Senate - State & Local Government  
School: Signal Mountain High School**

**AN ACT TO REGULATE ANIMAL SHELTERS AND ESTABLISH  
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ADOPTION OF ANIMALS**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, shall be  
4 defined as follows:

5 Abuse: to treat (a person or an animal) with cruelty or violence, especially  
6 regularly or repeatedly.

7 Adoption: the action or fact of legally taking another's child and bringing it up  
8 as one's own, or the fact of being adopted.

9 Animal Shelter: An animal shelter or pound is a place where stray, lost,  
10 abandoned or surrendered animals — mostly dogs and cats — are housed.

11 Background Check: A process a person or company uses to verify that an  
12 individual is who they claim to be, and this provides an opportunity to check  
13 and confirm the validity of someone's criminal record, education,  
14 employment history, and other activities from their past.

15 Criminal Record: A list of a person's previous criminal convictions.

16 Euthanasia: the painless killing of a patient suffering from an incurable and  
17 painful disease or in an irreversible coma. The practice is illegal in most  
18 countries.

19 Fee: a payment made to a professional person or to a professional or public  
20 body in exchange for advice or services.

21 Logan's Law: A bill that would require animal control or protection shelters to  
22 search the Michigan State Police's Internet Criminal History Access Tool  
23 database before adopting out animals.

24 Non-profit: not making or conducted primarily to make a profit.

25 TBI: The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation is the state-wide investigative  
26 law enforcement agency within the state of Tennessee

27  
28 Section 2: This act requires that before allowing an individual to adopt an  
29 animal, an animal shelter or animal protection shelter may perform a  
30 background check using TBI to determine whether that individual has a  
31 criminal history for an animal abuse offense.

32  
33 Section 3: An animal shelter is allowed to consider said criminal history  
34 when deciding if that individual may adopt an animal. The shelter may

35 choose to prevent an individual who has been convicted of an animal abuse  
36 offense from adopting an animal unless more than 5 years have elapsed  
37 since the conviction. A shelter has the ability to restrict an individual who has  
38 been charged with committing an animal abuse offense within the last 5  
39 years.

40  
41 Section 4: Violence against animals often indicates abuse directed toward  
42 people. Persons with an animal hoarding disorder often collect large numbers  
43 of pets, the state needs a barrier that will challenge persons with a history of  
44 abusing animals from obtaining other animals. The bill hopes to discourage  
45 abusers, and prevent them from receiving animals and give unwanted pets  
46 new and loving homes.

47  
48 Section 5: This bill would have a minimal fiscal impact on local units of  
49 government that operate the animal shelters. However, it may require more  
50 administrative responsibility to determine the eligibility of an individual to  
51 adopt an animal based on their criminal history. The bill would have no fiscal  
52 impact on the State.

53  
54 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby  
55 repealed.

56  
57 Section 7: This act shall be enacted on June 1, 2021, the public welfare  
58 requiring it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE SENATE**



**Sponsors: Ava Foley, Abby Hill  
Committee: Senate - Education  
School: Green Hill High School**

**An Act to Amend the Family Life Curriculum to Comprehensive Sex Education**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, will be  
4 defined as follows:

5 A. LEA: Local Education Authority (i.e. County School District, School Board)

6 B. "Medically accurate and complete" means the information provided  
7 through the instruction is verified or supported by the weight of research  
8 conducted in compliance with accepted scientific methods and is published in  
9 peer-reviewed journals, where applicable; or the program contains  
10 information that leading professional public health or medical organizations,  
11 government agencies, and scientific advisory groups with relevant expertise  
12 in the field recognize as accurate, objective, and complete; and the program  
13 does not withhold information about external anatomy involved in sexual  
14 functioning or the effectiveness and benefits of correct and consistent use of  
15 condoms and other contraceptives.

16 C. "Culturally appropriate" means materials and instruction that respond to  
17 culturally diverse individuals, families and communities in an inclusive,  
18 respectful and effective manner; including materials and instruction that are  
19 inclusive of race, ethnicity, languages, cultural background, religion, gender,  
20 gender identity, sexual orientation, and different abilities

21 D. "Comprehensive sex education" means instruction part of a  
22 comprehensive school health education approach which addresses the  
23 physical, mental, emotional, and social dimensions of human sexuality;  
24 designed to motivate and assist students to maintain and improve their  
25 sexual health, prevent disease and reduce sexual health-related risk  
26 behaviors; and enable and empower students to develop and demonstrate  
27 developmentally appropriate sexuality and sexual health-related knowledge,  
28 attitudes, skills, and practices.

29 E. "Sexual orientation" means homosexuality, heterosexuality, or  
30 bisexuality1) For the purposes of curriculum and instruction "sexual  
31 orientation" includes an individual's attraction, including physical or  
32 emotional, to the same and/or different genders.

33 F. "Gender identity" means the gender-related identity, appearance,  
34 mannerisms, or other gender-related characteristics of an individual,



35 regardless of the individual's designated sex at birth.1) For the purposes of  
36 curriculum and instruction "gender identity" includes a person's deeply held  
37 sense or knowledge of their own gender; such as male, female, both or  
38 neither.2) For the purposes of curriculum and instruction "gender expression"  
39 includes the expression of one's gender, such as through behavior, clothing,  
40 haircut, or voice, and which may or may not conform to socially defined  
41 behaviors and characteristics typically associated with being either masculine  
42 or feminine.

43 G. "Inclusive" means curriculum that ensures that students from historically  
44 marginalized communities --including but not limited to communities of color,  
45 immigrant, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities, people with  
46 disabilities, and others whose experiences have been traditionally left out of  
47 sex education programs and policies --see themselves reflected in classroom  
48 materials and lessons.

49 H. "Consent" means affirmative, conscious, and voluntary agreement to  
50 engage in interpersonal, physical, or sexual activity.

51 I. "Trauma-Informed" means addressing vital information about sexuality  
52 and well-being that takes into consideration adverse life experiences and  
53 their potential influence on sexual decision making.

54 J. "Sexual development " means the lifelong process of physical, behavioral,  
55 cognitive, and emotional growth and change as it relates to an individual's  
56 sexuality and sexual maturation, including puberty, identity development,  
57 socio-cultural influences, and sexual behaviors.

58  
59 Section 2: This bill shall nullify and replace the Family Life Curriculum  
60 outlined in Tennessee School Health Law T.C.A. § 49-6-1301.

61 1. Each LEA shall prescribe policies and procedures for the implementation,  
62 evaluation, and periodic review of the family life curriculum.

63 2. Failure of an LEA to comply with the curriculum outlined in Section 3 of  
64 this bill shall subject the LEA to the withholding of state funds by the  
65 commissioner.

66 3. The state board of education shall adopt a complete family life curriculum  
67 in accordance with Section 3 of this bill suitable for implementation by an  
68 LEA that fails to develop, adopt, and implement a local curriculum of family  
69 life education.

70  
71 Section 3: Each LEA that offers a program, course or instruction in sex  
72 education shall locally develop and adopt a family life curriculum in  
73 compliance with the requirements of this part. The Family Life Curriculum will  
74 be modeled after Comprehensive Sex Education. It shall:

75 1. Include medically accurate, age and culturally appropriate instruction on  
76 all of the following topics during the Family Life curriculum conducted as a  
77 part of the Lifetime Wellness course standards.

78 (A) The physical, social, and emotional changes of human development;

79 (B) Human anatomy, reproduction, and sexual development;

80 (C) Healthy relationships, including friendships and within families, that are  
81 based on mutual respect and the ability to distinguish between healthy and  
82 unhealthy relationships;

- i) Developing effective communication, negotiation and refusal skills, including the skills to recognize and report inappropriate or abusive sexual advances;
  - ii) Understanding bodily autonomy, setting and respecting personal boundaries, practicing personal safety, and consent;
  - iii) Examining the harm of gender-role stereotypes, violence, coercion, bullying and intimidation in relationships; and
  - iv) Exploring the way that gender stereotypes can limit all people.
- (D) Healthy decision-making skills about sexuality and all relationships;
- i) Critical thinking, problem solving, self-efficacy, and decision making;
  - ii) Exploring individual values and attitudes;
  - iii) Promoting positive body image among students, developing an understanding that there are a range of body types and to feel confident about students' own body types;
  - iv) How to respect others and internet safety when using other forms of digital communication;
  - v) Information on local services and resources where students can obtain additional information related to bullying, dating violence and sexual assault, suicide prevention, and other related care;
  - vi) Encouraging youth to communicate with their parents or guardians, faith, health and social service professionals, and other trusted adults about sexuality and intimate relationships to their own safety;
  - vii) Creating a safe environment for all students and others in society; and
  - viii) Examples of varying types of relationships, couples, and family structures. Discussion of healthy relationships must include affirmative representation of various queer structures, including transgender, intersex, lesbian, bisexual, gay, and other LGBTQ+ relationships and families.
- (E) The benefits of abstinence, and the use of condoms, medication, and birth control and sexually transmitted infection prevention measures, and the options for pregnancy, including parenting, adoption, and abortion
- i) The importance of effectively using condoms and preventive medication to protect against sexually transmitted infections, including HIV/AIDS;
  - ii) The benefits of effective contraceptive and condom use in avoiding unintended pregnancy;
  - iii) The relationship between substance use and sexual health and behaviors; and
  - iv) Information about local health services where students can obtain additional information and services related to sexual and reproductive health and other related care.
  - iiv) The instruction of safe sex practices beyond the stereotypical straight-heterosexual structure.
- (F) Affirmative recognition of the roles that traditions, values, religion, norms, gender roles, acculturation, family structure, health beliefs, and political power play in how students make decisions that affect their sexual health;
- i) Include examples of varying types of race, ethnicities, cultures and families, including single-parent households and young families.
- (G) Age appropriate information about gender identity and sexual orientation for all students;

- i) Affirmative recognition that people have different sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions. Include referrals to community resources that can provide additional support for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students
- (H) Opportunities to explore the roles that race, ethnicity, immigration status, disability status, economic status, and language within different communities play in how students make decisions that affect their sexual health;
2. Include a trauma informed curriculum.
  3. Include a curriculum that is inclusive and addresses the experiences and needs of all youth in the school (i.e. uses adaptive learning technology for children with disabilities).
  4. Not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, ethnicity, national origin, disability, religion, gender expression, gender identity, or sexual orientation.
  5. Allow instructors to answer in good faith questions initiated by a student or students that are related to and consistent with the material of the course without facing legal repercussions.

#### Section 4: Parent Intervention:

1. Parents and/or Legal Guardians wishing to excuse their student from any portion of the Family Life curriculum shall submit a request to the student's instructor, school counselor, or principal. A student excused from the family life curriculum shall not be penalized for grading purposes.
2. Parents and/or Legal Guardians are entitled to full access and review of course materials and syllabi.
3. A parent or legal guardian of a student enrolled in family life may file a complaint with the director of schools if the parent or legal guardian believes that a teacher, instructor, or representative of an organization has not complied with the curriculum requirements of Section 3 of this bill. The director shall investigate the complaint and report such director's findings, along with any recommendations for disciplinary action, to the local board for further action. The local board shall file, in a timely manner, a report with the commissioner regarding any action or inaction taken. On an annual basis, the commissioner shall transmit those filings to the chair of the education committee of the senate and the chair of the education instruction and programs committee of the house of representatives.

Section 5: The monetary cost of the enactment of this bill will be fully funded by the part of the budget in The Tennessee Education fund already in place for Family Life education. Unexpected costs will be covered by The Presidential Fund, which is dedicated to funding Comprehensive Sex Education. The previous Abstinence-Only Curriculum was not funded by the federal government.

Section 6: This law will be effective starting with the 2021-2022 school year, the public welfare requiring it.

# **TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT**



**SENATE  
COMMITTEE 2  
Colin Fisher  
& Emily Stoddard**



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED SENATE**



**Sponsors: Lydia Yoo  
Committee: Senate - Government Operations  
School: Collierville High School**

**AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT GREATER CURBS AND RESTRICTIONS ON THE  
PASSAGE AND CONSIDERATION OF COPYCAT LEGISLATION**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:

Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

- a. Model legislation (copycat legislation) - laws drafted centrally to be distributed and enacted in multiple independent legislatures. Many American special interest groups draft model acts which they lobby lawmakers to pass.
- b. State representatives- are elected officials who represent specific congressional districts within a state, defined by population.
- c. Corporation-a company or group of people that act as one legal entity
- d. Special interests group-a group of people or an organization seeking or receiving special advantages, typically through political lobbying.
- e. American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)- a nonprofit organization of conservative state legislators and private sector representatives who draft and share model legislation for distribution among state governments in the United States.
- f. Industry-economic activity concerned with the processing of raw materials and manufacture of goods in factories.

Section 2: This act calls for transparency measures for bills presented. As the possibility of corrupt and harmful legislation, this act states the following:

- a. TN has already passed model legislation and laws that are deliberately used to harm, restrict, limit the integrity of bills.
- b. There are over 20 current TN state legislators that have ties with ALEC, pushing forward conservative agendas. Illinois, followed by Oklahoma, Arizona, Virginia and Tennessee passed the most copied bills, more than 550 in all.
- c. These numbers may be skewed due to some bills that are not able to be detected beyond the usage of exact phrases and words.
- d. Although many model bills correspond to conservative ideals or certain corporations and industries, they are all aimed to drive special interests and benefits, reducing their credibility.
- e. This act calls for the publicization of the bill's history and context as well as corporate agendas in the legislation process.

f. Publicization efforts include but are not limited to a legislator-watch checks where citizens are able to see the TN bill activities, direct outline of specific industries and corporations' motives and affiliations, as well as time stamps of changes, amendments, and motions of the bill's history.

Section 3: Bills and laws derived from model and copycat plans have already been proposed, suggesting both bias, corruption, and secrecy within TN state representatives. These examples include:

a. TN adoption agencies being allowed to deny Tennessee gay couples as well as anti-Sharia bills. The adoption bill copies from one of 10,000 bills throughout this country that has been passed or proposed for almost a decade. And the anti-Sharia bill was initiated by the Center for Security Policy. Both bills hold specific groups and organizations benefiting from the cause.

b. Another example includes library censorship legislation that is nearly identical to a bill proposed in Missouri.

Section 4: An act of this course will not strain any cost from the state of Tennessee.

Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

Section 6: This act shall take effect as soon as possible, the public welfare requiring it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED SENATE**



**Sponsors: Hannah Morton  
Committee: Senate - Judiciary  
School: Signal Mountain High School**

**AN ACT TO ABOLISH CAPITAL PUNISHMENT**

Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

A) Capital punishment- execution of an offender sentenced to death after a conviction by a court of law of a criminal offense,

B) Capital crimes- a crime that carries the possibility of a death sentence such as murder, treason, espionage, and terrorism,

C) Parole- conditional freedom after the release of a prisoner to supervision in the community after they have completed a part of their sentence in a prison institution,

D) Maximum security- is a grade of high-security prison that does as much as possible to keep prisoners from escaping and watches the prisoners very closely,

Section 2: This act requires that capital punishment be abolished and in its place, the maximum sentence on all *capital* crimes be life in prison without parole,

A) The punishment for capital crimes would be changed from capital punishment to life without parole,

Section 3: This act requires that all prisoners currently on death row must go through the following process:

A) All prisoners on death row will have their case re-evaluated under a jury,

B) The maximum sentence for crimes that previously had the death sentence will be moved to life imprisonment without parole,

C) The inmates will be sentenced to life without parole,

i) Unless new evidence is submitted to the court or there is an appeal,

ii) inmates previously sentenced to death will not be able to have their sentence lowered beyond life without parole,

Section 4: Unless the crime was violent the previous death row prisoners will no longer be in solitary confinement,

A) The previous death row inmates will be treated the same as other life without parole inmates,

Section 5: Inmates on life without parole will be imprisoned in maximum security prisons for the remainder of their lives,

36 Section 6: Unlike death penalty cases life without parole cases will receive no  
37 special consideration on appeal,  
38 A) Prisoners on life without parole receive only one appeal,  
39  
40 Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby  
41 repealed,  
42  
43 Section 8: This act will go into effect on January 1, 2022, the public welfare  
44 requiring it.





68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**RED SENATE**



**Sponsors: Jackson Clemons**  
**Committee: Senate - Judiciary**  
**School: Independence High School**

**AN ACT TO AMEND TENNESSEE CODE ANNOTATED SECTION 40-33-108 TO PLACE THE BURDEN OF PROOF ON THE STATE OF TENNESSEE IN CASES OF ASSET FORFEITURE**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:

2  
3 Section 1: The terms in this act shall be defined as follows:

4 Asset Forfeiture: the involuntary relinquishment of money or property without  
5 compensation as a consequence of a breach or nonperformance of some legal  
6 obligation or the commission of a crime.

7 Burden of Proof: the requirement that the plaintiff show by a preponderance of  
8 evidence or weight of evidence that all the facts necessary to win a judgment  
9 are presented and are probably true.

10  
11 Section 2: Amend Tennessee Code Annotated Section 40-33-108 to read as  
12 follows:

13 (a) Whenever in any proceeding under this part, a claim is filed for any  
14 conveyance, the court shall allow the claim unless following an investigation the  
15 court can prove:

16 (1) The claimant had no interest in the conveyance, as owner or otherwise,  
17 which the claimant acquired in good faith; and

18 (2) The claimant had knowledge or reason to believe that the conveyance was  
19 used in the commission of a robbery offense under title 39, chapter 13, part 4,  
20 or felony theft under title 39, chapter 14, part 1.

21  
22 Section 3: Failure for a court to adhere to the updated 40-33-108 will result in  
23 an automatic return of the claimant's property.

24  
25 Section 4: Implementation of this act will be overseen by the Tennessee  
26 Department of Justice.

27  
28 Section 5: This act will require no additional funds.

29  
30 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

31  
32 Section 7: This act shall take effect upon passage, the public welfare requiring  
33 it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED SENATE**



**Sponsors: Abigail Hopper  
Committee: Senate - Education  
School: Lebanon High School**

**An act to prevent "Lunch Shaming" in Tennessee schools**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

*Lunch shaming: the overt identification and stigmatization of any student who does not have the money to buy a school meal*

Free/reduced lunch: Children from families with incomes at or below 130 percent of the poverty level are eligible for free meals, and children from families with incomes between 130 and 180 percent of the poverty level are eligible for reduced-price meals

Stigmatize: describe or regard as worthy of disgrace or great disapproval

School sponsored activities: including but not limited to dances, sporting events, pep rallies

Every public school, k-12, shall make free/reduced meal options known to every parent/guardian when registering their student(s). If a school receives information that a student is eligible for free and reduced meals but has not submitted an application, the school may file an application for the student.

A school shall not throw away a meal that has been served to a student because of inability to pay for the meal, or because they owe money from previous meals.

If a student is unable to pay for a meal repeatedly, the school must attempt to contact the parent/guardian of the student, and verify that the student is or is not eligible for free/reduced meals.

A school shall not publicly identify or stigmatize a student for being unable to pay for a meal or for lunch debt.

A student shall not be kept from school sponsored activities because of lunch debt. A student shall not be kept from graduating/participating in a graduation ceremony or receiving a diploma because of lunch debt.

A school shall direct information and communication about lunch debt to the parent/guardian of the student.

All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

This act shall take effect immediately, the public welfare requiring it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED SENATE**



**Sponsors: Monica Vazquez, Dominica Mancini, Maria Luisa Montalbano**  
**Committee: Senate - Health & Welfare**  
**School: Page High School**

**An Act to Lower the Age of Consent for Psychotherapy**

1 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

2 Psychotherapy: the treatment, diagnosis, testing, assessment, or counseling  
3 in a professional relationship to assist individuals or groups to alleviate  
4 behavioral and mental health disorders, understand unconscious or conscious  
5 motivation, resolve emotional, relationship, or attitudinal conflicts, or modify  
6 behaviors that interfere with effective emotional, social, or intellectual  
7 functioning. Psychotherapy follows a planned procedure of intervention that  
8 takes place on a regular basis, over a period of time, or in the cases of  
9 testing, assessment, and brief psychotherapy, psychotherapy can be a single  
10 intervention.

11 Mental Health Professional: A licensed professional counselor candidate; a  
12 psychologist candidate for a school social worker licensed by the Department  
13 of Education.

14  
15 Section 2: This act shall allow minors over the age of twelve (12) to seek  
16 psychotherapy without the permission of a parent or legal guardian.

17  
18 Section 3: The minor must be knowingly and voluntarily seeking such  
19 services.

20  
21 Section 4: Psychotherapy services must be inclusive and accessible to  
22 individuals of diverse backgrounds, including minors of varying ethnicities,  
23 sexual orientations, and disabilities.

24  
25 Section 5: The provision of psychotherapy services must be clinically  
26 indicated and necessary to the minor's well-being.

27  
28 Section 6: Mental health professionals should encourage individuals, though  
29 not required, to notify their parents or legal guardians in order to provide  
30 additional aid and support for the minor's treatment.

31  
32 Section 7: A mental health professional may notify the minor's parent or  
33 legal guardian of the psychotherapy services given or needed, without the  
34 minor's consent, if in their professional opinion, the minor is unable to

35 manage their treatment. This exception applies only under the condition that  
36 notifying said legal guardian or parent is not detrimental to the minor's care  
37 and treatment.

38  
39 Section 8: A mental health professional must fully document when they  
40 attempt to contact the minor's parents or legal guardian, and whether the  
41 attempt was successful or unsuccessful, or the reason why, in their  
42 professional's opinion, it would be appropriate to contact the minor's parent  
43 or legal guardian regarding the minor's treatment. Documentation must be  
44 included, with the minor's clinical record, along with a written statement  
45 signed by the minor indicating that they are voluntarily seeking  
46 psychotherapy services.

47  
48 Section 9: For the purposes of this bill, psychotherapy services will not  
49 include inpatient services.

50  
51 Section 10: Failure to abide by this law may result in legal action on a case  
52 by case basis and may be considered malpractice by a court of law.

53  
54 Section 11: Amending this law will not require any money.

55  
56 Section 12: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

57  
58 Section 13: This act shall take effect on August 1, 2021, the public welfare  
59 requiring it.



68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**RED SENATE**



**Sponsors: Suren Shah**  
**Committee: Senate - Transportation and Safety**  
**School: Central Magnet High School**

**AN ACT TO REQUIRE CITIZENS AGE 65 TO RETAKE THEIR DRIVERS TEST**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act shall be defined as follows:

4 Senior Citizen- A person that is 65 years of age or older.

5 Driver's License- A document that proves you are eligible to drive a motor  
6 vehicle.

7 Road test- A test issued by the TN department of Safety and Homeland  
8 Security to determine a persons' driving ability.

9 License renewal- The process of renewing a license in order to resume  
10 operating a motor vehicle legally.

11  
12 Section 2: If enacted, this bill will require senior citizens to retake their road  
13 test at least once. This also includes a required vision test. This road test  
14 should be taken as soon as possible, or upon the renewal of their driver's  
15 license at the latest (which occurs once every five years).

16  
17 Section 3: Online and mail- in renewals will no longer be accepted for senior  
18 citizen drivers wishing to obtain their license.

19  
20 Section 4: This process will require senior citizens to retake the road test  
21 along with the other requirements needed for the current renewal process.

22  
23 Section 5: The set fee for this license renewal will be \$28.00 plus any  
24 additional service fees.

25  
26 Section 6: This bill will require no funding on behalf of the state of  
27 Tennessee.

28  
29 Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

30  
31 Section 8: This act shall take effect on January 1, 2022.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE SENATE**



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**Sponsors: Mark Nashi  
Committee: Senate - Education  
School: Signal Mountain High School**

**AN ACT TO INCREASE FUNDING ON SEX ED IN PUBLIC HIGH  
SCHOOLS**

1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth Legislature:

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, shall be  
4 defined as follows:

5 a) Funding: Money provided by the government for a particular purpose.

6 b) Sexual Education Classes: Classes in school relating to sexuality, sexual  
7 anatomy, reproductive health, and safe sex.

8 c) High school: An institution that offers education for people in 9th through  
9 12th grade.

10 d) Public school: A school that is operated by government funding.

11  
12 Section 2: All public high schools in the state of Tennessee shall receive  
13 funding to go to sexual education classes.

14  
15 Section 3: This shall be achieved by slightly increasing taxes on the rich and  
16 requiring all public high schools to set up sexual education classes after  
17 receiving their funding.

18  
19 Section 4: This act will help students learn more about the dangers of unsafe  
20 sex and how it can lead to pregnancy, reducing abortion rates and sexually  
21 transmitted diseases.

22  
23 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby  
24 repealed.

25  
26 Section 6: This act shall take effect at the beginning of the 2021-2022 school  
27 year.



68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**BLUE SENATE**



**Sponsors: Makenzie Clyde, Ashlynn York**  
**Committee: Senate - Health & Welfare**  
**School: Clarksville Academy**

**AN ACT TO PREVENT RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION IN TAX-FUNDED  
ADOPTION AGENCIES**

1 Be in enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth Legislature:

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

- 4 a) Religious identity - the sense of group membership to a religion and the  
5 importance of this group membership as it pertains to one's self-concept  
6 b) Religious discrimination - treating a person unfavorably because of his or  
7 her religious beliefs  
8 c) Adoption agency - an agency that finds children a new home and are  
9 primarily tax-funded

10  
11 Section 2: This act requires measures to be taken to prevent religious  
12 discrimination in adoption agencies, including:

- 13  
14 a) Preventing adoption agencies from turning away any possible parents due  
15 solely to their religious identity differing from that of the institution  
16 b) Establishing a committee of trained professionals sent out by the  
17 Department of Human Services to oversee the adoption process  
18 c) Requiring that, in the event of three or more findings of religious  
19 discrimination by a tax-payer funded adoption agency, an investigation will  
20 be opened

21  
22 Section 3: Any facilities that are reported for discrimination more than three  
23 times will be fined \$2,000. If reports continue to be made by the committee,  
24 the adoption agency may be put under new management or closed.

25  
26 Section 4: If enacted, this bill will be paid for partially by taxpayer dollars as  
27 these institutions are currently paid for this way. We will request an  
28 additional \$700,000 from the Department of Human Services to create the  
29 committee that will oversee the adoption process.

30  
31 Section 5: All laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

32  
33 Section 6: This act shall take effect on May 1, 2021.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE SENATE**



**Sponsors: Hannah Holderby, Mya Foley  
Committee: Senate - Judiciary  
School: Green Hill High School**

**AN ACT TO BAN LGBTQ+ PANIC DEFENSE IN TENNESSEE**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

4 The LGBTQ+ Panic Defense- a legal strategy that asks a jury to find that a  
5 victim's sexual orientation or gender identity/expression is to blame for a  
6 defendant's violent reaction, including murder.

7 Gender Identity- an individual's personal sense of having a particular gender.

8 Gender Expression- the way in which a person expresses their gender  
9 identity, typically through their appearance, dress, and behavior.

10 Sexual Orientation- a person's identity in relation to the gender or genders to  
11 which they are sexually attracted; the fact of being heterosexual,  
12 homosexual, etc.

13 Defense of diminished capacity- a type of defense that says that the mental  
14 capacity of the accused was diminished to the point that the defendant did  
15 not have the intent required to commit the crime. This is the equivalent of  
16 pleading to a lesser crime

17 Defense of insanity- a type of defense where the criminal defendant is found  
18 to have been legally insane when they committed a crime, so they may be  
19 found not guilty by reason of insanity. This is the equivalent of pleading not  
20 guilty

21 Defense of provocation- a type of defense that is a mitigating factor used  
22 when a defendant claims something provoked or incited them to commit a  
23 crime

24 Defense of self-defense- a defense based on justification that allows a  
25 defendant to use physical force to protect themselves from injury or death.  
26 Deadly force is appropriate in self-defense when the attacker threatens  
27 death, serious bodily injury, and, in some jurisdictions, a serious felony.

28  
29 Section 2: *It is hereby prohibited for any legal party to submit someone's*  
30 *actual or perceived gender, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual*  
31 *orientation as evidentiary support in any capacity, including situations in*  
32 *which the victim made non forcible romantic or sexual advances, or when*  
33 *there is/was a previous or current sexual or romantic relationship.*  
34



35 Section 3: It is also prohibited to use someone's actual or perceived gender,  
36 gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation as justification  
37 while using the defense of insanity, defense of diminished capacity, defense  
38 of provocation, and defense of self-defense. *Any evidence or witness*  
39 *testimony relating to the LGBTQ+ panic defense will not be admissible during*  
40 *trial and cannot be a factor in the court's ruling.*

41  
42 Section 4: This shall cost the state of Tennessee no money.

43  
44 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

45  
46 Section 6: This act shall take effect immediately, the public welfare requiring it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE SENATE**



**Sponsors: Bebe Falkner, Aubrey Walters  
Committee: Senate - Education  
School: Central Magnet High School**

**AN ACT TO BEGIN EARLY ENRICHMENT FOR TENNESSEE CHILDREN**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

- 4 a. Proficient Reading Level — mastering the statewide reading expectations  
5 for the grade level of the student.  
6 b. Standardized Test — test administered, scored, and collected in the same  
7 manner across the state.  
8 c. High School Dropout — student who has withdrawn from their place of  
9 education without completing requirements.  
10 d. Sales Tax — consumption tax on goods and services within state  
11 e. Kindergarten Readiness — classroom education setting for children before  
12 k-12, where basic information is learned; such as letters, numbers, writing,  
13 and reading.  
14

15 Section 2: This act will create a program in the state of Tennessee for early  
16 development by requiring a form of kindergarten readiness before a child  
17 enters kindergarten. This bill will increase a student's altitude in later  
18 educational years.  
19

20 Section 3: Students that enter kindergarten without prior education fall  
21 behind other students. By the time they are in third grade, if they are not  
22 proficient in reading, they are four times more likely to become a high school  
23 dropout. Students who do not finish proper education are more likely to have  
24 a hard time finding a job and to have a low income.  
25

26 Section 4: The program, called Tennessee BASE (Building Advancements in  
27 Student Enrichment) prioritizes getting students on the same learning page  
28 — both socially and educationally. Over the course of six years, areas within  
29 the state will become implemented to the program. In the first five years, it  
30 is estimated that 20,000 students will enter each year; by the sixth, the  
31 whole state will be incorporated.  
32

33 Section 5: Funding for Tennessee BASE would come out of sales tax. By  
34 increasing sales tax by 0.5%, there will be sufficient funding for the program  
35 and additional money going to other education needs. This program is free

36 for tax paying residence. Approximately, the state will spend \$5,500 per  
37 student in BASE — compared to \$8,810 per student in upper education. The  
38 first year will approximately cost \$77,000,000, with a steady increase until  
39 all students are incorporated into the program.

40  
41 Section 6: After the first six years of the program, a board of advisors will  
42 review the bill to see if any changes in funding or requirements need to be  
43 made, or if the bill should be repealed. By this point, the students who first  
44 enrolled in the program will begin taking standardized test — taking place in  
45 the third grade- allowing for comparisons to be made between those who  
46 attended Tennessee BASE for early education and those who do not.

47  
48 Section 7: This bill will be created to help enrich children across the state by  
49 beginning their education at an earlier age. Not only will this help even out  
50 the playing field through the ability to read and social development, but it will  
51 help give opportunities unavailable before.

52  
53 Section 8: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

54  
55 Section 9: This act will take effect following the 2021-2022 school year,  
56 beginning August of 2022.

# **TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT**



**SENATE  
COMMITTEE 3  
Rosa Anderson Barrera  
& Eunise Garcia**



68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**RED SENATE**



**Sponsors: Nikki Harnage**  
**Committee: Senate - Transportation and Safety**  
**School: Clarksville Academy**

**AN ACT TO REQUIRE ALL REAR SEAT PASSENGERS IN PASSENGER  
MOTOR VEHICLES TO BE RESTRAINED BY A SAFETY BELT**

Section I: Terms in this act are defined as follows:

A. Safety Belt: a restraining device used to secure passengers in motorized vehicles.

B. Passenger Car/Passenger Motor Vehicle: any motor vehicle with a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating of ten thousand pounds (10,000 lbs.) or less that is not used as a public or livery conveyance for passengers. "Passenger car" or "passenger motor vehicle" does not apply to motor vehicles that are not required by federal law to be equipped with safety belts.

C. Highway: means the entire width between the boundary lines of every way when any part thereto is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel.

Section II: Tennessee Legal Code § 55-9-603 currently reads:

"(a) (1) No person shall operate a passenger motor vehicle on any highway, as defined in § 55-8-101, in this state unless the person and all passengers four (4) years of age or older are restrained by a safety belt at all times the vehicle is in forward motion.

(2) No person four (4) years of age or older shall be a passenger in a passenger motor vehicle on any highway, as defined in § 55-8-101, in this state, unless the person is restrained by a safety belt at all times the vehicle is in forward motion.

(b) (1) This section shall apply only to the operator and all passengers occupying the front seat of a passenger motor vehicle.

(2) If the vehicle is equipped with a rear seat that is capable of folding, this section shall only apply to front seat passengers and the operator if the back seat is in the fold down position."

Section III: This amendment would delete section (b)(2) from Tennessee Legal Code § 55-9-603 and replace section (b)(1) with: "This section shall apply to the operator and all passengers occupying any seat of a passenger motor vehicle."

Section IV: Revenue generated by violation of this amendment shall follow section (d) of Tennessee Law § 55-9-603.

Section V: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

Section VI: This act shall take effect January 1, 2022, the public welfare requiring it.



68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**RED SENATE**



**Sponsors: Siya Patel, Addison Carter**  
**Committee: Senate - State & Local Government**  
**School: East Ridge High School**

**AN ACT TO GIVE MINORS LIMITED IMMUNITY FROM CONSEQUENCES  
OF UNDERAGE DRINKING WHEN CONTACTING 911 DUE TO A  
MEDICAL EMERGENCY**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

- 4 a) Alcohol: a liquid form produced by fermentation.  
5 b) Blood alcohol concentration (BAC): .08 or more while driving  
6 c) Consequences: a result or effect of an action or condition  
7 d) Intoxication: the state of being intoxicated, especially by alcohol  
8 e) Manslaughter: is any killing committed as a result of recklessness, and  
9 negligent homicide is any killing resulting from negligence  
10 f) Medical Emergencies: a sudden injury or serious illness that, if not treated  
11 right away, could cause death or serious harm to you  
12 g) Minor: person under the age of 18  
13 h) Mistadmenor A: 11 months, 29 days in jail, and/ or fines up to \$2, 500.00

14  
15 Section 2: To qualify for the limited immunity the minors must fulfill the  
16 following:

- 17 a) All involved minors must be picked by parent or legal guardian from the  
18 scene  
19 b) Comply with all medical and law enforcement personnel  
20 c) Remain at the scene until law enforcement or medical personnel has  
21 cleared you  
22 d) Take an alcohol education program with the local police department in the  
23 next 30 days

24  
25 Section 3: Limited Immunity provided for intoxicated minors who contacted  
26 911 for themselves or others in case of a medical emergency stated below :

- 27 a) Revocation of license  
28 b) Community Services  
29 c) Payment of fine  
30

31 Section 4: If the minor commits manslaughter the limited immunity would no  
32 longer apply to them.  
33

34 Section 5: Minors who contacted 911 and all involved on the scene of the  
35 emergency will be required to take the online alcohol education program  
36 provided by the local police department, if failed to attend class  
37 consequences followed:

- 38 a) The minors will pay \$25 to enroll in an online alcohol education class
- 39 b) If involved minors fail to attend class within 30 days will immediately  
40 result in a fine of \$75

41  
42 Section 6: This act will require no funding from the state but the money  
43 generated will go towards the Tennessee Department of Correction.

44  
45 Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

46  
47 Section 8: This act shall take effect on June 1, 2021, with the public welfare  
48 requiring it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED SENATE**



**Sponsors: Miles Wyckoff, Ella Wyckoff  
Committee: Senate - Transportation and Safety  
School: Independence High School**

**AN ACT TO FUND A NEW CHECK IN SYSTEM FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF  
MOTOR VEHICLES**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:

Section 1: As used in this act, unless the context otherwise requires, the following definitions apply:

DMV: Department of Motor Vehicles

TDOT: Tennessee Department of Transportation

Mobile Application: A type of application software designed to run on a mobile device, such as a smartphone or tablet computer.

User Website: A website anyone can access on the internet using a browser

Internal Web System: A computer network with restricted access used to view, maintain, and share information within an organization.

Overhaul: To renovate, remake, revise, or renew thoroughly.

Web Hosting Services: The activity or business of providing storage space and access for websites

Section 2:

For the reduction of time spent by citizens at a DMV facility in order to decrease the number of people on the premises of a DMV facility at a given time and make a trip to a DMV facility a more pleasant experience. The Tennessee Department of Transportation will allocate \$500,000 in order to charter the creation of a new DMV system, which will include but not be limited to a mobile application, a user website, and an overhaul of the internal web system, all of which will work together to allow users to check-in online and see an estimated wait time, reducing the time spent at a DMV facility. Additionally, TDOT will allocate \$50,000 per year after the system is in operation to pay for web hosting services and other general upkeep of the said system.

Section 3: The creation of this system will cost \$500,000 and will be funded through the Tennessee Department of Transportation Budget.

Section 4: All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed

Section 5: If enacted, this act will take effect immediately.





**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED SENATE**



**Sponsors: Seth Fisher, Cooper Mastin  
Committee: Senate - Government Operations  
School: Signal Mountain High School**

**AN ACT TO INTRODUCE TEXT-TO-911 SYSTEMS INTO ALL TENNESSEE  
COUNTIES**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:

Section I: Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, will be defined as follows:

- a.) County: a territorial division of some counties.
- b.) 911: The dialing sequence used in the United States for calls for emergency assistance from police, fire, and ambulance services.
- c.) Text: an electronic communication sent and received by mobile phone.
- d.) Emergency: a serious, unexpected, and often dangerous situation requiring immediate action.
- e.) Tennessee Emergency Communications Board: operates on local, state, and federal levels to facilitate the technical, financial, and operational advancement of Tennessee's 911 systems.
- f.) PSAP: A public safety answering point (PSAP) is a call center responsible for answering calls to an emergency telephone number for police, firefighting, and ambulance services.
- g.) NG911: an initiative aimed at updating the 9-1-1 service infrastructure in the United States. It intends to enable the public to transmit text, images, video, and data to the 9-1-1 center.
- h.) Cellular Data: Cellular data allows smartphone users to access the internet, even without WiFi access.
- i.) Cell Service Provider: a provider of wireless communications services that owns or controls all the elements necessary to sell and deliver services to an end-user including wireless network infrastructure.
- j.) TTY: (Text Telephone) a special device that lets people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech-impaired use the telephone to communicate, by allowing them to type text messages.

Section II: This act requires all counties in the state of Tennessee to have an active and working text service that allows residents to be able to text emergency services in situations where they cannot speak, or where speaking will put them in danger.

34 Section III: Furthermore, this act requires the state to investigate ways to  
35 separate regular 911 calls from text-to-911 calls, as well as investigate the  
36 ability to send videos.

37  
38 Section IV: The service should utilize a PSAP or any alternative that the  
39 county communication officials see fit.

40  
41 Section V: All citizens of the state of Tennessee must be informed of this new  
42 feature before it rolls out. The method used to convey this information will be  
43 up to the district administration.

44  
45 Section VII: Emergency text services should be made available to all mobile  
46 device users regardless of cellular data plan.

47  
48 Section VIII: Materials for this project have already been purchased, so the  
49 only additional cost of this bill will be for new jobs or additional equipment if  
50 need be. Any additional costs for the PSAPs will come through the 911 call  
51 surcharge.

52  
53 Section IX: All counties in Tennessee will be given 2 years to introduce a  
54 Text-to-911 system, and the deadline for introduction will be February 1st,  
55 2023.

56  
57 Section X: All laws contradicting this act are hereby repealed.

58  
59 Section XI: This act shall take effect as soon as it is passed into law, the  
60 public welfare requiring it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED SENATE**



**Sponsors: Miranda Phillips**

**Committee: Senate - Energy, Agriculture and Natural Resources**

**School: Lebanon High School**

**An Act To Provide Subsidies To Small Businesses Transferring To  
Sustainable Energy Sources**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

Sustainable energy- a power source that can be replenished within a human lifetime and cause no long-term damage to the environment.

Small business- a company selling a product or service that has under 100 employees

Cash subsidy- a sum of cash provided by the government given directly to a business or organization.

kWh- A kilowatt-hour is used as a billing unit for energy delivered to consumers by electric utilities.

Section 2: This act shall encourage small Tennessee businesses to migrate to sustainable energy sources by providing government incentives up to the amount of \$3,000 annually over a 5 year period. It is widely acknowledged and accepted that renewable energy is becoming cheaper and more competitive with standard energy prices. The reason there is a lack of interest in small businesses transferring to a sustainable energy source is that it would currently cost businesses a greater amount of money short term to switch to sustainable energy. By providing small businesses with an annual amount, this bill would incentivize small businesses to transfer to sustainable energy while providing small business owners with a portion of the required annual expenditure.

Section 3: If enacted, this bill will greatly reduce Tennessee's carbon emissions and help to stimulate economic growth by providing both jobs in renewable energy. It has been proven that similar government incentives also encourage waste minimization.

Section 4: Having solar power costs a one-time charge of \$23,000 for a business of under 100 employees. Thus, the government would help pay for up to 60% of the cost over a 5 year period. An average business producing 100,000 kWh a month would eliminate 96 pounds of sulfur dioxide, 60

34 pounds of nitrogen oxides, and more than 16,800 pounds of carbon dioxide  
35 in one year.

36  
37 Section 5: If enacted this bill will cost \$21,000,000 annually for 5  
38 consecutive years and will be funded by the Environmental Protection  
39 Agency. This would be considered a small government incentive considering  
40 the EPA provides over \$4 billion in subsidies annually and has an economic  
41 budget of \$9,057,401,000. Thus, this bill would only cost .525% of the  
42 federal budget allocated to subsidies.

43  
44 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

45  
46 Section 7: This act shall take place on January 1, 2022, the public welfare  
47 requiring it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE SENATE**



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**Sponsors: Jessica Ortiz, David Vite  
Committee: Senate - Education  
School: Collegiate School**

**An act to require teachers to complete a mental health and well-being course**

1 Section 1 : The following terms are defined as follows:

2 a.) Mental health- a person's emotional and psychological state of being

3 b.) College course- a class offered by a college or university

4 c.) Certified teacher - an educator who has earned credentials from an  
5 authoritative source such as the government or higher education institution

6 d.) Continuing education credit- equivalent to ten hours of participation in an  
7 education program

8  
9 Section 2 : If enacted, this bill will require certified teachers to successfully  
10 complete a college course in relation to mental health, which will result in  
11 teachers who are better equipped to interact with students struggling with  
12 mental health.

13  
14 Section 3: Teachers, including those currently employed, will be required to  
15 complete one CEC (continuing education credit) on mental health for all  
16 upcoming license renewals.

17  
18 Section 4: Educators with an out of state teaching license will be required to  
19 verify their completion of a mental health course.

20  
21 Section 4: This bill will not require any funding from the state.

22  
23 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby  
24 repealed.

25  
26 Section 6: This act shall take effect on August 1, 2022, the public welfare  
27 requiring it.



68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**BLUE SENATE**



**Sponsors: Will Marsden**  
**Committee: Senate - Health & Welfare**  
**School: Signal Mountain High School**

**An Act to Reallocate Foster Care Subsidies**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:

2  
3 Section 1) Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, shall be  
4 defined as follows:

5 A) Foster child: A child that has been removed from their home due to many  
6 potential reasons, and is placed into foster care.

7 B) Foster parents: The adults who take legal guardianship over a foster child.

8 C) Foster care center: The location in which foster children stay before they  
9 have been taken in by a foster parent.

10  
11 Section 2) This act shall reallocate the federal funds that are currently going  
12 towards subsidies for foster parents, and instead put those funds towards  
13 improving life for children without foster parents.

14 Children who are not taken in by foster parents must stay at the foster care  
15 centers or with relatives, if any are available.

16 A) If there is a remainder of money that is not spent on the foster care  
17 centers, then the money will go towards a fund for each individual foster  
18 child, which they receive once they exit the foster care program, through  
19 either being legally adopted or becoming a legal adult at age 18.

20  
21 Section 3) Foster parents will still receive clothing vouchers, and foster  
22 children will remain eligible for Medicaid.

23 A) In Tennessee, foster children are eligible for Medicaid cards, covering  
24 medical, dental, and counseling services.

25 B) Foster parents receive vouchers for children's clothing, and are eligible for  
26 financial reimbursement for a child's food and clothing.

27  
28 Section 4) If enacted, this bill will come at no additional cost to the federal  
29 government.

30  
31 Section 5) All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby  
32 repealed.

33  
34 Section 6) This act will take place on July 1st, 2021.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE SENATE**



**Sponsors: Eliza Abston, Julianna Brown  
Committee: Senate - Health & Welfare  
School: Central Magnet High School**

**An Act To Protect Latchkey Children**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

4 a. Latchkey child — a child who is left alone without any adult or supervision  
5 from an individual aged 13 or older.

6 b. Adult — an individual who is responsible for a child's welfare.

7 c. Aftercare — childcare for children during the time period between school  
8 dismissal and adult pickup.

9 d. Minor — an individual who is younger than 18 years old.

10 e. Neglect — the failure of a caregiver to meet the needs of children,  
11 including supervision.

12 f. Prevention services — services offered by organizations to promote safety,  
13 permanency, and well-being in families.

14  
15 Section 2: As recommended by the courts of Tennessee, the minimum legal  
16 age for latchkey children to be left home alone is 10 years.

17  
18 Section 3: Latchkey children aged 10 - 14 may stay home alone for no longer  
19 than five hours. Minors aged 15 and older may stay home alone overnight,  
20 depending on parental judgement. This act allows minors aged 15 and older  
21 to supervise younger children, including those under 10 years of age.

22  
23 Section 4: There are free and affordable aftercare programs for latchkey  
24 children at public schools, the YMCA, the Boys and Girls Club, and private  
25 institutions to ensure that the needs of families are met. Many of these  
26 programs use income-based fee schedules and/or offer scholarships.

27  
28 Section 5: Violators of this act shall be subjected to fines up to \$1,000 for  
29 child endangerment. Violations will be determined by local authorities and/or  
30 courts of the state. Factors, such as emergencies, the age of the child or  
31 children, etc., shall be considered. The fine will depend on the severity of the  
32 case.

33  
34 Section 6: This act will increase the budget of Tennessee's Child Protective  
35 Services Department by 0.5%, approximately \$3 million, to accommodate

36 the implementation of these changes. Other revenue will be generated  
37 through fines. This act will delegate an additional 0.5% for aftercare  
38 programs, like the Boys and Girls Club, from the same budget, similar to the  
39 grants extended to the Tennessee YMCA during the COVID-19 pandemic.  
40

41 Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby  
42 repealed.  
43

44 Section 8: This act shall take effect on January 1, 2022, the public welfare  
45 requiring it.





**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE SENATE**



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**Sponsors: Amira Wolde, Jadin McElfresh  
Committee: Senate - Commerce and Labor  
School: Hillwood High School**

**An Act to Include an Additional Requirement for Acquiring a Standard  
Business License in Tennessee**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows

4 License Regulations- Any authorization, license, registration, permission,  
5 permit, easement, franchise, grant, variance, exception, exemption, consent,  
6 certificate, certification, approval, or confirmation of non-objection of any  
7 government entity of competent jurisdiction.

8 Standard Business License- A license required of businesses who anticipate  
9 having gross revenues of \$10,000 or greater and an annual tax return.

10 Licenses must be filed with the Tennessee Dept. of Revenue each year.

11 Introductory Business Course- A required class to obtain a valid business  
12 license.

13 Educational Institutions- Post-secondary schools; including but not limited to  
14 technical, trade, or vocational schools, colleges, or universities that are  
15 operated or directly supported by any state government or privately-owned  
16 organization.

17  
18 Section 2:

19 This act requires aspiring business owners to obtain an introductory business  
20 course certification of completion from an educational institution prior to  
21 applying for a business license. Once earned, the certificate of completion  
22 must be submitted alongside the business license application.

23  
24 Section 3:

25 The Renewal Process as stated by the Department of Revenue's business  
26 license filing program will not be affected by the implementation of this act.

27 The introductory courses provided by educational institutions must be taught  
28 by qualified instructors.

29 All courses will be offered free of charge to aspiring business owners.

30 All costs incurred by educational institutions for offering these courses will be  
31 funded through the Tennessee Promise program.

32 The introductory business course can be taken in person or online at any  
33 higher-level educational institution registered for legal operation within the  
34 state of Tennessee.

Certifications from different organizations, such as but not limited to the KIPP college partnership, that partner with an educational institution to offer business courses would be accepted once verification is provided through the partnering educational institution.

The business course would include basic skills, such as basic promotional strategies, entrepreneurship, and marketing tactics beneficial to a new business owner.

Section 4: Consequences for falsifying the certification are as follows:  
The business owner will be given 60 days to complete a verified course and submit a certificate of completion to the Tennessee Department of Revenue or County Clerk.

If they fail to do so within the allowed time limit, their license will be revoked.

Section 5: If enacted this legislation will not cost the state government any additional funds.

Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section 7: This act shall take effect on January 1, 2022, the public welfare requiring it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE SENATE**



**Sponsors: Audrey McLemore  
Committee: Senate - Government Operations  
School: Signal Mountain High School**

**An Act To Amend The Electoral College Process Of Tennessee**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

4 a) Presidential Election: A series of elections held every four (4) years in all  
5 states in the United States and the District Of Columbia for the purpose of  
6 electing state electors to elect the President and Vice President of the United  
7 States.

8 b) Electoral College: A body of citizens nominated, elected, or otherwise  
9 chosen at a state party convention, and elected by ballot. Electors are  
10 primarily represented on ballots by their party's presidential and vice-  
11 presidential nominee.

12 c) Elector: an individual representing their state in the Electoral College.

13 d) Alternative Elector: An individual chosen by their political party to serve as  
14 Elector if an Elector fails to do so.

15 e) Electoral Votes: The number of votes and subsequent electors allocated to  
16 a state within the Electoral College. Each Elector has one (1) Electoral Vote,  
17 as specified in the United States Constitution.

18  
19 Section 2: The meeting of Electors in the state of Tennessee to determine  
20 Presidential Election results shall occur as prescribed by the laws of the  
21 United States. This act does not alter the process by which Tennessee  
22 citizens cast their votes for electors.

23  
24 Section 3: Each political party with a Presidential and Vice-Presidential  
25 nominee shall nominate eleven (11) Electors and eleven (11) Alternative  
26 Electors. Each political party shall send to Tennessee's meeting of Electors a  
27 number of Electors equal to the number of Tennessee's nine (9)  
28 Congressional Districts in which it won the popular vote. The remaining two  
29 (2) Electoral Votes of Tennessee shall be allocated to the party which won  
30 the Tennessee state popular vote.

31  
32 Section 4: All Electors shall be required to vote for the Presidential and Vice-  
33 Presidential candidates of their nominating political party. Electors who fail to  
34 do so shall be replaced with an Alternative Elector from their political party

35 and fined ten thousand (10,000) dollars. When replacing Electors, alternative  
36 electors shall be subject to the same requirements as all other Electors.

37

38 Section 5: This act shall come at no fiscal cost to the state of Tennessee.

39

40 Section 6: All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act shall be  
41 repealed.

42

43 Section 7: This act shall take effect immediately.

# **TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT**



## **HOUSE COMMITTEE 1 Garrison Brothers**



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Madeleine McDaniel, Kemi Tela  
Committee: House - Health  
School: Father Ryan High School**

**AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AN AGENCY DEDICATED TOWARDS REDUCING  
FRAUD AND ERRORS IN THE STATEWIDE WELFARE SYSTEM**

1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government:

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows.

- 4 a. Welfare- aid in the form of money or assistance  
5 b. Welfare Fraud- illegally using state welfare systems by falsity or omission  
6 to obtain more funds than would otherwise be allocated.

7  
8 Section 2: The agency will do semi-annually checks of various welfare  
9 programs' enrollment lists. Using information from federal agencies, staffers  
10 of the Tennessee agency will examine whether the information given  
11 corresponds with the financial and identification information provided by  
12 program participants.

13  
14 Section 3: Staffers will be in search of participants who are:

- 15 a. Deceased  
16 b. No longer qualified for their program  
17 c. Committing welfare fraud

18  
19 Section 4: Additionally, the agency will check program transactions for  
20 erroneous welfare payments. If overpayments are discovered staffers will use  
21 various procedures to reconcile the difference. Failure to return funds will  
22 result in potential prosecution and disqualification for future welfare claims.

23  
24 Section 5: We will begin with 600 new workers and we will continue to check  
25 to see if the needs change as this agency continues.

26  
27 Section 6: The implementation of this agency would cost \$26,000,000 and  
28 will be funded by the Tennessee Department of Human Services.

29  
30 Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

31  
32 Section 8: This act shall take effect, September 1, 2021.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



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**Sponsors: Rachel Walpole, Connor Shaw, Kayla Hamlet  
Committee: House - Health  
School: Lebanon High School**

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**A Bill to Increase State Health Inspections of Nursing Homes**

1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government:

2  
3 Section I) Terms used in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, shall  
4 be defined as follows:

5 Nursing Home- a facility for the residential care of the elderly or disabled  
6

7 Section II) Nursing homes in Tennessee are subject to a severe oversight on  
8 the state's behalf with penalties not significant enough to truly solve the  
9 problem. Thus, we propose quarterly state inspections along with an  
10 increased penalty for not maintaining health and safety requirements  
11 outlined in Chapter 1200-08-25 of Rules of Tennessee Department of Health  
12 Board for Licensing Health Care Facilities.  
13

14 Section III) Currently, there is only one state mandated inspection per year  
15 with more only being carried out when there are multiple reports of violations  
16 in a specific facility. To help insure these health care facilities adhere to the  
17 current rules and regulations, quarterly inspections will be conducted by  
18 state health inspectors. The state calls for up to \$500,000 to be set aside to  
19 employ as many additional inspectors as the Board of Health deems  
20 necessary.  
21

22 Section IV) If enacted, this bill would increase penalties for violations of  
23 Chapter 1200-08-25 of Rules of Tennessee Department of Health Board for  
24 Licensing Health Care Facilities to be double the amount a facility pays for  
25 the annual state nursing home tax. If a nursing home fails inspection,  
26 another will be scheduled to ensure the violation found is corrected. If a  
27 nursing home does not correct the previous violation or a new one is found,  
28 the penalty will rise.  
29

30 Section V) All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby  
31 repealed.  
32

33 Section VI) This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Clarke Bandy, Oliver Bradley-Shoup  
Committee: House - Transportation  
School: Signal Mountain High School**

**AN ACT TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF DRUNK DRIVING ACCIDENTS**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:  
2

3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

- 4 a) intoxicated: The of being under the influence of alcoholic beverages.  
5 b) customer: A person that buys goods.  
6 c) employee: A person that sells goods.  
7 d) transportation: The means of travel that a person takes.  
8 e) driver: Any person who operates a motorized vehicle.  
9 f) accident: An event where two or more drivers collide causing damage to  
10 vehicles and possibly harm to the drivers.  
11

12 Section 2: This act requires all employees working at any business that  
13 serves alcohol to arrange a safe method of transportation home for the  
14 intoxicated customer.

- 15 a) The intoxicated customer will still be responsible for paying for their  
16 transportation home.  
17

18 Section 3: If at least one driver involved in an accident is intoxicated and the  
19 intoxication is traced back to a certain business, that business will be  
20 responsible for paying for any repairs or medical treatment needed by the  
21 driver affected. They will also be fined 20% of the total cost of the accident.

- 22 a) If both drivers are intoxicated, then the business will be responsible for  
23 both of the driver's repairs and medical bills.  
24

25 Section 4: This act will not cost the state anything and may even generate  
26 money through fines for the government.  
27

28 Section 5: All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby  
29 repealed.  
30

31 Section 6: This act will be enacted by the state upon passage, and  
32 businesses must comply with guidelines by June 1, 2021.





68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**RED HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Anna Buchanan, Maggie Chenoweth**  
**Committee: House - Criminal Justice**  
**School: White House High School**

**AN ACT TO REDUCE THE IMPACT OF CLASS C MISDEMEANORS ON  
HOMELESS**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

4 Homelessness: Lacking in a fixed, regular and aquadate place to sleep, or in  
5 danger of losing it

6 Class C misdemeanors: Misdemeanors classified by the state government as  
7 Class C, which can have a punishment of up to thirty (30) days in jail or a  
8 fifty dollar (\$50) fine

9 Necessary Items: items necessary for health, survival, or decent living.

10 Includes but is not limited to items such as food, toiletries, clothing, or  
11 medicine.

12  
13 Section 2: *Persons who claim homelessness during their court hearing and*  
14 *are pleading guilty to the class C misdemeanors* will be sentenced to a  
15 reduced punishment of imprisonment not to exceed fourteen (14) days, or a  
16 fine not to exceed thirty dollars (\$30.00).

17  
18 Section 3: Persons who cannot pay the fine, or who need the required money  
19 for necessary items, should be offered the opportunity to perform community  
20 service for an amount of time not to exceed the equivalent of the money  
21 earned at the minimum wage for that time.

22  
23 Section 4: Should this bill be enacted, no funding would be required from the  
24 state.

25  
26 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

27  
28 Section 6: This act shall take effect July 10, 2021, the public welfare  
29 requiring it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



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**Sponsors: Rayna Taylor, Jasmine Nicolau, Edward Alvarado**  
**Committee: House - Health**  
**School: Central Magnet High School**

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**The 250 Law**

1) On March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020, Governor Bill Lee announced the first reported case of Covid-19 in the state of Tennessee. Since that reported case, many Tennesseans have failed to admire the severity of this sudden pandemic; most recently Tennessee has recorded an approximate average of 1,884 new cases daily, and at least 10,862 deaths in total. Increase in cases is the result of overly lenient protection protocols, as many businesses have not regulated the capacity nor the overall interactions of patrons, masked or unmasked. While those opposed to wearing a protective face covering, and or following other protective guidelines state it is an infringement upon their rights, failure of obeying and or enforcing these protections has led to the state of Tennessee has maintained one of the United States highest positivity ratings, as numbers of cases increase daily. After observing the spread of Covid-19, as well as the consistent, exponential increase within the state of Tennessee, we are presenting the Mandatory Mask Mandate. This Act requires that if a county exceeds more than 250 active cases of Covid-19, a mask mandate must be issued in all public areas, including: grocery stores, shopping malls, public schools, restaurants, gyms or athletic centers spaces, movie theatres and any other communal gathering spaces.

A) A six feet distance must be maintained between parties active in these areas to avoid the spread of the virus. Public spaces will be asked to have set capacity to be able to maintain these guidelines; the set capacity will differ based on the area and volume of an enclosed closed space. Open areas, such as community parks, the capacity rules may not apply, however distance of parties is still advised to prevent any transmitting of droplets.

B) Within schools and workspaces there must be notice to the administrator or manager if a person thinks they were or is fully aware of being in close contact with an active case. Through contact tracing, any fellow peers within close range of the exposed person must be notified. A quarantine period of 14 days will be issued to all exposed, and all meetings/classes should be offered through virtual call platforms or recorded videos so that resources are available to those within the quarantine period. *Workers and/or Teachers will receive paid leave every day they are not available equal to the equivalent of them working 7 hours for everyday they are not working. Managers or administrators are also not permitted to fire a worker who is currently quarantining.*



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Cambria Ginther, Lydia Miller, Gina Shome  
Committee: House - Education  
School: Signal Mountain High School**

**AN ACT TO INCREASE SECURITY REGULATIONS OF ALL PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2  
3 Section 1: The terms used in this act shall be defined as follows:

- 4 a) Weapon - Any instrument or tool that can be fashioned and wielded for the  
5 purpose of killing or injuring others  
6 b) Higher Class Weapon - Any firearm, explosive, bow and arrow, crossbow, or  
7 knife with a blade length greater than 4 inches (not including silverware such as  
8 butter knives, etc.)  
9 c) Lower Class Weapon - An object that, although is classified as a weapon,  
10 poses no intended threat such as a butter knife or pocket knife  
11 d) Lockdown - Within a school, the process that occurs when there is a threat on  
12 the school's campus  
13 e) School Resource Officer (SRO) - An individual who protects the school  
14 administration and students by using their training, equipment, and experience.  
15

16 Section 2: Each public school shall:

- 17 a) Designate one main entrance for public use to have a camera. With this  
18 camera, the front office or secretary can monitor and communicate with the  
19 people at the door  
20 b) Alter the duties of those who handle dismissals and item drop-offs or hire new  
21 workers if deemed necessary to handle dismissals, item drop-offs, invited people,  
22 and late student drop-offs to handle the duties mentioned later  
23 c) Have all doors locked except for drop-off and dismissal hours.  
24 d) Give faculty keys and/or key cards to enter the building  
25

26 Section 3: Any adult wishing to dismiss a student during school hours must do  
27 the following:

- 28 a) Approach the school building through the one entrance designated by the  
29 school carrying ONLY their driver license  
30 b) Provide their first and last name, the students first and last name, and the  
31 reason for dismissal when instructed  
32 c) Hold their drivers license up to the camera  
33 d) Must not enter the building unless given approval  
34

Section 4: If the rules listed above have happened, the following dismissal procedures will occur:

- a) The worker tasked with handling dismissals confirms the name on the drivers license matches the name the adult gave
- b) The worker looks up the student's name in their database and confirms that this person is on the legal guardian's approved list of people who can pick-up
- c) The student comes to the front office, sees the adult outside or on a monitor connected to the security camera, and correctly identifies them. The student is allowed to voice any concerns or feelings of unsafety, but if they don't, he/she is allowed to leave.

Section 5: If someone invited by a faculty member wishes to enter the building, the following must occur:

- a) The invitee is approved by the school in advance and is given a numerical code by them. This code will be a one-time code and can only be used by them on the designated day.
- b) The invitee approaches the building, with their driver's license out, and the designated worker will confirm both the image and name with the speaker outside using the camera and speaker system.
- c) The invitee says the numerical code aloud
- d) If the person carries something that could conceal a weapon, they must open the compartments of it and hold each up to the camera. Once the designated worker inspects each compartment by looking through the camera, they are allowed in.

Section 6: If a student has forgotten an item and needs it dropped off, the following must occur for them to retrieve it:

- a) The person dropping off the item will come to the security camera only carrying the item needed to be dropped off.
- b) If the item could conceal a weapon, the person outside will show each compartment to the camera and have it approved by someone in the front office.
- c) They will give the student's name, and the designated worker will call the student to the front office. This student will look at the person dropping off items and confirm that they feel safe near them and that item(s) are not dangerous.
- d) The student will exit the building, retrieve the item(s) and come back in.

Section 7: If the student is unable to leave class to actively participate in this process, the following will occur:

- a) The person dropping off the item will come to the security camera only carrying the item needed to be dropped off.
- b) If the item could conceal a weapon, the person outside will show each compartment to the camera and have it approved by someone in the front office.
- c) They will give the student's name and leave the items outside the door and walk away. Once they are about 50 yards from the doors, someone from the front office will go outside and collect it.

Section 8: When a student is dropped off late or is coming back from a temporary dismissal, the following must occur:

- a) The student must approach the building with their belongings and state their name.

- b) An office member will check their system to make sure the student attends the school and has not been suspended or expelled.
- c) If the item could conceal a weapon, the student outside will show each compartment to the camera and have it approved by someone in the front office.
- d) The front office will temporarily unlock the door and allow the student in.
- e) An adult is allowed to walk with the student to the door as long as they only carry their license with them. The adults will not be allowed into the building.

Section 9: A red help button will be installed below both the front office desk and principal's desk. When pressed, it will immediately alert the police of a weapon on campus and a possible active shooter. When there is an SRO officer, security guard, or armed teacher on campus, they will also be alerted. The button will automatically play a recorded message on the intercom system to lockdown. This recorded announcement will be school issued. Faculty with cell phones will be asked to have a corresponding messaging system or app that connects to the red help button so they will be informed of their school's lockdown in case they are outside or out of reach of the speakers.

Section 10: Any threats (bomb, shooting, etc.) must be reported to a faculty member immediately. This faculty member will then contact the principal who will contact the police. The police will be sent to the home of the person who made the threat to search for and confiscate any weapons. The student must have a meeting with the principal, who will discuss behavioral issues, mental evaluation, and therapy. On their first offense, the student will be suspended for 2 months and be advised to attend an alternative school or Bootcamp. On their second offense, the student will be suspended for 6 months and must attend therapy and stay in a mental hospital/have a mental evaluation before returning. On their 3rd offense, the student will be expelled. After each offense, there must be a parent meeting with the principal.

Section 11: If a student brings the following onto school property:

- a) A lower class weapon: this weapon will be confiscated by a faculty member.
- b) A higher class weapon: the student will be expelled immediately.

Section 12: Teachers will have the option to have an app or messaging system that automatically sets off lockdown/ red button protocols on their personal phones or on the landline in the classroom. The red help button app and messaging system will automatically send a message or notification to faculty and contact the police, armed teachers, and SRO officers. It will also set off other lockdown protocols like the recorded speaker announcements.

Section 13: If a weapon is detected in the building by a faculty member, they should use their app or messaging system connected to the red help button. If they do not have their own cell phone, they can also call the front office and ask them to press the red help button or ask another teacher to use their app. If the weapon is in the classroom concealed by a student, they must do their best to protect themselves as well as their students and try to disarm the student or persuade them to give up the weapon. Each school will be expected to have a code word that can be said on the phone that will alert the faculty member in the

front office without immediately causing panic if the student with the weapon is inside the classroom.

Section 14: If a student sees a concealed weapon in the classroom, they must carefully and calmly warn a teacher or faculty member of the weapon. Examples of this being:

- a) Asking to go to the restroom and warning a faculty member in a different room.
- b) Showing a faculty member a homework assignment with a warning written on it.

Section 15: If anyone sees a gunman or someone with a weapon in the hallway before the lockdown protocols go off, they must:

- a) Go to the closest classroom or room with locks and inform a faculty member.
- b) Call, text, press the button or use the app to set off lockdown protocols or advise a faculty member to do so

Section 16: Teachers will have the opportunity to apply to partially take on the responsibilities of an SRO officer or security guard. The maximum number of these teachers is 1 per 400 students. Each of these teachers will have a pay raise of \$250 per year. They will have to be trained by a police officer in a police station. They will have to have 40 hours of training and meet the same qualifications and criteria as regular SRO officers. Teachers will be armed with Glocks, unless they have their own handgun they would prefer. If this is the case, the handgun must be approved, and teachers must undergo training with that specific firearm. Each handgun must have its own individual trigger lock, and the armed teacher must be able to input the unique combination code within 10 seconds.

Section 17: Parents will be asked to sign a waiver to allow their students to be taught by an armed teacher.

Section 18: No students are allowed to approach within 3 feet of the teacher doubling as an SRO officer to ensure they will not be able to grab the weapons. Teachers can approach the student within 3 feet.

Section 19: Every year the teachers doubling as an SRO officer will be evaluated by a random panel of faculty, students, and parents. Anyone may send in complaints about them at any time. These will also be reviewed.

Section 20: As soon as a lockdown begins, the following must happen:

- a) Classroom doors or the room to the door the students are in must be locked.
- b) If the room has a lockdown magnet, that will also be placed on the door.
- c) If there is a door with a window and it does not have its window already covered, it must be covered if there is enough time.
- d) Window shades should be pulled down.
- e) Lights should be turned off
- f) If there is a closet or storage room connected to the classroom that is deemed safer than the classroom, students and faculty should go in there and lock those doors also.
- g) Doors should be barricaded if it can be done quietly and the shooter is not nearby.
- h) All persons should lay down flat away from windows, behind shelves and cabinets, and away from the wall of the hallway the shooter is in if possible.

- i) Any devices' ringers should be turned off
- j) Everyone must remain as quiet as possible

Section 21: In any new construction of public schools:

- a) Computers, red help buttons, cameras, and security systems must be installed.
- b) There will not be windows on doors to individual classrooms.
- c) The entrance to bathrooms will have doors with locks and no windows on them. These will have lockdown magnets also. One teacher in the hallway of each bathroom will have a key to this.

Section 22: Teachers will be trained on how to stop or slow the blood flow by watching free videos and programs on the internet.

Section 23: Students will have the option to watch and look at the same programs and videos as the teachers.

Section 24: Funding will come from:

- a) The Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security
- b) The Tennessee Department of Education
- c) Individual counties budgets for education
- d) Donations toward certain schools, counties, etc.
- e) Sponsorships and donations from those installing and updating the technology

Section 25: The costs include:

- a) \$625,000 *per year* for the slight pay incentive for teachers doubling as SRO officers
- b) Armed teachers' equipment will cost:
  - i) Standard Issue Glock at \$470 each = \$1,000,000
  - ii) Handcuffs at \$20 each = \$50,000
  - iii) Stun Gun at \$25 each = \$62,500
- c) Security cameras will cost \$250 per camera = \$125,000
- d) \$10 per 3 trigger combination locks = \$8500
- e) The Lockdown system button will cost \$50 per button = \$100 per school = \$200,000

Section 26: The total cost of this bill will be \$2,071,000 in the first year of enactment. *Each year after this it will cost \$625,000.*

Section 27: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

Section 28: This act shall take effect upon January 1st, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



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**Sponsors: Blake Fannin, Logan Arrington  
Committee: House - Consumer and Human Resources  
School: Fairview High School**

**An act to limit overexpansion of Rental housing in the state of  
Tennessee**

1 Section I

2 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA youth in government

4 Section II

5 Terms in this act are described as follows:

6 Cookie Cutter Homes: same or similar style housing constructed over the  
7 course of a neighborhood

8 HUD: Housing and Urban Development

9 Mortgage: a legal agreement by which a bank or other creditor lends money  
10 at interest in exchange for taking title of the debtor's property

11 Tenant- person who has the right to use and occupy a rental property in  
12 accordance with a rental agreement or lease

14 Section III

15 Details surrounding the topic: This act insures the limitation of short term  
16 rental housing in the state of Tennessee for housing companies. Rental  
17 housing has badly affected the housing industry as a whole. Home owners  
18 who would want to rent out their houses are being bypassed by larger rental  
19 housing companies. These companies also follow the market and if more  
20 people choose to rent, then entire neighborhoods would be filled up with  
21 rental homes rather than mortgaged homes. This also causes the issue of  
22 people not being able to find houses on sale if all of them are only rentals.  
23 Also people are spending unnecessary amounts of money on short term  
24 rental housing that they can ill afford over a long period of time if recession  
25 kicks in which would also cause people to be evicted from their homes if they  
26 couldn't pay for them. This means that as higher demands for rentals  
27 increase there will be less demand for mortgaged homes therefore  
28 decreasing the tax income for that state.

30 Solution to problem at hand: This bill will limit the amount of residential  
31 rental properties constructed for the sole purpose of being rented out, in the  
32 state of Tennessee for housing companies by sticking to a strict 40% rental  
33 housing cap in all areas in which major residential projects are being held.  
34 Which means out of the houses a real estate company builds only 40% can



35 be put up as rentals. This will help incentive people to apply for mortgages,  
36 and allow for people to have more options for buying homes. The  
37 repercussions for going over the limit will be a 15% property tax increase  
38 depending on the amount of rentals set up over the limit and the house  
39 would be transferred into a mortgaged home. This increase will be decided  
40 by the HUD. To ensure tenants whose houses are over the percentage limit  
41 in the area or whose leases are near their end, shall be given a set date in  
42 which they could move out. This will be decided by the tenant in a maximum  
43 of a 4 year time span. This bill does not seek the full removal of rental  
44 housing but rather is meant to keep rental homes from taking over the  
45 market.

46  
47 Section IV

48 Fiscal Line: The state does not need to pay

49  
50 Section V

51 Repealing clause: All laws or parts of laws in the conflict with this are hereby  
52 repealed

53  
54 Section VI

55 Effective Date- *This act shall take effect on January 1, 2022*



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Angelie Quimbo  
Committee: House - Criminal Justice  
School: Hillwood High School**

**AN ACT TO ELIMINATE CASH BAIL FOR NONVIOLENT CRIMES AND  
IMPLEMENT NEW PRETRIAL SERVICE PROGRAMS IN THE STATE OF  
TENNESSEE**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

4 Bail bond: an agreement by a criminal defendant to appear for trial or pay a  
5 sum of money set by the court.

6 Cash bail: a system under which a defendant who has been accused of a  
7 crime is required to post money in order to secure release from jail pending  
8 trial.

9 Conviction: the verdict that usually results when a court of law finds a  
10 defendant guilty of a crime.

11 Incarceration: the state of being confined in prison; imprisonment.

12 Jail: a place for the confinement of people accused or convicted of a crime.

13 Nonviolent crime: defined as property, drug, and public order offenses which  
14 do not involve a threat of harm or an actual attack upon a victim.

15 Prison: a building in which people are legally held as a punishment for a  
16 crime they have committed or while awaiting trial.

17 Trial: a formal examination of evidence before a judge, and typically before a  
18 jury, in order to decide guilt in a case of criminal or civil proceedings.

19 Violent crime: a victim is harmed by or threatened with violence. Violent  
20 crimes include rape and sexual assault, robbery, assault and murder.

21  
22 Section 2: Within the Tennessee court system, every individual suspected of  
23 committing a criminal offense has the right to post bail, in which the suspect  
24 may be released from jail while awaiting their court date.

25  
26 Section 3: This act removes Tennessee's current cash bail system and  
27 replaces it with pretrial services, in which defendants are evaluated through  
28 a pretrial risk assessment. Judges will utilize this summary to determine the  
29 conditions in which a defendant is released or detained before trial, such  
30 that:

31 a) Adopted from New Jersey's 'criminal justice reform: pretrial services  
32 program', a public safety assessment (PSA) shall be created with  
33 information, such as, but not limited to:

34 i. Defendant's age  
35 ii. Current offense  
36 iii, The severity of the crime  
37 iv. Pending charges  
38 v. Prior convictions  
39 vi. Prior incarcerations  
40 vii. Previous failures to appear to court  
41 b) The PSA will help determine if the defendant is classified as a high risk to  
42 society.  
43 c) Judges are encouraged to reference the information and outlines of the  
44 public safety assignment and determine the circumstances for further action.  
45 The defendant may receive alternative service conditions, with the judge's  
46 discretion, upon the submission of a rationale to Tennessee's Department of  
47 Corrections.  
48  
49 Section 4: Because this bill reduces the spending within the Department of  
50 Correction, *a potential revenue of \$23,468 per inmate* will be brought to  
51 Tennessee annually.  
52  
53 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby  
54 repealed.  
55  
56 Section 6: This act shall go into effect on July 1, 2021, the public welfare  
57 requiring it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Blessyn Nkrumah, Amna Alam, Sydney Platt  
Committee: House - State Government  
School: Valor College Prep**

**AN ACT TO DISMANTLE THE CURRENT TWO-THIRDS VOTING  
PROCEDURE FOR THE REMOVAL OR RELOCATION OF A HISTORICAL  
OBJECT IN TENNESSEE**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, shall be  
4 defined as follows:

5 Tennessee Historical Commission: The States Historic Preservation Office for  
6 the U.S state of Tennessee attached to the Department of Environment and  
7 Conservation (THC)

8 Majority Vote: When more than half of the members of the Tennessee  
9 Historical Commission vote in favor of a petition

10 Historical object: A statue, plaque, or other items of that nature which depict  
11 or represent a person or event of historical significance

12 Voting Session: When the members of the Tennessee Historical Commission  
13 meet to vote regarding a petition for the removal, relocation or renaming of a  
14 historical object

15 Tennessee Heritage Protection Act of 2016 (T.C.A. Â§ 4-1-412): An act  
16 implemented in 2013 and amended in 2016 and 2018 in order to prohibit the  
17 removal, relocation, or renaming of a memorial that is, or is located on,  
18 public property without a waiver granted by the THC through a voting session

19 Discriminatory: An unjust, prejudicial action towards a person or group of  
20 people based on characteristics such as race, age or sex.

21 Memorial: An object or groups of objects established to remind people of a  
22 historical person or event.

23  
24 Section 2: This act will implement a majority vote, as opposed to the current  
25 two-thirds vote from the Tennessee Historical Commission required by the  
26 Tennessee Heritage Act, T.C.A. Â§ 4-1-412 (clause 8, B), for the removal or  
27 relocation of a historical object.

28  
29 Section 3: This act will allow a more efficient process to take place,  
30 specifically, for the removal, relocation or renaming of memorials that glorify  
31 discriminatory beliefs and behaviors.  
32

33 Section 4: This act does not apply to petitions for the removal of graves  
34 associated with certain memorials or historical objects that do not glorify  
35 discriminatory beliefs.

36  
37 Section 5: This act will require no financial cost.

38  
39 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby  
40 repealed.

41  
42 Section 7: This act shall take effect on June 18, 2021.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Jackson Hayes, Ava Gordon  
Committee: House - Health  
School: Independence High School**

**An Act to require HPV vaccination for all 7th grade students**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2  
3 SECTION 1: definitions

4 HPV Vaccine: A vaccine that is given in 2 doses, made to protect against infection from  
5 most strands of human papillomavirus (HPV)

6 HPV: A virus that is sexually transmitted that can lead to warts, and eventually cancers  
7 of the reproductive parts. HPV is the most common sexually transmitted infection (STI).

8 Vaccines For Children (VFC): a federally funded program that provides vaccines at no  
9 cost to children who might not otherwise be vaccinated because of inability to pay.

10 Those who are eligible for VFC meet one of the following: TennCare eligible, uninsured,  
11 american Indian or Alaska native, or under-insured

12 TennCare eligible: Must qualify for TennCare medicaid, which covers citizens under 21,  
13 pregnant women, caretakers of a minor child, those who need treatment for breast or  
14 cervical cancer, people who get an supplemental security income (SSI) check, etc.

15 Uninsured: Those not covered by insurance.

16 Under-insured: Those who have insurance but whose insurance is not sufficient enough  
17 to cover certain claims. Most underinsured people are only covered by the insurance  
18 that is covered by law.

19  
20 SECTION 2: This act calls for the mandatory HPV vaccination for all Tennessee 7th  
21 graders for at least 1 dose of the vaccine. The state of Tennessee currently does not  
22 have a requirement to vaccinate children for HPV. Those who do not get administered  
23 the vaccine have to prove reason (religious or medical) and if unable will not be  
24 permitted to attend any public school or child care facility.

25  
26 SECTION 3: The state will not be responsible for providing funds to cover the cost of  
27 vaccines. The program Vaccines For Children (VFC) will cover the costs of the vaccine  
28 for those eligible no cost at all. Those who are eligible for VFC meet one of the  
29 following: TennCare eligible, uninsured, american Indian or Alaska native, or under-  
30 insured. Those not eligible for the VFC program have the means of obtaining and  
31 paying for the vaccine through their insurance.

32  
33 SECTION 4: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed

34  
35 SECTION 5: This act shall take effect July 1, 2023, The public welfare requiring



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Russell Drowota  
Committee: House - Health  
School: Central Magnet High School**

**AN ACT TO PERMIT THE RESEARCH ON THE POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF  
PSILOCYBIN THERAPY ON MAJOR DEPRESSIVE DISORDER AND  
POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER PATIENTS**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this are defined as follows

4 a) Psilocybin: The naturally occurring psychedelic neurotransmitter in  
5 Psilocybin Mushrooms

6 b) Micro-dosing: The administration of very low doses of a drug to enhance  
7 desired effects and minimize undesired side effects

8 c) Major Depressive Disorder: A disorder that causes severe depression and  
9 is mainly caused by a lack of serotonin hormones in the brain

10 d) Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD): A disorder which is diagnosed  
11 when person has difficulty recovering after experiencing or witnessing a  
12 physically or psychologically traumatic event

13 e) Psilocybin Therapy: The act of micro-dosing Psilocybin to patients that  
14 have been diagnosed with Major Depressive Disorder or Post-Traumatic  
15 Stress Disorder (PTSD) in a controlled medical environment

16 f) Control Group (in the context of this study): Test subjects with no  
17 diagnosed mental disorders.

18  
19 Section 2: This act will allow the government-funded research of Psilocybin  
20 Therapy's potential benefits on patents with Major Depressive Disorder  
21 and/or Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. If results prove to be beneficial, this  
22 would be a large step toward the legalization of Medicinal Psilocybin.

23  
24 Section 3: Before research begins, a committee of twenty scientists will be  
25 formed to plan and assess the goals of this program. This committee will be  
26 handpicked by the Chairs of the Tennessee Department of Health (TDOH).

27  
28 Section 4: For research to occur, Psilocybin Mushrooms will need to be  
29 cultivated. The growing and cultivation of the mushrooms will also be the  
30 responsibility of the board of scientists appointed by the TDOH. When the  
31 mushrooms are cultivated, they will then be dehydrated. Previous research  
32 has shown that when the mushrooms are dehydrated, the psilocybin will stay  
33 active for a longer period of time and the neurotransmitter is distributed

34 more evenly throughout the mushroom. The dehydrating of the mushroom  
35 will prevent the unwanted excessive dosing on the test subjects. Further  
36 research will be done to find the most effective way to extract the pure  
37 Psilocybin and administer the micro-dose to test subjects.

38  
39 Section 5: Fifty (50) test subjects will be selected through an application  
40 process. All test subjects must be over the age of 25 and NOT be diagnosed  
41 with any mental disorders. Applicants must send their medical history and a  
42 doctor's note to confirm that they do not have any diagnosed mental  
43 disorders. Applicants will also be required to participate in a mental health  
44 examination. All test subjects will be subject to a background check.  
45 Subjects are also required to read a guide on how Psilocybin affects humans,  
46 which will be compiled by the board of scientists. This guide will acknowledge  
47 the potential benefits and detriments of this drug and what the research  
48 looks to accomplish.

49  
50 Section 6: The scientists will decide how they will study the potential benefits  
51 of Psilocybin in their committee meetings before the research begins.

52  
53 Section 7: If data shows (from the control group) that there are benefits to  
54 micro-dosing Psilocybin, there will be further testing of the substance on  
55 patients of Major Depressive Disorder and PTSD. Scientists in the committee  
56 will further discuss ethical concerns on how Psilocybin will be tested on these  
57 patients.

58  
59 Section 8: The total salary for all twenty scientists is 1,000,000 USD, with  
60 each scientist receiving 50,000 USD. Each of the fifty test subjects will  
61 receive 1,000 USD for their contribution. Once the committee is formed, the  
62 scientists will discuss what materials they need for the study. This addition to  
63 this bill's budget will be proposed to the TDOH at a later date. If further  
64 research needs to occur, the money needed for this would also be proposed  
65 to the TDOH at a later date. This bill's initial total cost will total at 1.05  
66 million USD which will be funded by the Tennessee Department of Health.  
67 This money will come out the projected 260 billion USD of federal funding  
68 allotted to the General Health sector of the TDOH budget. (projection taken  
69 from Tennessee 2020-2021 Fiscal Year budget)

70  
71 Section 9: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby  
72 repealed.

73  
74 Section 10: This act shall take effect as soon as possible following passage.



# **TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT**



**HOUSE  
COMMITTEE 2  
Comfort Markwei**



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



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**Sponsors: Gerrica Jones  
Committee: House - Education  
School: Collegiate School**

**An act to increase base salary of first year teachers for recruitment purposes**

1 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

2 a) base salary: the initial salary paid to an employee, not including benefits,  
3 bonuses, or raises.

4 b) first year teacher: a teacher who has a four year degree, a certification,  
5 and is in his or her first year of independently teaching at a public school.

6  
7 Section 2: This act requires that all first year teachers with a four year  
8 degree and certification in the state of tennessee earn a base salary of at  
9 least 50k a year. This is to recruit more well equipped teachers to teach in  
10 tennessee school systems.

11  
12 Section 3: During the 2020 school year, teachers got a 1% raise, which  
13 caused 17% of teachers to leave the public school system. By requiring a  
14 base pay of 50k, Tennessee will be attracting more qualified teachers and  
15 providing them with a living wage during their first year of teaching.

16  
17 Section 4: Each school district is therefore incharge of adjusting their pay  
18 scale for their district.

19  
20 Section 5: This bill will be funded by each individual school district.

21  
22 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby  
23 repealed.

24  
25 Section 7: this act shall take effect the start of 2022-2023 school year, the  
26 general welfare requiring it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Jelissa Sasraku, Benjamin Johnson  
Committee: House - Education  
School: Smyrna High School**

**An Act to Increase Salary Pay for Teachers and Substitutes**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2  
3 SECTION I: Terms of this Act will be defined as follows:

4 Salary: A fixed regular payment, typically paid on a monthly or a weekly  
5 basis but often expressed as an annual sum, made by an employer to an  
6 employee.

7 Raise: Increase of Hourly Pay or Salary

8 Teacher: Licensed Employee by a School District who is authorized for  
9 Educational Instruction

10 Standard: Level of Instruction Quality

11 Benchmarks: Midterm Assessments, annually used for different grades during  
12 the middle of the school year

13 State Tests: Tests that are required and issued by the State

14  
15 SECTION II. This act shall increase Teacher pay for many and present a fair  
16 way of determining teacher pay. Teachers shall be paid according to their  
17 quality of work and their demonstration of instruction.

18  
19 SECTION III: A contract will be sent out by the county or city board to every  
20 teacher called the "First File Contract." This contract will entail details of an  
21 online survey of evaluation. Teachers will fill out the "First File Contract"  
22 before applying as a teacher or if they are a present teacher. The Teachers  
23 will explain in the contract why they think they deserve higher pay, this  
24 contract will break down the teacher pay. If the teacher moves, they will be  
25 required to fill out another contract.

26  
27 SECTION VI: Every 4 years, teachers that are still instructing for their school  
28 system will be required to fill out the same contract, in case of a need to re-  
29 adjust the salary.

30  
31 SECTION V: Teachers will be evaluated by their student's performances  
32 on tests such as benchmarks and state-issued assessments. This will be  
33 considered into determining teacher pay.

35 SECTION VI: This act will be funded by the TN Department of Education as  
36 recently the Governor has set aside 117 million for the increase of teacher  
37 salary. This money will be given to city and county school systems to pay  
38 teachers the money according to the First File Contract.

39

40 SECTION VII: This act shall take effect on July 1st, 2022, before the  
41 beginning of the next school year.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



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**Sponsors: Conner Myers, Phoenix Caruthers, Amy Garmon  
Committee: House - Government Operations  
School: White House High School**

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**An Act to Amend TCA 2-15-104 to Adapt to the District Method**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2  
3 SECTION I: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

4 a.) District Electors-electors determined by state political parties to represent  
5 each congressional district's in the electoral college

6 b.) State Elector- electors determined by state political parties to represent  
7 the state as a whole in the electoral college

8  
9 SECTION II: Were this bill to pass, Title 2, Chapter 15, Presidential  
10 Elections, section 104 part c-1 would be amended to read as follows:

11 The candidate with the highest number of votes in each district shall receive  
12 that candidate's elector vote for that district, and the candidate with the  
13 highest number of votes in the state shall receive that candidate's 2 state  
14 electoral votes.

15  
16 SECTION III: Were this bill to pass, Tennessee's 11 electoral votes would be  
17 divided based on the following: 2 state electoral votes and 9 district electoral  
18 votes.

19  
20 SECTION IV: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed

21  
22 SECTION V: This act will take effect July 1, 2021, the public welfare requiring it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Tripp Hancock, Reece Hutchens  
Committee: House - Civil Justice  
School: Page High School**

**AN ACT TO REQUIRE BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR ALL PRIVATE  
FIREARM PURCHASES IN TENNESSEE**

1 Be it enacted by the YMCA Youth Legislature of the State of Tennessee:

2  
3 Section I.

4 Firearm: a portable gun that inflicts damage by launching projectiles using an  
5 ignition to propel the bullet.

6 Private Seller: an unlicensed firearms seller

7 Background Check: a check on criminal records, financial records, and  
8 commercial records of an individual or organization.

9  
10 Section II.

11 If enacted, this bill will establish that all private sellers be obligated to acquire a  
12 background check of the customer before the purchase of a firearm(s).

13  
14 Section III.

15 Venders in violation of this act will be fined a sum of \$6,000 for the sale of a  
16 firearm(s) with a cost up to the price of \$3,000. In cases the sale exceeds  
17 \$3,000, the fine will be double the cost of sale of the firearm(s). A second  
18 repeated offense by vendors will be subject to the same fines and one year in  
19 jail. Any further repeat offense afterward would be subject to the same  
20 punishment, prevention from acquiring a gun selling license, and/or additional  
21 penalties determined by a judge based on severity of offense(s).

22 Customers in violation will be subject to the same penalties for violation along  
23 with loss of possession of the bought firearm(s) upon every violation.

24  
25 Section IV.

26 This act shall take effect immediately upon becoming a law, public welfare  
27 requiring it.

28  
29 Section V.

30 All laws or parts of laws in the conflict with this bill are here with repealed to the  
31 extent of the conflict. If any portion of this act shall be declared unconstitutional  
32 it is the action of the legislature that the other parts shall remain in full effect and  
33 full force.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



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**Sponsors: Reese Miller, Asia Nguyen  
Committee: House - Education  
School: Lebanon High School**

**An Act to Increase Number of Young Voters**

1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government:

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:  
4 high school curriculum - required knowledge mandated by the state

5  
6 Section 2: This act will require voter education to be implemented into high  
7 school curriculum. This implementation will take place within the already  
8 existing government credit requirement.

9  
10 Section 3: The content of the voter education unit would include but not be  
11 limited to: how to register, how and where to vote, the importance of voting,  
12 understanding a ballot, and the importance of being an educated voter.

13  
14 Section 4: This unit would not be included in the state mandated civics  
15 assessment given by the government class. No alterations to the assessment  
16 would be made. It is simply to inform students and make voting more  
17 accessible.

18  
19 Section 5: The addition of a voting education unit will have no fiscal impact  
20 on the state.

21  
22 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

23  
24 Section 7: This act shall take effect on August 1, 2022, the public welfare  
25 requiring it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



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**Sponsors: Mark Ciampa, Mark Bryant, Jackson Harris  
Committee: House - Health  
School: Father Ryan High School**

---

**An Act to Address the Obesity Crisis in Tennessee**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

4 a) BMI (Body Mass Index) — Defined by the CDC (Centers for Disease  
5 Control) as a person's weight in kilograms divided by the square of height in  
6 meters. A high BMI can be an indicator of high body fatness. BMI can be  
7 used to screen for weight categories that may lead to health problems.

8 b) Obesity- defined by the CDC as any BMI 30.0 or higher.

9 c) Sales and Use Tax — defined by the Tennessee government as a tax  
10 applied to the retail sale of tangible personal property and certain services  
11 such as lodging services, telecommunications services and installation and  
12 repair of tangible personal property. The sales tax also applies to the sale of  
13 specified digital products, computer software, amusements, and warranty  
14 contracts covering tangible personal property and computer software  
15 maintenance contracts. Tennessee has a sales tax of 7%.

16 d) Primary Care Provider-A primary care provider (PCP) is a health care  
17 practitioner who sees people that have common medical problems. This  
18 person is most often a doctor. However, a PCP may be a physician assistant  
19 or a nurse practitioner.

20  
21 Section 2: In 2019, the State of Tennessee lost approximately \$3,656,000 in  
22 revenue due to the healthcare-related costs of obesity. With 35% of  
23 Tennessee residents considered obese, Tennessee ranks as the 5th most  
24 obese state in the nation. Additionally, 50-70% of citizens are attempting to  
25 lose weight.

26  
27 Section 3: All citizens over the age of 18 of the state of Tennessee, including  
28 those who already are not classified as obese, can be issued a marking on  
29 their state-issued identification if they have a BMI of 18.5 to 24.9 or are  
30 cleared to be of a healthy weight by their primary care provider. The citizen  
31 must renew the marking each year by being examined by their primary care  
32 provider to ensure that they are maintaining a healthy BMI.  
33



34 Section 4: All citizens bearing marked identification cards will be eligible for a  
35 1.5% sales and use tax decrease for the purpose of bringing the sales tax of  
36 said eligible citizens to 5.5%.

37  
38 Section 5: This tax reduction for eligible citizens will promote and encourage  
39 Tennessee citizens to achieve and maintain a healthy lifestyle. Additionally,  
40 this plan will combat high spending by the State of Tennessee on  
41 unnecessary medical expenses.

42  
43 Section 6: In the first fiscal year of the program, with the addition of the new  
44 sales tax benefit, state sales tax revenues will decrease from \$9.612 billion  
45 (Tennessee budgeted sales tax revenues for the 2019-2020 fiscal year) to  
46 \$9.575 billion, a difference of \$37 million. This change assumes that 60% of  
47 the 35% of Tennessee's population that is classified as obese become eligible  
48 for the benefit. In the first year of the program, the State of Tennessee  
49 would save approximately \$2.19 billion from the reduction of obesity-related  
50 health costs. Therefore, the State of Tennessee will see an increase in total  
51 revenue amounting to \$2.15 billion.

52  
53 Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

54  
55 Section 8: This act shall take effect January 1, 2022, the public welfare  
56 requiring it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



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**Sponsors: Samiksha Venkateswaran  
Committee: House - Education  
School: Page High School**

**AN ACT THAT REQUIRES KIDS FROM JUVENILE DETENTION TO HAVE  
EIGHT HOUR SCHOOL DAYS WITH HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATION.**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2  
3 SECTION 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

4 Juvenile Detention- A detention center or court for juveniles or a young,  
5 especially one involved in disorder or criminal offense.

6  
7 Section 2: All kids in Juvenile Detention that need education must be offered  
8 the same education as nearby public schools.

9  
10 Section 3: The standards for the teachers, courses, standardized tests, and  
11 learning material will be set by the Tennessee Department of Education.

12  
13 Section 4: The addition of proper education to Juvenile Detention will cost  
14 534,924,800 and will be funded through the Tennessee Department of  
15 Education budget.

16  
17 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

18  
19 Section 6: This act shall take effect June 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring  
20 it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Sally Gaither, Moyin Onafowokan, Grace Harris  
Committee: House - Health  
School: Central Magnet High School**

**An Act to End Rural Homelessness**

1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government:

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, shall be  
4 defined as follows:

5 A) Tennessee rural homeless population- An ever-prevalent group that  
6 continues to be neglected in favor of the homeless population in urban areas  
7 due to the scarcity of reliable transportation-meaningful employment,  
8 affordable housing, and specialized health care.

9 B) Tennessee Interagency Council on Homelessness- the official governor-  
10 approved assembly that works to effectively end and prevent homelessness  
11 in the State of Tennessee.

12 C) Uninhabitable places- cars, condemned buildings, campgrounds, trailers,  
13 or any impermanent shelters.

14 D) Organizational obstacles- inadequate transportation, remote and  
15 mountainous topography, healthcare staffing shortages, distressed  
16 economies, unemployment, and low wages.

17  
18 Section 2: This act will bring awareness and a long-term solution to the  
19 Tennessee rural homeless population.

20  
21 Section 3: This act establishes a committee within the Tennessee  
22 Interagency Council on Homelessness that focuses specifically on rural  
23 homelessness, developing a plan that includes:

24 a)Improving methods for the identification and quantification of rural  
25 homeless populations that are living in places that are not meant for  
26 habitation.

27 b)Mobilizing resources and improving service coordination in rural  
28 communities that are facing organizational obstacles.

29 c)Training homeless assistance providers and creating an educated  
30 community, through both public and private groups.

31 d)Organize a system for the lending of grants specifically addressing the  
32 issue of rural homelessness.

33 e)Generating housing systems and complexes for the homeless in rural areas  
34 where they were otherwise not previously located.

f)Institute long-term goals for decreasing the rate and length of long-term rural homelessness and returns to homelessness.

Section 4: This act will not require state funding, but will allow the committee for rural homelessness to establish and submit a plan to the Tennessee Interagency Council on Homelessness, possibly outlining funding for communication, housing, or analytical projects.

Section 5: This act shall take effect on August 1, 2021.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



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**Sponsors: Sophie Bruce, Amelia Sisson  
Committee: House - Transportation  
School: Signal Mountain High School**

**AN ACT TO REQUIRE THAT ALL RIDERS IN THE REAR SEATS OF A  
PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE WEAR SEAT BELTS WHILE THE VEHICLE  
IS IN MOTION**

1 Section 1: Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, shall be  
2 defined as follows:

3 Tennessee Legal Code 55-9-603: The law that addresses the use of safety  
4 belts in passenger vehicles.

5 Seat Belt: A safety device found within a vehicle designed to secure its  
6 occupants against any harmful or abrupt momentum that may occur during a  
7 collision or sudden stop.

8 Passenger motor vehicle: Any vehicle designed purely for the recreational  
9 transportation of passengers. A passenger motor vehicle can refer to a  
10 passenger car or a multipurpose passenger motor vehicle.

11 Front Seats: The first row of seats in a passenger motor vehicle, namely, the  
12 driver's seat and the front passenger seat.

13 Rear Seats: The row or rows of seats in a passenger motor vehicle that are  
14 found behind the driver's seat and front passenger seat.

15 Adult: Any person that is 18 years of age or older in the United States.

16 Child: Any person that is below 18 years of age in the United States.

17 Tennessee Division of Vocational Rehabilitation: The division within the state  
18 of Tennessee that regulates the Vocational Rehabilitation program, focusing  
19 on rehabilitation services for individuals with disabilities in regards to their  
20 strengths, priorities, and resources.

21  
22 Section 2: Currently, the seat belt law in the state of Tennessee applies "only  
23 to the operator and all the passengers occupying the front seat of a motor  
24 vehicle" (55-9-603 section (b)(1)). This law requires that all passengers  
25 riding in the front seats, these being the driver seat and the front passenger  
26 seat, of a passenger motor vehicle must wear a seat belt at all times that the  
27 vehicle is in motion. Additionally, all passengers under 18 years of age are  
28 legally required to wear a seat belt in the rear seats of a car as well.

29  
30 Section 3: The current law neglects to address passengers over 17 years of  
31 age riding in the rear seats of a car. Consequently, adult passengers riding in  
32 the backseat of a car are not required by law to wear a seat belt.  
33

34 Section 4: This act will amend the current state legislation, Tennessee Legal  
35 Code 55-9-603, to require all riders in the rear seats of a passenger motor  
36 vehicle, be they children or adults, to wear seat belts while the vehicle is in  
37 motion, effectively heightening the safety of every occupant.

38  
39 Section 5: This act does not apply to a passenger or operator with a physical  
40 disability, preventing he or she from using a seat belt to secure him or her  
41 within the vehicle. This includes those operating a vehicle for the United  
42 States Postal Service as a rural letter carrier while performing their duties,  
43 those operating a newspaper delivery motor carrier service while performing  
44 their duties, public/private transportation buses (including school buses), or  
45 those operating or riding in a vehicle that in use for a parade or hayride if  
46 operated at less than fifteen miles per hour (15 mph).

47  
48 Section 6: If a person is found to be in violation of this law, penalties will be  
49 issued in accordance to the current legal action taken after a violation of  
50 Tennessee Legal Code 55-9-603, which is as follows:

51 He or she will be charged with a fine of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for a first  
52 violation and fifty dollars (\$50.00) for a second or subsequent violation.

53 The first violation fine will be divided, with fifteen dollars (\$15.00) deposited  
54 into the state general fund without being designated for any specific purpose,  
55 and ten dollars (\$10.00) deposited into the state general fund for the  
56 exclusive use of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation to assist eligible  
57 individuals with disabilities who have been severely injured in motor vehicle  
58 accidents.

59 The revenue generated by the second or subsequent conviction shall also be  
60 divided, with thirty dollars (\$30.00) for the state general fund without any  
61 purpose and the remaining twenty dollars (\$20.00) to the state general fund  
62 for use by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation in the same manner as  
63 the first violation fine.

64  
65 Section 7: This act will not require funding from the state budget, but may  
66 generate revenue resulting from the fines.

67  
68 Section 8: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby  
69 repealed.

70  
71 Section 9: This act will take effect immediately upon being signed into law,  
72 the public welfare requiring it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



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**Sponsors: Lorelei Caruthers, Rebekah Atwood  
Committee: House - Health  
School: White House High School**

**An Act To State Mandate Medication Intake For Ex-Psychiatric  
Hospital Patients**

1 Many patients stop taking their medication once they are discharged from  
2 their psychiatric facility.

3  
4 People who really need their medications or don't recognize that they are ill  
5 will stop taking them and it is a health and safety risk for the ex-patient and  
6 people around them.

7  
8 It will help make sure that patients are still taking their medication once  
9 leaving the hospital.

10  
11 There will be ten extra workers put in place in hospitals, specifically the four  
12 most popular psychiatric hospitals in Tennessee.

13  
14 This will cost \$1,206,400 to pay the workers yearly to monitor the patients  
15 taking their medications. The hospitals this will apply to as of right now are  
16 Vanderbilt Psychiatric Hospital, Moccasin Bend Mental Institution, and Mental  
17 Health America of the Midsouth.

18  
19 Patients and family members of patients are affected greatly by this. This  
20 allows for less money to be spent in the long run of things on patients.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Rudra Patel  
Committee: House - Health  
School: Hillwood High School**

**AN ACT TO MANDATE THE SPENDING OF TANF FUNDS IN THE STATE  
OF TENNESSEE**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

- 4 a) Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF): A federal welfare  
5 program that provides grant funds to states and territories to provide  
6 families with financial assistance and related support services, such as child  
7 care assistance, job preparation, and work assistance.  
8 b) Families First: The State of Tennessee's TANF program which emphasizes  
9 work, training, and personal responsibility to help citizens create self-  
10 sufficiency through employment. The Families First Program provides  
11 temporary cash assistance, transportation, child care assistance, educational  
12 supports, job training, employment activities, and other support services.  
13 c) Tennessee Department of Human Services: The Tennessee Department of  
14 Human Services is responsible for administering many state services, such as  
15 P-EBT, Emergency Cash Assistance, SNAP, Families First, Child Support,  
16 Child Care, Adult Protective Services, and Vocational Rehabilitation.

17  
18 Section 2: The Tennessee Department of Human Services is now required to  
19 spend at least 75% of the \$191,000,000 in federal funding allotted to the  
20 Families First program towards any cause they deem beneficial inside of  
21 federal and state TANF guidelines.

22  
23 Section 3: The Tennessee Department of Human Services is now required to  
24 spend all Families First funding past a newly defined surplus limit of  
25 \$250,000,000.

26  
27 Section 4: This bill will require no additional funding, as all funding is  
28 federally-sourced.

29  
30 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

31  
32 Section 6: This act shall take effect June 1, 2021, the public welfare requiring it.



# **TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT**



## **HOUSE COMMITTEE 3 Wade Mathews & Paige Ryan**



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Annie Wilford, Ryan Mesler  
Committee: House - Education  
School: White Station High School**

**AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT GENDER EQUAL DRESS CODE IN TENNESSEE  
SCHOOLS**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT :

Section 1) Terms in this, unless the context requires otherwise, shall be defined as follows:

A) Dress code - a set of rules, often written, with regards to clothing.

B) Gender equality - the state of equal ease of access to resources and opportunities regardless of gender, including economic participation and decision-making; and the state of valuing different behaviors, aspirations and needs equally, regardless of gender.

C) School - an institution for educating children.

Section 2) The act requires a set of guidelines from LEA's (Local Education Agencies) run through a non-biased government agency from the Department of Education to determine if the guidelines are fair.

Section 3) This group from the Department of Education would meet before the school year to discuss and go through each LEA's guidelines. These groups would be pre-screened to make sure it is unbiased.

Section 4) The total cost of this bill will be approximately \$25,000 based on the hourly pay of the group from the Department of Education budget

Section 5) All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section 6) This act shall take effect immediately upon passage, the public welfare requiring it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Nya Longino, Grace Carter  
Committee: House - Health  
School: Smyrna High School**

**AN ACT TO REGULATE COMMERCIAL DOG REEDERS AND PUPPY MILLS**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:

Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as the following:

- a. Commercial breeders- any person, during any twelve-month period, maintains thirty or more adult female dogs for the primary purpose of the sale of their offspring as companion animals.
- b. Kennel- a facility with the purpose of housing dogs to sell to public.
- c. Pet dealer- any person or business that sells more than nine animals per year to the public for the profit.
- d. Puppy mill- an intense breeding establishment that houses upwards of 100 dogs per calendar year.

Section 2: All must obtain an initial license and fee to house twenty or more dogs.

Section 3: Initial licensing fee to obtain the rights to breed and house twenty or more dogs will be listed as \$1,000. Fee will lower to \$75 a year after having a license for one year.

Section 4: Department of Health must set two unexpected visits per calendar year to each of the commercial breeders, kennels, dealers, and mills.

Section 5: The annual cost of this bill would be approximately \$100,000 a year for additional inspectors. This would be funded by Tennessee's Department of Health and Welfare.

Section 6: Housing must require 2,500 square feet per twenty dogs. Outside areas must be at least one-eighth an acre of fenced in space.

Section 7: If inhabitants fail to pass inspection (overall health of dogs and required amount of space in and out of the facility), they must pay a fine of \$500 for first offense, \$1,000 for second offense, and for third offense license to house dogs is revoked along with forfeiture of facility. Meaning they will no longer be able to have a breeding facility on their property.

Section 8: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are here by repealed.

Section 9: This act shall take effect July 1st, 2021, the public welfare requiring it.



68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**RED HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Maddox Thigpen, John Heath**  
**Committee: House - Education**  
**School: Lebanon High School**

**An Act to Require an ACT Preparation Course in High Schools**

1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

4 ACT - a standardized test used for college admissions in the United States

5 ACT Preparation Course - a class in high schools that will teach students how  
6 to take the ACT and will cover topics contained within the test

7 § 49-6-6001 - requires all high school students to take the ACT test in order  
8 to graduate

9  
10 Section 2: This bill will require all public high schools within the state of  
11 Tennessee to institute an ACT Preparation course for all students. This  
12 course will account for 0.5 credits and will be taken by students in the  
13 eleventh grade. Schools will be required to teach this course if they do not  
14 already. This class would be a separate course and cannot be an addition to  
15 an existing course.

16  
17 Section 3: This course is designed to prepare high school students for the  
18 ACT, as it is required in Tennessee Code Title 49. Education § 49-6-6001.  
19 This course is aimed to prepare students for the test, which can help them  
20 gain acceptance to more post-secondary education opportunities.

21  
22 Section 4: The implementation of this course is up to the discretion of each  
23 school district. All that is required is that there is a designated time of  
24 teaching for each of the 4 subjects and their application to the ACT test.  
25 These subjects are english, math, science, and reading.

26  
27 Section 5: *This program has as estimated annual cost of \$490,000. These*  
28 *funds will be taken from the Tennessee education budget.*

29  
30 Section 6: All laws or or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby  
31 repealed.

32  
33 Section 7: This act shall take effect July 1, 2022, the public welfare requiring it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Lily Andrews, Kelsey Hewitt  
Committee: House - Civil Justice  
School: Signal Mountain High School**

**AN ACT TO CLASSIFY FERTILITY FRAUD AS SEXUAL ASSAULT**

1 Section I: Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, shall be  
2 defined as follows:

3 Fertility Fraud: a physician treating a woman for infertility has substituted his  
4 sperm in order to impregnate the patient, without their knowledge or  
5 consent.

6 Sexual Assault: Sexual assault is any type of sexual contact or behavior that  
7 occurs without the consent of the recipient.

8 Artificial Insemination: a fertility treatment method used to deliver sperm  
9 directly to the cervix or uterus in the hopes of getting pregnant

10 Consent: permission or agreement.

11 Reproductive Endocrinologist: a physician who practices a sub-specialty of  
12 obstetrics and gynecology called reproductive endocrinology and infertility

13 REI: an area of medicine that addresses hormonal functioning as it pertains  
14 to reproduction and infertility in all individuals.

15 Sexual Battery: Sexual Contact accomplished without consent of the victim.

16 Sexual Battery by an Authority Figure: Sexual Battery committed against a  
17 person by a figure of authority over the victim.

18  
19 Section II: Current Tennessee state law does not address this specific  
20 problem. This bill attempts to protect individuals receiving fertility treatment  
21 by establishing fertility fraud and its penalty as sexual assault. More  
22 specifically, sexual battery by an authority figure. All reproductive  
23 endocrinologists, as defined in this act, will be required to follow previously  
24 standing agreements with their patient. This act would further protect these  
25 previously standing agreements by prohibiting endocrinologists to take  
26 advantage of the lack of guidelines in this practice.

27  
28 Section III: Under this act, the penalty for committing fertility fraud will  
29 result in a Class C felony. Specific penalties under the Class C felony will be  
30 further decided by the judge, depending on each situation.

31 Sexual Battery by an authority figure is classified as a Class C felony, which  
32 is the basis for this conclusion.

33 i. Class C felony: 3-15 year prison sentence with fines up to \$10,000.

34  
35 Section IV: The addition of this bill would not require any money.

36

37 Section V: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

38

39 Section VI: This act will go into effect immediately upon becoming a law, the  
40 public welfare requiring it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Nikitha Sam, Sharon Lee, Ashmita Nauhria  
Committee: House - Education  
School: Collierville High School**

**AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A BROADBAND RURAL EDUCATION TASK  
FORCE**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT :

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, shall be  
4 defined as follows:

5 a) Broadband - a high-capacity transmission technique using a wide range of  
6 frequencies, which enables a large number of messages to be communicated  
7 simultaneously.

8 b) Megabit per second (Mbps) - a unit of digital transfer rate.

9 c) Fast internet service - defined by the Federal Communications Commission  
10 (FCC) as at least 25 mbps for downloads and 3 mbps for uploads.

11 d) Task force - unit or formation established to focus on a certain operation.

12 e) Fiber Optic and Transfer Cables - a high-speed data transmission medium.  
13 It contains tiny glass or plastic filaments that carry light beams. Digital data  
14 is transmitted through the cable via rapid pulses of light and provides high  
15 speed internet access.

16  
17 Section 2: This act will form a task force to collaborate between local school  
18 districts and Tennessee's Public Utility Commission to provide greater  
19 internet access to students in rural areas.

20  
21 Section 3: This task force specifically serves locations with minimum  
22 download speeds of 10 megabits per second and upload speeds of 1 megabit  
23 per second. The task force will accordingly oversee the installation of  
24 infrastructure to support broadband internet service that is scalable to higher  
25 download and upload speeds and provides fast internet service.

26  
27 Section 4: District agencies are authorized to report to the department their  
28 students estimated connectivity and technology needs. Through these  
29 reports, this task force will determine the connectivity and infrastructure  
30 needs for the schools.

31  
32 Section 5: The taskforce, in collaboration with the Tennessee's Public Utilities  
33 Commision, will establish broadband internet service equipment that

includes- but is not limited- to routers, servers, and fiber optic and transfer cables.

Section 6: An annual report of the present state of technological affairs and expenditures must be submitted to the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development.

Section 7: The implementation of this act will cost \$10,000,000 and will be funded through the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development.

Section 8: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

Section 9: This act shall take effect immediately upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.





**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Marlie Disch, Spencer Lyst  
Committee: House - Criminal Justice  
School: Independence High School**

**An Act To Require Psychological Evaluation For All People Who May  
Be Charged**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

4 a) Mental Health will be defined as the current state of an individual's  
5 emotional well-being.

6 b) Behavioral Health Level of Care System will be defined as the system the  
7 Department of Corrections uses to categorize inmates and their mental  
8 health. This system has 4 levels: 2, 3, 4, and 5 all of which increase in  
9 severity. Any Individual with no mental health issues will not be placed on  
10 this scale.

11  
12 Section 2: This act requires all individuals who may have previously been  
13 charged and are in custody or may be charged in the future must be seen by  
14 a licensed psychologist and evaluated for mental health issues and assigned  
15 a rating on Behavioral Health Level of Care System.

16  
17 Section 3: Whichever company holds the corrections contract or, for private  
18 prisons, the company which owns the facility will facilitate action required  
19 within this bill.

20  
21 Section 4: All individuals must be evaluated by a psychologist within 2 weeks  
22 of being taken into custody.

23  
24 Section 5: Any individual who is in custody this bill takes effect must be  
25 evaluated within 6 months of the effective date.

26  
27 Section 6: Failure to have individuals evaluated will result in a \$500 fee for  
28 the state contractor *or private prison* per inmate recurring for each week that  
29 failure continues. *This fine will recur for every following week that the*  
30 *individual has still not been evaluated*

31  
32 Section 7: Using the Level of Care System, all individuals with a diagnosed  
33 mental illness and/or a level of care of 3 or higher will be subject to a lighter

34 sentencing including, but not limited to: a) a 25% shorter time in prison if  
35 applicable. b) a 30% lower fine if applicable. c) mandatory counseling.

36  
37 Section 8: Any individual that has a level of care 2 must also require  
38 counseling, but does not require items laid out in section seven.

39  
40 Section 9: An individual may only be evaluated once. If they do not meet the  
41 level of care 3 requirement, they will not be granted any immunity to  
42 sentencing.

43  
44 Section 10: This bill will require \$850,000 for the first year and \$625,000  
45 annually following the first year. *Funding for this bill will go to all state*  
46 *prisons, and will come from the Department of Corrections. Private prisons*  
47 *will not perceive any funding from the state.*

48  
49 Section 11: Implementation will be overseen by the Tennessee Department  
50 of Corrections.

51  
52 Section 12: All laws or parts of the laws in conflict with this are hereby  
53 declared null and void.

54  
55 Section 13: This act shall take effect December 1, 2021.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



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**Sponsors: Kyndle Fly, Annie Humphrey, Reagan Koerner  
Committee: House - Criminal Justice  
School: Green Hill High School**

**AN ACT TO AMEND TENNESSEE CODE ANNOTATED § 39-14-414,  
RELATIVE TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES AGAINST PROPERTY.**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2  
3 Section I: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

4 a.) Class A Misdemeanor: The most serious misdemeanor, punishable by up  
5 to 11 months and 29 days in jail, a fine of up to \$2,500, or both,.

6 b. )Class E Felony: the least serious felony in Tennessee, punishable by one  
7 to six years in prison, a fine of up to \$3,000, and the loss of voting rights.

8  
9 Section II: Tennessee Code Annotated § 39-14-414, subsection f, is hereby  
10 deleted and replaced with the following: "A violation of this section is a Class  
11 A misdemeanor."

12  
13 Section III: This bill will not require funding from the State of Tennessee.

14  
15 Section IV: All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby  
16 repealed.

17  
18 Section V: This act shall take effect immediately upon becoming a law, the  
19 public welfare requiring it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Fazeela Uddin, Isra Siddiki  
Committee: House - Criminal Justice  
School: Valor College Prep**

**AN ACT TO IMPOSE IMPROVED CRIMINAL REHABILITATION AND  
JUVENILE SYSTEMS**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

4  
5 Rehabilitation: The action of restoring someone to the restoration of former  
6 rights, authority, or abilities through training and therapy after  
7 imprisonment, addiction, or illness

8  
9 Juvenile Offender: Person who is found to be under the violation of a law of  
10 the United States committed by a person prior to their eighteenth birthday.

11  
12 Juvenile: A person who has not attained their eighteenth birthday.

13  
14 Juvenile Delinquent: A "juvenile" is a person who has not attained his  
15 eighteenth birthday, and "juvenile delinquency" is the violation of a law of  
16 the United States committed by a person prior to his eighteenth birthday  
17 which would have been a crime if committed by an adult.

18  
19 Criminal: Person who has been convicted of a crime.

20  
21 Correctional System: A network of agencies that administer a jurisdiction's  
22 prisons, and community-based programs like parole, and probation boards.  
23 This system is part of the larger criminal justice system, which additionally  
24 includes police, prosecution and courts.

25  
26 Juvenile Detention System: A youth detention center, known as a juvenile  
27 detention center or more colloquially as juvie, is a prison for people under  
28 the age of 21, often termed juvenile delinquents, to which they have been  
29 sentenced and committed for a period of time, or detained on a short-term  
30 basis while awaiting trial or placement in a long-term care program.  
31 Juveniles go through a separate court system, the juvenile court, which  
32 sentences or commits juveniles to a certain program or facility.

Decent: Conforming with generally average accepted respectable standards. Suitable in words, behavior, dress, or ceremony; becoming; fit; decorous; proper; seemly; as, decent conduct; decent language. Free from immodesty or obscenity; modest.

Satisfactory: Giving or producing satisfaction; yielding content; especially, relieving the mind from doubt or uncertainty, and enabling it to rest with confidence; sufficient; as, a satisfactory account or explanation.

Education System: The process of facilitating learning, or the acquisition of knowledge, skills, values, morals, beliefs, and habits. Educational methods include teaching, training, storytelling, discussion and directed research.

Mental Health: A person's condition with regard to their psychological and emotional well-being.

Counseling: The provision of assistance and guidance in resolving personal, social, or psychological problems and difficulties, especially by a professional.

*Section 2: This act will provide a decent and satisfactory education system, such as providing better education in the delinquent's hobbies, or hopes for the future, for the juvenile delinquents along with proper counseling for mental health and support.*

Section 3: The standards for this act will be set by the Tennessee medical board and department of education in relation to juvenile correctional systems and juvenile detention systems.

Section 4: The addition of this course of action will cost \$26,000,000 and will be funded through public sales and business tax.

Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

Section 6: This act shall take effect November 1, 2025 in favor for the estimated time of the end of Covid-19 pandemic and predicted funding time required.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Juliana Medeiros, Abigail Dungan  
Committee: House - Consumer and Human Resources  
School: Signal Mountain High School**

**AN ACT TO PROVIDE INCENTIVES FOR RECYCLING THROUGH THE  
MONITORING OF RESIDENTIAL WASTE**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2  
3 Section 1) Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

4 Garbage Can- the standard container for waste that is collected weekly. For the  
5 purpose of this bill, the different sizes are considered to be 20, 32, 64, and 96 gallons.

6 Resident- someone who lives within a residential area whether it be permanently or  
7 on a long-term basis

8 Property- A plot of land on which a residence is built.

9 Property Owner- The person who owns and is responsible for a place of residence.

10  
11 Section 2) Residents will be charged for excessive amounts of trash, which will be  
12 determined on whether they go over the set limit for their specific household. Each  
13 household may choose from the 20, 32, 64, and 96 gallons.

14 The state recommends that these sized be used accordingly:

15 The 20 gallon option is recommended for a household of 1-2 people, or a household  
16 that produces approximately 1 kitchen sized garbage bag per week.

17 The 32 gallon option is recommended for a household of 3-4 people, or a household  
18 that produces approximately 2 kitchen sized garbage bags per week.

19 The 64 gallon option is recommended for a household of 5-8 people, or a household  
20 that produces approximately 4 kitchen sized garbage bags per week.

21 The 96 gallon option is recommended for a household of 9+ people, or a household  
22 that produces approximately 5 or more kitchen sized bags of trash per week.

23  
24 Section 3) For every bag of trash that does not fit in the trash can, the owner of the  
25 property will be fined five dollars.

26  
27 Section 4) Every household will be responsible for obtaining their desired garbage  
28 can, and those who can not afford this should contact their local garbage facility. This  
29 bill is expected to generate income over time as it will limit the amount of waste in  
30 public landfills.

31  
32 Section 5) All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

33  
34 Section 6) The act shall take effect June 1, 2022.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Stephanie Cabrera Lorenzo, Esther Villanueva  
Committee: House - Agriculture and Natural Resources  
School: East Ridge High School**

**An Act to Implement Fees on and Ban Free Distribution of Plastic  
Bags Given By Businesses**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this will be defined as follows:

4 Single-Use Plastic Bag: Plastic bags used by consumers to hold goods  
5 including groceries, food, and objects, these bags are used for extremely  
6 short periods of time.

7 Business: An establishment for the purpose of commerce between consumers  
8 and producers.

9 Manufactures: The producers of goods for purchase.

10  
11 Section 2: This bill will ban all businesses such as supermarkets and grocery  
12 stores from giving out free single-use plastic bags unless they charge a fee  
13 for each bag.

14 a.) Businesses will charge a fee of 12 cents per bag, after collection of each  
15 fee 25% or 3 cents will go to the business. 25% or 3 cents of each fee will go  
16 to local recycling centers, and the remaining 50% or 6 cents will return to  
17 the manufacturers of the single-use plastic bags the business partners with.

18  
19 Section 3: This act will allow inspections of businesses to be conducted under  
20 the Department of Environment and Conservation. These inspectors will be  
21 dispatched every three months from the Department of Environment and  
22 Conservation.

23  
24 Section 4: Businesses are given four months in preparation for inspections.  
25 After the four months, they will be fined for every violation for free  
26 distribution of plastic bags recorded by an inspector.

27 a.) The first fine a business receives for failure to abide by the ban of free-  
28 distribution of single-use plastic bags will be \$250. Every fine recorded after  
29 will result in an increase of \$175.

30  
31 Section 5: If enacted this bill will cost \$1,250,000 with funding from the  
32 Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation

33 a.) \$1,000,000 will be given to producers of single-use plastic bags for the  
34 innovative future production of plastic bags.

b.) The amount will decrease by 25 percent each year, allowing producers four years to innovate the bags, providing them with a stable profit.  
c.) The remaining \$250,000 will be given to the Department of Environment and Conservation. The department will give this amount to inspectors as compensation for the 4 annual inspections.

Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

Section 7: This act shall take effect on February 22, 2022, giving time to businesses and manufacturers of plastic bags to prepare.



# **TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT**



**HOUSE  
COMMITTEE 4  
Haley Hamilton**



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Seth Khokhar, Itamar Almalem, Brayden Nash  
Committee: House - State Government  
School: White Station High School**

**AN ACT TO AMEND TENNESSEE HOUSE BILL 947/ SENATE BILL 803**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT :  
2

3 Section 1 : Terms in this, unless the context requires otherwise, shall be  
4 defined as follows:

5 A) Funding - money provided, especially by an organization or government,  
6 for a particular purpose.

7 B) Resource Officer - sworn law enforcement officers responsible for safety  
8 and crime prevention in schools.

9 C) School - an institution for educating children.  
10

11 Section 2 : This act requires the amendment of the bill, specifically the  
12 following :

13 Replace Clause D, Sub-clause 2 with the following : "(2) Funding is subject to  
14 a fifteen percent (15%) match by the LEA (Local Education Agency), adjusted  
15 for the LEA's fiscal capacity under the BEP (Break-even point) formula. The  
16 match requirement

17 Replace Clause E with the following : "(e) is subject to a fifteen percent  
18 (15%) match by the LEA (Local Education Agency), adjusted for the LEA's  
19 fiscal capacity under the BEP (Break-even point) formula, and must be  
20 available for school safety grants awarded for the 2019-2020 and 2020Q-2021  
21 fiscal years. Any reserve funds that are not awarded pursuant to this  
22 subsection"

23 Create Clause I : "(i) The budget for this program will be \$50,000,000 from  
24 the state, then LEA's will add 15%, creating a \$57,500,000 budget for school  
25 safety (resource officers in school)."  
26

27 Section 3) This will cost the State of Tennessee \$50,000,000 and will be  
28 funded through the Department of Education and the Department of Safety  
29 and Homeland Security  
30

31 Section 4) All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby  
32 repealed.  
33

34 Section 5) This act shall take effect immediately upon passage, the public  
35 welfare requiring it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Areeba Alam, Carter Champ O'Connell, Jude Shive**  
**Committee: House - Criminal Justice**  
**School: Valor College Prep**

**AN ACT TO BAN THE SALE AND POSSESSION OF SEMIAUTOMATIC  
ASSAULT WEAPONS IN THE STATE OF TENNESSEE**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

4 A. Automatic firearm (machine gun) - any weapon which shoots, is designed  
5 to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one  
6 shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger. The vast  
7 majority of these are already banned under federal law;

8 B. Dealer - (a) any person engaged in the business of selling firearms at  
9 wholesale or retail, (b) any person engaged in the business of repairing  
10 firearms or of making or fitting special barrels, stocks, or trigger mechanisms  
11 to firearms, or (c) any person who is a pawnbroker;

12 C. Firearm - any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to  
13 or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an  
14 explosive;

15 D. Handgun - firearm which has a short stock and is designed to be held and  
16 fired by the use of a single hand;

17 E. Person - includes any individual, corporation, company, association, firm,  
18 partnership, society, or joint stock company;

19 F. Rifle - a weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to  
20 be fired from the shoulder and designed or redesigned and made or remade  
21 to use the energy of an explosive to fire only a single projectile through a  
22 rifled bore for each single pull of the trigger;

23 G. Semiautomatic Assault Weapon -

24 a. any of the firearms, or copies or duplicates of the firearms in any  
25 caliber, known as:

26 i. Norinco, Mitchell, and Poly Technologies Avtomat Kalashnikovs (all  
27 models); Action Arms Israeli Military Industries UZI and Galil; Beretta  
28 Ar70 (SC-70); Colt AR-15; Fabrique National FN/FAL, FN/LAR, and  
29 FNC; SWD M-10, M-11, M-11/9, and M-12; Steyr AUG; INTRATEC  
30 TEC-9, TEC-DC9 and TEC-22; and any revolving cylinder shotguns,  
31 such as (or similar to) the Street Sweeper and Striker 12;

32 b. a semiautomatic rifle or handgun that has an ability to accept a  
33 detachable magazine and has at least 2 of:

- i. an ammunition magazine that attaches to the pistol outside of the pistol grip; a threaded barrel capable of accepting a barrel extender, flash suppressor, forward handgrip, or silencer; a shroud that is attached to, or partially or completely encircles, the barrel and that permits the shooter to hold the firearm with the non trigger hand without being burned; a manufactured weight of 50 ounces or more when the pistol is unloaded; and a semiautomatic version of an automatic firearm;
  - c. a semiautomatic shotgun that has at least 2 of-
    - i. a folding or telescoping stock; a pistol grip that protrudes conspicuously beneath the action of the weapon; a fixed magazine capacity in excess of 5 rounds; and an ability to accept a detachable magazine;
- H. Shotgun - any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger.

Section 2: It will be unlawful for any persons or dealers to sell or possess semiautomatic assault weapons in the state of Tennessee.

Section 3: Dealers have until date of effect to move semiautomatic assault weapons across state borders to where the sale and possession of semiautomatic weapons is legal.

Section 4: This law will require \$750,000 and one third of this will go towards a publicity campaign to alert dealers of their deadline to move weapons; the remaining budget will be funneled to the Nashville Field Division of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms to support enforcement;

Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed;

Section 6: This law shall take effect January 1st, 2022.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Madeline Wyatt  
Committee: House - Health  
School: Signal Mountain High School**

**AN ACT TO PROHIBIT AND CRIMINALIZE THE PRACTICE OF  
FERTILITY FRAUD**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2  
3 Section 1: The terms of this act will be defined as follows:

4 a) In Vitro Fertilization (IVF): A medical procedure in which a person with  
5 female reproductive organs is artificially inseminated for the purpose of  
6 becoming pregnant

7 b) Fertility Doctor: A medical doctor who specializes in subjects pertaining to  
8 fertility

9 c) Fertility Fraud: The practice in which a fertility doctor knowingly uses  
10 sperm collected from a sperm donor not selected by the patient during an  
11 IFV procedure without the patient's consent

12  
13 Section 2: This act will require all doctors practicing under any Tennessee  
14 Medical License to cease the practice of Fertility Fraud indefinitely.

15  
16 Section 3: Fertility Fraud will be listed as a sexual offense under Tennessee  
17 Code § 39-13-5.

18 a) Any doctor found guilty of committing Fertility Fraud will be registered as  
19 a sex offender in the State of Tennessee.

20  
21 Section 4: Fertility Fraud will be considered a Class B Felony in the State of  
22 Tennessee with the following recommendations:

23 a) A \$20,000 fine per confirmed case of Fertility Fraud.

24 b) Seven years of imprisonment per confirmed case of Fertility Fraud.

25  
26 Section 5: Medical doctors practicing under any Tennessee Medical License  
27 found guilty of committing Fertility Fraud will be permanently stripped of  
28 their medical license.

29 b) The doctor will not be allowed to obtain any license related to practicing  
30 medicine in the state of Tennessee. This includes any license granted by the  
31 Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners, the Tennessee Board of Nursing and  
32 any license granted under the Tennessee Department of Health.

33 a) Any nurse, medical assistant or doctor found to be complicit in the practice  
34 of Fertility Fraud will also be stripped of their medical license, regardless of  
35 whether or not they were directly responsible for the violation.  
36

37 Section 6: This act will go into effect on August 1, 2022, the public welfare  
38 requiring it.

39 a) Any past confirmed case of Fertility Fraud will be subject to this act.  
40

41 Section 7: Any laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby  
42 repealed.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Brooklyn Bilderback, Isabelle Sciaraffo  
Committee: House - Education  
School: Fairview High School**

**AN ACT TO TEMPORARILY IMPLEMENT THE OPTION FOR ONLINE  
SCHOOLING FOR ALL TN K-12 PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, shall be defined as  
4 follows:

5 Online Learning Program: An online learning option, alternate to an in-person education,  
6 that meets Tennessee State Board of Education standards for K-12 students  
7 administered to be funded by the public school districts of the State of Tennessee and  
8 the Basic Education Program.

9 The Education Recovery and Innovation Commission: The commission formed to examine  
10 the short and long term effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on education in Tennessee.

11 The Basic Education Program: The committee in charge of the funding formula through  
12 which state education dollars are generated and distributed to Tennessee schools.

13  
14 Section 2: This legislation mandates all school districts in the State of Tennessee to grant  
15 the option of an equivalent online learning program to all Tennessee K-12 public school  
16 students in addition to an in-person education for the Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 semesters.

17  
18 Section 3: This act will require that the Tennessee Board of Education creates a temporary  
19 sub-committee to implement governmental operations relevant to offering online  
20 schooling for K-12 students, assist in decision making, identify issues that require review,  
21 gather and evaluate information, and recommend courses of action for districts in need of  
22 assistance. Members of the subcommittee will form recommendations for the General  
23 Assembly, State Board of Education, and the Tennessee Higher Education Commission to  
24 close educational gaps arising from school closures and to modernize the state's  
25 educational structure to create more flexibility in the delivery of education to students.

26  
27 Section 4: The enactment of this law will require no additional funding from the state,  
28 but will require the reallocation of through the Basic Education Program.

29  
30 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

31  
32 Section 6: This act shall take effect immediately by the state upon passage,  
33 the public welfare requiring it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
RED HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Katherine Stewart, Madison Mathes, Briana Woodcock  
Committee: House - Education  
School: Lebanon High School**

**An Act to Require an Unbiased, Non-abstinence Sexual Education in  
Schools**

1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government

2  
3 Section 1: Terms of this act will be defined as follows:

4 a.) Non-abstinence Sexual Education: informs students on how to have safe  
5 sex

6 b.) Unbiased Sexual Education: a course that teaches sexual education  
7 without inserting personal opinions

8 c.) Age of consent: the age at which a person can legally consent to sex, in  
9 TN, it is 18

10  
11 Section 2: This act will change the existing Lifetime Wellness standards  
12 regarding sexual education and family planning to include a more  
13 comprehensive education about safe-sex.

14  
15 Section 3: The standards of this course will be as follows:

16 a.) Diseases: teaching students that Sexually Transmitted Diseases such as  
17 HIV/AIDS, chlamydia, gonorrhea, herpes, syphilis, HPV, crabs, etc, are  
18 preventable with the teaching of safe sex practices.

19 b.) Contraceptives: teaching students that contraceptives such as condoms,  
20 birth control, IUD, implant, injection, morning after pill, ring, and diaphragm  
21 are all methods of preventing pregnancy and disease.

22 c.) Consent: teaching how to safely express a person's feelings towards  
23 sexual activities including: safe words/gestures, respecting boundaries, and  
24 age of consent.

25 d.) Anatomy and Physiology: teaching students about both the female and  
26 male body and functions.

27 e.) Gender Identity: teaching students about the different types and  
28 expressions of one's gender identity.

29 f.) Sexual Orientation: teaching students about the different patterns of  
30 attraction to a particular gender.

31  
32 Section 4: This course will be taught by specially trained teachers who travel  
33 within their assigned districts to public high schools for 1 month to teach the



standards above. These educators will be required to have medical and sensitivity training, in addition to a teaching degree.

Section 5: Parents may opt their child out of the course as long as they provide a valid reason.

Section 6: *This act will require \$300,000 every 2 years for 4 years and a max of \$100,000 every 2 years after but any additional funds will rollover into the following budget period.*

Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

Section 8: This act shall take effect August 1, 2021.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Rachel Hertenstein  
Committee: House - Education  
School: Independence High School**

**A Resolution to Require the Metro Nashville Public School System to  
Provide Advanced Special Education Programs**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:

2  
3 SECTION 1: Advanced special education is the education of students that  
4 have mental and/or physical disabilities and require special attention and  
5 unique learning styles from teachers. This process involves close monitoring  
6 and specialized learning plans for the student.

7  
8 SECTION 2: Schools included in the Metro Nashville Public School System are  
9 to provide an advanced special education program for those that have a  
10 mental and/or physical disability.

11  
12 SECTION 3: The Metro Nashville Board of Education shall oversee the  
13 implementation of this bill into every public school in the Metro Nashville  
14 Public School System. School board funding shall be raised by \$1,000,000 in  
15 order to accommodate these changes. Any violation of this resolution will  
16 result in a decrease in overall funding for the school in violation. This  
17 advanced program would include:

18 a.) Increased training and education programs for special education teachers  
19 and extra instructional time/tutoring each day if needed by the student.

20 b.) Behavioral and emotional support programs for disabled students and  
21 parent programs that educate parents on his/her child's disability.

22  
23 SECTION 4: This resolution shall be implemented by January 1, 2023.

24  
25 SECTION 5: All laws and acts in conflict with this law are hereby repealed.

26  
27 Introduced for the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government by Rachel  
28 Hertenstein from Independence High School



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



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**Sponsors: Corben Smith, Erin Vaughn  
Committee: House - Education  
School: East Ridge High School**

**AN ACT TO REMOVE RELIGIOUS STUDY CLASSES IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:  
2

3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

4 Religious Study Classes - Classes that focus solely on the study of religion  
5 and religious doctrine.

6 Public Schools - A school supported by public funds.

7 Religious Doctrine - The written body of teachings of a religious group that  
8 are generally accepted by that group.

9 Curriculum - The subjects comprising a course of study in a school or college.  
10

11 Section 2: With the passage of this act all public schools are required to  
12 remove religious study classes from their curriculum.

13 Public schools will no longer be able to have classes based on religious study  
14 and religious history.  
15

16 Section 3: Public schools are not required to completely remove the  
17 discussion of religion from classes.

18 Under this act, classes may teach about religion in relation to history but  
19 they may not use religious doctrine and must take an unbiased stance.  
20

21 Section 4: If enacted, this bill will have no cost to the state.  
22

23 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.  
24

25 Section 6: This act shall take effect June 10th, 2021, the public welfare  
26 requiring it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



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**Sponsors: Dylan Conard, Will Shaver, Suzy Bengin  
Committee: House - Education  
School: Valor College Prep**

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**AN ACT TO REQUIRE SCHOOL START TIME TO BE NO EARLIER THAN  
8:30 AM**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

4 School Start Time - When mandatory attendance inside of the school building  
5 begins

6 Mandatory School Hours - Six and a half hours according to Tennessee state  
7 laws.

8 8:30 AM - According to the area's respective time zone (Central Time for  
9 Middle and West Tennessee, Eastern Time for East Tennessee)

10 Before/After School Activities: Any non-mandatory programs associated with  
11 the school such as breakfast, clubs, sports, or study hall.

12  
13 Section 2: All middle and high schools will be required to begin school at no  
14 earlier than 8:30 AM.

15  
16 Section 3: Current mandatory school hours will still be held at six and a half  
17 hours.

18  
19 Section 4: This bill will not require funding from any institution or  
20 department.

21  
22 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws pertaining to school start times in conflict  
23 with this are hereby repealed.

24  
25 Section 6: This act shall take effect July 1st, 2023, the public welfare  
26 requiring it.



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Owen Walker, Mason Howell, Zack Duncan  
Committee: House - Consumer and Human Resources  
School: Signal Mountain High School**

**An Act to Require All Recycling Companies to Have a \$0.05 Bounty  
for Turning in Plastic Bottles and Cans**

1 Be it enacted by the TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, shall be  
4 determined as follows:

5 Bounty-A sum paid to encourage trade

6 Funding-The action of providing money for a particular purpose

7 Mandate-An official order or commission to do something

8  
9 Section 2: This act will mandate that all recycling organizations distribute  
10 \$0.05 for each plastic bottle or can, no matter of size, that is turned into  
11 recycling centers.

12  
13 Section 3: The state of Tennessee will be responsible for distributing cash  
14 balances to all public recycling centers across the state.

15  
16 Section 4: Funding amount will be decided as follows:

17 A) All proceeding funds will be distributed monthly

18 B) For every one thousand people in a district, \$500 will be distributed to  
19 each individual recycling center equally.

20 C) All extra funds from the month will carry over to the next

21  
22 Section 5: Poverty is a worldwide problem. With this act, we will be taking a  
23 small step in our state towards fixing our 13.7% poverty rate. According to  
24 an article from globalcitizen.org people in Haiti can make a small living off of  
25 recycling only. If it works in Haiti it can work in Tennessee.

26  
27 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby  
28 repealed

29  
30 Section 7: This act will take effect in August of 2020



**68th General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
BLUE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Amber Talley, Asha Bhatt, Sami Makhamjonova  
Committee: House - Business and Utilities  
School: Hillwood High School**

**An Act to Enforce Inclusivity in the Workplace**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:

2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:

4 a.) Preferred name- A name a person wants to be called by

5 b.) Preferred pronoun- A word that a person is referred to by, usually to  
6 indicate that person's gender identity. (Ex. he, she, they, ve, etc.)

7 c.) Tennessee Human Rights Committee - An state, independent, agency in  
8 which investigates specific allegations of discrimination within households,  
9 workplace environments, places of public accommodations, and Title VI for  
10 state agencies.

11 d.) Equal Employment Opportunity Commission- A United States federal  
12 agency that enforces federal laws to protect against discrimination in work  
13 environments.

14  
15 Section 2: If enacted, the State of Tennessee will require job applications to  
16 include sections for both a preferred name and preferred pronoun. This  
17 requirement will apply to businesses of fifteen or more employees.

18  
19 Section 3: Failure to provide a preferred name and pronoun will result in a  
20 charge being filed against the employer by the employee to either the  
21 Tennessee Human Rights Committee and/or the U.S Equal Employment  
22 Opportunity Commission.

23  
24 Section 4: This bill will cost the State of Tennessee no additional funding.

25  
26 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

27  
28 Section 6: This act shall take effect August 1, 2021, the public welfare  
29 requiring it.

# Tennessee Mail-In Application For Voter Registration

## You can use this form to:

- ☞ register to vote in Tennessee or to change your name and/or address.

## To register to vote:

- ☞ you must be a U.S. citizen, AND
- ☞ you must be a resident of Tennessee, AND
- ☞ you must be at least 18 years old on/or before the next election, AND
- ☞ you must not have been convicted of a felony, or if you have, your voting rights must have been restored.

☞ **If you register by mail, you must vote in person the first time you vote after registering.**

**MAIL OR HAND DELIVER THIS FORM TO YOUR COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION.**

**Go to:** [http://tnsos.org/elections/election\\_commissions.php](http://tnsos.org/elections/election_commissions.php) to find your County Election Commission address.

## Instructions / checklist:

- ☐ Please PRINT with a blue or black **INK** pen (not felt tip).
- ☐ Provide the information in boxes 1-10 below, read and answer the VOTER DECLARATION in box 11, and sign by the "X" in box 12.
- ☐ An application for voter registration must be postmarked or hand delivered to the proper county election commission office at least 30 days before an election.
- ☐ Voter registration records are public records, open to inspection by any citizen of Tennessee, excluding social security numbers.
- ☐ **To ensure a more confidential mailing process of this form, the applicant is encouraged to place the voter registration application in an envelope addressed to the county election commission.**

Names of persons selected for jury service in state court are not chosen from permanent voter registration records.

*If you are qualified and the information on your form is complete, we will add your name to the county's voter rolls.*

*We will then mail you a voter registration card. This card will tell you where to vote.*

**Federal or Tennessee State Government Issued Photo ID Is Required To Vote Unless Exception Applies.**

<b>1</b> Are you a citizen of the United States? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Will you be 18 years of age or older on or before Election Day? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <b>If you answered "No" in response to either of the above, do not complete this form.</b>						<b>FOR COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION USE ONLY</b> Mail _____ Reg # _____ Approved _____ Effective Date _____ P/A _____ District _____ Precinct _____ Ward _____														
<b>2</b> LAST NAME		FIRST NAME		MIDDLE NAME		SUFFIX		<b>3</b> SEX <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F	<b>4</b> RACE (OPTIONAL)											
<b>5</b> ADDRESS WHERE YOU LIVE (DO NOT GIVE A P.O. BOX)				APT. #	CITY	COUNTY	STATE	ZIP CODE												
<b>6</b> ADDRESS WHERE YOU GET YOUR MAIL (IF DIFFERENT THAN ABOVE)							<b>7</b> E-MAIL (OPTIONAL)													
<b>8</b> DATE OF BIRTH		CITY AND STATE OF BIRTH		SOCIAL SECURITY #		(required under T.C.A. § 2-2-116 for purposes of identification and to avoid duplicate registration)			<b>9</b> PHONE #											
<b>10</b> NAME AND ADDRESS ON LAST VOTER REGISTRATION NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ COUNTY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____																				
<b>11</b> <b>VOTER DECLARATION:</b> I, being duly sworn on oath (or affirmation) declare that the above address is my legal residence and that I plan to remain at such residence for an undetermined period of time and say that to the best of my knowledge and belief all of the statements made by me are true. <table border="0"><thead><tr><th></th><th>Yes</th><th>No</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>1. Are you a resident of the State of Tennessee?</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td></tr><tr><td>2. Have you ever been convicted of a crime which is a felony in this state, by a court in this state, a court in another state, or a federal court?</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td></tr></tbody></table>													Yes	No	1. Are you a resident of the State of Tennessee?	_____	_____	2. Have you ever been convicted of a crime which is a felony in this state, by a court in this state, a court in another state, or a federal court?	_____	_____
	Yes	No																		
1. Are you a resident of the State of Tennessee?	_____	_____																		
2. Have you ever been convicted of a crime which is a felony in this state, by a court in this state, a court in another state, or a federal court?	_____	_____																		
<b>12</b> <b>WARNING:</b> Giving false information to register to vote or attempting to register when not qualified is a felony punishable by not less than two (2) years nor more than twelve (12) years imprisonment or a fine of \$5,000 or both. <table border="0"><tr><td>X _____ Signature (or mark) of Applicant</td><td>_____ Date</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">If applicant is unable to sign, provide signature of person who signed for applicant.</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">_____ Signature of Person Assisting</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">_____ Address</td></tr></table>												X _____ Signature (or mark) of Applicant	_____ Date	If applicant is unable to sign, provide signature of person who signed for applicant.		_____ Signature of Person Assisting		_____ Address		
X _____ Signature (or mark) of Applicant	_____ Date																			
If applicant is unable to sign, provide signature of person who signed for applicant.																				
_____ Signature of Person Assisting																				
_____ Address																				

FROM:

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PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE  
The Post Office  
will not deliver  
without postage.



## Voter Registration Document - Please Do Not Delay

TO:

\_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION

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### TRANSFERRED TO NEW ADDRESS

New Address (and mailing address if different)	District/Ward/ Precinct	Clerk	Date	Additional Information