

70th Annual Tennessee YMCA

YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

Sponsored by the YMCA Center for Civic Engagement



February 23–26, 2023

Democracy must be learned by each generation.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Conference Agenda_____	3 - 6
Letters from the Governors_____	7 - 8
Program Administration_____	9
YIG Delegate Roster_____	10 - 27
ABCs of YIG_____	28 - 31
2023 Election Info_____	32
2023 Election Ballot_____	33
Rules of Procedure_____	34 - 38
Table of Motions_____	39
Understanding the Committee Process_____	40
Format for Debate_____	41
How a Bill Becomes a Law_____	42
Legislative Glossary of Terms_____	43 - 45
Debate Script_____	46 - 47
Awards Distribution and Criteria_____	48
Delegate Code of Conduct_____	49 - 50
Component Leaders_____	51
Governor's Cabinet_____	52
Lobbyists_____	53
Justice Frank F. Drowota Supreme Court_____	54
Press Corps_____	55
Committees_____	57 - 265
House 1_____	57 - 68
House 2_____	69 - 80
House 3_____	81 - 94
House 4_____	95 - 108
House 5_____	109 - 122
House 6_____	123 - 134
House 7_____	135 - 148
Senate 1_____	149- 162
Senate 2_____	163 - 176
Senate 3_____	177 - 190
Senate 4_____	191 - 206
Senate 5_____	207 - 220
Mail in Voter Application_____	221 - 222

70th Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government

A Tennessee YMCA Center for Civic Engagement Program

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Thursday, February 23, 2023

2:30 – 4:00 PM	Registration Optional GA Training Sessions Luggage Room Advisor Luggage	Cumberland Foyer Salon C & D Brentwood/Franklin Volunteer Room
4:15 – 6:30 PM	House Dinner & Hotel Check-In Senate/Court/GovCab/Press/Lobby Meetings Senate S-1 Senate Committee 1 S-2 Senate Committee 2 S-3 Senate Committee 3 S-4 Senate Committee 4 S-5 Senate Committee 5 Governor's Cabinet Supreme Court Lobbyists Press Corps	See locations below Salon A Salon B Salon C & D Salon E Tennessee A Robertson Nashville Davidson Tennessee B
6:00 – 7:00 PM	Advisor Dinner	Hartmann Gallery
6:30 – 8:45 PM	Senate/Court/GovCab/Press/Lobby Dinner & Hotel Check-In House Meetings House H-1 House Committee 1 H-2 House Committee 2 H-3 House Committee 3 H-4 House Committee 4 H-5 House Committee 5 H-6 House Committee 6 H-7 House Committee 7	See locations below Salon A Salon B Salon C & D Salon E Tennessee A Tennessee B Nashville
8:45 – 10:00 PM	YIG Welcome Session	Cumberland Ballroom
10:30 PM	All delegates in rooms *Pizza will be delivered to your room if you ordered it*	Doubletree Hotel
10:00 PM	Officer Meeting	Cumberland Ballroom

Friday, February 24, 2023

7:00 AM	Advisor & Officer Breakfast	Hartmann Galley
8:15 AM	Officer Meeting	Cumberland Ballroom
9:00 AM – 12:30 PM	Committee meetings	
Senate	S-1 Senate Committee 1	Cordell Hull House I
	S-2 Senate Committee 2	Cordell Hull House II
	S-3 Senate Committee 3	Cordell Hull House III
	S-4 Senate Committee 4	Cordell Hull Senate I
	S-5 Senate Committee 5	Cordell Hull Senate II
	Governor's Cabinet	Cordell Hull House V
	Supreme Court	Supreme Court
	Press Corps	Cordell Hull House IV
House	H-1 House Committee 1	Salon A
	H-2 House Committee 2	Salon B
	H-3 House Committee 3	Salon C & D
	H-4 House Committee 4	Salon E
	H-5 House Committee 5	Tennessee A
	H-6 House Committee 6	Tennessee B
	H-7 House Committee 7	Nashville
	Lobbyists	Davidson
12:30 – 2:30 PM	Lunch on your own	Local Restaurants
2:30 PM	All-Conference Session	House Chambers
	State of the State Address	Governor Will Severn
3:30 – 6:00 PM	All meetings convene	
	Blue House in Session	Cordell Hull House I
	Blue Senate in Session	Cordell Hull House III
	White House in Session	Cordell Hull Senate I
	White Senate in Session	Cordell Hull Senate II
	Red House in Session	House Chambers
	Red Senate in Session	Senate Chambers
	Governor's Cabinet	Cordell Hull House V
	Lobbyists	Legislative Lounge
	Press Corps	Cordell Hull House IV
	Supreme Court	Supreme Court
6:00 – 8:00 PM	Dinner on your own	Local Restaurants
8:00 PM	Delegation Check-In	See Advisor
8:15 PM	Governor's Ball Address	Cumberland Ballroom
	Gubernatorial Debate	
8:30 – 9:30 PM	Governor's Ball	Cumberland Ballroom
10:00 PM	All delegates in rooms	DoubleTree Hotel
	Pizza will be delivered to your room if you ordered it	

Saturday, February 25, 2023

VOTING POLLS OPEN UNTIL 5:30PM

7:00 AM	Advisor & Officer Breakfast	Hartmann Gallery
8:15AM	Officer Meeting	Cordell Hull House V
9:00 AM – 12:30 PM	All meetings reconvene Blue House in Session Blue Senate in Session White House in Session White Senate in Session Red House in Session Red Senate in Session Governor's Cabinet Lobbyists Press Corps Supreme Court	Cordell Hull House I Cordell Hull House III Cordell Hull Senate I Cordell Hull Senate II House Chambers Senate Chambers Cordell Hull House V Legislative Lounge Cordell Hull House IV Supreme Court
12:30 – 2:30 PM	Lunch on your own Lobbyists Luncheon	Hartmann Gallery
2:30 – 6:00 PM	All meetings reconvene	See Above
6:00 – 8:00 PM	Dinner on your own	Local Restaurants
6:30PM	Advisor Awards Dinner	Hartmann Gallery
8:00PM	Delegation Check-In	See Advisor
8:00PM	Conference Dance Tomfoolery Committee (8:30) Movie Room Quiet Room	Cumberland Ballroom Tennessee Ballroom Brentwood Franklin Robertson/Davidson
10:00 PM	All Delegates in Rooms *Pizza will be delivered to your room if you ordered it*	DoubleTree Hotel
10:00PM – 1:00AM	Final Supreme Court Case Governor's Budget Meeting	Brentwood/Franklin Robertson

Sunday, February 26, 2023

7:00 AM	Luggage Room Open	Cumberland Ballroom
7:00 AM	Advisor & Officer Breakfast	Hartmann Gallery
8:15 AM	Officer Meeting	Cordell Hull House V
9:00 – 11:00 AM	Blue House in Session Blue Senate in Session White House in Session White Senate in Session Red House in Session Red Senate in Session Governor's Cabinet Lobbyists Press Corps Supreme Court	Cordell Hull House I Cordell Hull House III Cordell Hull Senate I Cordell Hull Senate II House Chambers Senate Chambers Cordell Hull House V Legislative Lounge Cordell Hull House IV Supreme Court
11:00 – 11:45 AM	Budgetary Session	All Chambers
12:00 – 12:45 PM	All-Conference Session for Closing Ceremony	House Chambers



State of Tennessee

Will Severn
Governor

My Fellow Tennesseans,

It is a privilege and an honor to be the first to welcome you to the 70th Annual Tennessee Youth in Government Conference. I can't wait to see your dedication, ingenuity, and creativity at work this year. Amidst global pandemics, challenging course loads, and the everyday stresses of being a high school student, this conference has always been a bright beacon. Whether it was navigating Cordell Hull as a shy freshman, figuring out "Zoom YIG" as a sophomore, or running for Governor as a junior, YIG is the setting for many of my fondest memories in high school. While Youth in Government means something different to each of us, I hope you will walk away from this weekend valuing and appreciating the program just as much as I do. These days, much emphasis is placed on what divides us, but Youth in Government is perennially a place where these conflicts morph into consensus. I have watched delegates on opposite sides of an ideological chasm unite together and work to advance a bill. I have seen debates on heated topics being conducted with more civility and understanding than in our own state legislature. I have witnessed coalitions form, cooperation triumph, and cooler heads prevail. I urge you to remember that the best solutions are born out of our differences, not in spite of them.

The impact of this conference extends far beyond the few days you will spend in Nashville. Through YIG, I have met lifelong friends, forged invaluable connections, and learned vital lessons. I have also witnessed legislation from our own bill books be enacted into state law. Youth in Government is an incredible opportunity, and I encourage you to use it to its fullest potential. When you return to your schools and communities, use what you have learned here to better yourself and your surroundings.

Youth in Government teaches us that when we come together, there is nothing we cannot accomplish. As we move through this weekend, be brave and empathetic. Talk to someone new. Raise your placard. Speak on a bill. Work together to find solutions. And, above all, remember that change can start with anyone, so let it start with us.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Will Severn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Will Severn

Governor of the 70th Annual Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government Conference



WELCOME *from the* GOVERNOR

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the state of Tennessee, it is my pleasure to welcome delegates and guests to the 70th Annual YMCA Youth in Government Conference. As a long-time YMCA volunteer and past board member, I am thrilled to see the Youth in Government students walking the halls of the Capitol and Cordell Hull State Office Building.

As you gather this year 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 am certain that you will make our state proud.

Enjoy your weekend full of fascinating conversations, good friends, and new connections. I know that Youth in Government will provide you with the opportunity to learn more about the YMCA, the great state of Tennessee, and the importance of civic engagement.

Maria and I send our very best wishes and welcome you to the 70th Annual YMCA Youth in Government Conference.

Warmest regards,

Bill Lee

TENNESSEE YMCA CENTER FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT ADMINISTRATION

Executive Director
Susan A. Moriarty

Senior Program Director
Elise Dugger

Director of West TN District
Kelley Clack

Assistant Director
Stella London

CONTACTING US

Susan Moriarty
Office: 615-743-6237
Cell: 615-482-1857
smoriarty@ymcamidtn.org

Elise Dugger
Office: 615-743-6237
Cell: 901-674-1185
edugger@tennesseecce.org

Stella London
Office: 615-743-6237
Cell: 615-975-4443
slondon@tennesseecce.org

Kelley Clack
Cell: 901-359-3547
kclack@ymcamemphis.org

Web Address
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**

Last	First	School	Component	Position	Comm.	Bill Number
Abdullah	Muhammad	Valor College Prep	White House	Representative	H7	WHB/23-7-11
Abello	Aida	Signal Mountain	White Senate	Senator	S3	WSB/23-3-7
Abston	Eliza	Central Magnet	Officer	Speaker Pro-Temp of the Blue Senate	H7	
Abu Halimah	Abdullah	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S4	BSB/23-4-17
Adamu	Martha	Valor College Prep	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Agyemang	Anaya	Lebanon	White Senate	Senator	S3	WSB/23-3-12
Ahmed	Veen	Valor College Prep	Blue House	Representative	H4	BHB/23-4-15
Akinsola	Toluwakitan	Valor College Prep	Blue House	Representative	H7	BHB/23-7-15
Alam	Amna	Valor College Prep	Red Senate	Senator	S2	RSB/23-2-4
Alasadi	Zahraa	Valor College Prep	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Allen	Claire	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H3	BHB/23-3-13
Alley	Carter	Signal Mountain	White House	Representative	H1	WHB/23-1-6
Alvarez	Isabella	MLK	Blue House	Representative	H5	BHB/23-5-17
Andino	Joe	Collegiate School	White House	Representative	H2	WHB/23-2-11
Andreescu	Adrian	Signal Mountain	Officer	Chief Clerk of the White Senate	S5	
Andrews	Ben	Valor College Prep	Red House	Representative	H2	RHB/23-2-5
Anthony	Adaliss	Collegiate School	Red House	Representative	H6	RHB/23-6-6
Antonides	Autry	Innovation Academy	Blue House	Representative	H7	BHB/23-7-14
Arguello	Zach	Father Ryan	Blue Senate	Senator	S4	BSB/23-4-14
Aronin	Abigail	Green Hill	Press Corps			
Arun	Joakim	Father Ryan	Red House	Representative	H4	RHB/23-4-1
Asencio	Allisson	Innovation Academy	White House	Representative	H7	WHB/23-7-10
Asencio	Luis	Innovation Academy	White Senate	Senator	S2	WSB/23-2-6
Ashworth	Brooke	Valor College Prep	White House	Representative	H1	WHB/23-1-7
Atkins	Maya	Innovation Academy	White House	Representative	H6	WHB/23-6-12
Atkins	Margaret	Webb	Red House	Representative	H1	RHB/23-1-1
Auberson	Caitlyn	Father Ryan	Red House	Representative	H1	RHB/23-1-2
Bailey	Hunter	Innovation Academy	Blue House	Representative	H6	BHB/23-6-13
Baker	Andrew	Signal Mountain	White House	Representative	H3	WHB/23-3-7
Barger	Kate	Signal Mountain	White Senate	Senator	S4	WSB/23-4-13
Barham	Grayson	Dyer County	Blue Senate	Senator	S2	BSB/23-2-17
Barrett	Nicholas	Signal Mountain	Red Senate	Senator	S3	RSB/23-3-1
Barrie	Lily	MLK	Red House	Representative	H4	RHB/23-4-3
Barton	Alexis	Webb	Governor's Cabinet	Correction		
Batista	Clara	Webb	Blue Senate	Senator	S1	BSB/23-1-13

Last	First	School	Component	Position	Comm.	Bill Number
Bekele	Meron	MLK	Blue House	Representative	H6	BHB/23-6-14
Belcher	Iris	Green Hill	Blue House	Representative	H4	BHB/23-4-17
Belcher	Atticus	Green Hill	Officer	Floor Leader of the Blue House	H3	BHB/23-3-12
Bennett	Ethan	Innovation Academy	Blue House	Representative	H6	BHB/23-6-13
Benson	C.J.	Collegiate School	White House	Representative	H4	WHB/23-4-7
Blaess	Natalie	Central Magnet	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Blanton	Mary Claire	Signal Mountain	White Senate	Senator	S3	WSB/23-3-11
Blevins	Easton	Sale Creek	White House	Representative	H3	WHB/23-3-9
Boakye	Jessica	Central Magnet	White House	Representative	H1	WHB/23-1-8
Booth	Davis	Father Ryan	Red House	Representative	H2	RHB/23-2-2
Borders	Tynan	Signal Mountain	Blue Senate	Senator	S3	BSB/23-3-14
Borrero-Calvert	Albaro	Collegiate School	White House	Representative	H2	WHB/23-2-11
Boult	Mary	Father Ryan	Red House	Representative	H2	RHB/23-2-2
Bowen	Garrett	Valor College Prep	Blue House	Representative	H2	BHB/23-2-12
Bowen	Jester	Valor College Prep	White House	Representative	H5	WHB/23-5-8
Bradley	Rachel	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S1	WSB/23-1-10
Bradley-Shoup	Emmaline	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H7	BHB/23-7-12
Brinkman	Ellie	Lebanon	White House	Representative	H5	WHB/23-5-9
Brown	Lilly	Central Magnet	Officer	Blog & Copy Editor		
Brown	Lola	Central Magnet	Red Senate	Senator	S4	RSB/23-4-6
Brown	Wyatt	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S2	WSB/23-2-8
Brown	Destiny	Lebanon	Blue House	Representative	H1	BHB/23-1-12
Brown	Miracle	Lebanon	White House	Representative	H7	WHB/23-7-7
Bruce	Sophie	Signal Mountain	Press Corps			
Bryant	Shelby	Lebanon	White House	Representative	H5	WHB/23-5-9
Bugg	Sophie	Green Hill	White House	Representative	H7	WHB/23-7-8
Bui	Anna	Valor College Prep	Red House	Representative	H7	RHB/23-7-4
Bulla	Lucas	Lebanon	White House	Representative	H7	WHB/23-7-7
Burns	Caroline	Signal Mountain	Press Corps			
Bush	Josie	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S3	BSB/23-3-16
Butler	Anna	Green Hill	Red Senate	Senator	S1	RSB/23-1-1
Cadiz	Iya	Hillwood	White House	Representative	H5	WHB/23-5-7
Camardo	Shae	MLK	White Senate	Senator	S5	WSB/23-5-7
Campbell	Zoe	Dyer County	Red Senate	Senator	S4	RSB/23-4-2
Campbell	Katie Claire	Lebanon	Supreme Court	Lawyer		

Last	First	School	Component	Position	Comm.	Bill Number
Carey	Emma	Lebanon	Blue House	Representative	H4	BHB/23-4-14
Carmenate	Sofia	Father Ryan	Red House	Representative	H3	RHB/23-3-5
Carpenter	Presley	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S1	BSB/23-1-14
Carr	Kara	Lebanon	Blue House	Representative	H2	BHB/23-2-13
Carroll	Eli	Webb	Blue House	Representative	H7	BHB/23-7-13
Carroll	Will	Webb	Blue Senate	Senator	S3	BSB/23-3-15
Carroll	Lilly	Webb	Red House	Representative	H2	RHB/23-2-3
Carter	Mykayela	Antioch	Red House	Representative	H4	RHB/23-4-2
Carter	Kyle	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S2	BSB/23-2-13
Carter	Jewel	Collegiate School	Press Corps			
Castellanet	Aidan	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H5	BHB/23-5-14
Castellanet	Kaitlyn	Signal Mountain	Officer	Speaker Pro-Temp of the Red Senate	S4	
Chamberlain	Mallory	Signal Mountain	Blue Senate	Senator	S5	BSB/23-5-17
Chana	Gollo	MLK	Red House	Representative	H6	RHB/23-6-1
Charles	Abdoulaye	Antioch	Red House	Representative	H1	RHB/23-1-3
Charles	Youssoupha	Antioch	Red House	Representative	H1	RHB/23-1-3
Chatman	Ryan	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S1	WSB/23-1-9
Chen	Grace	Hillwood	White House	Representative	H5	WHB/23-5-7
Cherry	Sienna	Valor College Prep	Blue Senate	Senator	S5	BSB/23-5-14
Chinyanga	Shamah	Lebanon	Officer	Blue/White Chief Engraving Clerk	S4	
Chourazghi-Azad	Sheeva	MLK	Red House	Representative	H3	RHB/23-3-2
Ciampa	Matthew	Father Ryan	Blue Senate	Senator	S4	BSB/23-4-14
Ciampa	Mark	Father Ryan	Red Senate	Senator	S5	RSB/23-5-1
Clark	Olivia	Lebanon	White House	Representative	H4	WHB/23-4-8
Clemmons	Lalah	Collegiate School	Blue House	Representative	H7	BHB/23-7-16
Climer	Alyssa	Dyer County	Blue House	Representative	H2	BHB/23-2-14
Cobb	Aden	Innovation Academy	Blue House	Representative	H6	BHB/23-6-13
Cobb	Kully	Sale Creek	White House	Representative	H4	WHB/23-4-11
Cole	Michael	Dyer County	Blue Senate	Senator	S3	BSB/23-3-13
Collinsworth	Ella	Lebanon	White House	Representative	H4	WHB/23-4-8
Conard	Dylan	Valor College Prep	Red House	Representative	H3	RHB/23-3-1
Cook	Adalyn	Innovation Academy	White Senate	Senator	S2	WSB/23-2-6
Copeland	Callie	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S5	WSB/23-5-11
Corley	Ashtyn	Lebanon	Blue House	Representative	H4	BHB/23-4-14
Correnti	Carys	Valor College Prep	White House	Representative	H1	WHB/23-1-7

Last	First	School	Component	Position	Comm.	Bill Number
Costa	Acu	Collegiate School	Blue House	Representative	H6	BHB/23-6-17
Costa	Akelo	Collegiate School	Governor's Cabinet	Health		
Cowan	Evan	Lebanon	White House	Representative	H7	WHB/23-7-7
Cowart	Harper	Signal Mountain	White House	Representative	H2	WHB/23-2-7
Cox	Ean	Upperman	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Crain	Connor	Clarksville Academy	Red Senate	Senator	S5	RSB/23-5-5
Crawford	Leah	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H6	BHB/23-6-18
Cummings	William	Valor College Prep	Blue House	Representative	H2	BHB/23-2-12
Cummins	Cheyenne	Signal Mountain	Blue Senate	Senator	S1	BSB/23-1-15
Curtis	Trevor	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H1	BHB/23-1-15
Cuthbertson	Brooklyn	MLK	Blue House	Representative	H5	BHB/23-5-17
Daugherty	Ella	MLK	Red House	Representative	H4	RHB/23-4-3
David	Caroline	Collegiate School	Lobbyist			
Davis	Devin	Collegiate School	Lobbyist			
Davis	Aoife	Signal Mountain	White Senate	Senator	S5	WSB/23-5-6
DeHart	Alice	MLK	White Senate	Senator	S4	WSB/23-4-7
Delahanty	Ainay	MLK	White Senate	Senator	S5	WSB/23-5-7
Deleon	Kiara	Lebanon	Press Corps			
Derege	Bethel	MLK	White Senate	Senator	S5	WSB/23-5-7
Deu	Sochanita	Valor College Prep	Red House	Representative	H4	RHB/23-4-4
Dewey	Ashlyn	Central Magnet	Red Senate	Senator	S4	RSB/23-4-6
Dieter	Julia	Signal Mountain	Officer	White Lieutenant Governor	S2	
Dillard	Calvin	Innovation Academy	White House	Representative	H1	WHB/23-1-9
Dishman	Brittany	Upperman	Blue Senate	Senator	S3	BSB/23-3-18
Ditmars	Katie	Signal Mountain	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Dixon	Miles	Webb	White House	Representative	H5	WHB/23-5-10
Do	Anton	Hillwood	Press Corps			
Doce	Marko	Antioch	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Donen	Ellie	Signal Mountain	White Senate	Senator	S3	WSB/23-3-7
Doyle	Katie	Lebanon	White House	Representative	H4	WHB/23-4-8
Driesenga	Isaac	Collegiate School	Blue Senate	Senator	S4	BSB/23-4-15
Dulin	Joshua	Signal Mountain	Red House	Representative	H6	RHB/23-6-3
Dummermuth	Jackie	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S4	WSB/23-4-8
Duncan	Zackrey	Signal Mountain	Governor's Cabinet	Safety & Homeland Security		
Dungan	Abigail	Signal Mountain	Red Senate	Senator	S5	RSB/23-5-2

Last	First	School	Component	Position	Comm.	Bill Number
Duong	Regan	Valor College Prep	Blue House	Representative	H6	BHB/23-6-16
Dwivedi	Aditya	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S4	BSB/23-4-17
Dwyer	Lillie	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S1	BSB/23-1-16
Eades	Avery	Signal Mountain	Blue Senate	Senator	S5	BSB/23-5-17
Earl	Ansley	Signal Mountain	Blue Senate	Senator	S4	BSB/23-4-16
Eckerman	Drew	Webb	Blue Senate	Senator	S2	BSB/23-2-16
Eilertson	Magnus	Sale Creek	White House	Representative	H2	WHB/23-2-8
Emerson	Chloe	Valor College Prep	Blue Senate	Senator	S4	BSB/23-4-18
Fairfax	Charlie	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S3	WSB/23-3-8
Fanning	Mia	MLK	Red House	Representative	H3	RHB/23-3-2
Faulkner	Christian	Collegiate School	Blue House	Representative	H1	BHB/23-1-13
Faulkner	Kara	Webb	Red Senate	Senator	S5	RSB/23-5-3
Feagin	Rowan	Green Hill	Press Corps			
Feinbaum	Rachael	Webb	Blue Senate	Senator	S3	BSB/23-3-15
Felton	Rowan	Mt. Juliet	Governor's Cabinet	Environment & Conservation		
Fernandez-Jaeger	Amanda	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S1	WSB/23-1-10
Fisher	Eli	Green Hill	White House	Representative	H6	WHB/23-6-10
Flores	Christopher	Collegiate School	Press Corps			
Flowers	Charlotte	Signal Mountain	White Senate	Senator	S4	WSB/23-4-12
Floyd	Abigail	Lebanon	Blue Senate	Senator	S2	BSB/23-2-12
Fly	Kyndle	Green Hill	Red House	Representative	H5	RHB/23-5-1
Foley	Ava	Green Hill	Officer	Speaker of the Red House	H1	
Foley	Mya	Green Hill	Officer	Chief of Staff		
Fookes	Mary	Signal Mountain	Blue Senate	Senator	S1	BSB/23-1-15
Forehand	Trystan	Innovation Academy	Blue House	Representative	H7	BHB/23-7-14
Foreman-Lin	Maddox	Wilson Central	Blue House	Representative	H6	BHB/23-6-15
Fournier	Amelia	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S1	BSB/23-1-16
Fowler	Erik	Signal Mountain	Governor's Cabinet	General Services		
Franklin	Cameron	Innovation Academy	White House	Representative	H1	WHB/23-1-9
Frazier	Rosemary	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S2	BSB/23-2-13
Frazier	Olivia	Green Hill	White House	Representative	H5	WHB/23-5-12
Fulks	Cadem	Dyer County	Red House	Representative	H7	RHB/23-7-5
Gaither	Sally	Central Magnet	Officer	Red Lieutenant Governor	S1	
Galbreth	Carly	Webb	Red Senate	Senator	S1	RSB/23-1-2
Gardner	Hardy	Central Magnet	Red Senate	Senator	S1	RSB/23-1-3

Last	First	School	Component	Position	Comm.	Bill Number
Gardner	Zach	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S5	WSB/23-5-9
Garinger	Allyson	Hillwood	White House	Representative	H1	WHB/23-1-11
Garney	Grace	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H2	BHB/23-2-17
Garrido	Javier	Hillwood	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Gatewood	Reese	Hillwood	Press Corps			
Gatewood	Sydney	Hillwood	Press Corps			
Gebrezgi	Lydia	Antioch	Red House	Representative	H4	RHB/23-4-2
Giannasi	Jimmy	Signal Mountain	White House	Representative	H1	WHB/23-1-6
Gibby	Jack	Signal Mountain	Red Senate	Senator	S2	RSB/23-2-5
Giles	Ben	Clarksville Academy	Officer	Associate Justice		
Gill	Avery	Lebanon	Lobbyist			
Ginther	Cambria	Signal Mountain	Officer	Floor Leader of the Red House	H7	RHB/23-7-1
Gipson	Kianna	Lebanon	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Glover	Olivia	Signal Mountain	Red Senate	Senator	S1	RSB/23-1-4
Goff	Riley	Signal Mountain	Red Senate	Senator	S4	RSB/23-4-3
Goff	Declan	Signal Mountain	White House	Representative	H3	WHB/23-3-7
Gomez Vasquez	Meicy	Hillwood	Officer	Chief Clerk of the Blue Senate	S3	
Gonzalez	Emanuel	Hillwood	Red House	Representative	H1	RHB/23-1-4
Goodman	Jaxx	Green Hill	Red House	Representative	H7	RHB/23-7-2
Grant	Isaac	Signal Mountain	White House	Representative	H6	WHB/23-6-8
Green	Ben	Collegiate School	Blue Senate	Senator	S4	BSB/23-4-15
Green	Cortney	Collegiate School	White House	Representative	H3	WHB/23-3-8
Green	Seth	Sale Creek	White House	Representative	H2	WHB/23-2-8
Greenlee	Kaitlyn	Collegiate School	Blue House	Representative	H5	BHB/23-5-13
Greenlee	Kamryn	Collegiate School	Blue House	Representative	H5	BHB/23-5-13
Greeson	Lee	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H5	BHB/23-5-14
Grey	Emma	Central Magnet	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Griffin	Mia	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H2	BHB/23-2-15
Griffin	Charlie	Signal Mountain	Blue Senate	Senator	S2	BSB/23-2-15
Griffin	Ceci	Signal Mountain	Red Senate	Senator	S1	RSB/23-1-5
Guevart	Adriana	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S4	WSB/23-4-9
Gurley	Sean	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S2	WSB/23-2-8
Halevi	Nathaniel	MLK	White Senate	Senator	S2	WSB/23-2-11
Hall	Jake	MLK	Lobbyist			
Hamad	Aisha	Valor College Prep	Press Corps			

Last	First	School	Component	Position	Comm.	Bill Number
Hampton	Reed	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H4	BHB/23-4-13
Hancock	John	Lebanon	Blue House	Representative	H3	BHB/23-3-15
Hannaalla	Klara	MLK	Red House	Representative	H5	RHB/23-5-2
Hantouli	Hala	Valor College Prep	Blue House	Representative	H6	BHB/23-6-16
Harper	Marley	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H1	BHB/23-1-14
Harris	Madelyn	Central Magnet	Officer	Head Lobbyist		
Harris	Ella Kate	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S3	WSB/23-3-10
Harrison	Samuel	Hillwood	White House	Representative	H3	WHB/23-3-6
Hathaway Ruiz	Ezra	MLK	White House	Representative	H1	WHB/23-1-10
Hayes	Jackson	Father Ryan	Officer	Speaker Pro-Temp of the Blue House	H6	
Hayes	Sarah	Hillwood	White House	Representative	H4	WHB/23-4-9
Haynes	Lily	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H7	BHB/23-7-12
Hendricks	Kaison	Collegiate School	Press Corps			
Henry	Connor	Central Magnet	Red Senate	Senator	S3	RSB/23-3-2
Herman	Alyssa	Webb	Blue Senate	Senator	S1	BSB/23-1-13
Higgs	Hunter	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S2	BSB/23-2-14
Hilk	Lena	MLK	White Senate	Senator	S4	WSB/23-4-7
Hines	Elizabeth	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S1	WSB/23-1-11
Hodge	Caroline	Lebanon	Blue House	Representative	H2	BHB/23-2-13
Hodge	Eli	Lebanon	Press Corps			
Hodge Shaw	JayIn	MLK	Press Corps			
Hogan	Drew	Central Magnet	Lobbyist			
Hogue	Rebekah	Central Magnet	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Holderby	Hannah	Green Hill	Officer	Floor Leader of the Red Senate	S4	RSB/23-4-1
Holly	Abigail	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H7	BHB/23-7-12
Holmes	Taylor	Collegiate School	Blue House	Representative	H7	BHB/23-7-16
Hossein	Ahmad	Valor College Prep	Lobbyist			
Houser	Kaden	Webb	Blue House	Representative	H7	BHB/23-7-13
Howell	Mason	Signal Mountain	Red House	Representative	H5	RHB/23-5-3
Hoyle	Dellmarian	Collegiate School	White House	Representative	H4	WHB/23-4-7
Hughes	Carleigh	Wilson Central	Red House	Representative	H5	RHB/23-5-4
Humphrey	Annie	Green Hill	Red House	Representative	H5	RHB/23-5-1
Hutchings	Rachel	Sale Creek	Red House	Representative	H2	RHB/23-2-4
Hutchings	Stephanie	Sale Creek	White House	Representative	H3	WHB/23-3-9
Ibrahim	Vivan	Valor College Prep	White House	Representative	H6	WHB/23-6-9

Last	First	School	Component	Position	Comm.	Bill Number
Im	Anna Grace	Signal Mountain	White Senate	Senator	S4	WSB/23-4-11
Innes	Bess	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H3	BHB/23-3-13
Irwin	Ananda	Wilson Central	Red House	Representative	H6	RHB/23-6-2
Islam	Faiza	Antioch	Governor's Cabinet	Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services		
Ji	Sarah	Valor College Prep	Blue House	Representative	H5	BHB/23-5-15
Jimenez	Ivan	Collegiate School	Blue Senate	Senator	S1	BSB/23-1-17
Jimenez	Luis	Collegiate School	Blue Senate	Senator	S1	BSB/23-1-17
Johnson	Marlee	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S3	WSB/23-3-10
Johnson	Chrisan	Collegiate School	Blue House	Representative	H1	BHB/23-1-13
Johnson	Avantae	MLK	Red House	Representative	H6	RHB/23-6-1
Johnson	Madison	Sale Creek	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Johnson	Kayla	Wilson Central	White Senate	Senator	S5	WSB/23-5-8
Johnson	Sanaa	Wilson Central	White Senate	Senator	S5	WSB/23-5-8
Johnson	Izzy	Signal Mountain	White Senate	Senator	S3	WSB/23-3-9
Jones	Makayla	Collegiate School	Governor's Cabinet	Education		
Jones	Caden	Hillwood	White House	Representative	H3	WHB/23-3-6
Jones	Alianna	Wilson Central	Press Corps			
Juarez	Atziry	Collegiate School	Blue House	Representative	H6	BHB/23-6-17
Juarez-Galicia	Heidi	Collegiate School	Blue House	Representative	H6	BHB/23-6-17
Katzenmiller	Aubrey	Wilson Central	Red House	Representative	H5	RHB/23-5-4
Kebede	Abel	Antioch	Red House	Representative	H3	RHB/23-3-4
Kee	Rebekah	MLK	Blue House	Representative	H6	BHB/23-6-14
Kelley	Ian	Central Magnet	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Kennan	Ethan	Central Magnet	Officer	Attorney General		
Kim	Kaylee	Green Hill	Blue House	Representative	H5	BHB/23-5-16
Kleinlein	Ross	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S5	BSB/23-5-13
Kleinlein	Perry	Central Magnet	Officer	Managing Editor		
Klimansky	Madison	Mt. Juliet	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Knox	Grady	Central Magnet	Red Senate	Senator	S2	RSB/23-2-1
Knox	Virginia	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S4	WSB/23-4-9
Kodukula	Anirudh	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S4	BSB/23-4-17
Koenig	Noah	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S4	WSB/23-4-10
Kouser	Navaal	Webb	Red Senate	Senator	S4	RSB/23-4-4
Krishnan	Anirudh	Mt. Juliet	Red Senate	Senator	S3	RSB/23-3-3
Lamptey	Felicia	Valor College Prep	Press Corps			

Last	First	School	Component	Position	Comm.	Bill Number
Lang	Laurel Anne	Signal Mountain	White House	Representative	H7	WHB/23-7-9
Lanuza	Liam	Signal Mountain	White House	Representative	H5	WHB/23-5-11
Lara-Garcia	Danelli	Collegiate School	Blue House	Representative	H5	BHB/23-5-13
Lawson	Bryn	Webb	Red House	Representative	H3	RHB/23-3-3
Le	Daniel	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S2	WSB/23-2-10
Ledeczi	Nora	MLK	White House	Representative	H1	WHB/23-1-10
Lewis	Brookelyn	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S1	BSB/23-1-14
Lewis	Vance	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H1	BHB/23-1-15
Lewis	Simon	Signal Mountain	White Senate	Senator	S5	WSB/23-5-10
Lin	Jeffery	Signal Mountain	Red House	Representative	H6	RHB/23-6-3
Lindsey	Lucy	Clarksville Academy	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Lisowski	Anna	Signal Mountain	White Senate	Senator	S2	WSB/23-2-7
Livingood	Weston	Signal Mountain	Red House	Representative	H1	RHB/23-1-5
Lolis	Agni	Webb	Red House	Representative	H3	RHB/23-3-3
Lopez	Yocelin	Collegiate School	Blue Senate	Senator	S5	BSB/23-5-16
Lopez	Julissa	Collegiate School	Red Senate	Senator	S2	RSB/23-2-2
Lopez	Luna	Valor College Prep	Blue House	Representative	H3	BHB/23-3-14
Lopez	Isabella	Valor College Prep	Red House	Representative	H7	RHB/23-7-4
Lusk	Pearce	Signal Mountain	White House	Representative	H5	WHB/23-5-11
Lytle	Gabrielle	Wilson Central	Red House	Representative	H6	RHB/23-6-2
Madison	Trey	MLK	Officer	Speaker Pro-Temp of the White Senate	S5	
Madu	Victoria	Antioch	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Makh	Sami	Hillwood	Officer	Speaker Pro-Temp of the Red House	H4	
Marshall	Bailey	Lebanon	Lobbyist			
Martin	Lila	Mt. Juliet	Red House	Representative	H7	RHB/23-1-3
Martin	Grace	Signal Mountain	White House	Representative	H4	WHB/23-4-10
Massey	Brynlee	Innovation Academy	White House	Representative	H6	WHB/23-6-12
Massey	Evan	Innovation Academy	White House	Representative	H7	WHB/23-7-10
Matis	Gabriela	Green Hill	White House	Representative	H7	WHB/23-7-8
McCarrall	Alastair	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S5	BSB/23-5-13
McCiellan	CJ	Lebanon	Press Corps			
McCollum	Derek	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S3	WSB/23-3-8
McDaniel	Lang	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S4	WSB/23-4-8
McDermott	Jake	Father Ryan	Red House	Representative	H4	RHB/23-4-1
McGann	Natalie	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H3	BHB/23-3-13

Last	First	School	Component	Position	Comm.	Bill Number
McGoffin	Fiona	Central Magnet	Press Corps			
McGuire	Justin	Dyer County	Red House	Representative	H7	RHB/23-7-5
McMillon	Abigail	Green Hill	White Senate	Senator	S1	WSB/23-1-12
Meadows	Jacob	Wilson Central	Blue House	Representative	H6	BHB/23-6-15
Medina	Jiel	Sale Creek	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Medrano	Sherlin	Collegiate School	Press Corps			
Mehta	Jai	Wilson Central	Officer	Floor Leader of the White Senate	S1	WSB/23-1-7
Mercado	Gavin	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S2	WSB/23-2-8
Mikhail	Rana	MLK	Press Corps			
Miller	Cyrah	Antioch	Red House	Representative	H2	RHB/23-2-6
Miller	Reagan	Lebanon	White House	Representative	H3	WHB/23-3-10
Miller	Lydia	Signal Mountain	Lobbyist			
Miller	Campbell	Signal Mountain	White House	Representative	H2	WHB/23-2-7
Miller	Joplin	Wilson Central	Red House	Representative	H4	RHB/23-4-5
Miller	Libby	Wilson Central	White House	Representative	H7	WHB/23-7-6
Mitchell	Daryl	Lebanon	Officer	Chief Clerk of the Blue House	H5	
Mitterholzer	Addisen	Lebanon	White House	Representative	H6	WHB/23-6-11
Mogga	Rebecca	Antioch	Red House	Representative	H4	RHB/23-4-2
Mohamud	Hodan	Valor College Prep	Red House	Representative	H6	RHB/23-6-5
Molina	Oliver	Antioch	Press Corps			
Moreno	Marcela	Collegiate School	Blue Senate	Senator	S5	BSB/23-5-16
Moreno	Ricardo	Collegiate School	Red Senate	Senator	S2	RSB/23-2-2
Morrow	Clayton	Green Hill	Red House	Representative	H6	RHB/23-6-4
Moscardelli	Ellen	Lebanon	Blue Senate	Senator	S2	BSB/23-2-12
Moscardelli	Rachel	Lebanon	White House	Representative	H3	WHB/23-3-10
Mueller	Luke	Signal Mountain	White Senate	Senator	S1	WSB/23-1-8
Mulloy	Stella	Signal Mountain	Blue Senate	Senator	S1	BSB/23-1-15
Muresan	Eva	Webb	White House	Representative	H4	WHB/23-4-12
Narrell	Katherine	Central Magnet	Officer	Associate Justice		
Nashi	Mark	Signal Mountain	Officer	Speaker of the White House	H2	
Nathan	Jay	Webb	Red House	Representative	H2	RHB/23-2-3
Neal	Anna	Signal Mountain	White House	Representative	H4	WHB/23-4-10
Neese	Reed	Valor College Prep	Blue House	Representative	H2	BHB/23-2-12
Neese	Finley	Valor College Prep	Red House	Representative	H4	RHB/23-4-4
Nessim	Marvy	Wilson Central	Officer	Social Media Director		

Last	First	School	Component	Position	Comm.	Bill Number
Newsome	Spencer	Innovation Academy	Blue House	Representative	H7	BHB/23-7-14
Nguyen	Emily	Clarksville Academy	Officer	Associate Justice		
Nguyen	Tracy	Hillwood	Blue Senate	Senator	S1	BSB/23-1-18
Nguyen	John Paul	Hillwood	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Nkrumah	Blessyn	Valor College Prep	Red Senate	Senator	S2	RSB/23-2-4
Nuckoles	Kaelyn	Green Hill	Governor's Cabinet	Economic & Community Development		
Nunez-Perez	Christian	Sale Creek	White House	Representative	H4	WHB/23-4-11
Nystrom	Trace	Webb	White House	Representative	H5	WHB/23-5-10
Obringer	Ella	Signal Mountain	Blue Senate	Senator	S4	BSB/23-4-16
Okafor	Mesom	Central Magnet	Governor's Cabinet	Tourist Development		
Olson	Claire	Central Magnet	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Olson	Grace	MLK	Red House	Representative	H5	RHB/23-5-2
Onuorah	Chiadi	Valor College Prep	Blue House	Representative	H7	BHB/23-7-15
Onyekwere	Oge	Central Magnet	White House	Representative	H1	WHB/23-1-8
Opengart	Aliya	Signal Mountain	White Senate	Senator	S2	WSB/23-2-7
Osborne	Tucker	Innovation Academy	White House	Representative	H7	WHB/23-7-10
Owen	Osaro	Valor College Prep	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Owens	Jaclyn	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S2	WSB/23-2-9
Padget	Lillian	Valor College Prep	Blue Senate	Senator	S5	BSB/23-5-14
Palazola	Luke	Lebanon	Blue House	Representative	H3	BHB/23-3-15
Pandey	Aryan	Mt. Juliet	Red House	Representative	H7	RHB/23-1-3
Parry	Taylor	Signal Mountain	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Patel	Bindi	Signal Mountain	White Senate	Senator	S3	WSB/23-3-11
Patel	Nij	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S4	WSB/23-4-10
Patel	Shaan	MLK	Blue House	Representative	H5	BHB/23-5-17
Patel	Pratigna	Valor College Prep	Blue House	Representative	H4	BHB/23-4-15
Patowary	Ahanti	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S2	BSB/23-2-13
Peck	Tony	Central Magnet	Red House	Representative	H5	RHB/23-5-5
Pemberton	Michael	Webb	Blue House	Representative	H7	BHB/23-7-13
Pembleton	Clarissa	Clarksville Academy	Blue House	Representative	H3	BHB/23-3-16
Perrin	Jonathan	Signal Mountain	Blue Senate	Senator	S2	BSB/23-2-15
Perryman	Adeline	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S2	WSB/23-2-9
Petty	Mae	Lebanon	Blue House	Representative	H1	BHB/23-1-12
Petty	Emma	Lebanon	Red House	Representative	H2	RHB/23-2-1
Pfeiffer	Lilly	Green Hill	Blue Senate	Senator	S5	BSB/23-5-15

Last	First	School	Component	Position	Comm.	Bill Number
Phan	Jayden	Collegiate School	Blue House	Representative	H4	BHB/23-4-16
Pierucki	Meg	Lebanon	Press Corps			
Pineda	Akiles	Antioch	Red House	Representative	H3	RHB/23-3-4
Pitzer	Kyndal	Wilson Central	Red House	Representative	H4	RHB/23-4-5
Platt	Sydney	Valor College Prep	Blue Senate	Senator	S4	BSB/23-4-18
Pobi	Shalonnah	Central Magnet	Blue House	Representative	H1	BHB/23-1-17
Pope	Alyssia	Collegiate School	Blue House	Representative	H4	BHB/23-4-16
Powell	Nicholas	Sale Creek	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Powell	William	Sale Creek	White House	Representative	H2	WHB/23-2-8
Powers	Abby	Clarksville Academy	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Pradhan	Kunal	Webb	Blue Senate	Senator	S3	BSB/23-3-15
Puckett	Adam	Valor College Prep	White House	Representative	H7	WHB/23-7-11
Pyo	Huiyoun	Clarksville Academy	Officer	Solicitor General		
Quimbo	Lawrence	Hillwood	Press Corps			
Rainey	Adalee	Green Hill	Blue Senate	Senator	S5	BSB/23-5-15
Ramchandren	Saroja	Webb	Officer	Speaker Pro-Temp of the White House	H5	
Range	Paige	Hillwood	Officer	Video Director		
Rashid	Mayan	Valor College Prep	Blue House	Representative	H7	BHB/23-7-15
Ray	Lily	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S3	BSB/23-3-16
Ray	Landon	Clarksville Academy	Blue House	Representative	H2	BHB/23-2-16
Reaves	Brooklyn	Collegiate School	Blue House	Representative	H7	BHB/23-7-16
Rehse	Emma	Father Ryan	Red House	Representative	H1	RHB/23-1-2
Resendiz	Carlos	Collegiate School	Blue House	Representative	H4	BHB/23-4-16
Reyes	Mariana	Collegiate School	Blue Senate	Senator	S4	BSB/23-4-15
Reynolds	Siri	Central Magnet	Governor's Cabinet	Transportation		
Reynolds	Delaney	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S5	WSB/23-5-9
Richards	Maxine	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H2	BHB/23-2-15
Richardson	Ava	Dyer County	Blue House	Representative	H2	BHB/23-2-14
Rininger	Mallory	Clarksville Academy	Blue House	Representative	H3	BHB/23-3-16
Rivera	Jennifer	Collegiate School	Blue Senate	Senator	S5	BSB/23-5-16
Roberts	Moss	Lebanon	White House	Representative	H2	WHB/23-2-9
Robertson	Henley	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H1	BHB/23-1-14
Robertson	Grey	Signal Mountain	Blue Senate	Senator	S3	BSB/23-3-14
Robinson	Ella	Mt. Juliet	Lobbyist			
Robinson	Isabella	Wilson Central	Blue House	Representative	H1	BHB/23-1-16

Last	First	School	Component	Position	Comm.	Bill Number
Rodda	Ginger	Green Hill	Blue House	Representative	H5	BHB/23-5-16
Roehler	Sofia	Green Hill	Lobbyist			
Roman	Deysy	Lebanon	White House	Representative	H6	WHB/23-6-11
Romer	Jackson	Green Hill	Red House	Representative	H6	RHB/23-6-4
Rosenblad	Grayson	Webb	Blue Senate	Senator	S1	BSB/23-1-13
Ross	Adeline	Signal Mountain	White House	Representative	H4	WHB/23-4-10
Rothe	Janae	Central Magnet	Officer	Associate Justice		
Rouchon	Gabriel	Upperman	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Rowlett	Kenzie	Lebanon	White Senate	Senator	S3	WSB/23-3-12
Russell	Ainsley	Central Magnet	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Ryan	Anna	Clarksville Academy	Press Corps			
Sabatini	Mia	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H2	BHB/23-2-17
Saddiki	Isra	Valor College Prep	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Sadek	Demiana	Valor College Prep	White House	Representative	H6	WHB/23-6-9
Sadek	Mary Ann	Valor College Prep	White House	Representative	H1	WHB/23-1-7
Samulski	Iris	Webb	White House	Representative	H4	WHB/23-4-12
Sarpong	Kwatemaa	Central Magnet	White House	Representative	H1	WHB/23-1-8
Schwartz	Theresa	Clarksville Academy	Officer	Clerk of the Court		
Schwartz	Ryan	Webb	White House	Representative	H2	WHB/23-2-10
Schweikert	Ella	Valor College Prep	Red House	Representative	H6	RHB/23-6-5
Scoby	Abbie	Mt. Juliet	Lobbyist			
Seabolt	Lauren	Green Hill	Blue House	Representative	H5	BHB/23-5-16
Seaborn	Paige	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S3	BSB/23-3-17
Selby	Preston	Signal Mountain	White Senate	Senator	S5	WSB/23-5-10
Severn	Will	Central Magnet	Officer	Governor		
Shaltaf	Nada	Valor College Prep	Blue House	Representative	H4	BHB/23-4-15
Shaw	Caden	Lebanon	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Shawkey	Marvel	MLK	Press Corps			
Sheehy	Madelyn	Green Hill	White Senate	Senator	S1	WSB/23-1-12
Shetty	Varsha	Valor College Prep	Blue House	Representative	H5	BHB/23-5-15
Shome	Gina	Signal Mountain	Officer	Red Chief Engrossing Clerk	H4	
Siddiquee	Aisha	MLK	Blue House	Representative	H7	BHB/23-7-17
Singh	Malvika	Webb	Blue Senate	Senator	S2	BSB/23-2-16
Singh	Aditi	Webb	White House	Representative	H3	WHB/23-3-11
Sisson	Amelia	Signal Mountain	Press Corps			

Last	First	School	Component	Position	Comm.	Bill Number
Slade	Matilda	Webb	White House	Representative	H2	WHB/23-2-10
Sleigh	Rudy	Clarksville Academy	Red Senate	Senator	S3	RSB/23-3-5
Sleigh	Ivy	Clarksville Academy	Blue House	Representative	H3	BHB/23-3-16
Sloan	Ramsey	Mt. Juliet	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Smith	Matthew	Central Magnet	Red Senate	Senator	S3	RSB/23-3-6
Smith	Andrew	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S2	BSB/23-2-14
Smith	Lillian	Central Magnet	Press Corps			
Smith	Helen	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S5	WSB/23-5-11
Smith	Sully	Father Ryan	Blue House	Representative	H3	BHB/23-3-17
Smith	Willa	Signal Mountain	White Senate	Senator	S4	WSB/23-4-11
Snyder	Carver	Signal Mountain	White House	Representative	H1	WHB/23-1-6
Soleye	Adeola	Antioch	Press Corps			
Sood	Uma	Central Magnet	Officer	Floor Leader of the Blue Senate	S5	BSB/23-5-12
Sowa	Luke	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H6	BHB/23-6-18
Speller	Haylee	Sale Creek	Red House	Representative	H2	RHB/23-2-4
Stewart	Parker	Signal Mountain	Blue Senate	Senator	S5	BSB/23-5-17
Stover	Terumi	Green Hill	Officer	Floor Leader of the White House	H6	WHB/23-6-7
Stresser	Ellie	Father Ryan	Red House	Representative	H3	RHB/23-3-5
Stringfield	Sophia	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S1	BSB/23-1-14
Stubblefield	Hank	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H6	BHB/23-6-18
Stubblefield	Jake	Signal Mountain	Red Senate	Senator	S5	RSB/23-5-4
Suarez	Ana	Mt. Juliet	Press Corps			
Suarez	Dani	Mt. Juliet	Press Corps			
Sullivan	Elijah	Valor College Prep	Red House	Representative	H3	RHB/23-3-1
Summar	Grant	Lebanon	Officer	Blue Lieutenant Governor	S3	
Sveadas	Hudson	Signal Mountain	Blue House	Representative	H5	BHB/23-5-14
Swift	Alyssa	Collegiate School	White House	Representative	H3	WHB/23-3-8
Tailor	Bianca	Webb	Red House	Representative	H1	RHB/23-1-1
Takayama	Tasman	Central Magnet	Red Senate	Senator	S3	RSB/23-3-6
Tama	Arianna	Central Magnet	Blue House	Representative	H1	BHB/23-1-17
Tan	Sophie	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S1	BSB/23-1-16
Taramona	Angelina	Signal Mountain	Press Corps			
Tarazona	Rykan	Green Hill	Blue House	Representative	H4	BHB/23-4-17
Taylor	Rylee	Lebanon	White House	Representative	H2	WHB/23-2-9
Teanli	Collegiate	Female	Blue House	Representative	H1	BHB/23-1-13

Last	First	School	Component	Position	Comm.	Bill Number
Teclesenbet	Raymok	Valor College Prep	Red House	Representative	H5	RHB/23-5-6
Teclesenbet	Melawi	Valor College Prep	White House	Representative	H7	WHB/23-7-11
Teel	Carson	Lebanon	Blue Senate	Senator	S2	BSB/23-2-12
Telles Orellana	Chris	Innovation Academy	Governor's Cabinet	Children's Services		
Tenbarge	Addie	Lebanon	White House	Representative	H6	WHB/23-6-11
Tennent	Richard	MLK	Blue House	Representative	H7	BHB/23-7-17
Tennent	Margaret	MLK	Blue House	Representative	H7	BHB/23-7-17
Tesera	Heldana	Central Magnet	Blue House	Representative	H1	BHB/23-1-17
Testerman	Grace	Valor College Prep	Blue House	Representative	H3	BHB/23-3-14
Testerman	Eli	Valor College Prep	Red House	Representative	H2	RHB/23-2-5
Thomas	Vada	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S3	BSB/23-3-16
Thombs	Nicholas	Signal Mountain	Blue Senate	Senator	S2	BSB/23-2-15
Thompson	Hailee	Collegiate School	Red House	Representative	H6	RHB/23-6-6
Tidwell	Campbell	Webb	Red Senate	Senator	S2	RSB/23-2-3
Tilahun	Abigail	MLK	Blue House	Representative	H6	BHB/23-6-14
Tilley	Neva	MLK	Governor's Cabinet	Agriculture		
Tinker	Alex	Father Ryan	Blue House	Representative	H3	BHB/23-3-17
Tolsma	Ann Baker	Webb	White House	Representative	H3	WHB/23-3-11
Tovi	Suoz	Hillwood	Officer	Chief Clerk of the Red House	H1	
Tovi	Wan	Hillwood	White House	Representative	H1	WHB/23-1-11
Tran	Christine	Hillwood	Blue Senate	Senator	S1	BSB/23-1-18
Tucker	Tyler	Central Magnet	Red House	Representative	H5	RHB/23-5-5
Tuite	Henry	Signal Mountain	White House	Representative	H3	WHB/23-3-7
Turney	Cole	Lebanon	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Ubiarco	Ben	Collegiate School	White House	Representative	H2	WHB/23-2-11
Usrey	Eleanor	Signal Mountain	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Vance	Ada	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S3	BSB/23-3-17
Vaughn	Preston	Signal Mountain	Red House	Representative	H1	RHB/23-1-5
Ventura	Erika	Signal Mountain	White Senate	Senator	S4	WSB/23-4-12
Vickers	Benjamin	Webb	Blue Senate	Senator	S2	BSB/23-2-16
Victory	Kaylee	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S1	WSB/23-1-11
Vinavongso	Renae	Valor College Prep	White House	Representative	H5	WHB/23-5-8
Vinson	Riley	Upperman	Blue Senate	Senator	S3	BSB/23-3-18
Vora	Aashi	Webb	Officer	Chief Clerk of the Red Senate	S2	
Vudattula	Karunya	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S2	BSB/23-2-14

Last	First	School	Component	Position	Comm.	Bill Number
Vyas	Rushang	Lebanon	White House	Representative	H3	WHB/23-3-10
Walker	Avery	Green Hill	White House	Representative	H5	WHB/23-5-12
Walker	Owen	Signal Mountain	Red House	Representative	H5	RHB/23-5-3
Walker	Arianna	Wilson Central	Blue House	Representative	H1	BHB/23-1-16
Walters	Aubrey	Central Magnet	Lobbyist			
Watkins	Kaydee	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S2	WSB/23-2-10
Webster	Demerius	Antioch	Red House	Representative	H2	RHB/23-2-6
Wehby	Jack	Father Ryan	Blue Senate	Senator	S4	BSB/23-4-14
Wells	Henry	Central Magnet	White Senate	Senator	S1	WSB/23-1-9
West	Matthew	Valor College Prep	Red House	Representative	H5	RHB/23-5-6
Weston	Jonathan	Collegiate School	Blue Senate	Senator	S1	BSB/23-1-17
Wheeler	Callaway	Signal Mountain	White House	Representative	H7	WHB/23-7-9
White	Grace	Central Magnet	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
White	Ansley	Sale Creek	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Whiteaker	Dylan	Lebanon	Blue House	Representative	H3	BHB/23-3-15
Williams	Jurmar	Dyer County	Blue Senate	Senator	S2	BSB/23-2-17
Williams	Teygan	Innovation Academy	White House	Representative	H6	WHB/23-6-12
Williams	Britton	Signal Mountain	Red Senate	Senator	S4	RSB/23-4-5
Williams	Callan	Signal Mountain	White Senate	Senator	S3	WSB/23-3-9
Willis	Zaharia	Collegiate School	White House	Representative	H3	WHB/23-3-8
Wilson	Tanner	Clarksville Academy	Blue House	Representative	H2	BHB/23-2-16
Wilson	Alyssa	Dyer County	Red House	Representative	H7	RHB/23-7-5
Wilson	Cassie	Sale Creek	White House	Representative	H4	WHB/23-4-11
Wilson	Brooke	Sale Creek	White House	Representative	H3	WHB/23-3-9
Wineland	Reese	Webb	Red Senate	Senator	S3	RSB/23-3-4
Wix	Madalyn	Upperman	Blue Senate	Senator	S3	BSB/23-3-18
Wolde	Amira	Hillwood	Officer	Speaker of the Blue House	H3	
Wolde	Yasmin	Hillwood	White House	Representative	H4	WHB/23-4-9
Woodruff	Tate	Webb	White House	Representative	H3	WHB/23-3-11
Wright	Carson	Hillwood	Red House	Representative	H1	RHB/23-1-4
Wright	Benjamin	Signal Mountain	Blue Senate	Senator	S3	BSB/23-3-14
Wright	William	Signal Mountain	Red House	Representative	H4	RHB/23-4-6
Wyckoff	William	MLK	White Senate	Senator	S2	WSB/23-2-11
Xiao	Benjamin	Central Magnet	Blue Senate	Senator	S5	BSB/23-5-13
Xiao	Yao	Central Magnet	Officer	Chief Justice		

Last	First	School	Component	Position	Comm.	Bill Number
Yang	Hanna	Signal Mountain	White Senate	Senator	S4	WSB/23-4-13
Yeager	Nicholas	Signal Mountain	Red House	Representative	H4	RHB/23-4-6
York	Ashlynn	Clarksville Academy	Red Senate	Senator	S5	RSB/23-5-5
Young	Torin	Signal Mountain	White House	Representative	H6	WHB/23-6-8
Youssef	Cathrine	Valor College Prep	Blue House	Representative	H6	BHB/23-6-16
Zamarron	Norma	Collegiate School	Governor's Cabinet	Human Services		
Zaremba	Matthew	Green Hill	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Zaremba	Robert	Green Hill	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Zhao	Megan	Central Magnet	Supreme Court	Lawyer		
Zheng	Trish	Wilson Central	Press Corps			
Zhu	Joey	Hillwood	Officer	Chief Clerk of the White House	H2	

ABCs of YIG

App: There's an app for that! YIG has an app that helps you keep up to date on everything happening at the conference. The app has a digital Bill Book, interactive agenda, restaurant maps, real time bill tracking and more. If you have not downloaded it, ask an Officer how to download the app.

Amendments: Modification of a bill or resolution by adding or deleting the language of proposed legislation. Delegates make amendments by obtaining an amendment form from the chair/officer, completing the form, and then returning the form to the chair/officer. Please consult the Table of Motions in your Bill Book to recognize the amendment. If you have any questions about Parliamentary Procedure, please ask an Officer.

Awards Committee: One advisor per school is asked to serve on the awards committee. The awards committee observes delegates in debate throughout the weekend and chooses award winners during the awards meeting.

Bill Book: Each delegate received a conference bill book upon arrival at the conference. The bill book contains the agenda, rosters, bills, ballots, debate tips, and more. Before you ask a question, check to see if your Bill Book has the answer. If you lose your bill book, you may obtain a new one for \$5 at the info booth.

Budget: The YIG Youth Governor is required to complete and pass a budget using Tennessee's actual budget for the previous fiscal year. All bills must have a fiscal line item so that the Governor has enough information to put together the Budget. Bills passed and signed into law from the Red and White chambers are to be included in the Governor's Budget. The budget is presented in the Red and White Chambers on Sunday morning and must be passed before session adjourns.

Code of Conduct: All delegates signed a Code of Conduct before attending. If you need to read it again, you can find it in your Bill Book.

Committee: This is the first round of debate for a bill. Committees occur on Thursday & Friday morning and are smaller sessions than the House and Senate chambers (on Friday afternoon, Saturday, and Sunday). Bills in Committee are ranked, and the best ranked bills will be presented in the House and Senate chambers.

Closing Session: This is the formal session to end YIG. Awards and newly elected officers are announced. It is located in the House Chambers and is required for all delegates.

CONA: Conference on National Affairs. CONA is a national YMCA program that brings students from over 40 states to Black Mountain, North Carolina for one week to debate issues of national importance. Only 25 delegates can attend from each state. Our 25 delegates are chosen from all 3 YIG conferences. Being selected to attend CONA is the highest honor at YIG and a reward for hard work and excellence. Students selected to attend are considered the best of the best.

Conference Staff: Conference staff are college-age volunteers who are typically alumni of the program. They wear orange name tags and are tasked with helping CCE staff ensure that the Code of Conduct is being followed. In addition, they are component mentors, helpful guides, and super-fast pizza deliverers. Conference staff can be a thankless job, so please be kind to them throughout the weekend. We hope delegates come back as conference staff in the future!

Curfew: Curfew begins as soon as the session or activity is dismissed each evening. If session is dismissed before the time noted in the agenda, then curfew begins early. Delegates must go straight to their rooms when curfew begins. Delegates are not allowed to leave their room during curfew except for an emergency. Curfew lifts at 6 am.

Damages: If there are damages anywhere in the hotel, Capitol, or Cordell Hull building, please report it to CCE staff immediately.

Decorum: Delegates are required to keep decorum during debate. This means that at all time delegates should be attentive, polite, and respectful. Delegates should not behave in such a way that they disturb the assembly or make the chair's job more difficult. This includes but is not limited to: talking during debate, rude comments, joke speeches, making distracting motions, or using point of information incorrectly.

Delegation Meetings: If the agenda calls for a Delegation meeting or check in, please find your advisor. Your advisor will most likely have announcements and directions for delegates.

Desks: The desks in the Capitol are the real workspaces of our TN senators and representatives. Do not touch anything on top, in the drawers, or under any desks you sit at throughout the weekend, and do NOT use the voting buttons or microphones at each seat.

Dietary Restrictions: If you have dietary restrictions, please make sure your advisor is aware.

Dress Code: Please adhere to the Dress Code stated in the Code of Conduct (in your Bill Book). Dress code is business attire, or the kind of clothing you would wear to a business meeting with the Governor of Tennessee.

Emergencies and Illness: If there is an emergency, delegates should contact their advisor first. Advisors should then contact CCE staff. If a delegate is sick, he/she should contact their advisor.

Evacuation Plan: The evacuation plan is in the Advisor Guide. In the event of an emergency, please look to YMCA staff, conference staff and advisors for instructions.

Fire Alarms: There are no drills. Treat every alarm like a real fire. Please calmly follow the directions of State Troopers, officers, hotel staff, or conference staff to get to safety.

First Aid: CCE staff is trained in basic first aid. However, the CCE does not distribute medicine to students. If you need Band-Aids however, we might have some at the info desk.

Food: Delegates are given free time during meals. Please walk to restaurants in groups.

Governor's Cabinet: The Governor's Cabinet consists of the Governor and the Commissioners of each Department, who act as advisers to the Governor. The Cabinet is not a legislature; Commissioners do not have votes, nor do they present, speak, or debate like representatives in the legislature. Commissioners are called upon to thoroughly research their Departments and act as expert advisers to the Governor about the programs and funding in their Departments. They will be actively engaged in the budget process during the entire conference.

Governor's Packet: The Governor releases a packet of bills that are in alignment with his/her platform. These bills have the Governor's favor and are encouraged to be passed so that they may be signed into law.

Gubernatorial Debate: The Gubernatorial Debate occurs on Friday night. All candidates for Governor participate in this debate. Candidates are given topics to research ahead of time, but do not know specific questions until the moderator asks them on stage.

Hotel Housekeeping: The Housekeeping department works overtime when hundreds of teenagers are staying in the hotel. Please be considerate of the housekeeping staff by keeping your room as clean as possible, putting all trash in trash cans, and re-using towels. Delegates are encouraged to tip the Housekeeping staff.

House: One half of the legislative branch. The House is the larger of the two chambers. Any laws passed in the house are to be presented in the Senate, and vice versa. Our conference has 3 house chambers: Red, White and Blue, divided based on age and YIG experience.

Info Booth: The Info Booth is the home base of the CCE Staff during the conference. If advisors or delegates need anything, the Info Booth is a good place to start. In the hotel, this is located on the 2nd floor near the ballroom. In the Cordell Hull Building, it is located in the cafeteria area.

Intent Speaker: An intent speaker is a person recognized in advance to prepare a 2 minute speech, either pro or con, for a given proposal in the House and Senate chambers. The chosen intent speakers shall make the first pro and con speeches for each proposal. Sign up for intent speeches and see who is chosen for those speeches on the conference appl.

Joint Session: This is the formal session to begin our legislative agenda. The Governor gives the State of the State. It is located in the House Chambers and is required for all delegates.

Judicial Opinion: An opinion issued by the court that does not have the effect of adjudicating a specific legal case, but merely advises on the constitutionality or interpretation of a law.

Judicial Review: Review by the Tennessee Supreme Court of the constitutional validity of a legislative act or law.

Lobbyists: Lobbyists are charged with shedding light on facts, ideas, and opinions that support their position in an attempt to influence decision making in state government.

Lost and Found: Lost and Found is located at the info booth.

Maps: The conference app has hotel and Cordell Hull maps for your convenience.

Merch: We sell fabulous YIG gear for you to have throughout the year. Get your sweatshirts, t-shirts, and stickers at the Merch Booth (in the cafeteria area with the Info Booth).

Motions: A formal proposal by a member of a deliberative assembly that the assembly take certain action. Your officers will train you with regards to how to make a motion, but you may also consult the Table of Motions in your Bill Book as well.

Nametags: All delegates receive a name tag upon arrival at the conference. Delegates must wear nametags at all times for entry to conference sessions. NOTE- State Troopers will not let anyone into Cordell Hull or the Capitol without a YMCA YIG Name Tag. If you lose your name tag, you may receive a replacement for \$1 at the info desk.

Officer: Officers are the elected leaders of each component. Officers are all high school students who were voted into office at the previous year's conference.

Omnibus: The Tennessee State Constitution requires that bills in the legislature can only address one subject, and that the title of a bill describe the content of the bill. Bills that don't conform to either requirement are described as "omnibus" and are unconstitutional. The only valid "omnibus" bill at YIG is the Governor's Budget Proposal. So, what does that mean? Give your bills titles that either clearly describe its contents or clearly describe its purpose, and then write clauses that directly address the subject in the bill title.

Some good bill titles: "A Bill to Amend TCA 12-34-56"; "A Bill to Increase Funding for K-12 Education in Tennessee"; "A Bill to Regulate Commercial Dog Breeding in Tennessee"

Some bad bill titles: "A Bill to Make Tennessee More Awesome Than It Already Is"; "A Bill to Delay Procrastination"

Opening Session: This is the kick-off session for YIG. This session introduces you to your officers, makes important conference announcements, and allows candidates to give their campaign speeches. It is required for all delegates.

Parliamentary Procedure (Parli-Pro): The body of rules, ethics, and customs that governs how debate operates in committee, house, and senate chambers. Please refer to the YIG Rules of Procedure in your Bill Book for our guidelines. If you have questions, please ask an officer.

Pass/Fail: In the House and Senate Chambers, bills are presented for passage or failure (not ranked like in committee). If a bill passes in the House, it must then pass in the Senate (and vice versa) before being presented for the Governor to sign. If a bill fails in either chamber, then it will not proceed on to the next step.

Pizza: Delegates who get hungry after curfew should order pizza (\$10.00 for either a large pepperoni or a cheese) through the YMCA CCE. The Conference staff will deliver the pizza to your hotel rooms at curfew. Note- You MAY NOT order pizza through anyone other than us.

Pizza NOT ordered through the CCE will be confiscated. Pizza can be ordered online via the conference app or at the info desk until 4:00pm each night.

Placards: Every delegate will receive a committee placard and a chamber placard. Delegates must use this placard to be called on for debate. Officers will not call on delegates who have drawn on their placard. If a delegate loses his/her placard, they may obtain (at the info desk for \$1) a generic "Delegate" placard to use for the remainder of the conference.

Press Corp: No state government is complete without a watchdog, thus we have the press corps. The press corps will publish conference papers and newscasts daily to keep all delegates abreast of what's going on in each component. They are responsible for social media throughout the conference. They will also get an introductory crash course in journalism.

Quorum: Tennessee requires a quorum of two-thirds of all the members is required to conduct any business. If a chamber does not meet quorum, officers must wait until quorum is met to continue.

Seat Assignments: Each house and senate delegate has an assigned seat during session. These may be found on the conference app. If delegates do not sit in their assigned seat, they will meet with CCE staff.

Senate: The second half of the legislative branch and the smaller of the two. Senate delegates present solo. All legislation passed in the House is presented here, and vice versa. Our conference has 3 senate chambers: Red, White and Blue, based on age and YIG experience.

Supreme Court: Lawyer teams of 2 delegates work on briefs for real TN court cases and argue their opinions before the justices. The court may hear discussion on unconstitutional bills or bills flagged for judicial review.

Tennessee Code Annotated (TCA): Tennessee's set of state laws is collectively called the Tennessee Code Annotated.

Tomfoolery Committee: This is an evening activity where joke bills are presented! Tomfoolery occurs during the dance on Saturday night. Tickets to attend are \$5 and can be purchased at the Merch Booth. All proceeds during Tomfoolery Committee go to the CCE scholarship fund. Delegates can submit bills they wish to present via the conference app. The docket will be announced during dinner break on Saturday.

Unconstitutional: Not according or consistent with the Tennessee Constitution. The Attorney General and Solicitor General assist with determining if a bill is constitutional or unconstitutional.

Veto: The Governor may veto a bill that has passed both House and Senate, preventing it from being included in the Governor's budget.

Visitor Policy: The CCE visitor policy is outlined in the Code of Conduct. No visitor in high school is permitted to visit without a note from a parent. Any visitor not in high school must obtain a visitor's pass from the Info Desk, or they will be asked to leave.

Voting: Voting is your civic duty! Voting takes time! Voting requires you to go somewhere other than your chamber! As in real life, voting can be a bit of an inconvenience, but all delegates are strongly encouraged to vote for next year's officers. Each component has an assigned voting station, so ask your officers if you are confused as to where to go. Many races are decided by 1, 2, or 3 votes, so every vote counts!

ELECTION 2023

When will the polls be open?

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

When will the polls be closing?

At 5:30pm on Saturday!

VOTING IS BY COMPONENT

Red Chamber delegates will vote outside their chambers.

Blue & White Chamber delegates will vote in Cordell Hull.

Supreme Court, Press Corps, Lobbyists, and GovCab will vote in their component.

CAPITOL YIG BALLOT

* DENOTES OFFICES FOR WHICH YOU WILL BE VOTING

GOVERNOR*

Atticus Belcher-Green Hill
Ella Kate Harris-Central Magnet
Anirudh Krishnan-Mt. Juliet
Mark Nashi-Signal Mountain

RED LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR*

Marlee Johnson-Central Magnet
Anna Lisowski-Signal Mountain

WHITE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR*

Alexis Barton-Webb
Bethel Derege-MLK
Avery Gill-Lebanon
Simon Lewis-Signal Mountain
Ashlynn York-Clarksville Academy

BLUE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR*

Carleigh Hughes-Wilson Central
Uma Sood-Central Magnet

SPEAKER OF THE RED HOUSE*

Youssoupha Charles-Antioch
Rowan Felton-Mt. Juliet

SPEAKER OF THE WHITE HOUSE

(SP) Lola Brown-Central Magnet
(PT) Akelo Costa-Collegiate

SPEAKER OF THE BLUE HOUSE*

Madelyn Sheehy-Green Hill
Hanna Yang-Signal Mountain

RED FLOOR LEADER

(S) Kaelyn Nuckoles-Green Hill
(H) Ahmad Hossein-Valor

WHITE FLOOR LEADER*

Luis Asencio-Innovation Academy
Trey Madison-MLK
Abigail McMillon-Green Hill

BLUE FLOOR LEADER*

Adalyn Cook-Innovation Academy
Makayla Jones-Collegiate
Aryan Pandey-Mt. Juliet

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 or joke 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.
- C. Patrons should not use props of any kind while presenting their bills.
- D. 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).
- E. 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 must raise their placard to be recognized by the chair before introducing motions or points of information.
- 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 up to 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 or point of information. No other action may follow a motion or point of information.
- 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 and may only choose one of the above actions. 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 per day.

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 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. Motions require recognition from the chair.
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 motion ends debate immediately if passed. 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:** 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 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. Incidental motions require recognition from the chair.
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 'wasted' 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: 1) Any bill proposing an amendment to the Tennessee State Constitution, and 2) a motion to reconsider a bill to overturn the Governor's veto. These actions require a constitutional majority for passage. For the purposes of YIG, a constitutional majority shall be a majority of voting members on the chamber's roster (50% +1). Abstentions count as 'nos' 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
- B. Combined Bills: Bills on similar topics cannot be combined at the conference. Debate can consider the merits of other passed or upcoming legislation in that chamber.
- C. Debate on bills cannot contain outside information from after the Final Deadline.
- D. Omnibus: The Tennessee State Constitution requires that bills in the legislature can only address one subject, and that the title of a bill describe the content of the bill. Bills that don't conform to either requirement are described as "omnibus" and are unconstitutional. Therefore, a bills titles should describe its contents or clearly describe its purpose, and then write clauses that directly address the subject in the bill title
- E. (Gubernatorial Veto):
 - 1. The YIG Governor may exercise their constitutional right to veto legislation passed by both houses. If the governor vetoes a bill, they shall communicate that veto along with a brief written statement explaining their decision to the Chief Engrossing Clerk and presiding officers of each legislative chamber. Legislative chambers shall be informed of the governor's veto through the reading aloud of the governor's statement during the session.

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/con/pro/con debate

One minute - Summation

Amendments

One minute - Introduction

Three minutes - Con/pro/con debate

One minute - Summation

II. House/Senate

Two minutes - Introduction

Two minutes - Technical Questions

Four minutes- Con & Pro Intent Speeches

Five minutes - Con/pro/con/pro/con debate

One minute - Summation

SAMPLE COMMITTEE RANKING FORM

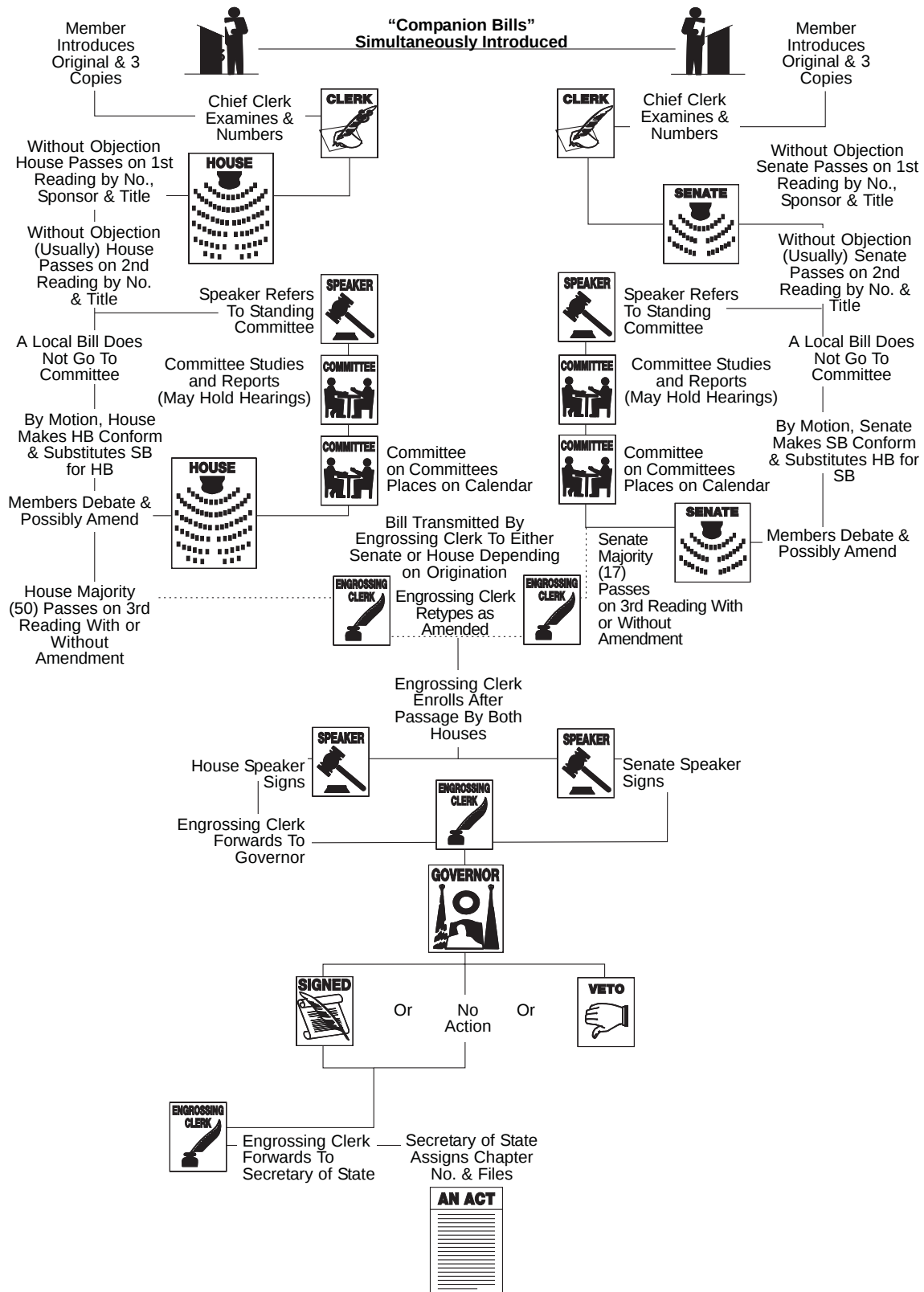
Best 1...2...3...4...5 Worst

	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:

Outstanding Bill in the Red, White, and Blue House and Senate
Outstanding Statesperson in the Red, White, and Blue House and 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 & Alternates
Nationwide Judicial Competition Delegates & Alternates
Joe M. Rogers Outstanding Servant Leader (Chosen by the Officers)

Outstanding Bill Criteria

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

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

- Must meet general criteria for both Outstanding Bill & Statesperson
- Sophomore, Junior, or Senior in High School
- Has made an outstanding contribution to the TN YMCA YIG and/or to their local YIG club

Nationwide Judicial Competition Criteria

- Winners of the Final Case
- Outstanding Court Officers
- Behavior in keeping with the YMCA core values of Honesty, Caring, Respect, & Responsibility

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 delegates will comply with any CCE Healthy and Safety Protocol as outlined on the CCE website.
- 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, 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. Any participant who is expelled from the conference will be sent home at his or her own expense. 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. If necessary, the CCE will contact local law enforcement to help handle any situation.
- All delegates are to participate in all scheduled events. This includes the nightly activity.
- No boys allowed in girls' rooms or girls allowed in boys' rooms. Violation of this rule is grounds for expulsion.
- No delegate may leave his or her room after curfew except for an emergency. If you have an emergency you must notify your adult advisor and the YMCA Center for Civic Engagement Executive Director.
- Students are not allowed to leave the conference without written permission from school administration.
- No participant may drive or ride in ANY vehicle during the time they are at a CCE conference this includes bicycles, electric scooters, taxis, Ubers/Lyfts, and friends' vehicles who are not attending the conference.
- Nametags must be worn visibly at all functions.
- No food, drink, or gum shall be permitted in any session.
- 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.
- Drones and any other remote-controlled devices are strictly prohibited.

- Noise must be kept to a minimum in all hotel rooms and hallways. YMCA or other conference staff will investigate any complaints waged by other hotel guests.
- ABSOLUTELY no throwing anything over the balconies of the hotel. No climbing on balconies or ledges.
- Destruction of personal property, hotel, or other property will result in immediate expulsion. Any delegate responsible for damages must make restitution and will be held accountable for any legal actions that follow. Hotel rooms are registered to the conference and are subject to search by the CCE staff at any time. All conference participants, guests, bags and vehicles at the conference are also subject to search by the CCE staff at any time.
- After curfew, delegates may not order any food for delivery.
- Visitor Policy: If a student under the age of 18 or still in high school wishes to visit a CCE conference, he/she must have a parent/guardian directly contact CCE staff prior to the conference. Any visitor over the age of 18 and no longer in high school must present a valid driver's license to the CCE info desk to receive a visitor's badge. Visitors are only allowed to attend conference sessions. Visitors are not allowed to attend evening social events. Visitors are never permitted in participant hotel rooms.
- Use of the Tennessee State Capitol sound system is prohibited. Tampering with the components of the sound systems (microphones, cords etc) is prohibited. Violation of this regulation is grounds for expulsion.
- Use of the Tennessee State Capitol voting machines is strictly prohibited. No touching or pushing buttons in chamber seats. Violation of this regulation is grounds for expulsion.
- 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.
- The YMCA Center for Civic Engagement staff reserves the right to make amendments to the Delegate Code of Conduct at any time.

WAIVER

We acknowledge that CCE events will be held at different venues and that transportation maybe provided between venues. The transportation will be provided by third parties with whom YMCA will contract or certified YMCA staff. We agree that we will hold YMCA harmless against, and agree not to name YMCA as a defendant in any action arising out of or related to, any injury, harm, damage, loss or expenses of any nature incurred in connection with such transportation activities.

I grant permission for photographs, written/art work, quotes, videos or other media which may include my child, to be used in media releases which benefit the YMCA of Middle Tennessee.

I have read and will adhere to all guidelines:

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 2023 YIG Component Leaders!

GOVERNOR'S CABINET

Kerissa Bryant

LOBBYISTS

Denzel Harris

PRESS CORPS

Marcy Beltran

SUPREME COURT

Theo Baker

AWARDS COMMITTEE

Kayleigh Martin

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Mackey Luffman

GOVERNOR'S CABINET

Will Severn – Governor

Mya Foley – Chief of Staff

COMMISSIONERS

Alexis Barton – Correction – Webb

Akelo Costa – Health – Collegiate

Zackrey Duncan – Safety & Homeland Security – Signal Mountain

Rowan Felton – Environment and Conservation – Mt. Juliet

Erik Fowler – General Services – Signal Mountain

Faiza Islam – Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services – Antioch

Makayla Jones – Education – Collegiate

Kaelyn Nuckoles – Economic & Community Development – Green Hill

Mesom Okafor – Tourist Development – Central Magnet

Siri Reynolds – Transportation – Central Magnet

Chris Telles Orellana – Children's Services – Innovation Academy

Neva Tilley – Agriculture – MLK

Norma Zamarron – Human Services – Collegiate

LOBBYIST COMPONENT

Head Lobbyist

Grace Harris

LOBBYISTS

Caroline David – Collegiate School

Devin Davis – Collegiate School

Avery Gill – Lebanon High School

Jake Hall – Martin Luther King Magnet School

Aisha Hamad – Valor College Prep

Drew Hogan – Central Magnet High School

Ahmad Hossein – Valor College Prep

Bailey Marshall – Lebanon High School

Lydia Miller – Signal Mountain High School

Ella Robinson – Mt. Juliet High School

Sofia Roehler – Green Hill High School

Abbie Scoby – Mt. Juliet High School

Aubrey Walters – Central Magnet High School

Justice Frank F. Drowota

SUPREME COURT

Chief Justice

Yao Xiao

Associate Justices

Janae Rothe

Katherine Narrell

Emily Nguyen

Ben Giles

Attorney General

Ethan Kennan

Solicitor General

Huiyoun Pyo

Clerk of the Court

Theresa Schwartz

LAWYER TEAMS

Marko Doce-Antioch

Victoria Madu-Antioch

Grace White & Claire Olson-Central Magnet

Megan Zhao & Natalie Blaess-Central Magnet

Ainsley Russell & Emma Grey-Central Magnet

Ian Kelley & Rebekah Hogue-Central Magnet

Lucy Lindsey & Abby Powers-Clarksville Academy

Matthew Zaremba & Robert Zaremba-Green Hill

John Paul Nguyen & Javier Garrido-Hillwood

Caden Shaw & Katie Claire Campbell-Lebanon

Kianna Gipson & Cole Turney-Lebanon

Ramsey Sloan & Madison Klimansky-Mt. Juliet

Jiel Medina & Nicholas Powell-Sale Creek

Ansley White & Madison Johnson-Sale Creek

Katie Ditmars-Signal Mountain

Eleanor Usrey & Taylor Parry-Signal Mountain

Ean Cox & Gabriel Rouchon-Upperman

Osaro Owen & Zahraa Alasadi-Valor College Prep

Isra Saddiki & Martha Adamu-Valor College Prep

PRESS CORPS

Managing Editor

Perry Kleinlein

Video Director

Paige Range

Blog & Copy Editor

Lilly Ann Brown

Social Media Director

Marvy Nessim

PRESS CORPS MEMBERS

Abigail Aronin - Green Hill

Sophie Bruce - Signal Mtn

Caroline Burns - Signal Mtn

Jewel Carter - Collegiate

Kiara Deleon - Lebanon

Anton Do - Hillwood

Rowan Feagin - Green Hill

Christopher Flores - Collegiate

Reese Gatewood - Hillwood

Sydney Gatewood - Hillwood

Aisha Hamad - Valor

Kaison Hendricks - Collegiate

Eli Hodge - Lebanon

Jayln Hodge Shaw - MLK

Alianna Jones - Wilson Central

Felicia Lamphey - Valor

CJ McClellan - Lebanon

Fiona McGoffin - Central Magnet

Sherlin Medrano - Collegiate

Rana Mikhail - MLK

Oliver Molina - Antioch

Meg Pierucki - Lebanon

Lawrence Quimbo - Hillwood

Anna Ryan - Clarksville Academy

Marvel Shawkey - MLK

Amelia Sisson - Signal Mtn

Lillian Smith - Central Magnet

Adeola Soley - Antioch

Ana Suarez - Mt. Juliet

Dani Suarez - Mt. Juliet

Angelina Taramona - Signal Mtn

Trish Zheng - Wilson Central

TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT



HOUSE COMMITTEE 1

**Ava Foley &
Suoz Tovi**

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the	RHB/23-1-1	
		RED HOUSE	
House - Transportation		ACTION ON THE BILL	
Bianca Tailor, Margaret Atkins		HOUSE	SENATE
Webb School		Pass ☐	Pass ☐
		Fail ☐	Fail ☐

An Act to Regulate Senior Citizens to Renew Drivers Licenses Every Three years

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE -
- 2
- 3 Section 1: The terms in this act shall be defined as follows
- 4 Senior Citizens: Used by the federal government to identify people 65 and older
- 5 DMV: Department of Motorized Vehicles
- 6
- 7 Section 2: This act requires the state of Tennessee to require mandatory vision tests for all senior
- 8 citizens 65 years of age and older who wish to renew their state driver's license. Citizens aged 65
- 9 and older will be required to renew their driver's license every 3 years beginning with the year of
- 10 their 65th birthday and must complete an in-person vision screening.
- 11
- 12 Section 3: There will be a 2-year grace period beginning on January 1, 2023, which will apply to
- 13 the following two groups of people: those turning 65 within the 2-year period and those already 65
- 14 or older. Citizens younger than 65 must renew their license on or after their 65th birthday within
- 15 the two-year grace period. For senior citizens older than 65, they must renew their license at some
- 16 point within a 2-year grace period.
- 17
- 18 Section 4: Currently in Tennessee, the qualifications to drive include having acceptable mobility,
- 19 and being free of mental impairments. The applicant shall have a visual keenness at a minimum of
- 20 20/200 in both eyes with the best conventional non-telescopic corrective lenses plus a full visual
- 21 field. However, the central field of vision shall not exceed five degrees
- 22
- 23 Section 5: This bill would require no extra money to be spent by the Tennessee government.
- 24
- 25 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
- 26
- 27 Section 7: This act shall take effect on January 1, 2025, upon passage, the public welfare requiring
- 28 it.
- 29

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the	RHB/23-1-2	
		RED HOUSE	
House - Government Operations		ACTION ON THE BILL	
Caitlyn Auberson, Emma Rehse		HOUSE	SENATE
Father Ryan High School		Pass ☐	Pass ☐
		Fail ☐	Fail ☐

**AN ACT TO CREATE MENTAL HEALTH DAYS AND AVAILABLE THERAPY FOR ALL
GOVERNMENT WORKERS**

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:
- 2
- 3 Section 1:
- 4 a) Mental Health: a person's condition regarding their psychological and emotional well-being.
- 5 b) Therapy: treatment intended to "relieve" or heal a disorder.
- 6
- 7 Section 2: As of now, Tennessee does not have any laws in place that offer mental health days to
- 8 employees.
- 9
- 10 Section 3: This bill will be overseen by the Tennessee Department of Labor Laws.
- 11
- 12 Section 4: We will address this problem by offering 10 mental health days to each government
- 13 employee in the state of Tennessee, with the stipulation that they will also seek professional help
- 14 after taking two mental health days. These therapy sessions will be paid for by the state of
- 15 Tennessee, and they will be of no cost to the employees. This bill would allow for the employment
- 16 of 50 therapists that would be placed in each county proportionally to the amount of government
- 17 employees in that county. These days can be used in the year but will not roll over to the next
- 18 one.
- 19
- 20 Section 5: There are no laws that this effects at the time.
- 21
- 22 Section 6: Each therapist will have a yearly salary of \$50,000. Which means that overall, it will
- 23 cost 2.5 million a year to enact this. This will be put into effect January 1, 2024.
- 24
- 25



70th General Assembly

of the

Tennessee YMCA

Youth in Government



the

YMCA

House – Transportation

Abdoulaye Charles, Youssoupha Charles

Antioch High School

RHB/23-1-3

RED HOUSE

ACTION ON THE BILL

HOUSE SENATE

Pass ☐ Fail ☐

Pass ☐ Fail ☐

An Act To Decrease Pedestrian Deaths By Building More Sidewalks

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 Driver Duties

5 Pedestrian - A person walking along a road or in a developed area.

6 (Tennessee Code Annotated Section 55-8-134) When in a crosswalk, pedestrians have the right-

7 of-way. Drivers must yield to pedestrians crossing the road in a crosswalk when the pedestrian is

8 on the same half of the road as the vehicle. Suppose the crosswalk is located in a school zone. In

9 that case, drivers must yield to pedestrians no matter where they are located within the crosswalk,

10 and the vehicle must remain stopped until the pedestrian has completely crossed the road.

11 (Tennessee Code Annotated Section 55-8-134) When a vehicle is stopped at a crosswalk or at an

12 unmarked crosswalk at an intersection to allow a pedestrian to cross the road, other drivers are

13 not allowed to pass the stopped vehicle.

14 (Tennessee Code Annotated Section 55-8-136) Drivers are required at all times to use due care to

15 avoid hitting or injuring a pedestrian on any Tennessee roadway and use special care when the

16 pedestrian in question is a child or an incapacitated person.

17 Pedestrian Duties

18 (Tennessee Code Annotated Section 55-8-133) Pedestrians are subject to traffic signals at

19 intersections, such as red lights.

20 (Tennessee Code Annotated Section 55-8-111)- Pedestrians must follow all pedestrian control

21 traffic signals, such as "walk" and "don't walk."

22 Crosswalks/Sidewalks

23 (Tennessee Code Annotated Section 55-8-111)

24 (Marked)Some crosswalks use white paint striping or bricks to mark it as a crossing location for

25 pedestrians- these are called "marked crosswalks." Some marked crosswalks are not at

26 intersections but between blocks- these are called "mid-block crosswalks" and they may have

27 signals to assist people crossing by alerting drivers. Drivers must yield to pedestrians in these

28 crosswalks, whether signalized or not.

29 (Unmarked) Most intersections in Tennessee don't have any striping at all, but they are still legally

30 designated places for pedestrians to cross the street. These are called "unmarked crosswalks," but

31 drivers must still yield the right of way to pedestrians in this crosswalk.

32

33 SECTION 2: This act will fund sidewalks for pedestrian use, whilst reducing the pedestrian fatalities

34 that occur within the 60 miles throughout metropolitan areas, and prioritizing high pedestrian

35 areas without sidewalks.

36

37 SECTION 3: Aware of sidewalks providing safety to pedestrians as well as motor vehicles.

38

39 SECTION 4: In 2020: Not hit-and-run (4,934 deaths accounting for 76%); Hit-and-run (1,582

40 deaths accounting for 24%)

41

42 SECTION 5: Statical data shows a 59% increase in pedestrian motor vehicle crash deaths since

43 2009.

44

45 SECTION 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

46

47 SECTION 7: This act shall take effect on August 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.

48

59

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	RHB/23-1-4	
	RED HOUSE	
ACTION ON THE BILL		
House - Agriculture and Natural Resources Carson Wright, Emanuel Gonzalez Hillwood High School	HOUSE Pass ☐ Fail ☐	SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT WILDLIFE CROSSINGS ACROSS 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.) Wildlife Crossings: Safe, man-made, crossings in which native animals cross above or below
- 5 roads intended for automobiles
- 6 b.) Wildlife Bridges: Man-made bridges allowing animals to safely cross above roads, overpasses
- 7 c.) Wildlife Tunnels: Man-made tunnels allowing animals to safely cross below roads, underpasses
- 8
- 9 Section 2: This act requires that roads and highways across Tennessee, as well as future roads,
- 10 have wildlife crossings implemented at areas determined by the Tennessee Department of
- 11 Environment and Conservation (TDEC).
- 12
- 13 Section 3: The standards for implementation will be set and regulated by the Tennessee
- 14 Department of Transportation (TDOT) in partnership with TDEC.
- 15
- 16 Section 4: Once constructed, wildlife crossings will be treated like any state-built infrastructure
- 17 under TDOT maintenance, and will be upheld to the same standards of upkeep and punishment for
- 18 defilement.
- 19
- 20 Section 5: If enacted, the state of Tennessee should allocate \$500,000 in researching and
- 21 surveying locations to place wildlife crossings, \$8,000,000 for construction of wildlife crossings in
- 22 the form of bridges and tunnels, and \$1,500,000 for the maintenance of said bridges and tunnels.
- 23 Costs will be funded by a portion of the TDOT and TDEC budgets.
- 24
- 25 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 26
- 27 Section 7: This shall take effect June 30, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
- 28

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	RHB/23-1-5	
	RED HOUSE	
ACTION ON THE BILL		
House - Business and Utilities Weston Livingood, Preston Vaughn Signal Mountain High School	HOUSE Pass ☐ Fail ☐	SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO INCENTIVIZE THE USE OF BAGGED MILK OVER TRADITIONAL PLASTIC MILK JUGS IN THE STATE OF TENNESSEE

- 1 Be it enacted by YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:
- 4 A.) Bagged milk- a particular way to contain milk that aids in the purposes of transportation,
- 5 consumption and storage. This form of milk containment uses loose pouches that can contain from
- 6 half a liter of milk to 1.33 liters of milk.
- 7 B.) Tennessee milk producers- companies or businesses that create milk within the state of
- 8 Tennessee.
- 9 C.) Tennessee's Best Milk (Year) Award- After a company reaches a certain threshold of bagged
- 10 milk production, they will receive the title of "Tennessee's Best Milk (Year)" and can freely
- 11 advertise their dairy products. The "(Year)" will reflect the year that they earn it in.
- 12 D.) Carton milk- Carton milk classifies as milk that is contained in containers that are 80% paper
- 13 and 20% polyethylene.
- 14 E.) Jug milk- Jug milk will constitute as milk that is contained in a traditional plastic jug, consisting
- 15 of polyethylene terephthalate.
- 16
- 17 Section 2: Tennessee milk producers will be incentivized to bag their milk before distribution
- 18 through several benefits that aim to improve their business model and increase the use of
- 19 environmentally friendly containment methods.
- 20 A.) In addition to receiving benefits bestowed from Tennessee's government, companies that
- 21 switch to using bagged milk will benefit from lowered transportation costs, lower production cost,
- 22 and will be able to ship bags in larger quantities.
- 23 B.) Companies will switch to bagged milk as their primary form of milk containment. After the
- 24 switch, companies will be given a tax break after they reach a 40% threshold of bag production.
- 25 D.) The percentage of the tax break will be determined by how much of their production is bagged.
- 26 40% will ensure a 40% tax break, and the subsequent tax breaks will increase by 1% for every
- 27 1% of distribution percentage. Therefore, if distribution is 50%, then the company will receive a
- 28 50% tax break.
- 29 C.) The Tennessee government will introduce a recognition system where companies who make
- 30 the switch will be recognized. In 2027, the Tennessee government will request for a quota on how
- 31 much of their milk is bagged. The company with the largest percentage will receive the award
- 32 "Tennessee's best milk (Year)." The company who is awarded this distinction will be allowed to
- 33 freely advertise this title, and this distinction will be verified by the Tennessee government. This
- 34 award will be reevaluated every three years and will be updated if a company has a higher
- 35 percentage. However, this award will have to be defined some where on the bottle.
- 36 D.) Any company can be evaluated for the "Tennessee's Best Milk" award, so long as they agree to
- 37 it. Companies that do not have research to conduct or quota, or do not want to, will not have to.
- 38

39 Section 3: Plastic jugs and cartons that never go into use will be recycled by other recycling
40 companies in typical accordance.
41 A.) If a company suddenly shifts to exclusively bagged milk, the subsequent excess of plastic jugs
42 and cartons will be recycled.
43 B.) In an effort to reduce waste, companies will be required to recycle cartons and jugs
44 responsibly and correctly.
45 C.) If an excessive amount of waste from jugs and cartons are found from the company that won
46 "Tennessee's Best Milk (Year)" award, then the title will be revoked. Additionally, the Tennessee
47 Government will request that companies remove this distinction from their advertisement if it is
48 present. The amount of waste will be assessed every three years, so they will not receive the
49 distinction for the respective year.

50
51 Section 4: Companies that make the switch will be requested to add a milk bag production facility
52 in addition to their existing plants. If a company chooses to do this, then their benefits will
53 increase significantly. In relation to size and production quantity, companies will receive further
54 increased tax breaks. The tax break will be an addition of 20% to prior tax break:

55 A.) To be environmentally conscious, facilities will be requested to be adjacent to the present
56 facility or built as an extension to the factory.

57 B.) New facilities and production centers will have the ability to employ many new workers to
58 increase the employment rate in Tennessee.

59
60 Section 5: Should this act be passed, the most effective and easiest to produce milk bag will be
61 used to supplement the production of milk bags:

62 A.) The most effective milk bag will be determined by a board of climate professionals and
63 scientists who can determine the best way to bag the milk and what to produce the bags of.
64 B.) The criteria assessed will include ease of transportation, consumer safety, and general cost.

65
66 Section 6: This act will cost money to accomplish, however, the amount of money will not be
67 substantial. It will cost companies money to run a quota on their business production, but they will
68 have to spend their own money to do the quota. The only thing that Tennessee will have to spend
69 money on is the board meeting of climate professionals and scientists, which will not require
70 intensive research or resources as they only will test pre-existing solutions.

71
72 Section 7: Should this bill be passed, it will take effect on January 15, 2024, addressing tax breaks
73 timely and appropriately.

74

		70th General Assembly of the State of Tennessee				WHB/23-1-6	
the Youth in Government				WHITE HOUSE			
House - Criminal Justice				ACTION ON THE BILL			
Jimmy Giannasi, Carver Snyder, Carter Alley				HOUSE		SENATE	
Signal Mountain High School				Pass ☐		Pass ☐	
				Fail ☐		Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO LIMIT CRIMINAL DEFENSES BASED ON VICTIM IDENTITY

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. Gender Identity: the personal sense of one's own gender

5 b. Sexual Orientation: a person's identity in relation to the gender or genders to which they are

6 sexually or romantically attracted

7 c. Gender: either of the two sexes (male and female), especially when considered with reference

8 to social and cultural differences rather than biological ones

9

10 Section 2: Amends Tennessee Code 39-11-203 under clause (e) to include the following as

11 subclause three (3):

12 a. Defenses based on the following evidence are hereby abolished:

13 i. evidence of the defendant's discovery of, knowledge about, or the potential disclosure of the

14 crime victim's actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity, including under

15 circumstances in which the victim made a nonforcible, noncriminal romantic or sexual advance

16 toward the defendant; or

17 ii. evidence of the defendant's perception or belief, even if inaccurate, of the gender, gender

18 identity, or sexual orientation of a crime victim

19

20 Section 3: This bill will cost nothing to enact.

21

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

23

24 Section 5: This act shall take effect immediately upon being passed, the public welfare requiring it.

25



70th General Assembly

of the

Tennessee YMCA

Youth in Government



the

YMCA

House - Health

Brooke Ashworth, Maryann Sadek, Carys Correnti

Valor College Prep

WHB/23-1-7

WHITE HOUSE

ACTION ON THE BILL

HOUSESENATE

PassFailPassFail

39 This analysis does not account for changes in employment, personal income, or gross state
40 product that could result from this bill or for the net final payment method of accrual.
41
42 Section 7) All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
43
44 Section 8) This act shall take effect on January 1, 2024, and be operative for taxable years
45 beginning on or after January 1, 2024.
46

An Act to Create Tax Incentives for Blood Donors

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE
2
3 Section 1) Terms in this act are as follows:
4 Blood Donation - Allow blood to be removed medically from one's body in order to be stored for
5 use in transfusions.
6 Tax Incentive - Government measure that is intended to encourage individuals and businesses to
7 spend money or to save money by reducing the amount of tax that they have to pay.
8 Whole Blood - Whole blood contains red cells, white cells, and platelets (~45% of volume)
9 suspended in blood plasma (~55% of volume) according to the Red Cross.
10 Blood Component - Any product produced from whole blood.
11 Exempt Organization - The exempt purposes set forth under Internal Revenue Code in section
12 501(c)(3) are charitable, religious, educational, scientific, literary, testing for public safety,
13 fostering national or international amateur sports competition, and preventing cruelty to children
14 or animals.
15
16 Section 2) Tennessee is currently in a shortage of O-negative blood according to the Red Cross.
17
18 Section 3) This bill would provide a \$250 tax credit for taxpayers who donate blood to a licensed,
19 exempt organization. This bill does not apply to those who are not eligible to donate blood
20 according to the Red Cross guidelines.
21
22 Section 4) This bill would require all of the following conditions be met:
23 - The taxpayer must make four blood donations of human whole blood or human blood
24 components.
25 - Each blood donation must be made to a licensed entity as defined in the Health and Safety
26 Code.
27 - Each blood donation must be made to an exempt organization under Internal Revenue Code
28 section 501(c)(3).
29
30 Section 5) A taxpayer can only use the credit to reduce their tax liability for a single tax year. Any
31 unused credit would be lost if the taxpayer is unable to use the entire credit amount in the year
32 claimed.
33
34 Section 6) This bill would result in minor revenue loss. Assuming that this bill is introduced
35 February 25, 2023, revenue losses would be in millions as follows: expected loss in the 2023-2024
36 Fiscal Year of \$0.66, expected loss in the 2024-2025 fiscal year of \$1.2, expected loss in 2025-
37 2026 Fiscal Year of \$1.2.
38

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government			WHB/23-1-8	
	House - Criminal Justice Jessica Boakye, Kwatema Sarpong, Oge Onyekwere Central Magnet High School			WHITE HOUSE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO REQUIRE AUTOMATIC RESTORATION OF VOTING RIGHTS FOR TENNESSEE FELONS

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:
- 4 Felon: A person who has been convicted of a felony
- 5 Restoration [in pursuant]: The act of returning voting rights to felon citizens.
- 6
- 7 Section 2: This act will streamline voting restoration, expelling court fees and child support
- 8 requirements for eligibility. Allowing an individual with a felony conviction to be eligible to vote if
- 9 they have completed all terms of confinement, parole, probation, or other supervised release for
- 10 all felony convictions, including the completion of any special sentence imposed pursuant to Article
- 11 4 Section 2 of the Tennessee Constitution.
- 12
- 13 Section 3: This act will encourage attorneys, judges, election officials, correction officials including
- 14 probation and parole officers, and criminal court clerks to revise training regarding the process of
- 15 voting restoration.
- 16
- 17 Section 4: The regulation of these voting rights will be homogenous throughout the state.
- 18
- 19 Section 5: Upon conviction and release, felons should be informed of their voting restoration and
- 20 current voting laws.
- 21
- 22 Section 6: If enacted, there will be no required funding from the state budget.
- 23
- 24 Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict are hereby repealed.
- 25
- 26 Section 8: This act shall take effect July 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
- 27
- 28

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government			WHB/23-1-9	
	House - Education Calvin Dillard, Cameron Franklin Innovation Academy			WHITE HOUSE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐	

An Act to Ease the Tennessee Teacher Shortage

- 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. Public school teacher- An educator who works to directly educate students within the public
- 5 school system. There are approximately 70,000 of these teachers within the state.
- 6 b. College scholarships- a grant or payment that is given to a student to support their education.
- 7
- 8 Section 2: The goal of this act is to make it less fiscally challenging for persons to become teachers
- 9 within the state of Tennessee so that the teacher shortage Tennessee is currently experiencing will
- 10 be lessened or even solved. This shortage is currently around 2,000 teachers across the state. This
- 11 is more prevalent in certain areas, particularly the southwest area of the state which includes 34%
- 12 of all vacancies and Nashville with approximately 10% of all vacancies within the district.
- 13
- 14 Section 3: Enrollees of certain colleges will receive a scholarship for them to pursue an education
- 15 degree. In return the receiver of this scholarship will teach within the Tennessee public school
- 16 system for at least four years. The scholarship will pay for eighty credit hours of a bachelor's
- 17 degree as well as any necessary certifications the receiver requires to become a teacher.
- 18 The requirements for this scholarship to be given are the following,
- 19 a. at least a 3.25 gpa within their previous two years of education,
- 20 b. previously committed to an education major or declare this major upon granting of this
- 21 scholarship,
- 22 c. a minor that can be applied to any class that is currently taught in the public school system,
- 23 including but not limited to any fields of study within the core classes of school and any fine
- 24 arts or STEM fields.
- 25 d. Three or more letters of recommendation from previous teachers citing academic excellence
- 26 and that the receiver shows qualities necessary to become a teacher,
- 27 e. That the student has tuition no more than 55,000 for a four-year degree.
- 28
- 29 Section 4: This act will cost up to 80,000,000 annually. The Department of Education will be used
- 30 to fund these scholarships.
- 31
- 32 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
- 33
- 34 Section 6: This act will take effect on July 1, 2023.
- 35
- 36
- 37

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA		WHB/23-1-10
	Youth in Government	the	WHITE HOUSE
House - Agriculture and Natural Resources			ACTION ON THE BILL
Nora Ledecz, Ezra Hathaway Ruiz Martin Luther King Magnet School			HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ ☐ Fail ☐

An Act to Protect Tennessee's Waterways and Aquatic Wildlife

- 1
- 2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:
- 3
- 4 Section 1: Terms used in this act, unless indicated otherwise, shall be defined as follows:
- 5 Waterway- Any body of water found in the State of Tennessee be it lakes or rivers.
- 6 Aquatic Wildlife- Any living organism, vertebrate or invertebrate, that requires a body of water as
- 7 its habitat.
- 8 Pesticide- A chemical substance used to regulate insect populations on farms or other areas of
- 9 land.
- 10 Landfill- An area of land reserved for the disposal of waste and garbage, then burying it with soil.
- 11 Incineration Plant - A form of equipment used to thermally treat waste and recover the energy of
- 12 the heat created.
- 13 Bio solarization- A rather recent farming technique that uses solar energy and microbial
- 14 fermentation to create soil harmful to insects, weed seeds, and other harmful agents to crops.
- 15
- 16 Section 2: This act will increase funds by twenty million US dollars (\$20,000,000) for the
- 17 Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation in taking measures to further improve
- 18 the quality of Tennessee's waterways. Recognizing that in 2020, 55.4% of Tennessee waterways
- 19 were too polluted to for basic use.
- 20
- 21 Section 3: If passed, this bill will allow Tennessee Department of Agriculture to regulate, if not ban
- 22 most pesticides. Recognizing that pesticides are detrimental to Tennessee's waterways, the
- 23 Tennessee Department of Agriculture will receive 5 million dollars (\$5,000,000) to promote
- 24 alternative, eco-friendly farming and pesticide methods: bio solarization, planting a variety of
- 25 species, etc.
- 26
- 27 Section 4: This act will also allow the Tennessee Department of Agriculture to stress the
- 28 importance of ecofriendly farming methods as well as biodiversity conservation into the
- 29 curriculums of biology, agricultural, and other science classes.
- 30
- 31 Section 5: To alleviate some repercussions of inevitable waste and pollution, this bill would also
- 32 invest one hundred and sixty-nine million dollars (\$169,000,000) into the creation of new landfills
- 33 and incineration plants. The bill will ensure a secure area for waste to be discarded.
- 34
- 35 Section 6: Any funds that this act requires will come from the budget of the Tennessee
- 36 government.
- 37
- 38 Section 7: This bill, if enacted, is to be put into effect July 30th , the public welfare requiring it.
- 39

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA		WHB/23-1-11
	Youth in Government	the	WHITE HOUSE
House - Health			ACTION ON THE BILL
Wan Tov, Allyson Garinger Hillwood High School			HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO EXPAND MEDICAID COVERAGE 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) Medicaid: Medicaid provides health coverage to millions of Americans, including eligible low-
- 5 income adults, children, pregnant women, elderly adults and people with disabilities.
- 6 b) TennCare: Tennessee's Medicaid program.
- 7 c) FPL (Federal Poverty Level): a measure of income issued every year by the Department of
- 8 Health and Human Services
- 9 d) Healthcare: the maintenance or improvement of health via the prevention, diagnosis,
- 10 treatment, amelioration, cure of disease, illness, injury, and other physical or mental impairments
- 11 in people.
- 12 e) TennCare eligible: a group that meets the requirements to receive TennCare. Current TennCare
- 13 eligible groups are; children ages 0-1 (195% FPL), children ages 1-6 (142% FPL), children ages 6-
- 14 19 (133% FPL), pregnant women (195% FPL), parents or caretaker relatives (100% FPL), deemed
- 15 newborns (no limit), medically needy (make \$241 per month for family of 1), SSI (make \$914 per
- 16 month for a family of 1), institutionalized individuals (monthly income limit of \$2,523), individuals
- 17 with breast or cervical cancer (250% FPL), and TennCare Standard (211% FPL).
- 18 f) Pharmacy Copays: pharmacy copays are for adults with TennCare who are not in a nursing
- 19 home, HCBS waiver, or ICF-MR and children with TennCare standard whose family income is at or
- 20 above 100% FPL.
- 21 g) Veteran: a person who has served in the active military, naval, air, or space service, for a
- 22 prolonged amount of time, and who was discharged or released therefrom for reasons other than
- 23 dishonorable.
- 24
- 25 Section 2: The expansion of Medicaid will provide medical coverage to two adult populations not
- 26 covered under previous TennCare guidelines.
- 27
- 28 Section 3: Veterans with incomes up to 138% of the FPL will now be TennCare eligible.
- 29
- 30 Section 4: All adults with incomes up to 138% of the FPL will now be TennCare eligible.
- 31
- 32 Section 5: Annual check ups, required vaccines, pregnancy care and childbirth, annual
- 33 gynecological care (including pap smears and mammograms), and routine prostate examinations
- 34 shall not be subject to copays.
- 35
- 36 Section 6: Prescription medication copays will be assessed as a flat fee for brand-name and
- 37 generic medication. The determination of cost for prescription copays will be determined by the
- 38 Tennessee state medical board.
- 39

41 Section 7: TennCare standard members with incomes below 100% of FPL will not be forced to pay
42 for medical care, although the above referenced prescription copays will be assessed.

43 Section 8: TennCare standard members with incomes at or above 100% FPL will be assessed
44 medical copays based upon income level.. Those with an FPL of 100%-199% must pay: \$10.00 for
45 Hospital Emergency Room (waived if admitted), \$5.00 for a Primary Care Provider and Community
46 Mental Health Agency Services other than preventive care, \$5.00 for Physician Specialists
47 (including Psychiatrists), and \$5.00 for Inpatient Hospital Admission (waived if readmitted within
48 48 hours for the same episode). Those with an FPL of 200% and above must pay: \$50.00 for
49 Hospital Emergency Room (waived if admitted), \$15.00 for Primary Care Providers and
50 Community Mental Health Agency Services other than preventive care, \$20.00 for Physician
51 Specialists (including Psychiatrists), and \$100.00 for Inpatient Hospital Admission (waived if
52 readmitted within 48 hours for the same episode).

53
54 Section 9: The addition of this act will be funded through the current TennCare state budget and
55 will cost \$150,000,000 USD.

56
57 Section 10: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

58
59 Section 11: This act shall take effect January 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.
60

		70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government			BHB/23-1-12
House - Consumer and Human Resources					BLUE HOUSE
Mae Petty, Destiny Brown					ACTION ON THE BILL
Lebanon High School					HOUSE Pass ☐ Fail ☐
					SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐

An Act to Amend Tennessee Code Annotated Section 55-8-212 to decriminalize unlawful camping

1 Section 1: The terms of this act will be defined as follows:

- 2 a) camping: the act of staying and sleeping in an outside area one or more days or nights
3 b) defilement: the act of making something foul, dirty, or unclean

4 Section 2: This act requires the amendment of the Unlawful camping bill, explicitly in the
5 following:

6 Replace Clause A, sub clause 1, and sub clause 2 with the following:

7 It is unlawful for a person to engage in camping when in a public area:

- 8 (1) If said person has been convicted of a felony or a Class A or B misdemeanor
9 (2) If said person is harassing the general public

10
11 Section 3: In Clause A add a sub clause 3 that states:

12 (3) If there is any defilement to public property

13
14 Section 4: Due to the statewide homelessness crisis, this bill will significantly decrease the
15 amount of homeless arrests. This will also give homeless people a better opportunity to get
16 employment.

17
18 Section 5: This bill will also provide each of the 20 cities in the state of Tennessee that have a
19 population of 40,000 or more with 138,000 dollars each to maintain and lease the shelters.

20
21 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed

22
23 Section 7: Upon passage, this act will go into effect May 1st, 2023. This will give time for
24 employees to be trained and for buildings to be remodeled.
25
26

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the Youth in Government	BHB/23-1-13	
		BLUE HOUSE	
House - Criminal Justice		ACTION ON THE BILL	
Fiona Tenali, Christian Faulkner, Chrisan Johnson		HOUSE	SENATE
Collegiate School		Pass ☐ Fail ☐	Pass ☐ Fail ☐

An Act to Require Just Review of Death Penalty Sentencing

- 1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this act shall be defined as followed:
- 4 a.) Death Penalty - a punishment of execution to a person convicted of a capital crime.
- 5 b.) Court of Appeals - a court to which appeals are taken into federal circuit or a state
- 6 Section 2: If enacted this bill will ensure that each capitol court case is justly served. Either it shall
- 7 decrease executions or increase executions, but it will better ensure that not one person is
- 8 wrongfully executed in Tennessee.
- 9
- 10 Section 3: When a person is convicted of a criminal act in a court of law that person has the
- 11 constitutional right to appeal their conviction. However, while the courts are legally required to
- 12 appoint a lawyer for a general sessions criminal trial no lawyer is appointed for an appeal. The
- 13 effect of this being that generally only wealthier individuals can afford to appeal a criminal
- 14 conviction. This of course has obvious racial implications as people of color are less likely to file an
- 15 appeal in a criminal court case. This law seeks to mandate that criminal convictions (Murder in the
- 16 1st Degree) resulting in a sentence of death be automatically accepted to the TN Court of Appeals
- 17 for review and that the state of TN provide a court appointed lawyer for people who are unable to
- 18 provide their own counsel.
- 19
- 20 As of April 2022, there are 47 convicted prisoners on Death Row in TN. The average inmate is on
- 21 death row for 15 years. The average cost of incarcerating a prisoner on death row is \$90,000 a
- 22 year. This bill seeks to lessen the time a prisoner will spend on death row, by speeding up the
- 23 appeals process.
- 24
- 25 In addition, this bill seeks to fulfill the 5th Amendment of the US Constitution which provides a
- 26 speedy trial for all people charged with criminal acts. This bill will seek to cut an inmate's time on
- 27 death row in half, by providing a speedy appeals trial, which will either exonerate the criminal,
- 28 lessen their sentence, or confirm the lower court's sentence of death.
- 29
- 30 Section 4: The cost of this bill to the state of Tennessee will be nothing.
- 31
- 32 The state of Tennessee already funds the TN State Court of Appeals, meaning it will not put the
- 33 Government and its people into further debt. The passage of this bill may bump other criminal
- 34 appeals lower down in the order of hearing; however, the issue at hand, the sentence of death, is
- 35 a matter which should take precedence.
- 36
- 37 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 38
- 39 Section 6: This act shall take effect upon enactment, the public welfare requiring it
- 40

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the Youth in Government	BHB/23-1-14	
		BLUE HOUSE	
House - Health		ACTION ON THE BILL	
Marley Harper, Henley Robertson		HOUSE	SENATE
Signal Mountain High School		Pass ☐ Fail ☐	Pass ☐ Fail ☐

**AN ACT TO ALLOW ABORTIONS UP TO THE TWENTY-EIGHTH WEEK OF PREGNANCY
UNLESS THERE ARE HEALTH CONCERNS FOR THE FETUS AND OR THE MOTHER**

- 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 follows:
- 4 Abortion: The intentional ending of a human pregnancy.
- 5 Pregnant: The condition of having a fetus developing in a uterus.
- 6 3rd Trimester: The 28th week that a mother has had a fetus developing inside of her.
- 7 Fetus: The offspring of a human still in the prenatal stage confined in the womb.
- 8 Health Concerns: Health matters that cause deathly harm to the mother or the fetus.
- 9
- 10 Section 2: This act would require health care professionals trained to perform abortions to perform
- 11 them, if the professional and mother choose to, up to a woman's twenty-eighth week of her
- 12 pregnancy. This would require a change in Tennessee's legislation abortion rights.
- 13
- 14 Section 3: This act would also allow exceptions after the twenty-eight weeks, as recommended by
- 15 the health care provider. This would mean that if a significant danger is posed to the mother or the
- 16 fetus, the mother would have the option to have an abortion.
- 17
- 18 Section 4: This would cost the government very minimal amounts of money because most
- 19 abortion clinics have many other purposes besides abortions, thus rendering them still in operation
- 20 even after the banning of abortions in Tennessee. And the government would make at least
- 21 \$500,00 from the women who apply for and get abortions.
- 22
- 23 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
- 24
- 25 Section 6: This act shall take place on January 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.
- 26

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		BHB/23-1-15	
			BLUE HOUSE	
House - Health Trevor Curtis, Vance Lewis Signal Mountain High School			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

An Act to Delay School Start Times to 8:30 AM

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
- 2
- 3 Section 1) Terms used in this act shall be defined as follows:
- 4 a) School Administrator: A School Administrator is the Head Teacher. They are overall ranks of
- 5 teaching. School Administrator is just a title for being overteaching in a school.
- 6 b) Tennessee Department of Education: It is the state of Tennessee's department that goes over
- 7 all large acts related to school.
- 8 c) Sleep Deprivation: A state in which you are not getting
- 9 enough sleep. You cannot get the adequate rest that you
- 10 need to function properly, and to the best of your ability.
- 11
- 12 Section 2) This act will require all public middle and high schools in Tennessee to be needed to
- 13 start at 8:30 AM. This will allow students to get the proper amount of sleep that is needed to
- 14 prevent sleep deprivation and to pay attention and take in knowledge. Some schools like SMMHS
- 15 will have to have a leveled bus time because the bus cannot hold elementary, middle, and high
- 16 school students.
- 17
- 18 Section 3) To receive state funding, all Tennessee schools will abide by these guidelines.
- 19
- 20 Section 4) These new start times will be enforced by the Tennessee Department of Education and
- 21 all school administration.
- 22
- 23 Section 5) This act does not need any funding, due to the slight change in times.
- 24
- 25 Section 6) This act shall take effect next school year, August 9, 2023
- 26

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		BHB/23-1-16	
			BLUE HOUSE	
House - Civil Justice Isabella Robinson, Arianna Walker Wilson Central High School			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

An Act to Amend 4-21-403, Ending Employment Discrimination Based On Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation

- 1 BE IN ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:
- 4 Creed - set of beliefs or aims that guide someone's action; a system of Christian or other religious
- 5 belief; a faith.
- 6 Discriminatory Practice- Any direct or indirect act or practice of exclusion, distinction, restriction,
- 7 segregation, limitation, refusal, denial, or any other act or practice which constitutes different
- 8 treatment or preference of a person or persons based on race, creed, color, religion, sex, age,
- 9 national origin, or handicap.
- 10 Gender Identity - One's innermost concept of self as male, female, or a blend of both or neither -
- 11 How individuals perceive themselves and what they call themselves, one's gender identity can be
- 12 the same or different from the sex assigned at birth.
- 13 Sex - Biological categorization of people as "male" or "female", assigned at birth
- 14 Sexual Orientation- A person's identity in relation to the gender or genders to which they are
- 15 sexually attracted; the fact of being heterosexual, homosexual, etc.
- 16
- 17 Section 2: Currently standing, Tennessee has an anti-discrimination employment law, 4-21-403, in
- 18 which it is illegal to discriminate against age, color, creed, disability, national origins, race,
- 19 religion, and sex, yet nowhere is it stated against discrimination based on gender identity, or
- 20 sexual orientation. If amended, it would read, "It is unlawful to discriminate against age, color,
- 21 creed, disability, gender identity, national origin, race, religion, sex, and sexual orientation."
- 22
- 23 Section 3: Furthermore, the current definition of "discriminatory practice" doesn't include "sexual
- 24 orientation" or "gender identity." This bill will redefine discriminatory practice as, "Any direct or
- 25 indirect act or practice of exclusion, distinction, restriction, segregation, limitation, refusal, denial,
- 26 or any other act or practice which constitutes different treatment or preference of a person or
- 27 persons based on race, creed, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, handicap, sexual
- 28 orientation, or gender identity".
- 29
- 30 Section 4: Implementation of this act will enforce/protect the right to take legal action if
- 31 discrimination is suspected.
- 32
- 33 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed
- 34
- 35 Section 6: This act shall take effect immediately upon becoming law, the public welfare requiring
- 36 it.
- 37



70th General Assembly
of the
Tennessee YMCA
Youth in Government



the
Tennessee YMCA
Youth in Government

House – Consumer and Human Resources	
Shalonnah Pobi, Arianna Tama, Heidana Tesera	
Central Magnet High School	

BHB/23-1-17

BLUE HOUSE

ACTION ON THE BILL

HOUSE SENATE

Pass ☐ Fail ☐

Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO AMEND THE TENNESSEE PARENTAL LEAVE ACT TO REQUIRE PAID LEAVE

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:
2
3 Section 1: Terms in this act should be defined as the following:
4 Parental leave- the absence of an employee for adoption, pregnancy, childbirth, and nursing an
5 infant.
6 Full-time employee- an employee that works an average of 30 hours per week or 130 hours per
7 month
8
9 Section 2: The Tennessee Maternity Leave Act (T.C.A. §§ 4-21-408) will be amended to enforce
10 paid leave for full-time employees. The current Tennessee Maternity Leave Act permits the
11 employer to decide the following: whether to pay, how much to pay, and the duration of payment
12 regarding their employee's parental leave.
13
14 Section 3: All employers with 100 or more full-time employees are required to administer paid
15 parental leave to both male and female full-time employees. It still stands that the employee must
16 have worked for the employer for at least 12 consecutive months prior to receiving the benefits of
17 paid leave. Employees are given no more than four months of paternal leave as stated in section a
18 of the Tennessee Maternity Leave Act. The parental leave period should not differ based on
19 whether the employee had a child through adoption or through traditional pregnancy.
20
21 Section 4: According to the Tennessee Maternity Leave Act, an employee must notify their
22 employer of their leave of absence three months in advance unless circumstances prevented them
23 from doing so. Circumstances could include an unexpected medical emergency or an
24 unprecedented adoption notice. This will still be reinforced.
25
26 Section 5: Taking maternity leave for four months while still maintaining a job title is widely seen
27 as a benefit of most companies, especially since it is a requirement for employers with over 100
28 employees. However, taking a leave of such length without income is not ideal. It is not feasible to
29 take a leave for that long and still be able to afford the cost of living in Tennessee.
30
31 Section 6: Paid leave would benefit Tennessee parents that are still in need of some form of
32 income during their leave period. Securing the payment specifically for full-time employees
33 ensures that companies will still have full-time workers and will encourage the employees to stay
34 loyal to their company. Paid leave leaves little window for employers to seek other job
35 opportunities during their leave of absence. Since the Tennessee Maternity Leave Act states in
36 section c that an employee must not seek any form of work during their leave, it is more practical
37 that the employers pay the employees to compensate for the months they are not allowed to
38 work.

39
40 Section 7: The set amount paid over the extent of the leave should be at least 10% of the salary
41 of the current employee. This way, the employee is still getting compensation during their leave,
42 and the company does not have to pay the full salary of the employee. The money used to
43 compensate the employee on maternity leave will come from the paycheck the employee would
44 have received had they not been on leave. A set requirement of over 100 employees will be kept
45 to try to reduce economic trouble for small businesses with fewer employees.
46
47 Section 8: This act does not require funds from the Tennessee government.
48
49 Section 9: This act shall take effect January 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.
50

TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT



HOUSE COMMITTEE 2

**Mark Nashi &
Joey Zhu**

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	RHB/23-2-1	
	RED HOUSE	
ACTION ON THE BILL		
House - Health Emma Petty	HOUSE Pass ☐ Fail ☐	SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐
Lebanon High School		

AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 33, CHAPTER 6, PART 4 OF THE TENNESSEE CONSTITUTION IN REGARDS TO INVOLUNTARY INPATIENT TREATMENT

- 1 Section 1) Terms in this act are defined as follows:
- 2 a) Involuntary admission to inpatient treatment: the legal process by which a person is confined in
- 3 a psychiatric hospital against their wishes.
- 4 b) Serious emotional disturbance: a therapist, psychiatrist, and or other designated guardian as
- 5 designated in 33-6-201, observes a worrying change in the patient's mood, habits, personality,
- 6 etc.
- 7
- 8 Section 2) This act requires amendment of the Tennessee State Constitution Title 33, Chapter 6,
- 9 Part 4.
- 10 a) Replace 'the person poses an immediate substantial likelihood of serious harm under 33-6-501
- 11 because of the mental illness or serious emotional disturbance,' with, 'danger to self or others has
- 12 been shown within the previous 30 days, or threatened within the next 30 days.'
- 13 b) Add 'danger to self or others includes: the person being unable to satisfy their nourishment,
- 14 personal or medical care, shelter, and or self-protection without supervision; the person has
- 15 attempted or threatened to attempt suicide; the person has mutilated themselves or threatened to
- 16 mutilate themselves; the person has threatened to inflict bodily harm on another person.'
- 17
- 18 Section 3) There is no funding required for this bill.
- 19
- 20 Section 4) All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 21
- 22 Section 5) This act shall take effect May 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
- 23
- 24

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	RHB/23-2-2	
	RED HOUSE	
ACTION ON THE BILL		
House - Education Mary Boulton, Davis Booth Father Ryan High School	HOUSE Pass ☐ Fail ☐	SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO REQUIRE EASIER ACCESS TO THE TENNESSEE-FUNDED HOPE SCHOLARSHIP

- 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 follows:
- 4 Tennessee HOPE Scholarship: Provides scholarship and grant assistance to Tennesseans attending
- 5 eligible Tennessee colleges.
- 6 FAFSA: The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is a form filled out by current and
- 7 future undergraduate and graduate college students in the United States to determine whether
- 8 they are eligible for student financial aid.
- 9 Federally funded: Any funding i.e., grant, cooperative grant, contract, received from any United
- 10 States government agency, department or entity.
- 11 NASFAA: National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
- 12 NCAN: National College Attainment Network
- 13 Lag: A noticeable decrease in application speed, due to extreme network congestion or insufficient
- 14 processing power.
- 15 Financial Aid: Funding that is available exclusively to students attending a post-secondary
- 16 educational institution in the United States.
- 17 Brain-Drain: The emigration of highly trained or intelligent people from a particular area.
- 18 FSA: Federal Student Aid.
- 19
- 20 Section 2: Within this bill, the HOPE Scholarship, which is established and funded from the net
- 21 proceeds of the state lottery and awarded to entering freshmen who are enrolled at an eligible
- 22 postsecondary institution within sixteen (16) months after graduating from a TN eligible high
- 23 school, shall be amended. The potentially conflictual relationship between the HOPE Scholarship
- 24 and the federally funded FAFSA shall be mended with the addition of an alternative way to apply
- 25 for the HOPE Scholarship.
- 26
- 27 Section 3: According to the official Tennessee Lottery Programs website, in reference to the HOPE
- 28 Scholarship, [One must] apply by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- 29 NASFAA and NCAN have expressed their concerns with the difficulty that is accessing and
- 30 completing the FAFSA to the Department of Education ED and the White House, raising concerns
- 31 that with all the other priorities ED and FSA are managing, the revisions to FAFSA are lagging. The
- 32 FAFSA form requires additional information that the HOPE Scholarship application does not; this
- 33 creates extra, unnecessary work for applicants who wish to apply solely for the HOPE Scholarship.
- 34 Furthermore, the difficulty that is navigating the FAFSA application has prevented some students
- 35 from receiving aid; more specifically, as of the end of March, FAFSA applications for the 2022-23
- 36 cycle were down 8.9% and FAFSA Renewals are down 12%. The burden of the federal
- 37 government's lack of progress and failure in constructing an adequate site through which students
- 38 in need may access financial aid should not be borne by the state of Tennessee.

39 Section 4: The aforementioned issues with the FAFSA form have resulted in, but are not limited to,
40 the following:
41 Many students in need of financial aid, specifically in-state tuition, who also meet all eligibility
42 requirements are now lacking said tuition.
43 The state of Tennessee is experiencing a brain-drain on the national scale; with an increasing
44 numbers of students unable to receive the in-state tuition they require, attending college
45 elsewhere is becoming a more popular option, taking from Tennessee's education system and
46 future economy.
47 Students who have difficulty accessing the required FAFSA financial information due to lack of
48 necessary communication with one's parent(s), lack of a stable source of income, or lack of a
49 stable home life generally, may not receive the aid they need.

51
52 Section 5: We call to attention the issue of the required completion of the FAFSA to gain access to
53 the Tennessee HOPE Scholarship. We hereby request an amendment to the Application section of
54 the state-controlled and state-funded Tennessee HOPE Scholarship:
55 Apply either by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or by completing
56 the Free Application for the Tennessee HOPE Scholarship.

57
58 Section 6: The function of this amendment is to give the state of Tennessee, as opposed to the
59 federal government, the ability to design an easier website more accessible and more personalized
60 to the income levels and the particular financial struggles and needs of Tennessee students. The
61 passage of this amendment shall both increase the number of students receiving financial aid and
62 provide more opportunities for higher education. The Tennessee Department of Education shall
63 require no additional funds to achieve this.

64
65 Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

66
67 Section 8: This act shall be enacted on September 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
68
69

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		RHB/23-2-3
House - State Government Lilly Carroll, Jay Nathan Webb School			RED HOUSE
			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ SENATE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO IMPROVE TEACHER SALARY IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

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

4 a) Salary: a fixed payment, paid to an employee from an employer on a biweekly or monthly
5 basis; it is often expressed as an annual sum.

6 b) Qualified, Full-time, Public School Teacher: an educator hired for a six hour or less work day for
7 over 100 days of the year; said person must have been hired based on specific qualifications and
8 credentials.

9 c) Teacher Shortage: the recent decline in people within the teaching workforce in the US,
10 especially as a result of the pandemic-related effects and inadequate pay grades.

11 d) Grant: a federally issued loan meant to relieve financial hardship for teachers as defined in
12 section (1)(b).

13
14 Section 2: This law is to be cited as the Tennessee Teacher's Act.

15
16 Section 3: The purpose of this act is to ensure higher salaries for public school teachers as to avoid
17 and dampen the effects of teacher burnout.

18
19 Section 4: The Tennessee Department of Education shall seek out 4-year grants for teachers'
20 salaries. To be able to receive a grant, the State shall submit an application to the Secretary at
21 such time. The State will reallocate these funds to school systems statewide. This act will increase
22 the annual salary of a qualified, full-time, public school teacher from, a median of, \$50,761 to
23 \$60,000.

24
25 Section 5: Any given local or state educational school may not reduce or alter the set salary of
26 teachers' pay for any given reason, unless authorized by the state of Tennessee.

27
28 Section 6: Each local educational agency, upon request by the State and Secretary, shall
29 demonstrate that the methods used to allocate teacher pay to qualifying schools ensures that each
30 teacher and school receive equal State and local funds regarding teacher compensation.

31
32 Section 7: Due to a widespread teacher shortage in the state of Tennessee, it is imperative that
33 the public be educated on the following matters:

34 a) increase awareness of the importance of teachers and the value of their jobs.

35 b) encourage students who remain in school to seek out a profession in a school setting, not
36 worried about pay

37 c) diversify the groups of teachers currently entering the profession
38

39 Section 8: All money going directly into teachers' salaries will be awarded to teachers directly from
40 the grant funds. The grants will be coming from the Secretary of State and will be given on an
41 annual basis. The total amount coming from the secretary will fluctuate yearly, with an estimated
42 amount of \$20,000 per teacher.
43
44 Section 9: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
45
46 Section 10: This act shall take effect beginning in August 2024, preparing for the 2024-2025
47 school year.
48

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		RHB/23-2-4
House - Criminal Justice			RED HOUSE
Haylee Speller, Rachel Hutchings			
Sale Creek High School			
			ACTION ON THE BILL
			HOUSE ☐ SENATE ☐
			Pass ☐ Fail ☐
			Pass ☐ Fail ☐

**AN ACT TO AMEND TN CODE §§ 40-29-202 TO PREVENT FELON
DISENFRANCHISEMENT AND REMOVE POLL TAX EQUIVALENT**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:
2
3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:
4 Amend: modify formally, as a legal document or legislative bill
5 Suffrage: the right to vote in political elections
6 Redact: permanently remove text
7 Indigent: making or earning 125% or less than the national poverty line
8 Poll tax: a capitation tax, the payment of which is sometimes a prerequisite to exercise the right of
9 suffrage
10 Disenfranchise: deprive (someone) of the right to vote
11 24th Amendment: Amendment to United States Constitution which states, "The right of citizens of
12 the United States to vote in any primary or other election for President or Vice President, for electors
13 for President or Vice President, or for Senator or Representative in Congress, shall not be denied or
14 abridged by the United States or any State by reason of failure to pay any poll tax or other tax."
15
16 Section 2: This act will amend TN Code §§ 40-29-202 to remove any language which implies that
17 those applying for a voter registration card or a reinstatement of suffrage must pay fees or fines of
18 any kind. The current requirement is equivalent to a modern day poll tax which is in opposition to
19 the 24th amendment. The requirement of fine and court payment results in the needless
20 disenfranchisement of many Tennessee citizens.
21
22 Section 3: This act will do so by redacting the following text from subsection (b) of TN Code §§ 40-
23 29-202: "Notwithstanding subsection (a), a person shall not be eligible to apply for a voter
24 registration card and have the right of suffrage restored, unless the person:
25 (1) Has paid all restitution to the victim or victims of the offense ordered by the court as part of
26 the sentence; and
27 (2) Beginning September 1, 2010, notwithstanding subsection (a), a person shall not be eligible to
28 apply for a voter registration card and have the right of suffrage restored, unless the person has paid all
29 court costs assessed against the person at the conclusion of the person's trial, except where the court
30 has made a finding at an evidentiary hearing that the applicant is indigent at the time of application."
31
32 Section 4: Following the enactment of this bill, those who have lost the right of suffrage and are
33 unable to attain a voter registration card due to unpaid restitution or court costs shall be able to
34 obtain a voter registration card and suffrage. This only applies if they are also in accordance with
35 the other subsections of code 40-29-202.
36
37 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
38
39 Section 6: This act shall take effect on January 1, 2024.
40

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	RHB/23-2-5
		RED HOUSE
ACTION ON THE BILL		
House - Education Ben Andrews, Eli Testerman Valor College Prep	HOUSE	SENATE
	Pass ☐ Fail ☐	Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO PROMOTE GLOBAL LEARNING IN HIGH SCHOOLS

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this act are defined as follows:
- 4 a) Categorical Grant: State-funded monetary compensation to be used for a specific purpose.
- 5 b) Foreign Language Class: Any class that teaches a language other than English.
- 6 c) Geography Class: Any class that teaches the physical, political, and socioeconomic patterns of
- 7 geography.
- 8 d) Global Education Committee: Committee formed by this bill under the Tennessee Board of
- 9 Education
- 10
- 11 Section 2: The Global Education Committee will be formed under the Board of Education.
- 12
- 13 Section 3: The Global Education Committee will be composed of employees selected by the State
- 14 Board of Education.
- 15
- 16 Section 4: The Global Education Committee will offer categorical grants to each Tennessee county
- 17 with these specifications:
- 18 a) The funds will be distributed to the creation of two new foreign language classes and one new
- 19 geography class per school within the county.
- 20 b) If a school already has a maximum amount of foreign language and geography classes, as
- 21 confirmed by the committee, the funds may be distributed to the betterment of already existing
- 22 geography and foreign language classes.
- 23
- 24 Section 5: The Department of Education will budget \$200,000,000.00 to be distributed under the
- 25 jurisdiction of the Global Education Committee.
- 26
- 27 Section 6: Remaining money will be redirected to Tennessee's Rainy Day Fund.
- 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 January 1st, 2024. Distribution and application of the budgeted
- 32 funds must be completed by January 1st, 2026.
- 33
- 34

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	RHB/23-2-6
		RED HOUSE
ACTION ON THE BILL		
House - Criminal Justice Cyrah Miller, Demerius Webster Antioch High School	HOUSE	SENATE
	Pass ☐ Fail ☐	Pass ☐ Fail ☐

An Act to Reinvent Rehabilitation Programs for Prisoners

- 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. Class C Felony- Can be sentenced to prison terms of three to fifteen years, as well as fines of up
- 5 to \$10,000. (Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 40-35-111 [2019]).
- 6 b. Class D Felony- Punishable by two to twelve years imprisonment, and a fine of up to \$5,000.
- 7 (Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 40-35-111 [2019]).
- 8 c. Class E Felony- Punishable by one to six years in prison, as well as a fine of up to \$3,000. (Tenn.
- 9 Code Ann. §§ 40-35-110, 40-35-111 [2019]).
- 10 d. Legal Sex- The current marker on your government identification documents.
- 11 e. Rehabilitation- The action of restoring someone to normal life through training and therapy after
- 12 imprisonment, addiction, or illness.
- 13 f. High School GED- The General Educational Development Test consists of four subject tests that,
- 14 once passed, earn you a high school equivalency credential.
- 15 g. Public-Private Partnership- Collaboration between a government agency and a private-sector
- 16 company.
- 17
- 18 Section 2: All Felons Class C or lower are hereby required to complete at least an entire year at
- 19 the improved Tennessee Department of Corrections Rehabilitation Program.
- 20 - Attendees can only receive a maximum of three years of the program free.
- 21
- 22 Section 3: The new Department of Corrections Rehabilitation Program will provide housing,
- 23 rehabilitation programs, and job training programs.
- 24 They will be as following:
- 25 a. Housing:
- 26 - Each person is provided their own room
- 27 - There will be communal kitchens and bathrooms on each floor.
- 28 - Room and board will be separated by legal sex.
- 29 - Food will be provided three times a week, kitchens will be fully stocked with groceries every
- 30 two weeks.
- 31 - After a year if an attendee is in good standing and decides to move out of the communal
- 32 housing they are free to as long as they continue to complete the rest of the requirements.
- 33 b. Rehabilitation Program:
- 34 - All offenders of drug related charges including distribution must attend the drug
- 35 rehabilitation program.
- 36 - This program will be custom tailored to each participant's charge, to achieve maximum
- 37 success.
- 38 - There will be standard requirements every attendee will have to complete as well.

- A detox is required where participants are not allowed to have any non medicated drugs in their system or a blood alcohol level of 0.08 or higher.

- Therapy is mandatory for all attendees.

- A six month educational course on the effects and laws regarding illegal controlled substances and alcohol is required.

- Completion of this course is necessary to exit the Department of Corrections Rehabilitation Program.

c. Job Training:

- Each person is mandated to attain their High School GED if not already acquired.
- This will be through a series of classes (online or in person).
- High School level teachers will be brought in and teach the courses
- Each person is mandated to enter a job training program, being trained for a blue collar job/trade job of their choice.
- This includes jobs like but not limited to: carpentry, ironwork, warehouse work, office work, construction equipment operation (bulldozer, crane, etc.) truck driving, (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Cooling)HVAC and electrical work.
- The job training will be done through public-private partnerships with companies
- The company that the trainee is in will be responsible for paying the trainee.
- The companies are required to pay each trainee at least the minimum wage.
- This job training period is suspected to start after the trainee attains their GED and will end any period from six months to two years depending on the career.

Section 4: The program will cap out at 350 attendees per facility

- There will be a minimum of 108 workers per facility
 - One officer for every ten attendees
 - One teacher for every twenty-five attendees
 - One therapists for every ten attendees
 - One cook for every thirty attendees
 - One cleaner for every thirty attendees

Section 5: We are requesting 9 million dollars from the Department of Corrections

- It would take on average 5.5 million dollars to remodel an out of service school buildings to turn into our first facilities
- It would cost 75,000 dollars per facility per year to feed 350 people
- Workers will be paid 3 million in total per year.
 - Approximately 2.1 million a year for on therapists
 - Approximately 228 thousand a year on cooks
 - Approximately 372 thousand a year on cleaners

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

Section 7: This act shall take effect September 15, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.

		70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government			WHB/23-2-7
House - Education Campbell Miller, Harper Cowart Signal Mountain High School				WHITE HOUSE	
				ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ SENATE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐	

An Act To Repeal Title 49, Chapter 6, Section 38 of the Tennessee Code

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2

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

4 Age Appropriate Materials Act of 2022: another way of referring to 49-6-38, which requires

5 teachers to maintain a list of materials in their library collection to be reviewed, and that materials

6 deemed inappropriate be removed.

7 Library Collection: Materials made available to students by a school operated by a local education

8 agency (LEA) or by a public charter school, not including materials made available to students as

9 part of a course curriculum.

10 Materials: Books, periodicals, newspapers, manuscripts, films, prints, documents, microfilm, discs,

11 cassettes, videotapes, video games, applications, and subscription content in any form.

12

13 Section 2: This act prohibits any agency or other entity from requiring teachers to make their

14 library collection's contents available to the public in the interest of upholding free speech and

15 access to knowledge.

16

17 Section 3: The act herein repeals 49-6-38 in its entirety, without replacing it

18

19 Section 4: This bill will cost nothing to enact.

20

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

22

23 Section 6: This act shall take effect immediately upon passage.

24

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		WHB/23-2-8	
			WHITE HOUSE	
House - Criminal Justice			ACTION ON THE BILL	
William Powell, Magnus Eiertson, Seth Green			HOUSE	SENATE
			Pass ☐	Pass ☐
			Fail ☐	Fail ☐

AN ACT TO AMEND TENNESSEE CODE 55-10-416 TO CRIMINALIZE THE POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL BY PASSENGERS IN A MOTOR VEHICLE

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: Open container: Anything containing an alcoholic beverage that has a broken seal and is

5 immediately available for consumption.

6 B: Motor vehicles: Any vehicle that primarily operates by use of a motor.

7 C: Chauffeur service: Any professional service in which something of value is offered to the

8 operator of a motor vehicle in exchange for transportation. Ex: Limousines, Buses, Taxis, etc

9 D: Passenger Areas: An area designed for the transportation of passengers inside of a motor

10 vehicle.

11

12 Section 2: This act will amend Tennessee code 55-10-416 to remove any language that implies

13 the open container rule applies only to the driver. It currently states, "No driver shall consume any

14 alcoholic beverage or beer or possess an open container of alcoholic beverage or beer while

15 operating a motor vehicle in this state." It will be amended to state, "No driver OR passenger"

16

17 Section 3: Open container restriction will only apply to passenger areas of the vehicle. Open

18 containers may be transported in the trunk, a cargo space, or any area inaccessible to the driver

19 or passengers of the car.

20

21 Section 4: This law would not apply to passengers of a chauffeur service as long as the vehicle

22 was established as a chauffeur service before the vehicle initially departed.

23

24 Section 5: Violation of this law would result in a class C misdemeanor, punishable by fine only.

25

26 Section 6: For a violation of this section, a law enforcement officer shall issue a citation in lieu of

27 continued custody, unless the offender refuses to sign and accept the citation, as provided in

28 Tennessee Bill 40-7-118.

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 on January 1st, 2024.

33

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		WHB/23-2-9	
			WHITE HOUSE	
House - Criminal Justice			ACTION ON THE BILL	
Moss Roberts, Rylee Taylor			HOUSE	SENATE
Lebanon High School			Pass ☐	Pass ☐
			Fail ☐	Fail ☐

An Act to Amend the No Public Camping Reform 39-14-414

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2

3 Section I. Terms in this act are as follows:

4 a.) Camping- the erection or use of temporary structures such as tents, tarps, and other

5 temporary shelters for living accommodation activities such as sleeping, or making preparations to

6 sleep.

7 b.) Camping includes, but is not limited to, the laying down bedding for the purpose of sleeping,

8 building a fire, carrying on with cooking activities whether by fire or portable cooking equipment,

9 and digging

10 c.) No Public Camping- A Tennessee law passed in 2022 that punishes campers sleeping overnight

11 on public property.

12 d.) Class E felony in Tennessee- prison time of one to six years, in addition to a fine of up to

13 \$3,000.

14

15 Section II. Revise the No Public Camping Reform 39-14-414 for the benefit of Tennessee's

16 population. If an individual is camping on public property and any law enforcement officer

17 commands them to relocate they will also provide resources such as shelters or possible living

18 spaces to the camper.

19 All public campers are given resources in their area and if the camper fails to comply after 24

20 hours then they will be sentenced to 3-6 months in prison with an evaluation of behavior after

21 they serve their time.

22

23 Section III. Under this act, the penalty for public camping will be dissolved in cases where the

24 camper agrees to relocate within 24 hours. If the camper fails to relocate they will be sentenced to

25 3-6 months in prison which is a Class C misdemeanor.

26

27 Section IV. This act will require all law enforcement officers to be educated on the locations of

28 their help centers and/or shelters in the area in order to assist the campers.

29

30 Section V. This act does not require funding from the state budget; although, it is possible it will

31 generate revenue from fines.

32

33 Section VI. All parts of the No Public Camping Reform 39-14-414 which conflict with this act are

34 hereby repealed.

35

36 Section VII. The act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

37

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA		WHB/23-2-10
	Youth in Government	the	WHITE HOUSE
House - Health			ACTION ON THE BILL
Matilda Slade, Ryan Schwartz			HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐
House - Criminal Justice			
Joe Andino, Ben Ubiarco, Albaro Borrero-Calvert			
Collegiate School			

AN ACT TO PROVIDE A SAFER OPTION FOR ABANDONED NEWBORNS

- 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 Safe Haven Law: allows mothers of newborns to surrender unharmed babies to designated
- 5 facilities within two weeks of birth without fear of being prosecuted, enacted in Tennessee in 2001.
- 6 Safe Haven Baby Box: a safety device provided for under the state's Safe Haven Law and legally
- 7 permits a mother in crisis to safely, securely, and anonymously surrender if they cannot care for
- 8 their newborn.
- 9 Briggs' Safe Haven Baby Box Bill: amended the Safe Haven Law to allow (but not mandate) Safe
- 10 Haven facilities to install baby boxes and create standards for those baby boxes in the state of
- 11 Tennessee, signed into law in May 2022.
- 12
- 13 Section 2: Under this act, two fire stations per county will be required to install and operate a Safe
- 14 Haven Baby Box.
- 15
- 16 Section 3: The Safe Haven Baby Boxes will be expected to maintain proper standards, which
- 17 consist of 24/7 staffing, stocking resources for mothers, and monitoring the functions of the Baby
- 18 Box.
- 19
- 20 Section 4: The appropriate training regarding the Safe Haven Baby Boxes operation will be
- 21 incorporated into the firefighter's training courses.
- 22
- 23 Section 5: The privacy of the mother and newborn would be protected under the Safe Haven Law
- 24 and with the use of these Baby Boxes, ensuring an anonymous and safe relinquishment if the
- 25 mother chooses so.
- 26
- 27 Section 6: Given that the cost and upkeep of a Safe Haven Baby Box is an estimated 16,000
- 28 dollars, 3.04 million dollars granted by the Tennessee Department of Human Services will cover
- 29 the cost for the boxes in 95 counties.
- 30
- 31 Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 32
- 33 Section 8: This act shall take effect January 1, 2027, the public welfare of those requiring it.
- 34
- 35

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA		WHB/23-2-11
	Youth in Government	the	WHITE HOUSE
House - Criminal Justice			ACTION ON THE BILL
Joe Andino, Ben Ubiarco, Albaro Borrero-Calvert			HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐
Collegiate School			

AN ACT TO RESTRICT UNCONSTITUTIONAL SEARCH AND SEIZURE OF TENNESSEE RESIDENTS BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

- 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) State Issued Identification: A State Issued Identification is a government-issued form of
- 5 identification containing personal and biometric information, that allows its holder to prove their
- 6 identity. These include a driver's license, state-issued identification card, gun carry permit, or
- 7 other state-issued identification documents.
- 8 b) Consensual Encounter: occurs when an individual is approached by a police officer and the
- 9 officer initiates a conversation. A consensual encounter does not involve police commands, force,
- 10 or lights and sirens. There is no need for a crime or even a suspicion of a crime to have occurred
- 11 for a consensual encounter to take place.
- 12 c) Investigatory Stop or Investigatory Detention: For a police officer to detain a person for
- 13 investigation, the officer must have reasonable suspicion that the person has committed, is
- 14 committing, or is about to commit a crime.
- 15 d) Legal Residents of Tennessee: Person whose origin is in a different country than legally in the
- 16 United States and is yet to be recognized as a citizen of the United States
- 17
- 18 Section 2: This act will require all law enforcement agents in the State of Tennessee to restrict the
- 19 requesting of identification materials during police interactions to state-issued forms of
- 20 identification and to accept documentation of proof of residence as sufficient for identification
- 21 purposes. Law enforcement agents must still require proof of a valid state license for any action
- 22 which requires state issued licenses, such as operating a motor vehicle.
- 23
- 24 Section 3: This act shall apply to all residents of Tennessee regardless of federal legal status.
- 25
- 26 Section 4: Law enforcement agents will be trained via police academies and continuing education
- 27 programs for current officers. These programs already exist, we are just adding a new certification
- 28 to the programs. There are people who are already paid to design and develop these continuing
- 29 education training sessions for law enforcement. All current officers must take the training
- 30 modules within 3 months of this law being enacted. The officers who develop these courses will
- 31 interpret the law and design the specified coursework.
- 32
- 33 Section 5: Possible forms of state issued identification which may serve as proof of residence will
- 34 include: documented proof of income as follows: Pay Stub, Bank Statements (personal &
- 35 business), Copy of last year's federal tax return, or Wages and tax statement (W-2 and/or 1099)
- 36
- 37 Section 6: This act is estimated to cost around \$530,000 to provide for the retraining of law
- 38 enforcement officers statewide; however, the legislation will be cost-neutral, redistributing only

39 the needed \$530,000 from the appropriated \$7,000,000 of the Tennessee Department of
40 Corrections.
41
42 Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
43
44 Section 8: This act shall take effect January 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.
45
46

		70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government			BHB/23-2-12
House - Education					BLUE HOUSE
Reed Neese, Garrett Bowen, William Cummings					ACTION ON THE BILL
Valor College Prep					HOUSE Pass ☐ Fail ☐
					SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO IMPROVE MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS IN SCHOOLS

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
2
3 Section 1:
4 Mental Health Disorders: A mental disorder is characterized by a clinically significant disturbance
5 in an individual's cognition, emotional regulation, or behavior. It is usually associated with distress
6 or impairment in important areas of functioning. There are many different types of mental
7 disorders. Examples of mental health disorders are included in the following:
8 Anxiety
9 Medical or Clinically diagnosed depression
10 Stress
11 Bipolar disorder
12 Schizophrenia
13 Suicide: A leading cause of death. Suicide is death caused by injuring oneself with the intent to
14 die. A suicide attempt is when someone harms themselves with any intent to end their life, but
15 they do not die as a result of their actions. Many factors can increase the risk for suicide or protect
16 against it
17 School Counselors: A person who gives help and advice to students about educational and
18 personal decisions.
19
20 Section 2: This act will help lower suicide rates and provide services that are accessible to those
21 who need it. According to Better Tennessee, more than 1100 teens commit suicide every year, and
22 this rate is increasing. Mental health reformation is highly needed considering how Tennessee's
23 rate of suicidal deaths is 29% higher than the national rate of 13.9%, with teens and young adults
24 the most dominant groups committing suicide.
25
26 Section 3: This act aims to overhaul the existing school programs surrounding student mental
27 health by introducing a new school counselor position specifically focused on mental health. Their
28 role would be to conduct interviews within their schools to better identify students that struggle
29 with mental health early on, so that they can receive extra support. Counselors currently assist
30 students with academic, personal, and college-related needs. This bill hopes to enhance the
31 personal guidance students receive through the new position.
32
33 Section 4: If implemented these programs will be rolled out in 500 schools across the state to test
34 the effectiveness. The cost of implementing counselors in 500 schools would be around \$25 million
35 dollars, based on the average salary between this amount of counselors.
36
37 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
38
39 Section 6: This act shall take effect July, 1st, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.
40

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		BHB/23-2-13
	House - Criminal Justice Kara Carr, Caroline Hodge Lebanon High School		BLUE HOUSE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐

A Resolution to Gun Violence

- 1 Section 1.
- 2 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government, persons over 21 years of age must
- 3 have a permit in order to openly or concealed carry a handgun. In July 2021 Tennessee eliminated
- 4 its permit requirement for carrying handguns in public spaces and, effective July 7, 2021 now
- 5 generally allows anyone at least 21 years of age to carry a handgun in most public spaces without
- 6 a permit, either openly or concealed. In 2022 Tennessee surpassed 91 homicides, "Recent studies
- 7 have concluded that right to carry laws are associated with double digit increases in homicide and
- 8 violent crimes" says John Drake, Davidson County's chief of police, almost 100 homicides in
- 9 Tennessee are from the cause of gun violence. According to the Nashville police data reports in
- 10 2022 there were 242 fatal shootings (homicides), 1,259 non-fatal shootings, 11,127 violent crimes
- 11 (threat of a firearm).
- 12
- 13 Section 2.
- 14 In order to fix this issue, we believe that all people who wish to be a handgun owner must attend a
- 15 gun safety exam to demonstrate that said owner has the adequate skills to safely use and carry a
- 16 handgun. 51.6 percent of people in Tennessee own a gun. So, about half of Tennessee's
- 17 population owns a gun(s), but only 22 percent of them keep their guns in a locked safe or cabinet.
- 18 Which not only is unsafe for children, but is also prone to accidents. Having unlocked safes or
- 19 cabinets can lead to many issues, such as kids or teenagers getting into them and potentially
- 20 bringing them to school and causing harm to others. In 2022 alone there have been 46 shootings.
- 21 This quote from WKRN states, "Metro police confirmed they worked 105 homicides in 2022, up
- 22 from 102 in 2021. In 2020, there were 114 homicides, the most in decades." This is only one
- 23 example of why a gun safety exam should be required along with a permit for a handgun.
- 24
- 25 Section 3: As of 2023, an application fee for an 8 year handgun permit is 65 dollars. A handgun
- 26 safety training course is 49 dollars and 95 cents. You must attend the class and pass the course
- 27 test to obtain the proper permit to own a handgun.
- 28
- 29 Section 4: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 30
- 31 Section 5: This bill will be enacted January 1, 2024.
- 32

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		BHB/23-2-14
	House - Agriculture and Natural Resources Alyssa Climer, Ava Richardson Dyer County High School		BLUE HOUSE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐

An Act to Prevent Waterbody Pollution in Tennessee

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in the act will be defined as follows
- 4 a) Waterbody- A body of water forming a physiological feature
- 5 b) Inmates- a person confined to an institution such as a prison or hospital.
- 6 c) Manufacturing plants-a plant consisting of one or more buildings with facilities for
- 7 manufacturing.
- 8 d) Conservation Officers- A conservation officer is a law enforcement officer who protects wildlife
- 9 and the environment.
- 10 e) Tennessee state surplus- Money Tennessee has left over that was not assigned to a particular
- 11 budget.
- 12 f) OSHA- The Occupational Safety and Health Administration, an agency of the US government
- 13 under the Department of Labor with the responsibility of ensuring safety at work and a healthful
- 14 work environment. OSHA's mission is to prevent work-related injuries, illnesses, and deaths.
- 15 g) Annual- occurring once every year.
- 16 h)Manufacturing- the making of articles on a large scale using machinery; industrial production.
- 17
- 18 Section 2: The state of Tennessee will have to hire more conservation officers, to watch
- 19 over and guard the rivers.
- 20
- 21 Section 3: OSHA manufacturing plants that may harm the water bodies. This will create a
- 22 spectacular opportunity for inmates of jails near these water bodies to do their required
- 23 community service hours.
- 24
- 25 Section 4: This act will cost a complete annual total of anywhere from \$24,437,400 - \$31,117,400,
- 26 The money needed for this act will be pulled from the Tennessee State Surplus.
- 27
- 28 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 29
- 30 Section 6: This act shall take effect July 1, 2023
- 31

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		BHB/23-2-15	
	House - Finance, Ways & Means Mia Griffin, Maxine Richards Signal Mountain High School		BLUE HOUSE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO INCREASE THE CONSEQUENCES AND FINES FOR DISTRACTED DRIVING

- 1 Be it enacted by the YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
- 2
- 3 Section 1: The terms in this bill should be defined as follows:
- 4 A) Distracted Driving: driving while engaging in other activities which distracts the driver from the
- 5 road
- 6 B) Criminal Record: the summary of an individual's contacts with law enforcement agencies
- 7 C) Demerit on license: a point subtracted from a person's driver's license upon conviction of a
- 8 driving offense
- 9
- 10 Section 2: This act will increase the punishment and fine given for distracted driving.
- 11
- 12 Section 3: Those who drive distracted will receive three demerit points on their license, the
- 13 inability to apply for an unrestricted driver's license for 9 days, and will be fined based on the
- 14 offense:
- 15 a) First violation: 150\$ fine
- 16 b) Second Violation: 200\$ fine
- 17 c) Third Violation: 250\$
- 18 d) Violation including an accident: 300\$
- 19 School or Work zones: 250\$
- 20
- 21 Section 4: The highest punishment that can be given is the offender facing a one year driver's
- 22 license suspension, or up to a \$1,500 fine, as well as paying for the medical bills of those affected
- 23 by the accident or crash the offender caused. This situation will occur based on the degree of the
- 24 violation or accident and to a judges discretion if taken to court.
- 25
- 26 Section 5: However, if the person is using their device for reporting an emergency, dialing in a
- 27 number to make a call, or using a GPS they made be able to take the violation to court to dispute
- 28 if they give valid evidence
- 29
- 30 Section 6: make the government money. Around 50 people cause wrecks due to distracted driving
- 31 in Tennessee each day. This would bring in around \$2,500 per day.
- 32
- 33 Section 7: All laws or parts in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
- 34
- 35 Section 8: This act shall take effect on January 1st, 2024.
- 36

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		BHB/23-2-16	
	House - Education Tanner Wilson, Landon Ray Clarksville Academy		BLUE HOUSE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

A BILL TO INCREASE NUTRITION EDUCATION IN 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 Obesity- A disorder involving excessive body fat that increases the risk of health problems.
- 5 Nutrition- The process of nourishing or being nourished, especially the process by which a living
- 6 organism assimilates food and uses it for growth and for replacement of tissues.
- 7 Education- A program of instruction of a specified kind or level.
- 8 Curriculum- All the courses of study offered by an educational institution.
- 9 Disorder- An ailment that affects the function of mind or body.
- 10
- 11 Section 2. All High Schools in Tennessee must have a mandatory 1-semester nutrition education
- 12 program included in their curriculum.
- 13
- 14 Section 3. The Nutrition Education Program will be monitored and evaluated by the Tennessee
- 15 Department of Education.
- 16
- 17 Section 4. The addition of this course will cost \$500,000 and will be funded through the Tennessee
- 18 Department of Education.
- 19
- 20 Section 5. All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 21
- 22 Section 6. This bill will be implemented as of the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year.
- 23
- 24



70th General Assembly

of the

Tennessee YMCA

Youth in Government



the

YMCA

House - Education	
Grace Garney, Mia Sabatini	
Signal Mountain High School	

BHB/23-2-17

BLUE HOUSE

ACTION ON THE BILL

HOUSESENATE

Pass FailPass Fail

An Act to Manage Class Sizes For Students Attending Tennessee Public Schools

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2

3 Section I: Terms in this act will be defined as the following

4 Public schools - a school supported by public funds to educate the children of a community or

5 district.

6 Overcrowding- when the student population of a school has exceeded the intended maximum

7 capacity.

8 Academic Performance - the extent to which students, teachers, or institutions have reached their

9 educational goals.

10 Behavior disorders - a disorder that causes a pattern of disruptive behaviors in children that last

11 for at least six months. Behavior disorders cause problems at school, at home, and in social

12 situations. Behavior disorders may involve inattention, hyperactivity, impulsivity, and defiant

13 behavior.

14 Learning Environment - setting in which teaching and learning occurs.

15 Mental Strain - worry, tension, or stress caused by a situation.

16 Annexation - expansion of land regulated by a local government.

17 Re-zoning - to change the zoning of an area, to designate a zone for a new purpose or use.

18 Student-to-Teacher Ratio: the ratio of the number of students per teacher in each class

19 Comprehensive induction: formative assessment processes that aid new teachers in developing

20 skills for student achievement.

21

22 Section II: All public schools in Tennessee will be required to maintain a student-to-teacher ratio

23 of 25:1 or less if possible to increase the overall productivity and academic performance of the

24 school. This ensures that not only are the students receiving a more personalized education, but it

25 is also easier for a teacher to manage a smaller class size. Corrective measures may be taken if

26 the school fails to maintain the 25:1 ratio in 70% of its classes.

27

28 Section III: Whereas approximately 14% of schools in the country had enrollments that were 6 to

29 25 percent greater than the capacity of the school and 8% of schools had enrollments that

30 exceeded their permanent capacity by more than 25 percent.

31

32 Section IV: This act will be enforced by the Tennessee Department of Education. If the mandated

33 student-to-teacher ratio is exceeded within a school, the Department of Education may rezone

34 districts to equally distribute students across schools. They may also provide additional land for

35 outdoor extensions or expansions. If it is impossible for annexation to occur, then efforts will be

36 focused on providing more resources for teachers to help ease their workload and provide support.

37 Recruitment materials and comprehensive induction will be implemented in the hopes of boosting

38 the staff.

39

40 Section V: This bill may require additional costs that can vary in range depending on the course

41 the school board or district decides to take in order to minimize class sizes. Costs covered in this

42 bill may come from additional salaries if more educators are required, funding for teacher

43 education programs, or the construction of outdoor learning spaces if a school should choose that

44 option. These expenses will be covered by the Tennessee department of education's budget of \$9

45 million. Within the Tennessee department of education's budget, there is \$125 million set aside for

46 teacher pay, money that can be used to hire new educators, as well as an additional \$500 million

47 for other programs.

48

49 Section VI: All laws or parts of laws in this conflict are hereby repealed.

50

51 Section VII: This act will take effect at the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year, on August 1st.

52

TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT



HOUSE COMMITTEE 3 Amira Wolde

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		RHB/23-3-1
	RED HOUSE		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ SENATE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐
House - Government Operations Dylan Conard, Elijah Sullivan Valor College Prep			

AN ACT TO LOWER THE MINIMUM VOTING AGE TO 16

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA LEGISLATURE:
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this act should be defined as follows:
- 4 a) Minimum voting age: The minimum age an individual must be in order be eligible to register to
- 5 vote
- 6 b) Cold Cognition: Usually activated in low-stress decisions. The dorsolateral prefrontal cortex is
- 7 activated. It deals with things like control, planning, and abstract, logical reasoning.
- 8 c) Dorsolateral Prefrontal Cortex: Part of the brain that deals with decision-making that is focused
- 9 on reasoning. Usually fully developed by age 15 or 16.
- 10 d) Hot Cognition: Usually activated in high-stress decisions. The orbitofrontal cortex is activated. It
- 11 deals with peer pressure, regulating emotions, and impulsive behavior within decisions.
- 12 e) Orbitofrontal Cortex: Part of the brain that deals with decision-making that is focused on knee-
- 13 jerk decisions. Usually fully developed in the late twenties.
- 14
- 15 Section 2: This act will revise the Tennessee State Code 2-2-102, section A, from "A citizen of the
- 16 United States eighteen (18) years of age or older who is a resident of this state is a qualified
- 17 voter" to "A citizen of the United States sixteen (16) years of age or older who is a resident of this
- 18 state is a qualified voter"
- 19
- 20 Section 3: Studies have shown that the cognition needed (cold cognition) to make a well-thought
- 21 out decision when voting is fully developed by the age of 15-16.
- 22
- 23 Section 4: This act will aim to increase youth political participation and literacy by expanding the
- 24 qualifications for voting to include high school-aged children.
- 25
- 26 Section 5: This bill will not require funding from any institution or department.
- 27
- 28 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.
- 29
- 30 Section 7: This act shall take effect January 1st, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.
- 31
- 32

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		RHB/23-3-2
	RED HOUSE		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ SENATE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐
House - Criminal Justice Mia Fanning, Sheeva Chourazghi-Azad Martin Luther King Magnet School			

AN ACT TO ENFORCE PROPER HANDGUN STORAGE IN MOTOR VEHICLES

- 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 Handgun- Any firearm with a barrel length of less than 12 inches that is designed, made, or
- 5 adapted to be fired with one hand.
- 6 Locked container- A secure container locked by a padlock, keylock, combination lock, or other
- 7 functional locking devices. This definition of "locked container" does not pertain to the glove
- 8 compartment of a motor vehicle.
- 9 Ammunition- the bullets or projectiles that can be fired from a firearm, as well as the shells that
- 10 are dropped from the weapon.
- 11
- 12 Section 2: Citizens who are in lawful possession of a handgun in their motor vehicles must store
- 13 the firearm in a locked container or secure it in the locked trunk of the vehicle.
- 14
- 15 Section 3: The handgun must be unloaded of all ammunition while stored in the proper container.
- 16
- 17 Section 4: This act would not require any additional state funding as each citizen will be required
- 18 to purchase their own locked container for their handgun.
- 19
- 20 Section 5: The Commissioner of the Department of Safety and Homeland Security shall be
- 21 authorized to promulgate rules to effectuate the purposes of this part. The rules must be
- 22 promulgated in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4,
- 23 chapter 5.
- 24
- 25 Section 6: Any citizen that fails to comply with this bill, once enacted, will be subject to fines
- 26 starting at \$500.
- 27
- 28 Section 7: All laws or practices in conflict with this are hereby repealed or prohibited.
- 29
- 30 Section 8: This act shall take effect on May 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
- 31

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the Youth in Government	RHB/23-3-3
	RED HOUSE	ACTION ON THE BILL
House - Criminal Justice		HOUSE SENATE
Agni Lolis, Bryn Lawson		Pass ☐ Fail ☐
Webb School		Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO ENSURE THE JUST SENTENCING OF MINORS

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2

3 Section 1: Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, are defined as follows:

4 Minor: a person under age 18- the age of full legal responsibility

5 Juvenile court: a court that handles cases involving crimes committed by children

6 Adult court: a court that handles cases involving crimes committed by adults

7

8 Section 2: This act may be cited as "Cyntoia Brown Law".

9

10 Section 3: Notwithstanding any other provision of law, when sentencing a minor convicted as an

11 adult, a court

12 May impose a sentence less than the minimum term required under law

13 May not impose a sentence of life imprisonment without the possibility of parole or release

14

15 Section 4: Before imposing a sentence in the adult court, the adult court shall consider the

16 following factors:

17 The age of the minor at the time of the offense

18 The capacity of the minor for rehabilitation

19 The minor's family and community environment

20 The minor's ability to appreciate risks and understand the consequences of actions

21 The intellectual capacity of the minor

22 Peer and familial pressure

23 The level of participation of the minor in the offense

24 Faith and community involvement of the minor

25 Prior exposure of the minor to adverse childhood experiences and trauma history

26 If a comprehensive mental health evaluation of the minor was conducted

27

28 Section 5: The court may not require that a comprehensive mental health evaluation be conducted

29 on a minor.

30

31 Section 6: After the consideration of the factors mentioned in Section 4, the court may transfer the

32 minor to the juvenile court for sentencing if it is deemed fit.

33 There is a presumption that the sentencing of the minor will then be conducted by the juvenile

34 court

35

36 Section 7: Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if the court determines by clear and

37 convincing evidence that the minor is a victim of a sex crime under Title 39, Chapter 13, Part 5 of

38 Tennessee's Criminal Law Article or a victim of human trafficking under Title 39, Chapter 13, Part 3

39 of Tennessee's Criminal Law Article committed against the minor within one year before the

40 offense for which the minor was convicted, the court may transfer the minor to the juvenile court

41 for sentencing.

42 There is a presumption that the sentencing of the minor will then be conducted by the juvenile

43 court

44

45 Section 8: If the minor is transferred to the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, the juvenile court

46 may simultaneously make a juvenile disposition and determine an adult sentence. In addition, the

47 juvenile court

48 May vacate the adult sentence if the minor successfully completes the terms of the juvenile

49 disposition

50 May impose the adult sentence if the minor violates the conditions of the juvenile disposition

51

52 Section 9: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

53

54 Section 10: This act shall take effect on March 1, 2023.

55

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	RHB/23-3-4	
	RED HOUSE	
ACTION ON THE BILL		
House - Education Akiles pineda, Abel Kebede Antioch High School	HOUSE Pass ☐ Fail ☐	SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT WORK STUDY OPPORTUNITIES ACROSS HIGH-SCHOOLS IN TENNESSEE

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in act are defined as follows:
- 4 The work-study program allows students to leave school early and work a job while receiving work
- 5 force experience. Students would also receive credits for the class while doing their work study.
- 6
- 7 Section 2: High-school students at the age of 16-18 would be able to sign up for work study
- 8 opportunities. A minimum cumulative Grade point average of a 2.5 and to be academically on
- 9 track would be eligible to apply for this program. The employer would get certified through the TN
- 10 department of education and be required to check in with the teacher of the class. Proof of
- 11 attendance would be required for the employer to provide.
- 12
- 13 Section 3: The rule of the work-study program would be decided by each district.
- 14
- 15 Section 4: The implementation of the work study will cost \$2,000,000 given to each school
- 16 participating divided into \$75,000 and given to high schools in TN and funded by the Tennessee
- 17 Department of education.
- 18
- 19 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 20
- 21 Section 6: The act shall take effect August 15,2024, the public welfare requiring it.
- 22

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	RHB/23-3-5	
	RED HOUSE	
ACTION ON THE BILL		
House - Civil Justice Ellie Stresser, Sofia Carmenate Father Ryan High School	HOUSE Pass ☐ Fail ☐	SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐

An Act to Increase The Affordability of Adoption

- 1 Section 1: Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, will be defined as the follows:
- 2 Adoption: the action of legally taking another child of parents and parenting it as their own
- 3 Domestic: relating to within a country or specific non-international area
- 4 Affordability: the cost of something that is able to be afforded; doesn't have a too high of price
- 5 Entity: independent organization such as a business or government that has a separate identity
- 6 than that of its members
- 7 Social Worker: someone who's job is to help the individual needs of a person
- 8
- 9 Section 2: Domestic adoptions in the state of Tennessee cost anywhere from \$20,000 to \$40,000
- 10 for adoption agency fees. Applying alone costs between \$50 to \$300 dollars, as well as home
- 11 study costing between \$2,000 and \$3,000, and additional costs that can be \$15,000 and up. This
- 12 can be highly expensive and discouraging for families wishing to adopt. Therefore, this act plans to
- 13 increase the affordability of adoption for those wishing to adopt by developing an entity that can
- 14 partner with attorneys and social workers to provide their services for free or at a reduced rate.
- 15
- 16 Section 3: A new legislative bill would be set up with the state government to initiate private
- 17 individuals and charities to fundraise and give to these specific services.
- 18
- 19 Section 4: The legislative bill would establish a network of charities statewide to support those
- 20 families wishing to adopt and certify families through attorneys and social work.
- 21
- 22 Section 5: Under this act, social worker fees of \$1,000 to \$3,000 will be covered, saving roughly
- 23 15% of the costs.
- 24
- 25 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 26
- 27 Section 7: This act shall take effect on August 1, 2022, the public welfare requiring it.
- 28

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government			WHB/23-3-6	
				WHITE HOUSE	
House - Health Caden Jones, Samuel Harrison Hillwood High School				ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO RESTORE RURAL HOSPITALS BY EXPANDING MEDICAID

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

2

3 Section 1) Terms used in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, shall be defined as

4 follows:

5 a) Rural - of or relating to the country, country people or life, or agriculture.

6 b) Rural hospitals - a hospital located in a non-metropolitan county or a hospital within a

7 metropolitan county that is far away from the urban center.

8 c) Closed rural hospitals - rural hospitals that close their inpatient service or move their services

9 fifteen or more miles away from the current location.

10 d) Financially-struggling hospitals - hospitals that do not have enough money to pay for hospital

11 necessities (ie. bills)

12 e) Coverage - inclusion within the scope of an insurance policy or protective plan: insurance

13 f) Medicaid - a program of medical aid designed for those unable to afford regular medical service

14 and financed by the state and federal governments.

15 g) TennCare - a program providing health insurance to people who are eligible for Medicaid and to

16 certain other people who lack access to insurance.

17 h) Affordable Care Act - the name for the federal comprehensive health care reform law and its

18 amendments; contains comprehensive health insurance reforms and includes tax provisions that

19 affect individuals, families, businesses, insurers, tax-exempt organizations and government

20 entities.

21

22 Section 2) This act will initiate a restoration process for sixteen rural hospitals that have closed

23 since 2005 and also assist financially struggling rural hospitals by expanding Medicaid throughout

24 the state of Tennessee.

25

26 Section 3) Following federal guidelines under the Affordable Care Act, this act will expand Medicaid

27 coverage for low-income adults to 138% of the federal poverty line (FPL).

28

29 Section 4) Through the Tennessee Department of Health, a review board will be established to

30 evaluate each rural hospital's circumstances case-by-case, who are financially struggling or closed.

31 This board will determine how much funding should be appropriated from Tennessee's TennCare

32 budget to each individual hospital. The review board will consist of experts in hospital

33 administration as well as the formation of a joint committee of members of both Tennessee's

34 House of Representatives and Senate who are a part of the House Health Committee and the

35 Senate Health and Welfare Committee. There will be nine members a part of this committee, five

36 of which are health administration experts and four being state legislators. Each member of this

37 committee will receive a salary of \$10,000 a year, for the 10 years the committee will be

38 operating. Under this act, the review board will be referred to as the Tennessee Rural Hospital

39 Financial Review Committee (TRHFR).

40 Section 5) Funding allocated towards hospitals are to be restricted to specific spending guidelines

41 outlined by the TRHFR, which will depend on individual circumstances of each hospital.

42

43

44 Section 6) The restoration process will conclude after a period of five (5) years of continuous

45 funding has elapsed to ensure each hospital is able to be restored to an acceptable degree or

46 supported to a stable status that the committee deems as adequate for the public good.

47

48 Section 7) This act will require 5 billion dollars from Tennessee's estimated 14-billion-dollar

49 TennCare budget, which will be distributed proportionally by the TRHFR to individual hospitals

50 based on their case-by-case review process. The funding issued by the TRHFR will be assigned

51 for specific hospital expenses, therefore restricting what these hospitals.

52

53 Section 8) Efficacy of this act will be overseen by the Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury to

54 ensure funds and financial integrity are upheld, with appropriate changes and suggestions to the

55 funding and expansion. The Joint Fiscal Review Committee may also intercede on matters in order

56 to oversee fiscal operations, provide comments, and interject with necessary criticism, pursuant to

57 TN Code §§ 8-4-119 (2014).

58

59 Section 9) If, after the TRHFR appropriates funding to a hospital, the hospital is found to be in

60 need of additional funding, a formal request for additional funds can be submitted to the TRHFR.

61 The hospital seeking financial assistance must transfer any essential documentation relevant to the

62 evaluation process that the TRHFR requests within ten (10) business days of the request.

63

64 Section 10) Rural hospitals not specifically classified as either financially struggling or closed that

65 wish to be considered for funding must submit a formal request to the review board. The review

66 board will evaluate the circumstances of the hospital's request and determine if the request is

67 valid.

68

69 Section 11) All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

70

71 Section 12) This act shall take effect on January 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.

72

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		WHB/23-3-7	
			WHITE HOUSE	
House - Health Declan Goff, Henry Tuite, Andrew Baker Signal Mountain High School		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐		

AN ACT FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO REQUIRE MENTAL HEALTH SCREENINGS AND ADEQUATE PSYCHOLOGISTS IN ORDER TO BENEFIT THE MENTAL WELL BEING OF STUDENTS

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

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

Online mental health screening - An online mental health tests that gives you a variety of questions related to your mental well being, and based on your answers, will diagnose you with a mental health disorder(s)

Child Psychologists - A person who treats children with mental conditions by verbal communication and interaction

Mental Health - A person's condition with regard to their psychological and emotional well-being

SECTION 2: All public high schools in Tennessee must require semesterly online mental health screenings for every student.

SECTION 3: These services will be provided in all public high schools in Tennessee.

SECTION 4: The mental health screenings will be provided through mindwize.org.

SECTION 5: The test results will be shared with only the nearest psychologist and parents to protect the privacy of the students.

SECTION 6: If the test results diagnose the student with a mental disorder, then they will be provided an optional conference that can be scheduled by the school's psychologist to talk about their results and what needs to be done about it.

SECTION 7: The psychologist can either help the student work out their problems or they can refer the student to other forms of therapy or counseling.

SECTION 8: There will be at least one psychologist per every five schools in a county. This allows the psychologist to travel to each five schools for the five days of the week.

SECTION 9: If needed, the psychologist can schedule online meetings with students that aren't in the same building or after school hours if desired.

SECTION 10: This addition of this course will cost \$10,869,904 and will be funded by the Basic Education Program (BEP).

SECTION 11: All laws or parts in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

SECTION 12: This act shall take effect on August 3, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		WHB/23-3-8	
			WHITE HOUSE	
House - Education Zaharia Willis, Cortney Green, Alyssa Swift Collegiate School		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐		

An Act to Require Public School Teachers to Complete Early Childhood/Adolescent Mental Health Care Training

Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government

Section 1 : The following terms are defined as follows:

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

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

c.) Continuing Education - participation in an education program, seminar, webinar, educational conference, or other state/district approved professional development offering on a given topic

Section 2 : If enacted, this bill will require all certified teachers in Tennessee to successfully complete six hours of continuing education in relation to early childhood/adolescent mental health prior to initial teacher licensure, promotion to professional teacher licensure, and renewing of a professional teacher license.

In Tennessee, teachers are currently required to take multiple classes during their Teacher Education Programs which concern early childhood/adolescent mental health. Teachers seeking professional licensure and teachers seeking professional licensure renewal are required to complete 60 hours of continuing education training over a 6 year period in order to obtain licensure. This bill would simply require that 6 hours of those 60 required hours be devoted to early childhood/adolescent mental health training.

Teachers, including those currently employed, will be required to complete six hours of early childhood/adolescent mental health training prior to all licensure certifications and renewals.

Teachers in Grades PK-3 will complete the training in early childhood development while teachers in Grades 4-12 will complete training in adolescent mental health.

Section 3: Teachers are the first and often times last lines of defense in the war against childhood/teenage depression and suicide. This bill seeks to make sure that the people who are most in contact with and who have the most influence over our state's children are being properly equipped to recognize and deal with mental health issues in their classrooms when the situations arise.

Section 4: Educators with an out of state teaching license will be required to verify their completion of a mental health course (eg. a transcript from their Teacher Education Program).

The TN Department of Education and local school districts already prepare and provide free, approved Teacher Education Programs for all public school teachers in the state. The addition of

38 early childhood/adolescent mental health offerings should not affect these departments or
39 districts. They are already creating and administering professional development programs.
40
41 Section 5: This bill will not require any extra funds from the state as the teacher training
42 infrastructure already exists at the state and local government levels. New training courses would
43 simply need to be developed and offered by the people who already prepare and administer the
44 existing professional development training programs.
45
46 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.
47
48 Section 7: This act shall take effect on August 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.
49

		70th General Assembly				WHB/23-3-9	
		of the		the		WHITE HOUSE	
		Tennessee YMCA		SENATE			
		Youth in Government		ACTION ON THE BILL			
		House - Health		HOUSE		☐ Pass ☐ Fail	
		Brooke Wilson, Stephanie Hutchings, Easton Blevins		SENATE		☐ Pass ☐ Fail	
		Sale Creek High School					

An Act to Remove the Sales Tax On Diapers and Baby Wipes

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:
2
3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:
4 Sales Tax: A tax paid to a governing body for the sales of certain goods and services.
5 Diaper: A type of underwear that allows the wearer to urinate or defecate without using a toilet,
6 by absorbing or containing waste products to prevent soiling of outer clothing or the external
7 environment.
8 Baby Wipe: moistened, disposable, often antiseptic tissue used chiefly for cleansing the skin
9 especially of babies and children.
10
11 Section 2: Currently, Tennessee charges a sales tax on items deemed as "emergency supplies," or
12 diapers. The current sales tax for diapers is 7%. With this bill, it will terminate this tax completely.
13
14 Section 3: Also, the state currently charges a sales tax on items essential to diapers, baby wipes,
15 This bill will also serve to eradicate the 7% tax on baby wipes. This tax will be eliminated per the
16 use of this bill.
17
18 Section 4: With this bill, it will terminate the tax on diapers intended to be used by infants and
19 children and baby wipes. Infants require up to 12 diapers per day, at a cost of \$70 to \$80 per
20 month per child. That's roughly \$930 per year. This bill will serve to alleviate the extensive cost of
21 diapers and baby wipes for Tennessee families.
22
23 Section 5: The recurring decrease in state diaper sales tax revenue is estimated to be \$7,249,163
24 annually. The recurring decrease in state baby wipe sales tax revenue is estimated to be
25 \$3,020,484 annually. Collectively, the net recurring decrease in state revenue as a result of this
26 legislation is estimated to be \$9,781,839 in FY22-23 and subsequent years.
27
28 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
29
30 Section 7: This act shall take effect on January 1, 2024.
31

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government 	House - Health Reagan Miller, Rachel Moscardelli, Rushang Vyas Lebanon High School	WHB/23-3-10 WHITE HOUSE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐
---	---	--

An Act to Establish a Statewide Paid Family and Medical Leave Program

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms within this act will be defined as follows:
- 4 a) Paid Family and Medical Leave (PFML) - a program designed to help people take job-protected,
- 5 paid time off of work for family or medical reasons
- 6 b) Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) - a federal law requiring covered employers to provide
- 7 employees with job-protected, unpaid leave for qualified medical and family reasons
- 8 c) Small Employers - employers with less than 50 employees currently working for them
- 9 d) Full-time employees - any employee who works an average of 30 or more hours per week for
- 10 more than 120 days in a year
- 11 e) Part-time employees - any employee who works an average of less than 30 hours per week
- 12 f) Family leave - an excused absence from work for the purpose of dealing with family matters,
- 13 especially the birth or adoption of a child or to care for a sick parent or spouse.
- 14 g) Medical leave - an excused absence from work for employees who face serious medical
- 15 conditions that reduce their physical and/or mental health to the point that they can no longer
- 16 perform key job responsibilities
- 17
- 18 Section 2: PFML provides eligible employees up to 12 weeks of paid family and medical leave.
- 19 Employees are not required to take all 12 weeks off at once; instead, these weeks may be used
- 20 throughout the year when necessary. While on PFML, employees are paid 80% of their average
- 21 weekly wage, capping out at \$1,000 per week.
- 22

23 Section 3: Full-time and part-time employees are eligible for Tennessee's PFML if they have

24 worked for their employer for at least 12 months. Federal employees and self-employed workers

25 are not included.

26

27 Section 4: This program will be funded by a 0.455% deduction of employees' yearly gross wages.

28 This 0.455% will be paid by both employee and employer contributions. The employee must pay

29 half of the deduction (0.2275%) and the employer must pay the other half (0.2275%). This money

30 will then be pooled into a state fund to distribute to employees who are on paid leave. Employers

31 may opt to pay the full 0.455% as an added benefit to attract job-seekers. One full year of

32 collecting deductions will be necessary to build up the state PFML fund before benefits can go into

33 effect.

34

35 Section 5: Employers and employees must jointly apply in order for the employee to receive PFML.

36 These applications will be reviewed and approved by the Tennessee State Department of Labor &

37 Workforce prior to any benefits being distributed.

38

39 Section 6: Small employers are exempt from this program; however, these employers may opt in.

40

41 Section 7: Private companies may continue to use and create their own paid leave programs, but

42 those programs must at least match or exceed the benefits provided by the statewide PFML.

43

44 Section 8: An employer must reinstate the employee to the same or a comparable position when

45 the employee returns from Paid Family and Medical Leave.

46

47 Section 9: This new statewide PFML will work concurrently with the FMLA.

48

49 Section 10: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

50

51 Section 11: This act shall take effect on January 1, 2024.

52

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		WHB/23-3-11	
			WHITE HOUSE	
House - Transportation Ann Baker Tolisma, Aditi Singh, Tate Woodruff Webb School			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO ENFORCE RED LIGHT PENALTIES ON DRIVERS

- 1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government:
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms used in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, shall be defined as
- 4 follows:
- 5 Points: A punishment imposed by courts for a driving offense and recorded cumulatively on a
- 6 person's driver's license
- 7 Offender: Any individual who runs a red light, violating the driving laws of Tennessee
- 8 Red Light Offense: Running a red light.
- 9 Moving Violation: A breach of traffic laws which occurs while the driver's vehicle is in motion.
- 10 Class C Misdemeanor: A misdemeanor that is the mildest punishment, often for motor vehicle or
- 11 regulatory offenses. Class C misdemeanors can carry up to 30 days in jail and / or no more than
- 12 \$50.00 in fines.
- 13
- 14 Section 2: There is currently no enforced law regarding the payment and punishment of a red light
- 15 ticket; as despite the fact that penalties are listed, there are no clear legal means of forcing an
- 16 offender to see through their supposed punishment(s).
- 17
- 18 Section 3: Under Tennessee state law, running a red light is not considered a moving violation, in
- 19 turn meaning that it does not affect one's driver license points, credit score, and car insurance
- 20 rates
- 21
- 22 Section 4: This is an act to add a law to the Tennessee Moving Traffic Violations of the state to
- 23 enforce the illegality of running a red light.
- 24
- 25 Section 5: This new law states that if given a ticket from a red light offense, 2 points will be added
- 26 to one's driving record in addition to the fees already required by state law.
- 27
- 28 Section 6: Drivers have a maximum of 12 points to get in a year before their license is revoked,
- 29 and similar misdemeanors in other states result in similar fines of 2 points. The addition of these
- 30 points can result in an increase in insurance rates and also lead to the repercussions of reaching
- 31 the maximum number of driving points, in turn leading to one's license being revoked.
- 32
- 33

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		BHB/23-3-12	
			BLUE HOUSE	
House - Education Atticus Belcher Green Hill High School			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO ELIMINATE PARTISAN BASED SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

- 1 Be it enacted by the TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:
- 2 Section I: Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, shall be defined as follows:
- 3 a) Partisan: A committed member of a specific political party.
- 4 b) Partisan Election: A government election in which candidates on the ballot are required to label
- 5 themselves under a specific political party.
- 6 c) Partisan Agenda: A set of goals that intend to push the development or success of a specific
- 7 political party
- 8 d) Partisan Language: Reasoning or justifications that inherently pledge membership to a specific
- 9 political party.
- 10
- 11 Section II: This act hereby prohibits any local school board from holding partisan elections. It is
- 12 required Candidates must run for their respective positions without claiming affiliation with any
- 13 specific political group.
- 14
- 15 Section III: Requires already elected officials to maintain this independent status during their time
- 16 in office. No elected official may approach school board decisions or debate with a defined partisan
- 17 agenda nor shall they use partisan language in their justifications.
- 18
- 19 Section IV: Any candidate in the process of running for a local school board position that
- 20 deliberately violates these mandates shall be immediately removed from their race. In addition to
- 21 this, those candidates will be permanently barred from running for government office within that
- 22 specific school district.
- 23
- 24 Section V: Any active serving school board official that deliberately violates the mandates
- 25 regarding partisanship, will be fined a starting fee of \$2,000, incrementally increasing to \$1,000
- 26 with each subsequent offense. Following an official's fifth violation, they shall be permanently
- 27 removed from office and barred from running for re-election.
- 28
- 29 Section VI: The severity of all punishments and fees aimed against school board officials will be
- 30 decided upon by a state-sponsored board of academic professionals. The implementation of this
- 31 board ensures that no partisan bias may infiltrate such decisions.
- 32
- 33 Section VII: The board of advisors shall consist of 11 state-appointed legal scholars. Board
- 34 members are to be nominated by the state education commissioner. Nominated officials are to
- 35 then be reviewed and confirmed by the Tennessee supreme court.
- 36
- 37 Section VIII: An annual budget of \$100,000 shall be allocated from the State government for
- 38 administrative costs.
- 39

40 Section VIII: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby repealed.
41
42 Section X: This legislation shall go into effect immediately upon becoming a law, the public welfare
43 requiring it.
44

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		BHB/23-3-13
House - Health		BLUE HOUSE	
Claire Allen, Bess Innes, Natalie McGann		ACTION ON THE BILL	
Signal Mountain High School		HOUSE	SENATE
		Pass ☐	Pass ☐
		Fail ☐	Fail ☐

AN ACT AMEND SENATE BILL 619 CHAPTER 977 TO REQUIRE ANNUAL LEAD TESTING OF ALL WATER SOURCES IN TENNESSEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS WITH A TESTING MINIMUM OF FIVE PARTS PER BILLION

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:
2
3 Section 1: The terms in this act will be defined as follows:
4 a) PPB (Parts Per Billion)- a unit of concentration that is generally used to indicate a trace amount
5 of a substance present
6 b) Lead - a naturally occurring metal found within and throughout the Earth
7 c) Lead Poisoning - the build-up of lead in someone's body that causes neurological damage,
8 potential death, and other health issues
9 d) Testing Minimum - the smallest amount of lead that can be found in the schools' water levels
10 and still be considered safe
11 e) Lead Testing - the system used to determine the amount of lead found within a substance;
12 f) Water Systems - a network that supplies and distributes water (in this case, the water is being
13 distributed to public schools)
14 g) Corrective Action - the course of action that is taken by a school board to lower the amount of
15 lead found in the water; this action varies and depends on the amount of lead found in
16 h) Senate Bill 619 in Public Chapter 977 - A bill passed in 2018 to require lead testing in
17 Tennessee public schools built before January 1st, 1998. It states any schools that were built
18 before January 1st, 1998 must receive lead test testing. Any school with lead results over twenty
19 parts per billion must remove the contaminated drinking source and take the necessary protocols
20 to correct the issue.
21
22 Section 2: There are procedural requirements for the school district to follow:
23 a) Parents and guardians of students attending the school must be notified within five days of the
24 discovery
25 b) The local board of education shall be responsible for releasing information about the test
26 c) The commissioner of health, the Department of Education, the local Department of Health, and
27 the local government must be notified within twenty-four hours of the test results.
28 d) The water source proven to be at or above five ppb must be shut down temporarily until
29 corrective action has lowered the lead levels
30
31 Section 3: Corrective action taken for water systems with at least five ppb of lead will be decided
32 by individual school districts in a manner that most effectively and efficiently corrects the issue.
33 Said action must occur within a year of the discovery of unsafe lead levels. This corrective action
34 must lower the amount of lead found in the schools drinking water below five ppb. After the
35 corrective action has been taken, immediate retesting of the water must occur within 5 days.

36 Section 4: All public schools in Tennessee will receive mandatory annual lead testing rather than
37 only testing schools that were built before January 1st, 1998. The Department of Health reported
38 that 53 Tennessee school districts found lead levels higher than fifteen ppb in at least one of their
39 sources. Water systems can be contaminated with lead from the degradation of metal pipes and
40 other plumbing materials over time so it is necessary to continually test all public schools each
41 year.

42
43 Section 5: Funding for this bill is provided by the Department of Health and pays for any costs to
44 supply the testing.

45
46 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

47
48 Section 7: This act shall take effect July 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.

49
50

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		BHB/23-3-14
House - Finance, Ways & Means		BLUE HOUSE	
Grace Testerman, Luna Lopez		ACTION ON THE BILL	
Valor College Prep		HOUSE	SENATE
		Pass ☐	Pass ☐
		Fail ☐	Fail ☐

AN ACT TO DECREASE NAME CHANGE FEES

- 1 Section 1) Terms in this act shall, unless context suggests otherwise, be defined as follows:
- 2 Name Change - Tennessee Citizens deciding to legally change their last name, for any reason,
- 3 most commonly marriage or divorce
- 4 Fee - The payment made by participants in order to put this change in place
- 5 Separation - When spouses stop living together, but are not legally separated
- 6 Divorce - The legal dissolution of a marriage by a court or other competent body
- 7 Citizen - An individual residing in the state of Tennessee
- 8 System - A set of principles according to which something is done
- 9 Procedure/Process - All steps that need to be taken in order for a name change to be put in place
- 10 Last name - A surname
- 11 Domestic abuse - An incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening,
- 12 degrading and violent behaviour, including sexual violence
- 13
- 14 Section 2) In the state of Tennessee, it currently costs over \$150 dollars to change the last name
- 15 of an individual. This act will decrease the name change fee in Tennessee to \$10 per person.
- 16
- 17 Section 3) The average household wealth of a divorced individual is only about 25.5% compared to
- 18 that of a household containing married couples. Meaning that name changes are currently
- 19 inaccessible to the people in greatest need of the service.
- 20
- 21 Section 4) Additionally, domestic abuse has been up by around 8.1% following the Covid-19
- 22 pandemic. Logically, separations and divorces have increased accordingly. Consequently,
- 23 decreasing the name change fee will make it easier for victims to cut ties with their abuser.
- 24
- 25 Section 5) The current process to change ones last name is a long a grueling process, and
- 26 decreasing the fee is one simple way to make the procedure easier for Tennessee's citizens. No
- 27 other changes will be made to the current system.
- 28
- 29 Section 6) This act will not require funding from the state budget but the state will no longer
- 30 benefit from the \$150 fee previously mentioned.
- 31
- 32 Section 7) All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
- 33
- 34 Section 8) This act shall take effect immediately upon becoming a law.
- 35

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the	BHB/23-3-15	
		BLUE HOUSE	
House - Finance, Ways & Means		ACTION ON THE BILL	
Dylan Whiteaker, Luke Palazola, John Hancock Lebanon High School		HOUSE Pass ☐ Fail ☐	SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐

An Act to Create An Infrastructure Fund Plan

- 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 Infrastructure- the basic physical and organizational structures and facilities (e.g. buildings, roads,
- 5 power supplies) needed for the operation of a society or enterprise.
- 6 Opinion of Outside Counsel (containing such conditions, limitations and qualifications as are
- 7 acceptable to the General Partner in its sole discretion) to the effect that, as a result of the
- 8 proposed transaction.
- 9
- 10 Section 2: Excise taxes in Tennessee will be increased by an average of 8 cents per gallon.
- 11 Determination of taxation will be proportional to income. Counties with an average income of
- 12 upwards of \$53,000 per year (the average income for the state of Tennessee) will be taxed 10
- 13 cents per gallon of gasoline. Counties with an average income below \$53,000 per year will be
- 14 taxed 6 cents per gallon of gasoline. This will generate more than \$240,000,000 per year.
- 15
- 16 Section 3: Funds raised will be used to build and improve highways, bridges, and local roads in
- 17 quickly developing areas such as Nashville, Memphis, and suburbs of these cities.
- 18
- 19 Section 4: Funds raised will also be used to further improve the power systems of Tennessee.
- 20
- 21 Section 5: The County Commissioners can submit a request to the Tenseness Department Of
- 22 Transportation commissioner to be allocated to specific projects. The TDOT commissioner will
- 23 review requests and determine how to best allocate the funds to be used on certain projects.
- 24
- 25 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 26
- 27 Section 7: This act will take effect on January 1, 2024.
- 28

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the	BHB/23-3-16	
		BLUE HOUSE	
House - Business and Utilities		ACTION ON THE BILL	
Mallory Riminger, Clarissa Pemberton, Ivy Sleigh Clarksville Academy		HOUSE Pass ☐ Fail ☐	SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO MITIGATE AMOUNT OF WASTE DUMPED IN CLASS I AND III DISPOSAL FACILITIES

- 1 SECTION I: Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, shall be defined as follows:
- 2 Landfill/Disposal Facility- A method of disposing of solid waste into or on land without creating
- 3 nuisances or hazards to public health or to the environment by utilizing the principles of
- 4 engineering to confine the solid waste to the smallest practical area, to reduce it to the smallest
- 5 practical volume, and to cover it with a layer(s) of approved material.
- 6 Class I Disposal Facility: takes non-hazardous municipal solid wastes such as household wastes,
- 7 approved special wastes, and commercial wastes
- 8 Class III Disposal Facility: takes Class IV wastes plus landscaping, land clearing and farming
- 9 wastes
- 10 Hydrogen Sulfide - (also known as sewer gas, swamp gas, etc) A highly toxic and extremely
- 11 flammable; emitted by the waste in landfills.
- 12 Annual Progress Report (APR) - Annual report to TN Department of Environment Conservation that
- 13 regions submit that provides a new 10-year solid waste planning window, progress towards the
- 14 goal, and updates to the previous.
- 15 Contract - a written or spoken agreement, especially one concerning employment, sales, or
- 16 tenancy, that is intended to be enforceable by law.
- 17 Out-of-County Contracts - Contracts made with Class I and III disposal facilities allowing a county
- 18 to export waste to another's landfill.
- 19
- 20 SECTION II: New out-of-county dumping contracts will be limited to surrounding counties;
- 21 prohibits all other out-of-region contracts.
- 22
- 23 SECTION III: This will be enforced by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Natural
- 24 Resources.
- 25
- 26 SECTION IV: This bill will not will not require funding from the state budget.
- 27
- 28 SECTION V: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 29
- 30 SECTION VI: This act shall take effect July 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.
- 31

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government			BHB/23-3-17	
	House - Consumer and Human Resources Sully Smith, Alex Tinker Father Ryan High School		BLUE HOUSE	
ACTION ON THE BILL			HOUSE Pass ☐ Fail ☐	SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐

An Act to Achieve Pay Equity between Sexes

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2

3 Section 1: The terms of this act are to be defined as follows:

4 a) Pay Equity: the idea of concept of compensating employees who have similar job functions with

5 comparably equal pay, regardless of their gender, race, ethnicity, or other status

6 b) Wage: a fixed regular payment, typically paid on a daily or weekly basis, made by an employer

7 to an employee

8 c) Gender Wage Gap: the average difference between annual payment across all men and women

9 who are working

10 d) Paycheck Fairness Act: a proposed but as of yet unpassed United States labor law which would

11 augment protections to the Equal Pay Act of 1963 and the Fair Labor Standards Act to solve the

12 gender pay gap

13

14 Section 2: If enacted, The Paycheck Fairness Act is to be amended to Part 2 of the Tennessee

15 Wage Regulations Act, regarding Sex Discrimination (50-2-202)

16

17 Section 3: In concert, the two occupations with the greatest percentage of females in the state of

18 Tennessee, registered nurses and elementary and middle school teachers, will receive greater tax

19 breaks and increased salaries to combat the gender wage gap

20

21 Section 4: Consequences for failure to adhere to this act will be carried out by the Tennessee

22 Department of Labor & Workforce

23

24 Section 5: Progression of this act shall continue until significant progress is found, specifically until

25 the annual wage gap is under \$5000

26

27 Section 6: This act itself will not be of any cost to the state budget, disregarding the adjustment

28 of salaries across the state

29

30 Section 7: Any and all laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed

31

32 Section 8: This act shall take effect immediately after becoming a law

33

TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT



HOUSE COMMITTEE 4

**Sami Makh &
Gina Shome**



70th General Assembly

of the

Tennessee YMCA

Youth in Government



the

YMCA

House - Education
Joakim Arun, Jake McDermott
Father Ryan High School

RHB/23-4-1

RED HOUSE

ACTION ON THE BILL

HOUSESENATE

Pass

Fail

Pass

Fail

An Act to Reform the Math Program in Tennessee Middle Schools

1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government,
2
3 Section 1: Terms in this bill will be defined as follows:
4 a) Standardized Testing: all statewide testing required by the state of Tennessee that is provided
5 equally throughout all public schools.
6 b) Middle School: Grades 5-8 in the Tennessee public education system.
7 c) Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP): Tennessee's public education
8 standardized testing program since 1988, which includes assessments in math, english, language
9 arts, social studies, and science.
10 d) Grade-level math proficiency and knowledge: Students meet this requirement by answering the
11 minimum number of math questions correctly on their TCAP assessment for their grade level.
12 e) American College Testing (ACT): a standardized test used for college admissions in the United
13 States which covers four academic skill areas: English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science.
14
15 Section 2: Tennessee's current public math education system results in students falling behind the
16 standard educational benchmarks. After dropping for the previous year, the average ACT score has
17 remained at 19.1, over a point under the U.S. average of the math section. Additionally, only 3 in
18 10 Tennessee students meet grade level expectations in math. Tennessee currently ranks 31st in
19 education for K-12 students.
20
21 Section 3: This bill aims to improve math education in Tennessee middle schools by providing
22 additional funding for professional development, instructional materials, and technology. This bill
23 also seeks to increase the number of students who meet grade level proficiency and knowledge in
24 math, as well as increase the number of students who are college and career ready.
25
26 Section 4: The program will:
27 a) Create professional development opportunities for middle school math teachers, including
28 training on the latest research-based instructional strategies and the use of technology in the
29 classroom. This will include workshops, seminars, or online courses that instruct teachers on how
30 to use technology in the classroom, how to engage students in active, hands-on learning, and how
31 to use data to inform instruction.
32 b) Purchase new math textbooks, digital resources, and other instructional materials that align
33 with state standards and are designed to provide students with new and efficient learning
34 methods. These materials will be aligned with the current curriculum. This could also include
35 resources such as lesson plans and assessments to aid in the planning and delivery of instruction.
36 c) Purchase technology, such as graphing calculators and tablets, to enhance student learning and
37 engagement in math class. These tools will help students to develop skills such as problem solving
38 and critical thinking. It will also better prepare them for college entrance exams such as the ACT.

39 d) Collect and analyze data on student achievement in math, with a focus on identifying areas of
40 need and evaluating the effectiveness of the program. This may include regular evaluations of the
41 program by an external evaluator and regular assessments of students by tests.
42
43 Section 5: The program will be implemented and directed by the Tennessee Department of
44 Education, which will also ensure that the funds are adequately managed and distributed.
45
46 Section 6: \$4.5 million per year for three years of the \$9 billion budget for the Tennessee
47 department of education will be allocated to the creation of the reforms and programs stated in
48 this bill. This will include the purchase of all necessary materials and the implementation of the
49 new programs. The budget will be divided proportionately, with the schools that have the lowest
50 average TCAP scores receiving the greatest amount of funding and the schools with the highest
51 average TCAP scores receiving the least amounts. This approach aims to address and improve
52 educational disparities among schools in the state.
53
54 Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
55
56 Section 8: This act will go into effect with the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year, the public
57 welfare requiring it.
58
59

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		RHB/23-4-2	
			RED HOUSE	
House - Consumer and Human Resources Lydia Gebrezgi, Rebecca Mogga, Mykayela Carter Antioch High School			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO HOUSE THE UNHOUSED WITHIN TENNESSEE

- 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 defined as follows:
- 4 The unhoused - Refers to people who aren't able to access shelter facilities.
- 5 Permanent housing - Refers to shelters created for the unhoused.
- 6 Necessities - Food, Beverages, beds, hygiene products, shelter, etc.
- 7 Non-Profit Organizations - Any group that's purpose isn't to obtain profit that will go to its
- 8 members/employees.
- 9 Commercial business - An organization that trades goods or services in exchange for money.
- 10 Suitable Vacant Property - Property that is safe, and unoccupied being up for sale.
- 11
- 12 Section 2: This bill requires that Tennessee must purchase, obtain, and convert a suitable vacant
- 13 property for use as permanent housing for the unhoused. The property should be accessible to the
- 14 unhoused. This property shall be operated and managed by appropriate commercial businesses or
- 15 non-profit organizations that cooperate alongside the government for the conversion of these
- 16 vacant properties.
- 17
- 18 Section 3: One suitable vacant property will be chosen from Davidson County for a trial period that
- 19 will last over the course of five years. The unhoused will be given permanent housing over the
- 20 course of five years in which they will be provided the necessities needed for living as well as
- 21 resources for finding jobs; assuming the unhoused would like to remain in the permanent housing
- 22 offered for the duration of five years. The unhoused are not required to stay for the duration of
- 23 five years.
- 24
- 25 Section 4: Fiscal Line Item: Permanent housing for the unhoused will cost approximately
- 26 \$2,851,000 and will require funding from the Human Services Budget.
- 27
- 28 Section 5: This act shall take effect on March 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
- 29
- 30

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		RHB/23-4-3	
			RED HOUSE	
House - Finance, Ways & Means Lily Barrie, Ella Daugherty Martin Luther King Magnet School			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO LEGALIZE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY

- 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 Residential property assessed clean energy: A mechanism of loan financing pertaining to
- 5 renewable, clean energy or energy efficiency improvements on a property by providing means to
- 6 borrow money for eligible energy improvements, repaid through property assessments as an
- 7 addition to existing property taxes without requiring an upfront downpayment. R-PACE loans are
- 8 attached to the property, rather than the individual, and are typically distributed over one or more
- 9 decades.
- 10 Financing: Providing money or funding to a person or enterprise, often pertaining to the means by
- 11 which a loan is provided.
- 12 R-PACE: An acronym for Residential Property Assessed Clean Energy.
- 13
- 14 Section 2: This act will legalize R-PACE in Tennessee.
- 15
- 16 Section 3: Residents who either choose to use or choose not to use R-PACE to finance their energy
- 17 improvements will not be penalized.
- 18
- 19 Section 4: This act will pertain to all Tennessee residents who own residential property.
- 20
- 21 Section 5: This act is proposed to promote affordable and accessible renewable energy.
- 22
- 23 Section 6: If enacted, the legalization of R-PACE will be of no cost to the state.
- 24
- 25 Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
- 26
- 27 Section 8: This act shall take effect June 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
- 28

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		RHB/23-4-4	
			RED HOUSE	
House - Education Walter Neese, Sochanita Deu Valor College Prep			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO PREVENT STATE AUTHORIZED BOOK BANS

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:
- 4 First Amendment: Protects freedom of speech, press, assembly, and the right to petition the
- 5 government for redress of grievances.
- 6 Local Educational Agency (LEA): A public board of education within a state that has control over
- 7 public elementary or secondary schools in a city or area.
- 8 Public Charter School: A publicly funded, free to attend school that is independent from the LEA in
- 9 that school's area.
- 10 Library Collection: The educational materials offered to students by a school operated by an LEA or
- 11 a public charter school, not including materials taught from a curriculum.
- 12 Educational Material: Books, periodicals, newspapers, manuscripts, films, prints, documents,
- 13 microfilm, discs, cassettes, videotapes, video games, and other content used for class curriculum.
- 14 State Textbook and Instructional Materials Quality Commission: An 11 member commission made
- 15 of school administrators that compile and recommend a list of textbooks and educational material
- 16 to the State Board of Education. Under the Age-Appropriate Materials Act of 2022, the members
- 17 additionally address concerns from parents or schools regarding inappropriate books and have the
- 18 power to remove them from schools across the state.
- 19 Age-Appropriate Materials Act of 2022: An act that requires LEAs and charter schools to maintain a
- 20 list of the materials in their library collection that is regularly reviewed, with books that do not
- 21 meet the standards of the textbook commission being removed. Any books contested by parents
- 22 could be placed under review and subsequently banned.
- 23
- 24 Section 2: This bill aims to address the issues with the Age-Appropriate Materials Act of 2022.
- 25 This law promotes censorship and is an infringement of the right to receive information guaranteed
- 26 in the First Amendment.
- 27
- 28 Section 3: Therefore, this act overturns the Age-Appropriate Materials Act of 2022.
- 29
- 30 Section 4: Following this change, the members of the State Textbook and Instructional Materials
- 31 Quality Commission will return to their former role of recommending acceptable textbooks and
- 32 material that can be used in school curriculums.
- 33
- 34 Section 5: This act will require no financial cost.
- 35
- 36 Section 6: All other laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
- 37
- 38 Section 7: This act shall take effect on July 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
- 39

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		RHB/23-4-5	
			RED HOUSE	
House - Transportation Kyndal Pitzer, Joplin Miller Wilson Central High School			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ ☐ Fail ☐	

An Act to Create a Minimum MPG of 15 For All Road Vehicles Registered and Driven 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 MPG(Miles per Gallon): The amount of miles a vehicle can drive per 1 gallon of oil
- 5 Fracking: The process of injecting liquid at high pressure into subterranean rocks, boreholes, etc.
- 6 so as to force open existing fissures and extract oil or gas.
- 7 Infrastructure: the basic physical and organizational structures and facilities (e.g. buildings, roads,
- 8 power supplies) needed for the operation of a society or enterprise.
- 9 Heavy Duty Commercial Trucks: Any vehicle exceeding 26,001 pounds is considered heavy-duty.
- 10 Examples include city transit buses, mobile cranes, cement mixers, refuse trucks, and tractors
- 11 designed to pull refrigerated trailers, dry vans and other equipment.
- 12
- 13 Section 2: It must be understood that under new federal rules, new vehicles sold in the US will
- 14 have to average 40 MPG by 2026; in knowing this, it would not be a large stretch to go about
- 15 phasing out vehicles that average 15 MPG or less. This bill would require all road vehicles
- 16 registered and driven in the state of Tennessee to average over 15 MPG. Vehicles would be
- 17 checked twice a year to verify MPG, once during the month of January and once during the month
- 18 of July. If the vehicle averages 15 MPG or less, the operator's license would be revoked until proof
- 19 of having a vehicle that averages 15 MPG or more. This would be handled by the Environmental
- 20 and Conservation Department and Transportation Department, and the testing would only cost
- 21 \$10 for each test for the owners of the vehicles. The testing would be completed in the same way
- 22 emissions testing was before it was no longer required.
- 23
- 24 Section 3: Understanding that the lower the MPG is in a vehicle, then the more oil is required to
- 25 fuel the specified vehicle over a longer period of time compared to a vehicle with a higher MPG.
- 26 This in turn causes a need for more oil to be extracted through methods that can be harmful to the
- 27 environment like fracking or accidental oil spills. Therefore, the higher the MPG in a vehicle, then
- 28 the better the vehicle will be for the environment in Tennessee. The oil that is used in these lower
- 29 MPG vehicles will be used more efficiently elsewhere in Tennessee or not needed at all.
- 30
- 31 Section 4: However, knowing that Heavy Duty Commercial Trucks cannot follow this law because
- 32 of the poor MPG that all of these types of vehicles have, they would be exempt from this new law
- 33 because of the high value these vehicles provide for the infrastructure and economy of Tennessee
- 34 outweigh the negative impacts that they may cause on the environment in this instance. Heavy
- 35 Duty Commercial Trucks would only be required to have a MPG of 6.5, which they would be
- 36 checked for like regular vehicles. In this case, the operator of the vehicle would not have their
- 37 license suspended. Instead, the company would face a \$5,000 fine for the vehicle and it would be
- 38 required to be replaced. This fine money would go straight back into Tennessee's infrastructure by

39 being put into Tennessee's Department of Transportation budget to be used for fixing roads and
40 any other place where this department believes the money should go to.
41
42 Section 5: The operator's and owner's of these vehicles will be offered tax breaks as a reparation
43 for the cost of buying a new vehicle. These tax breaks would include Tennessee property taxes and
44 Tennessee stocks and bonds taxes. This would be a way to help alleviate the negative financial
45 impact for the operators of these vehicles. The operator will also have until the MPG testing
46 required in January of 2024 to give them time to get a new vehicle to replace their old one. All
47 laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

48
49 Section 6: This act shall take effect June 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
50

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		RHB/23-4-6
House - Criminal Justice			RED HOUSE
William Wright, Nicholas Yeager			
Signal Mountain High School			
		ACTION ON THE BILL	
		HOUSE	SENATE
		Pass ☐ Fail ☐	Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO COMBAT THE FENTANYL EPIDEMIC

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this act shall be defined as follows:
- 4 Fentanyl/- a dangerous synthetic opioid that is used for replacements in recreational drugs,
- 5 including heroine, cocaine, methamphetamine, and ketamine.
- 6 Fentanyl test strips- a test method to determine whether a drug contains fentanyl within them
- 7 Fentanyl effects- death, sedation, confusion, drowsiness, dizziness, nausea and vomiting, urinary
- 8 retention, pupillary constriction, and respiratory depression.
- 9
- 10 Section 2: 100 fentanyl test strips will be individually provided to all pharmacies in the state of
- 11 Tennessee each month.
- 12 Anonymity will be maintained for any person that requires a test kit.
- 13 Pharmacies will be required not to record names, personal information, or other identifying factors
- 14 of individuals acquiring kits.
- 15 The tests will be free of charge; however, they will be limited at the discretion of the pharmacy
- 16 staff in order to prevent shortages.
- 17 Each test kit costs \$1 to produce, and the total cost to provide these is \$600,000.
- 18 Pharmacies will not have to continuously request test strips as they will be provided routinely
- 19 Pharmacies that face shortages can request additional products at the discretion of the chain
- 20 supplier.
- 21
- 22 Section 3: The Anonymous Fentanyl Reporting Hotline (AFRH) will be created for people to report
- 23 their positive fentanyl test results.
- 24 It will not be required to report positive results, but it will be strongly encouraged.
- 25 AFRH will operate through phone calls as well as text messages.
- 26 This hotline will only inquire about the nature of the drug, and the place of origin in order to track
- 27 down the distributor.
- 28 This information will be reported to the police station and local DEA offices.
- 29 There will be 200 employees within the statewide hotline to take calls and record reported sources
- 30 of fentanyl.
- 31
- 32 Section 4: Punishments for perpetrators found distributing fentanyl will be increased to 150% of
- 33 their original value.
- 34 This applies to prison sentences as well as fines.
- 35 The average punishment is currently 5 years in prison. It will be increased to 7.5 years.
- 36
- 37 Section 5: Fentanyl awareness programs will be implemented within schools and communities
- 38 across the state.
- 39 This will include fentanyl specific education as an addition to existing TN school drug curriculum

40 This will not require and new classes or instruction
41 Free Community outreach campaigns will be implemented to teach about the dangers of fentanyl
42 and how it can be prevented
43 These programs will be implemented at various community centers ie.(churches, homeless
44 shelters, etc.)
45
46 Section 6: The bill will cost the state of Tennessee \$8,600,000 per year. This funding will be
47 acquired through the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation's budget.
48
49 Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with act are hereby repealed.
50
51 Section 8: This act will take effect on June 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.
52

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		WHB/23-4-7
House - Criminal Justice		WHITE HOUSE	
Dellmarian Hoyle, C.J. Benson		ACTION ON THE BILL	
Collegiate School		HOUSE	SENATE
		Pass ☐	Pass ☐
		Fail ☐	Fail ☐

An Act to Require Mandatory Criminal Prosecution of Law Enforcement Officers that are Dismissed Due to Violent Acts Against Unarmed Citizens

1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government
2
3 Section 1: Terms in this act shall be defined as followed:
4 a.) Prosecute - to charge with a crime
5 b.) Unarmed - not brandishing or in possession of a deadly weapon
6 c.) Police Brutality - extreme physical retaliation by law enforcement officers against civilians
7
8 Section 2: If enacted, this bill will require the state of Tennessee or the local municipal
9 government to charge law enforcement officers who were dismissed for actions resulting in the
10 extreme bodily harm of a civilian to be criminally prosecuted.
11
12 Section 3: This bill establishes that any law enforcement officer who is dismissed from their
13 agency for failure to follow policies which resulted in the extreme physical harm of a citizen must
14 be criminally prosecuted with charges equal to their actions. Causes for dismissal may include but
15 are not limited to: excessive use of force, duty to intervene, and duty to render aid. Possible
16 criminal charges may include but are not limited to: simple assault, assault with a deadly weapon,
17 Manslaughter in the 1st or 2nd degree, and Murder in the 1st or 2nd Degree.
18 Some criminal charges may be brought as misdemeanors depending on the incident and the
19 officers role in the incident.
20
21 Section 4: The cost of this bill to the state of Tennessee will be nothing. Tennessee already has a
22 Justice Department and the TBI already functions as an investigatory agency for the state. In
23 addition the municipal districts already have law enforcement agencies, criminal courts, and
24 prosecutors in place.
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 immediately upon passage, the public welfare requiring it.
29
30

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		WHB/23-4-8
	House - Health Olivia Clark, Katie Doyle, Ella Collinsworth Lebanon High School		WHITE HOUSE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐

A Bill to Increase Fines for Selling Nicotine Products to Minors

- 1 Section 1: Terms used in this act shall be defined as follows:
- 2 a) Nicotine Product : a product that contains nicotine derived from tobacco or synthetically made
- 3 that was intended for human consumption, whether through inhaling, chewing, snorting,
- 4 aerosolizing, dissolving, vaporizing, or any other methods of ingestion.
- 5 b) Carcinogenic : having the potential to cause cancer.
- 6
- 7 Section 2: Under current state legislation, illegally selling nicotine products to minors is a class C
- 8 misdemeanor, with fines no more than \$500 for each offense and no more than 30 days of jail
- 9 time. The first offense is a warning, with every following offense resulting in an additional fine of
- 10 up to \$500.
- 11
- 12 Section 3: Under this act, illegally selling nicotine products to minors will be considered a class B
- 13 misdemeanor. Violating this act would result in fines of no more than \$500 for the first offense,
- 14 \$1,000 for the second offense, and \$1,500 for the third and subsequent offenses. Additionally, up
- 15 to 30 days of jail time would be required for the third offense, with up to 6 months of jail time for
- 16 the fourth and subsequent offenses.
- 17
- 18 Section 4: This act would seek to decrease nicotine usage among minors due to the rising
- 19 concerns associated with using nicotine products. Nicotine usage has increased among Tennessee
- 20 teens, with roughly 16.5% reporting having used nicotine products frequently. Numerous health
- 21 conditions have been associated with using nicotine products, such as increased depression and
- 22 anxiety. Toxic, carcinogenic substances have been found in nicotine, such as heavy metals like
- 23 nickel and other chemicals not meant for consumption.
- 24
- 25 Section 5: Fees may arise from incarceration; holding a prisoner in a Tennessee prison costs
- 26 roughly \$47 a day. Money will be generated through added fines, as stated in the bill.
- 27
- 28 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
- 29
- 30 Section 7: This act shall take effect as soon as it becomes a law due to its necessity.
- 31

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		WHB/23-4-9
	House - Education Yasmin Wolde, Sarah Hayes Hillwood High School		WHITE HOUSE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO ALLOW SECONDARY PUBLIC STUDENTS TO HAVE 3 EXCUSED ABSENCES PER SEMESTER DUE TO MENTAL HEALTH REASONS

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA OF YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follow:
- 4 Mental Health: a person's condition with regard to their psychological and emotional well-being.
- 5 Excused Absences: Off-campus time that is justified and does not count against a student's
- 6 attendance records.
- 7 Semester: 90 days of school
- 8 Social worker: a person whose job is to help people in a particular area who have social
- 9 disadvantages or personal problems.
- 10
- 11 Section 2: This act enforces secondary public schools, grades 7-12, to provide 3 excused mental
- 12 health days every semester, to ensure a better well-being for the students. It has been shown that
- 13 good mental health has been linked to better academic performance.
- 14
- 15 Section 3: In order for absences to be excused under this law, students wishing to utilize must
- 16 either provide documentation of being under the care of a mental health professional or meet up
- 17 with a certified school counselor or social worker upon their return to school.
- 18
- 19 Section 4: This bill will be regulated by attendance clerks within schools that are monitoring each
- 20 absence. Once the limit of three absences of mental health days has been fulfilled the student will
- 21 not be permitted any other mental health days.
- 22
- 23 Section 5: With this bill, we request 3 excused absences per semester for students who need to
- 24 take a day off due to mental health.
- 25
- 26 Section 6: If enacted, this bill will cost nothing financially, but it will require 3 excused days off per
- 27 semester.
- 28
- 29 Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
- 30
- 31 Section 8: This act shall take effect on August 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
- 32



70th General Assembly

of the

Tennessee YMCA

Youth in Government



the

House - Education

Anna Neal, Grace Martin, Adeline Ross

Signal Mountain High School

WHB/23-4-10

WHITE HOUSE

ACTION ON THE BILL

HOUSE SENATE

Pass ☐ Fail ☐

Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO ADD A SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING COURSE AS AN ELECTIVE IN HIGH SCHOOLS 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) Social and Emotional Learning (SEL): The process of gaining self-awareness, self-control, and

5 interpersonal abilities necessary for success in school, work, and life.

6 b) SEL degree: Social and emotional learning degree.

7 c) Elective class: A course that a student takes by choice to earn credits.

8 d) Passing grade: In Tennessee, a passing grade is considered a scoring percentage within the

9 range of 60-100 points.

10 e) Depression: A common mental illness characterized by consistent sorrow and a lack of interest

11 in formerly fulfilling activities.

12 f) Anxiety: A state of concern, dread, or unease, usually related to an impending event or

13 something in which the outcome is uncertain.

14 g) To bully: To intend to hurt, scare, or intimidate (someone perceived as vulnerable).

15 h) Self-love: Consideration for one's own happiness and well-being.

16 i) Anger management: A psycho-therapeutic method for controlling and preventing rage.

17 j) BEP: The Basic Education Program is the funding formula for Tennessee's K-12 public schools.

18 This budget consists of \$4.7 billion dollars per school year.

19

20 Section 2) This act requires a teacher with an SEL degree to properly counsel students in grades

21 9-12 about their social and emotional development and educate them on mental health wellness.

22

23 Section 3) This class will be available to students as a 4-year elective course. Students will receive

24 an elective credit if they complete this class with a passing grade.

25

26 Section 4) The Tennessee Board of Education will prepare a statewide curriculum including these

27 topics:

28 a) Depression

29 b) Anxiety and healthy, positive methods to cope

30 c) Bullying of any kind and what to do in situations where it occurs

31 d) Self-love and its importance in having a positive outlook on life

32 e) How to maintain healthy relationships and build trust with family members, friends, partners,

33 and colleagues

34 f) Anger management issues and non-harmful ways in which students can relieve their anger

35

36 Section 5) The number of teachers per school and type of employment will be decided as follows:

37 a) Each high school will have 1 teacher for every 250 students.

38

39 b) Teachers will be employed in either part-time or full-time positions depending on the decision

40 and necessity of the school.

41

42 Section 6) Private schools may adopt this course within their standards, however, this enactment

43 does not directly affect them.

44

45 Section 7) Fiscal Agreement: If enacted, this bill will require monetary funding consisting of around

46 35 million dollars a year from a portion of the BEP.

47

48 Section 8) All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

49

50 Section 9) If enacted, this act shall take effect at the beginning of the school year of 2027 as we

51 will give high schools time to employ certified social and emotional learning specialists throughout

52 the state of Tennessee.

53

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	WHB/23-4-11 WHITE HOUSE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐
	House - State Government Kully Cobb, Cassie Wilson, Christian Nunez-Perez Sale Creek High School	

An Act To Ban All Applications in Conglamorance With the CCP

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this bill are defined as follows:
- 4 a) Tencent- Tencent Holdings Ltd. is a Chinese multinational technology and entertainment
- 5 conglomerate and holding company headquartered in Shenzhen. It is one of the highest grossing
- 6 multimedia companies in the world based on revenue.
- 7 b) Telegram- Telegram Messenger is a globally accessible freemium, cross-platform, encrypted,
- 8 cloud-based and centralized instant messaging service. The application also provides optional
- 9 end-to-end encrypted chats, popularly known as secret chat and video calling, VoIP, file sharing
- 10 and several other features; this software is also owned by Tencent Ltd.
- 11 c) WeChat- WeChat is a Chinese instant messaging, social media, and mobile payment app
- 12 developed by Tencent. First released in 2011, it became the world's largest standalone mobile app
- 13 in 2018, with over 1 billion monthly active users.
- 14 d) QQ- Tencent QQ, also known as QQ, is an instant messaging software service and web portal
- 15 developed by the Chinese technology company Tencent. QQ offers services that provide online
- 16 social games, music, shopping, microblogging, movies, and group voice chat software.49
- 17 e) Alibaba- Alibaba Group Holding Limited, also known as Alibaba, is a Chinese
- 18 multinational technology company specializing in e-commerce, retail, Internet, and technology.
- 19 f) State employees- all employees who are employed by the state government or the federal
- 20 government working in that state permanently. This includes members of the state legislature,
- 21 state and federal law enforcement agencies, national guard members, any state level political
- 22 office, and all other forms of employment that potentially have access to sensitive documents
- 23 concerning national security.
- 24
- 25 Section 2: All companies defined in Section 1 are to be banned from use on all state devices or the
- 26 wifi of state and federal buildings
- 27
- 28 Section 3: All state and federal employees required to have a separate work phone will be
- 29 provided with a secure network business phone, and the buildings will be required to have a wifi
- 30 monitoring system that blocks access to any of the restricted websites and programs
- 31
- 32 Section 4: Any persons in violation of this bill will be cited for breaches of security and will be
- 33 subject to individual fines of up to \$2500 for finding a way of breaching the online barrier or
- 34 bypassing the wifi monitoring system
- 35
- 36 Section 5: The money responsible for the phones not already distributed, and the wifi- monitoring
- 37 network will be taken from excess funds that are not already used in the annual budget.
- 38
- 39

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	WHB/23-4-12 WHITE HOUSE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐
	House - Criminal Justice Eva Muresan, Iris Samulski Webb School	

An Act to Ban Private Prisons in Tennessee

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
- 2
- 3 Section 1: The terms in this act should be defined as follows
- 4 Prison: Any adult institution operated by or under the authority of the department
- 5 Department: Department of Correction
- 6 Private Prison: A place where people are imprisoned by a third party that is contracted by a
- 7 government agency
- 8 Occupancy Clause: The clause states that the government contracting with a prison must maintain
- 9 a specific percentage of occupancy at that prison
- 10 Commissioner: Commissioner of Correction
- 11 State Building Commission: The Commission that oversees construction of all state buildings, and
- 12 has authority over the improvement and demolition of property owned by the state
- 13
- 14 Section 2:
- 15 This is a bill to amend the current Tennessee code §§ 41-24-104 to read as follows:
- 16 The Department of Justice is not authorized to enter contracts with private corporations who rent
- 17 or lease private prisons in the state of Tennessee; nor will private companies be allowed to own or
- 18 operate private prisons within the state
- 19
- 20 Section 3:
- 21 A failure to comply will result in a yearly fine of \$8,000,000 towards the company. This will be
- 22 after a one-year grace period after the bill is enacted. All private prisons must be closed on or
- 23 before January 1, 2025, or a year after the time of the passage of this bill
- 24 This excess revenue will go to the Department of Corrections
- 25
- 26 Section 4:
- 27 This operation will be overseen by the State Building Commission and the Commissioner. They will
- 28 be responsible for the reassignment of current private prisoners throughout the state.
- 29
- 30 Section 5:
- 31 The Department of Justice will receive 140 million dollars to operate and maintain public prisons
- 32 throughout the state.
- 33
- 34 Section 6:
- 35 All laws or parts of law in conflict with this are hereby repealed
- 36
- 37 Sections 7:
- 38 This act shall take effect January 1st, 2024
- 39

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	BHB/23-4-13
	House - State Government Reed Hampton Signal Mountain High School	BLUE HOUSE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO BAN CONVERSION THERAPY FOR MINORS 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. Conversion Therapy: the practice of attempting to cause a non-heterosexual person to become
- 5 heterosexual by using psychoanalysis, behavior modification, spiritual counseling, etc.
- 6 B. Mental health provider: a health care practitioner or social and human services provider offering
- 7 services to improve an individual's mental health or treat mental disorders.
- 8 C. Homosexual: sexually or romantically attracted exclusively to people of the other sex
- 9 D. Homosexual: sexually or romantically attracted exclusively to people of one's own sex or gender
- 10 E. Medical Practitioner: a person who is skilled in the science of medicine: a doctor
- 11 F. Depression: A group of conditions associated with the elevation or lowering of a person's mood
- 12 G. Suicidal thoughts: thinking about or planning suicide
- 13 H. Self-harm: deliberate injury to oneself, typically as a manifestation of a mental condition
- 14 I. Attempted suicide: when someone harms themselves with any intent to end their life, but they
- 15 do not die as a result of their actions
- 16
- 17 Section 2: The act bans conversion therapy for minors in Tennessee due to its harmful effects on
- 18 the mental and physical health of youth put through conversion programs. These harmful effects
- 19 can include, but are not limited to:
- 20 A. Depression,
- 21 B. Suicidal thoughts,
- 22 C. Self-harm,
- 23 D. Attempted suicide.
- 24
- 25 Section 3: All mental health providers found to have conducted conversion therapy on minors can
- 26 be punished by fines not exceeding \$10,000 or up to 364 days in jail.
- 27 A. The number of fines will be decided based on the severity of the offense,
- 28 a. The severity of the offense will be determined by factors including but not limited to:
- 29 i. Length of time the subject was in the program,
- 30 ii. The mental and physical state of the subject(s) after the conclusion of the program, will
- 31 be decided by a licensed mental health provider as well as a medical practitioner,
- 32 1. Successful suicides by person(s) placed in the program will be charged as involuntary
- 33 manslaughter and longer prison sentences may apply,
- 34 iii. Number of person(s) placed in the program,
- 35 iv. Length of time the mental health provider was operating illegally.
- 36
- 37 Section 4: The addition of this course will not require any funding.
- 38
- 39 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 40
- 41 Section 6: This act shall take effect June 1, 2022, the public welfare requiring it.
- 42

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	BHB/23-4-14
	House - Education Ashtyn Corley, Emma Carey Lebanon High School	BLUE HOUSE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐

An Act to Reform State-Wide Standardized Testing

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows: Secondary school and high school will,
- 4 instead of multiple choice end-of-course exams, have a portfolio-based assessment.
- 5 Portfolio - a set of pieces of academic work collected by someone to display their skills
- 6 Assessment - the evaluation or estimation of the nature, quality, or ability of someone or
- 7 something
- 8 Subject-area content - a defined domain of knowledge and skill in an academic program
- 9 ELA - English Language Arts
- 10
- 11 Section 2: This would include but not be limited to: a portfolio of the student's work over a nine-
- 12 week time period taking the place of standardized testing. This act will change the format of end-
- 13 of-course exams to a more effective representation of academic growth. The efficacy of a portfolio-
- 14 based assessment would be a more accurate representation of academic growth due to the
- 15 parameters provided whereby growth is measured in nine-week intervals. The nine-week interval
- 16 measurement was selected as a time period that is consistent with current grading periods.
- 17
- 18 Section 3: The portfolio-based assessments will be tied to and measured by Tennessee state
- 19 academic standards with individual-subject-area content levels. This would include but not limited
- 20 to the following subjects areas: ELA, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science.
- 21
- 22 Section 4: This bill will not require funding from the Department of Education.
- 23
- 24 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 25
- 26 Section 6: This will take into effect July 1st, 2023
- 27

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the Youth in Government	BHB/23-4-15
House - Criminal Justice		BLUE HOUSE
Nada Shaltaf, Veen Ahmed, Pratigna Patel Valor College Prep		ACTION ON THE BILL
		HOUSE
		Pass ☐ Fail ☐
		Pass ☐ Fail ☐

40 Section 8) This act will require the gun owner to pay \$215 every 8 years out of pocket which
41 includes the cost of the gun permit, cost of background check, and gun permit renewal.
42
43
44 Section 9) All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
45
46 Section 10) This act shall take effect January 1, 2024 upon becoming a law with public welfare
47 requiring it.
48

An Act to Amend Tennessee Gun Law

1 An Act to Amend Tennessee Gun Law
2
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
4
5 Section 1) Terms used in this act shall be defined as follows:
6 a) Tennessee gun law: A law that was passed on June 1, 2022. This law states that in the House
7 Bill 2524, "the criminal aspect of carrying a firearm in Tennessee has been removed"
8 b) Firearms: All types of firearms that are designed to expel a projectile by the action of
9 explosives.
10 c) Ammunition: Round cartridge that includes bullets of projectiles, cartridge and cap that is used
11 in a small weapon.
12 d) Background checks: Putting someone's name under the gun they own using fingerprints and
13 taking a ability test to see if one is capable of using a firearm safety and questions about when to
14 use a firearm, where to put a firearm at home and when not to use a firearm
15 e) Eligibility test: Test that all gun owners take before getting a gun permit in order to see if they
16 can use a gun safely but also answer questions above the lines of when you should use a firearm,
17 where to keep your firearm at home and when you should not use a firearm.
18
19 Section 2) The Tennessee gun law states that any resident in Tennessee who owns a legal
20 firearm does not need to carry a gun permit however, this bill hereby amends the "Tennessee Gun
21 Law", revising it to ban carrying a firearm in Tennessee without a permit and requires gun owners
22 to undergo deeper background checks before receiving a gun permit.
23
24 Section 3) It shall be unlawful for anyone in Tennessee to carry a firearm without having a gun
25 permit.
26
27 Section 4) All people who are seeking to own a legal firearm, must go through a background check
28 but also take the eligibility test, the person must be at least 21 years of age to carry a legal
29 firearm in Tennessee
30
31 Section 5) People who buy a firearm have 30 days after buying the firearm to have completed the
32 background check and the eligibility test.
33
34 Section 6) There is a fee of \$65 to take the eligibility test and background check and if one fails
35 the eligibility test, their money will be refunded to them.
36
37 Section 7) Under this act, the penalty for not having a gun permit in Tennessee is \$1,000 but If
38 one refuses to pay the penalty, they will face one year imprisonment and the gun will be
39 confiscated until getting a gun permit until the fee is fully paid.

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		BHB/23-4-16
House - State Government			BLUE HOUSE
House - State Government Carlos Resendiz, Jayden Phan, Alyssia Pope Collegiate School			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO RAISE THE MINIMUM AGE FOR PURCHASE OF A FIREARM FROM 18-21 YEARS OF AGE

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 a). Minimum age - when a person is considered legally allowed to do something
5 b). Purchase - acquiring something by paying for it
6 c). Firearm - a rifle, pistol, or other portable gun
7
8 Section 2: If enacted, this bill will raise the minimum age for the purchase of a firearm from 18 to
9 21
10
11 Section 3: The state of Tennessee has already established the minimum age for the purchase of a
12 handgun at 21. Meanwhile, people younger than 21 are allowed to buy all manner of firearms,
13 including semi-automatic rifles. This bill does not seek to hinder gun ownership of a person
14 younger than 21, people under 21 may still receive guns as gifts without penalty. However, it is in
15 the public interest that a person should not be allowed to purchase a firearm before they are
16 legally allowed to purchase alcohol.
17
18 Section 4: All gun sales in the state of TN, public and private, must meet compliance with this law.
19 Existing punishments for unlawful sales will apply to sellers and buyers.
20
21 Section 5: This law will not require any state funding to implement. Existing measures already
22 exist to check for compliance.
23
24 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
25
26 Section 7: This act shall take effect on July 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		BHB/23-4-17
House - Education			BLUE HOUSE
Iris Belcher, Rykan Tarazona Green Hill High School			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO INITIATE PHYSICAL EDUCATION REFORM IN TERMS OF STAFFING, EXAMINATION, AND FUNDING IN PUBLIC AND MAGNET INTERMEDIATE AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

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. Physical Education: Instruction of physical exercise and psychological health pertaining to

5 physical exercise

6 b. Standard: A described skill, knowledge, or behavior as listed within subcomponent and grade

7 level.

8 c. Component: Grouping of similar skills, knowledge, or behaviors

9 d. Subcomponent: A more refined grouping of similar skills, knowledge, or behaviors within a

10 component

11 Section II: This legislation would obligate those administering Physical Education classes to keep

12 track of and document student's individual growth and progress. Said documentation must be

13 documented under the student's database in order to allow for future access, accessible by school

14 administration, those administering Physical Education, and the student. Those administering must

15 be able to effectively communicate with students and inform them on how they can best improve

16 their performance to achieve set standards.

17

18 Section III: This legislation would enforce every intermediate and high school to provide

19 examinations after every subcomponent taught from the set components derived from the Physical

20 Education Standards of Tennessee within Physical Education classes, which students must

21 demonstrate their ability to achieve. Those administering the class also must perform two

22 examinations every grading period, in which students must perform two core exercises and one

23 aerobic exercise. The decision of what core exercises and aerobic exercise that is used in such

24 examinations will be determined at a county level.

25

26 Section IV: This legislation would provide a budget of \$5000 annually for every intermediate and

27 high school strictly for the use to fund Physical Education classes in order to purchase and/or

28 maintain gym equipment. All priority gym equipment must be items required by the Physical

29 Education Standards, with the remainder of the fund being used at the discretion of the school to

30 purchase optional items that must benefit students within the class.

31

32 Section V: The enactment of this legislature with 485 high schools, 616 intermediate schools, and

33 121 magnet schools will cost 6,110,000 million annually This funding will be provided by the Basic

34 Education Program fund.

35

36

37 Section VI: Upon becoming a law, this legislation will integrate with the current Physical Education
38 Standards of the state of Tennessee.

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

41
42 Section VIII : This legislation shall take effect on August 1st, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
43

TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT



HOUSE COMMITTEE 5 Saroja Ramchandren & Daryl Mitchell

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA			RHB/23-5-1	
	Youth in Government			RED HOUSE	
House - Transportation			ACTION ON THE BILL		
Annie Humphrey, Kyndle Fly Green Hill High School			HOUSE	SENATE	
			Pass ☐ Fail ☐	Pass ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION REFORM IN TENNESSEE'S MAJOR CITIES

- 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. Environmental Mitigation Trust (EMT)- The CAA 2.0 liter partial settlement required Volkswagen
- 5 to fund a \$2.7 billion mitigation trust fund. Under the CAA 3.0 liter partial settlement, Volkswagen
- 6 contributed an additional \$225 million in funding to the mitigation trust fund. The purpose of the
- 7 mitigation trusts is to fund eligible mitigation actions that replace diesel emission sources with
- 8 cleaner technology.
- 9 b. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)- protects people and the environment from significant
- 10 health risks, sponsors and conducts research, and develops and enforces environmental
- 11 regulations.
- 12 c. Electric bus- Any bus whose propulsion and accessory systems are powered exclusively by a
- 13 zero-emissions electricity source.
- 14
- 15 Section II: In order to improve the accessibility and ridership of their public transit systems, each
- 16 of Tennessee's four major cities- Nashville, Memphis, Knoxville, and Chattanooga- will be equipped
- 17 with 12 new electric buses, one new driver for each added bus, and one electric charging station
- 18 for every six buses.
- 19
- 20 Section III: Additionally, each city will receive \$5 million in order to make improvements to their
- 21 bus stations to increase accessibility, ie. covered benches, better visibility, promotion, etc.
- 22
- 23 Section IV: Each city's transit administration will send out a survey to determine what the public
- 24 wants to be changed in their public transit system. The purpose of this will be to ask the public
- 25 and get opinions in a thorough and equitable way, and to prioritize bus routes with the most need
- 26 of shorter wait times along with low-income and minority communities.
- 27
- 28 Section V: This addition will cost \$55,680,000 and will be funded by Tennessee Department of
- 29 Transportation and money granted by the Environmental Mitigation Trust
- 30 a. \$35,680,000 for buses, chargers, and salary of drivers
- 31 b. \$20,000,000 for improvements in bus stations and the promotion of public transit
- 32
- 33 Section VI: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 34
- 35 Section VII: This act shall take effect at the beginning of the next fiscal year, the public welfare
- 36 requiring it.
- 37

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA			RHB/23-5-2	
	Youth in Government			RED HOUSE	
House - Health			ACTION ON THE BILL		
Klara Hannaalla, Grace Olson Martin Luther King Magnet School			HOUSE	SENATE	
			Pass ☐ Fail ☐	Pass ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO REQUIRE ALL TENNESSEE STATE TROOPERS TO CARRY NALOXONE

- 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) Naloxone- A medication, commonly referred to as NARCAN, that reverses opioid overdose and
- 5 has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).
- 6 b) Opioids- Pain-relieving drugs (either produced by a poppy plant or synthesized in a lab) that
- 7 target opioid receptors in the cell.
- 8 c) Fentanyl- A synthetic opioid, fifty to one-hundred times as potent as Morphine, typically used
- 9 for severe pain.
- 10 d) Overdose- Intaking more than the prescribed amount of a drug often leading to severe side
- 11 effects or death.
- 12 e) State Trooper- A law enforcement officer employed by the State Police.
- 13
- 14 Section 2: Tennessee is ranked the third worst state in the country for prescription drug abuse.
- 15
- 16 Section 3: The 2022 fatality rate in the state of Tennessee for overdose was around 45.6% and at
- 17 least three people die each day from overdose.
- 18
- 19 Section 4: As little as two milligrams of fentanyl (the equivalent to five grains of salt) can be lethal
- 20 through inhalation, direct contact, or other modes of ingestion.
- 21
- 22 Section 5: There is no possible way of knowing if a drug is laced with Fentanyl unless a Fentanyl
- 23 Test Strip is used, causing a spike in accidental overdoses.
- 24
- 25 Section 6: The success rate of reversal following NARCAN administration to overdosed persons is
- 26 75-100%.
- 27
- 28 Section 7: Every State Trooper working for the state of Tennessee will be equipped with two doses
- 29 of Naloxone in case of opioid overdose.
- 30
- 31 Section 8: Considering that Paramedics are already equipped with Naloxone, Police Officers need
- 32 to also be equipped in case of an accidental overdose from exposure to drugs, namely Fentanyl.
- 33
- 34 Section 9: The Act will model after other states, such as Virginia and Arkansas, that have similar
- 35 successful programs.
- 36
- 37 Section 10: Implementation of this act should come at no additional cost since the state already
- 38 has an abundant amount of Naloxone. Should the state's supply run out, doses can be purchased
- 39 as low as \$20.

40 Section 11: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
41
42
43 Section 12: This act should take effect July 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
44

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		RHB/23-5-3
House - Education		RED HOUSE	
Mason Howell, Owen Walker		ACTION ON THE BILL	
Signal Mountain High School		HOUSE	SENATE
		Pass ☐	Pass ☐
		Fail ☐	Fail ☐

**An Act to Provide Grants from the State Government to assist Children of
Incarcerated Parents with financial support for post-secondary education**

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 determined as follows:
4 Grant-A dividend of money allocated by the state government
5 Incarcerated - imprisoned
6 Post-Secondary Education- college, university, trade school, etc.
7
8 Section 2: This act will provide opportunities for kids with incarcerated parents to receive need-
9 based financial aid from state funds. A form will be used to determine a student's financial and
10 educational standing and will deduce an amount of money accordingly.
11
12 Section 3: This act will apply to Tennessee residents only applying to in-state options for post-
13 secondary education. This act will also work alongside the TSAA and use TSAA funding
14
15 Section 4: Funding will be determined as follows:
16 A) All funds will be allotted on a need-based decision based on the student's response to the form.
17 B) The form must be completed along with proof of planned attendance to the college each
18 student is applying to by May 1, of the student's final year before attending school.
19 C) Funds will then come from TSAA and be given to the student in restricted accounts that can
20 only be used for post-secondary education.
21 D) This act is expected to use between 5-10% of TSAA annual funds.
22
23 Section 5: Oftentimes, children of incarcerated parents come from low-income communities where
24 it is normal to revert to a life of crime because there is no way to break the cycle. Not only are
25 these families low income, but they are missing a mother/father figure due to their crimes. The
26 child is then left to fend on his own and expected to get an education just like any other privileged
27 student. This act will provide an opportunity for these children to break the cycle of crime, educate
28 themselves and ultimately allow them to live with a higher quality of life.
29
30 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed
31
32 Section 7: This act will take effect in April of 2023
33

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		RHB/23-5-4	
			RED HOUSE	
House - Health Carleigh Hughes, Aubrey Katzenmiller Wilson Central High School			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

**AN ACT TO AMEND TENNESSEE CODE 56-7-31 TO IMPROVE PHARMACEUTICAL
TRANSPARENCY**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2

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

4 PBMs (Pharmacy Benefits Managers): A third-party administrator of a prescription drug program

5 that is primarily responsible for processing and paying prescription drug claims.

6 Public Disclosure: The act of making information or data readily accessible and available to

7 interested individuals and institutions.

8 Corporate Umbrella: A large, generally successful brand name that oversees smaller companies

9 within the same corporation.

10 Settlement Agreements: An agreement that ends a dispute and results in the voluntary dismissal

11 of any related litigation.

12

13 Section 2: Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56, Chapter 7, Part 31, is amended by adding the

14 following as a new section:

15 (a) All PMBs are required to disclose all organizations affiliated with the applicant, including any

16 affiliated pharmacies or corporate companies within their corporate umbrella.

17 (b) All PMBs are required to disclose any complaints or settlement agreements they've been party

18 to prior to beginning operations in Tennessee.

19

20 Section 3: Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56, Chapter 7, Part 31, is amended by adding the

21 following as a new section:

22 (a) Pharmaceutical manufacturers must propose a public disclosure requirement of all proposed

23 drug price increases.

24 (b) All pharmaceutical manufacturers are required to submit an annual report outlining and

25 justifying any price increases in pharmaceuticals over the past year. If the state does not deem

26 these price increases as valid, manufacturers must return to their prior pricing.

27

28 Section 4: Failure for PMBs and pharmaceutical manufacturers to adhere to the updated 56-7-31

29 will result in the suspension of their company's services within the state of Tennessee until they

30 comply with state law.

31

32 Section 5: All affairs will be managed by the Tennessee Department of Health and the Tennessee

33 Department of Justice.

34

35 Section 6: This act will require no additional funds from the state.

36

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

38

39 Section 8: This act shall take effect upon passage, the public welfare requiring it.

40

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		RHB/23-5-5	
			RED HOUSE	
House - Criminal Justice Tyler Tucker, Tony Peck Central Magnet High School			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

**An Act to amend Public Chapter NO. 986 regarding legal consequences for persons
who are homeless**

1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government

2

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

4 a) Camping: Erecting, placing, maintaining, or using temporary structures, such as tents, tarps,

5 and other temporary shelters, for living accommodation activities, such as sleeping or making

6 preparations to sleep;

7 Sleeping outside of a motor vehicle or making preparations to sleep outside of a motor vehicle,

8 including laying down on a sleeping bag, blanket, or other material for bedding.

9 b) Class C misdemeanor: Mild punishment; conviction may result in thirty (30) days in jail, fines of

10 fifty dollars (\$50.00) or less, or both;

11 Examples of Class C misdemeanor include motor vehicle offenses and public intoxication.

12

13 Section 2) This act will remove line (a) of Section 1 in Public Chapter NO. 986; It is unlawful for a

14 person to engage in camping:

15 On the shoulder, berm, or right-of-way of a state or interstate highway; or

16 Under a bridge or overpass, or within an underpass, of a state or interstate highway.

17

18 Section 3) Under this act, the subsequent violation resulting in a Class C misdemeanor, punishable

19 only by a fine of fifty dollars (\$50.00) and community service work not less than twenty (20) hours

20 nor more than forty (40) hours, will also be removed.

21

22 Section 4) This act will not require funding from the state but will reduce spending by:

23 Limiting use of police resources;

24 Limiting use of state resources by not jailing those who refuse to pay the fifty dollar (\$50.00) fine.

25

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

27

28 Section 6) This act shall take effect immediately upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring

29 it.

30

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		RHB/23-5-6
	RED HOUSE		
ACTION ON THE BILL			
House - Consumer and Human Resources Matthew West, Raymok Tedlesenbet Valor College Prep		HOUSE Pass ☐ Fail ☐	SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO REQUIRE A LICENSE TO OBTAIN FIREARMS

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA LEGISLATURE:
- 2
- 3 Section 1. Term(s) in this act are defined as follows:
- 4 a. Gun License: A license that entitles the licensee to buy, own, possess, or carry guns.
- 5 b. Class E Felony: Felony that carries 1-6 years in prison, as well as a fine of up to \$3,000.
- 6
- 7 Section 2. Concerned with the alarming increase in gun-related casualties in recent years.
- 8 Acknowledging the Tennessee Constitution's Article 1 Section 1's commitment for the state
- 9 government to be instituted for the people's peace, safety, and happiness. The state of Tennessee
- 10 is urged to take action to control the rampant gun violence harming the people of Tennessee.
- 11
- 12 Section 3. This act will address this issue by requiring a license to buy, own, possess, or carry
- 13 guns.
- 14
- 15 Section 4. To be eligible for a firearm license the applicant must be a Tennessee State resident and
- 16 meet the following requirements:
- 17 a. Must be 21 years old or older
- 18 b. Have no prior felonies or serious offenses
- 19 c. Have a legally recognized reason for wanting to possess or carry a firearm
- 20 d. Complete a state-issued background check
- 21
- 22 Section 5. The license will cost 150 dollars for a first-time purchase and renewal of this license will
- 23 occur every 5 years and cost 10 dollars.
- 24
- 25 Section 6. Those who have obtained a gun without a license have up to a year to obtain the
- 26 license. If a gun owner is found without a license they will have their firearm confiscated and be
- 27 subject to a class E felony.
- 28
- 29 Section 7. This bill will cost 0 dollars to implement.
- 30
- 31 Section 8. All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 32
- 33 Section 9. This act shall take place immediately upon passage of this bill.
- 34

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		WHB/23-5-7
	WHITE HOUSE		
ACTION ON THE BILL			
House - Consumer and Human Resources Grace Chen, Iya Cadiz Hillwood High School		HOUSE Pass ☐ Fail ☐	SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO BUILD HOMELESS SHELTERS FOR FAMILIES AND YOUTH

- 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 ESG(Emergency Solutions Grant)- Emergency Solutions Grant is a grant that funds the needs of
- 5 the homeless and aids in areas such as street outreach or rapid rehousing programs.
- 6 ESSA Act- Every Student Succeeds Act established by President Obama in the year 2015, ensures
- 7 that schools and educators advance equity by upholding critical protections for America's
- 8 disadvantaged and high-need students.
- 9 Homeless- According to the Tennessee Department of Housing and Urban Development, the
- 10 following is what defines an homeless family, child, or children:
- 11 C1) Families with children or accompanied youth who are unstably housed and likely to continue in
- 12 that state. This applies to interest in a housing unit in the last 60 or more days, having had two or
- 13 more moves in disability or multiple barriers to employment.
- 14 C2)People who are fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, or have no other temporary
- 15 forms of housing.
- 16 Homeless Shelter- A government-funded facility that aids, including but not limited to families and
- 17 youth in need that comply with the housing requirements and qualifications to stay in the facility.
- 18 HUD- The Department of Housing and Urban Development is a federal agency that advocates for
- 19 national policy and programs that address America's housing needs that improve and develop
- 20 national communities, and enforce fair housing laws.
- 21 McKinney-Vento Act- The McKinney-Vento Act Homeless Assistance Act, originally passed in 1987,
- 22 was amended by the ESSA Act. McKinney-Vento Act serves to protect the rights of homeless
- 23 children and youth to the right of a consistent education, protecting children and youth against
- 24 discrimination from schools, and ensures students transportation to school and from school daily.
- 25 Shelter- A stable living facility that has running water, electricity, heating, cooling, and supplies for
- 26 families and youth that reside there for up to 6 months.
- 27 THDA- The Tennessee Housing Development Agency is a finance agency that strives to promote
- 28 the production, preservation and rehabilitation of affordable housing for individuals and families
- 29 across Tennessee.
- 30
- 31 Section 2: Since 2020, and especially exacerbated by the Covid Pandemic in the U.S., the
- 32 homeless population has drastically increased with over 582,682 homeless person(s) per night
- 33 across the nation. Bearing in mind that Tennessee ranks as the 20th state with the highest
- 34 homelessness population compared to California and New York infamous for their prevalent issues
- 35 regarding homelessness, Tennessee should strive to provide adequate care for the homeless
- 36 populations that cease to decrease due to the aftermath of the pandemic. Additionally, bearing in
- 37 mind that there are approximately 1,830 homeless children and families amongst the current
- 38 homeless population of Tennessee, and acknowledging the deaths of over 251 individuals due to

39 homelessness since 2021, the state of Tennessee should provide new homeless shelters that help
40 combat this pressing issue.

41
42 Section 3: The State of Tennessee shall construct a total of 7 homeless shelters in school zones
43 located in but not limited to, Davidson County in Nashville, Knox County in Knoxville, Madison
44 County in Jackson, Rutherford County in Murfreesboro, Shelby County in Memphis, Sumner County
45 in Hendersonville, and Wilson County in Lebanon. The shelters will prioritize residency for
46 homeless children, youth, and families located in those selected counties. These shelters will be
47 inside facilities operated year-round providing running water, electricity, and heating during the
48 colder weather, ensuring that all shelters will provide adequate rooms and living necessities for its
49 temporary residents.

50
51 Section 4: The requirements of potential residents are determined by the Department of Housing
52 and Urban Developments(HUD) and Tennessee Housing Development Agency (THDA) in
53 compliance with the ESSA Act and the McKinney-Vento Act. Some requirements include, but are
54 not limited to women and children attempting to/ are fleeing from domestic violence, no consistent
55 housing for the previous 2 months, families or youth residing in uninhabitable living conditions
56 such as in a car, hotel, or frequent migration from one-night shelters.

57
58 Section 5: The construction funding for this act will cost \$6.1 million dollars, and annual funding
59 will cost \$585,000 per a year, funded by the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program and
60 charitable donations made by the public.

61
62 Section 6: All laws or parts of law in conflict of this are hereby repealed.

63
64 Section 7: This act shall take effect June 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.

65

		70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government			WHB/23-5-8
House – Consumer and Human Resources					WHITE HOUSE
Renaee Vinavongso, Jester Bowen					ACTION ON THE BILL
Valor College Prep					HOUSE
					Pass ☐ Fail ☐
					Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO COMBAT HOMELESSNESS AND THE HIGH PRICE OF LIVING

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 defined as follows:
4 Dodged Rent: When rent is lowered during a vacancy to avoid paying the fee, then increased again
5 when the property is occupied.
6 Landlords: People who own and rent out houses and apartments.
7 Tenants: People who rent houses and apartments.
8 Vacant Homes: Houses or apartments where there are no occupants.

9
10 Section 2: Tennessee Landlords are required to pay rent of vacant homes in the form of fines to
11 the government.

12
13 Section 3: This act will address concerns regarding homelessness due to the high price of living.
14 194 homeless people died in Nashville in 2021, the highest number ever recorded. As summers
15 grow longer and hotter and heat waves increase in intensity and frequency, homeless people,
16 especially those in urban areas, are under increased risk of dying of exposure compared to non-
17 homeless people. One of the largest reasons for homelessness is the inability to afford to rent
18 amidst the steadily increasing cost of living.

19
20 Section 4: This act will make it illegal for landlords to decrease rent when a property becomes
21 vacant only to increase rent when it become occupied in order to dodge the fee.

22
23 Section 5: If these fines has been proven to be dodged, the following punishments will occur:
24 Landlords will be responsible for paying the dodged rent multiplied by the time of vacancy (i.e.
25 paying the full \$3,000 when rent is lowered from \$1,000 a month to \$500 a month for 3 months of
26 vacancy).

27 Additional fees are attached based on the severity of the crime.
28 Repeated offenses will result in potential jail time.

29
30 Section 6: This act has no cost and will generate revenue through fines.

31
32 Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

33
34 Section 8: This act shall take effect January 1st, 2025 upon its passage, the public welfare
35 requiring it.

36
37

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		WHB/23-5-9
	WHITE HOUSE		
ACTION ON THE BILL			
House - Agriculture and Natural Resources		HOUSE	SENATE
Ellie Brinkman, Shelby Bryant, Ava Brashear Lebanon High School		Pass ☐ Fail ☐	Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO BAN THE USE OF PFAS IN FERTILIZERS

- 1 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:
- 2 PFAS (per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances)- substances that include any member of the class of
- 3 fluorinated organic chemicals containing at least one fully fluorinated carbon atom.
- 4 Intentionally added PFAS- PFAS added to a product or one of its product components to provide a
- 5 specific characteristic, appearance or quality or to perform a specific function. "Intentionally added
- 6 PFAS" also includes any degradation byproducts of PFAS.
- 7 Biosolids- organic matter recycled from sewage, especially for use in agriculture.
- 8 Manufacturer- the person that manufactures a product or whose brand name is affixed to the
- 9 product.
- 10
- 11 Section 2: Many fertilizer companies in Tennessee market their product as all natural and
- 12 organically rich; however, their products contain biosolids and highly toxic chemicals stemming
- 13 from sewage waste that are polluting Tennessee's water and food supply.
- 14
- 15 Section 3: Beginning January 1, 2024, a manufacturer of a product for sale in the State that
- 16 contains intentionally added PFAS shall submit to the Tennessee Department of Agriculture a
- 17 written notification that includes:
- 18 (1) A brief description of the product.
- 19 (2) The purpose for which PFAS are used in the product, including in any product components.
- 20 (3) The amount of each of the PFAS, identified by its chemical abstracts service registry number,
- 21 in the product, reported as an exact quantity determined using commercially available analytical
- 22 methods or as falling within a range approved for reporting purposes by the department.
- 23 (4) The name and address of the manufacturer, and the name, address and phone number of a
- 24 contact person for the manufacturer.
- 25
- 26 Section 4: Effective January 1, 2028, a person may not sell, offer for sale or distribute for sale in
- 27 this state any product of fertilizer that contains intentionally added PFAS.
- 28
- 29 Section 5: If a manufacturer fails to abide by the new regulations, they will be fined \$150,000 for
- 30 the first offense. If a second offense occurs, a fine of \$300,000 will be issued to the manufacturer.
- 31 Each subsequent infraction after that will result in jail time of no less than 6 months for public
- 32 endangerment.
- 33
- 34 Section 6: This bill will be of no fiscal cost to the state of Tennessee.
- 35
- 36 Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 37
- 38 Section 8: This act shall take effect January 1, 2024.
- 39

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		WHB/23-5-10
	WHITE HOUSE		
ACTION ON THE BILL			
House - Agriculture and Natural Resources		HOUSE	SENATE
Miles Dixon, Trace Nystrom Webb School		Pass ☐ Fail ☐	Pass ☐ Fail ☐

An act to prevent the spawning and spreading of invasive carp

- 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 Invasive Carp - Species of non-native invasive fish that have entered the Tennessee River system
- 5 and have damaged local ecosystems. Includes Bighead and Silver carp.
- 6 Electric barriers - Made of steel electrodes that are secured to the bottom of the river. The
- 7 electrodes are connected to a raceway, consisting of electrical connections to a control building.
- 8 Equipment in the control building generates direct current (DC) pulses through the electrodes,
- 9 creating an electric field in the water that discourages fish from crossing.
- 10 Sound barriers - It is a barrier that relies on the generation of complex noise underwater.
- 11 Speakers on the walls and bottom of an engineered concrete channel emit sounds to chase away
- 12 the fish.
- 13
- 14 Section 2: This act requires research to be done in order to prevent the spread and spawning of
- 15 invasive carp species within Tennessee's rivers.
- 16 These actions include:
- 17 Research on how to safely prevent the fish from spawning without affecting other aquatic
- 18 species.
- 19 Research towards how to efficiently prevent them from moving up through locks and dams on
- 20 the Tennessee river system.
- 21
- 22 Section 3: In order to execute this project it will require equipment such as:
- 23 Potentially install electric or sound barriers that particularly affect these invasive carp species,
- 24 such as Silver and Bighead carp.
- 25
- 26 Section 4: This project will require an estimated 20 million dollars from the state of Tennessee's
- 27 annual funding to provide adequate resources for a successful project.
- 28
- 29 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws that conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 30
- 31 Section 6: This act shall take effect July 1, 2023, with the public welfare requiring it.
- 32

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	WHB/23-5-11
		WHITE HOUSE
ACTION ON THE BILL		
House - Criminal Justice		SENATE
Pearce Lusk, Liam Lanuza	Pass ☐ Fail ☐	Pass ☐ Fail ☐
Signal Mountain High School		

An act to require a permit to carry a handgun in public spaces

- 1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government:
- 2
- 3 Section 1 : The terms in this act shall be defined as followed
- 4 Handgun- Short barreled firearm that is designed to be usable using one hand.
- 5 Public spaces- An area of land that is open to the general public.
- 6 Concealed Carry- The practice of carrying a weapon in close proximity to ones person in a matter
- 7 that conceals the weapon to the public eye.
- 8 Open Carry- The practice of carrying a weapon in close proximity to ones person in a matter that
- 9 is visible to the public eye.
- 10 Carrying Permit- Entitles the permittee to carry any handgun which the permittee legally owns or
- 11 possesses
- 12
- 13 Section 2 : Anyone who is eligible to own a handgun and wishes to carry a handgun publicly;
- 14 either concealed or openly must be able to provide a permit when questioned by law enforcement.
- 15
- 16 Section 3 : The state's permit requirements that have previously been done away with will come
- 17 back into action. The state's current permit application will still be used but now will be made
- 18 required to carry a handgun in public
- 19
- 20 Section 4 : Requiring persons who want to carry handguns publicly to purchase a carrying license
- 21 will bring the state a source of income. Also penalties for violating these laws will also bring the
- 22 state income through fines. It does not cost the state to enforce this new law.
- 23
- 24 Section 5 : All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed
- 25
- 26 Section 6 : This act shall take effect on January 1st, 2024, when carrying a handgun without a
- 27 permit will be illegal
- 28

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	WHB/23-5-12
		WHITE HOUSE
ACTION ON THE BILL		
House - Business and Utilities		SENATE
Avery Walker, Olivia Frazier	Pass ☐ Fail ☐	Pass ☐ Fail ☐
Green Hill High School		

AN ACT TO REQUIRE BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR PRIVATE FIREARM DEALING

- 1 Be it enacted by the TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:
- 2
- 3 Section I: Terms in this legislation, unless the context requires otherwise, shall be defined as
- 4 follows:
- 5 a) Background check: a process a person or company uses to verify that an individual is who they
- 6 claim to be, and this provides an opportunity to check and confirm the validity of someone's
- 7 criminal record, education, employment history, and other activities from their past.
- 8 b) Private firearm sales: the change of possession of a firearm from an unlicensed dealer to
- 9 another person/buyer.
- 10 c) Point of sale: the time and place at which a retail transaction is completed.
- 11 d) Firearm: any type of gun designed to be readily carried and used by an individual.
- 12 e) Class E Felony: The least severe felony punishment in Tennessee, punishable by no more than
- 13 six years in prison and/or a fine of up to \$3,000.
- 14
- 15 Section II: This legislation requires a background check to be conducted during private firearm
- 16 sales between two parties in the state of Tennessee. The background check must be conducted at
- 17 the point-of-sale of any firearm.
- 18
- 19 Section III: This legislation requires unlicensed firearm dealers to initiate background checks by
- 20 using the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation website. Private firearm dealers shall maintain
- 21 records of all firearm transactions, which would be pertinent in courts of law if the buyer is linked
- 22 to a criminal act(s).
- 23
- 24 Section IV: The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation allows for anyone to obtain a background check
- 25 on any Tennessee individual. The dealer shall access the TB1 website and submit the first and last
- 26 name of the respective buyer. The background check contains the buyer's history of adult criminal
- 27 activity in Tennessee- including misdemeanor and felony arrests/convictions. The cost for a
- 28 criminal history background check is \$29.00 per request. The background check process is
- 29 completed within five days of the request.
- 30
- 31 Section V: The punishment for anyone who intentionally sells/transfers a firearm in violation of this
- 32 act can be prosecuted for a Class E felony offense, punishable by a maximum penalty of 6 years in
- 33 jail and a fine of up to \$3,000.
- 34
- 35 Section VI: The implementation of this legislation will not cost money.
- 36
- 37 Section VII: All laws or part of laws that are in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 38
- 39 Section VIII: This act shall take effect thirty (30) days after becoming a law, the public welfare
- 40 requiring it.
- 41

		BHB/23-5-13	
70th General Assembly of the State of Tennessee		BLUE HOUSE	
Youth in Government		ACTION ON THE BILL	
House - Health		HOUSE	SENATE
Danell Lara-Garcia, Kaitlyn Greenlee, Kamryn Greenlee		Pass ☐ Fail ☐	Pass ☐ Fail ☐
Collegiate School			

An Act to Create a Foster Care Bill of Rights

- 1 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:
- 2 a.) DCS - Department of Children's Services; the department within the Tennessee Department of
- 3 Health and Human Services that serves and is in charge of directing the state's foster care system.
- 4 b.) HHS - Tennessee Department of Health and Human Services
- 5
- 6 Section 2: If enacted, this law will provide a framework for the Tennessee Department of Health
- 7 and Human Services (HHS) to guide the department and its providers in the delivery of care and
- 8 services to foster youth with the commitment to permanency, safety and well being.
- 9
- 10 Section 3: In the state of Tennessee there are over 7,000 children placed with more than 4,000
- 11 families. Despite the large number of Tennessee families willing to foster oftentimes the families
- 12 and the children are not the right fit. Thousands of children across the state remain in state
- 13 operated facilities. These numbers have grown during Covid with our state's foster care system
- 14 bursting at the seams with children being added to the total every week. Foster care providers do
- 15 their best to provide for these children but often our best intentions are woefully inadequate.
- 16 This bill seeks to provide a guidepost for our state's Health and Human Services Department as
- 17 well as provide a list of clearly stated rights for the foster children themselves.
- 18
- 19 Section 4: This law would cost nothing to enact. Instead this bill would provide a guidepost for
- 20 Tennessee's Department of Health and Human Services to consider when making decisions for
- 21 children in state operated foster care.
- 22
- 23 Section 5: Tennessee Foster Children's Bill of Rights
- 24 Preamble:
- 25 The Department of Health and Human Services recognizes the following rights of children and
- 26 youth in foster care. These rights are intended to guide the department and its providers in the
- 27 delivery of care and services to foster youth with a commitment to permanency, safety and
- 28 well being.
- 29 Every Foster Child:
- 30 Shall be treated with respect by DCS staff, foster parents and providers without regard to race,
- 31 ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion and/or disability.
- 32 Shall have family and relatives explored first as potential placement providers.
- 33 Shall have reasonable access to a caseworker who makes case plan decisions. Reasonable
- 34 access shall include the social worker and supervisor's office telephone numbers and email
- 35 addresses as well as, a minimum, monthly visits by a social worker.
- 36 Shall participate in the development and review of the service plan and have input into changes
- 37 to the plan that affect permanence, safety, stability or well being. Youth age 14 and older
- 38 should also be presented with the service plan for their review and signature.

39 Shall be informed in a manner appropriate to age and level of understanding of the reason(s)

40 is in care.

41 Shall be included in the Foster Care Review meeting. Permanency Hearing and Lead Agency

42 Team meeting if age 14 and older, unless documented by court order or service plan that

43 participation would be detrimental to the youth. If the youth is unable to attend in person,

44 he/she shall have the right to submit a written statement to be considered at the meeting.

45 Shall be provided with information about a foster family or program and, whenever possible,

46 Shall have an opportunity to meet the foster parent or program staff before placement occurs.

47 Shall live with a family and in placement settings that provide a safe and nurturing

48 environment while supporting permanency, and well being, including encouraging youth's

49 goals, interests, social and school activities.

50 Shall have involvement as appropriate with family members and should participate in the

51 development of visitation plans.

52 Shall receive support from social worker, foster family/provider in maintaining positive contact

53 with significant people (relatives, teachers, friends and community supports) including

54 assistance with contact information and visitation.

55 Shall be treated as a family member and, whenever possible, be included in a foster family's

56 activities, holidays and rituals and be able to freely discuss reason(s) with a social worker and

57 foster family if choosing to not participate.

58 Shall have access to medical, dental, vision, mental and behavioral health services regularly

59 and more often as needed.

60 Shall have access to information contained in medical, dental, and educational records held by

61 DCS as well as personal documents such as social security card, birth certificate, green card,

62 etc. When youth leave DCS, they shall be given copies of medical, dental and educational

63 records held by DCS and original social security card, birth certificate, and green card.

64 Shall have the opportunity to have private conversations with a social worker on a regular

65 basis. Foster youth should also be made aware of the process for contacting the supervisor and

66 attorney regarding any questions or concerns.

67 Shall be informed of the names and phone numbers of assigned attorneys and be aware that

68 they can contact their attorneys and that there is a process to request a change of attorneys.

69 Shall have access to personal possessions, personal space and privacy with allowance for

70 safety. Shall receive assistance in acquiring life skills, education, training and career guidance

71 to accomplish personal goals and prepare for the future and be informed of the post-secondary

72 educational and employment supports available to youth in care through the Department.

73 Shall be informed that DCS provides clothing, birthday and holiday payments to foster parents

74 and placement providers for youth in placement.

75

76

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

78

79 Section 7: This law will take effect as early as July 1st, 2024 or at the start of the next fiscal year,

80 the public welfare requiring it.

81

82

		70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government				BHB/23-5-14	
House - Finance, Ways & Means				BLUE HOUSE			
Aidan Castellagnet, Lee Greeson, Hudson Sveadas Signal Mountain High School				ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ _____ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ _____ Fail ☐			

An act to put an energy efficiency tax on all gasoline/diesel powered cars

1 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:
2 A.) Energy-efficiency tax: a yearly tax charged towards all gasoline/diesel powered cars,
3 depending on the mileage per gallon that the cars get. This is like every other tax, but electric car
4 users are exempt from paying this tax without being charged with fraudulent acts.
5 B.) Miles per gallon: the correlation between the distance that the vehicle has traveled powered by
6 one gallon of gasoline and or diesel.
7 C.) Global warming: the warming of the Earth over time, aided by carbon emissions and
8 greenhouse gasses.
9 D.) Tax evasion: when illegal means are used to avoid paying your taxes.
10 E.) Offender: a person who commits illegal acts.
11 F.) Tax fraud: This occurs when documents are falsified, and can result in a felony charge.
12 G.) Tennessee trust fund: a planning tool that allows the state of Tennessee to set aside money
13 and/or other assets that will later be distributed to other recipients named on the trust.
14

15 Section 2: This act will motivate users to utilize more environmentally friendly forms of
16 transportation:
17 A.) This tax would effectively incentivise people to switch to modes of transportation that emit less
18 greenhouse gasses. This gives people a reason to switch to more eco-friendly vehicles in view of
19 the fact that it costs less for them. If such vehicles have a low ratio of miles per gallon, then they
20 are emitting more greenhouse gasses, and thus they are burning more fuel. This tax is significant
21 because greenhouse gas emissions are very harmful to the environment, and adds to the ongoing
22 effects of global warming.
23

24 Section 3: This tax would help mitigate the ongoing struggles that we have with global warming
25 every day.
26 A.) As shown in the previous section, this tax would help with the mitigation of global warming.
27 Which is important because global warming is an increasing issue in our current world, and our
28 modes of transportation are a big contributor to this issue. To conclude, this tax if enacted would
29 help our current livelihoods and the livelihoods of all posterity.
30

31 Section 4: If a citizen or a corporation were to commit fraudulent activities such as tax evasion
32 and tax fraud:
33 A.) The offender can face criminal tax evasion charges if they fail to file the energy-efficiency tax
34 in no more than 6 years, and can face up to a year of jail time, along with paying no more than
35 \$100,000.
36 B.) In the case of civil tax fraud, meaning the plaintiff made a careless mistake and forgot to file
37 their taxes in time, as long as it's clearly evident; this will only tack on a 20% penalty to your tax
38 bill.

39 Section 5: The money that is collected through the energy efficiency tax will be equally divided
40 between:
41 A.) The repair of major highways and other government owned buildings in the state of
42 Tennessee
43 B.) Education in public schools and into social services to help families.
44 C.) The Tennessee trust fund, which is put towards less fortunate people in the state of Tennessee.
45 D.) The funds will be distributed from most important to least important, which will be decided by
46 the state government
47

48 Section 6: If enacted, this bill would not take any large expense to the state of Tennessee but
49 incurs further taxes to individual citizens.
50 A.) The state would be earning money, to put towards what was mentioned in section 5.
51 B.) The only reason to invest more expenses into this tax would be because of fraudulent
52 activities.
53

54 Section 7: The actual cost of the energy-efficiency tax that individuals pay, is based off their
55 yearly salary:
56 A.) The actual cost of the tax is based on brackets that individuals will be put in based on their
57 yearly income.
58 B.) If an individual earns \$75,000 yearly, but the next year their income is increased by \$25,000,
59 then they will be moved up to the next tax bracket; thus paying more.
60 C.) The brackets go up in intervals of \$25,000.
61

62 Section 8: If passed, this bill will be put into effect by January 1st, 2024.

63
64 Section 9: All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
65



70th General Assembly
of the
State of Tennessee



the
YMCA
Youth in Government

House - Health

Varsha Shetty, Sarah Ji

Valor College Prep

BHB/23-5-15

BLUE HOUSE

ACTION ON THE BILL

HOUSE	SENATE
Pass ☐	Pass ☐
Fail ☐	Fail ☐

AN ACT TO INCLUDE YOUTH POPULATIONS TO HELP REDUCE THE OPIOID CRISIS

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA LEGISLATURE:

2

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

4 Opioids/ Opioid drugs: a type of medicine that is meant to reduce feelings of pain, which includes

5 common prescriptions such as: Hydrocodone, Oxycodone, Morphine, Methadone, Morphine,

6 and Fentanyl.

7 Opioid/Drug Overdose: when a toxic amount of a drug, or combination of drugs overwhelms the

8 body through risks and side effects.

9 Risks and side effects means all the effects on the human body due to opioid drug overuse,

10 including, but not limited to: constipation, sweating, upset stomach, confusion, vomiting,

11 sleepiness, dry mouth, dizziness, itching, depression, increased sensitivity to pain, permanent

12 brain damage and death.

13 Opioid misuse/opioid abuse is defined as consuming opioids in a higher dosage or longer period

14 than prescribed by a physician; using someone else's prescription.

15 Opioid dependence and impact is defined when a patient depends on opioids even after withdrawal

16 of the opioid drugs and impacts on individuals and families include, but not limited to: increased

17 drug overdose death, loss of stable living situation, increased number of parents unable to care for

18 their children, decreased job opportunities, increased healthcare costs, increased involvement with

19 the criminal justice system.

20 Prescriptions and treatments: defined as having a written message from a doctor that officially

21 tells one to use a medicine, therapy, etc., and a session of medical care or the administration of a

22 dose of medicine.

23 Prevent and recovery: is defined as the process of understanding the dangers of drugs and

24 preventing it and recovering from addiction, working on successfully managing one's addiction and

25 regaining control of life.

26 Tennessee Department of Human Services: (TDHS) to improve the well-being of vulnerable

27 citizens through a network of financial, employment, rehabilitative, and protective services.

28 Drug Abuse Resistance Education: (D.A.R.E.) is an education program dedicated to educating

29 youth regarding peer pressure and how to lead drug and violence-free lives.

30 Tennessee Department of Education: (TDOE) oversees kindergarten through twelfth grade

31 education.

32

33 Section 2) This act will address the need for an enhanced mandatory educational program

34 regarding the opioid misuse and overdose related deaths in Tennessee. As of 2022, approximately

35 70,000 Tennesseans were addicted to opioids as a result of drug overdose, misuse, and

36 dependency. Tennessee is ranked third in the United States for prescription drug abuse, with

37 approximately 4000 drug overdose deaths in 2021.

38

39 Section 3) This act will provide guidance to partner with Tennessee's educational authorities, such

40 as, Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E), Tennessee's Department of Education (TDOE),

41 along with Tennessee's Department of Human Services (TDHS), to establish an education program

42 for Tennessee's youth between the ages of 10 to 18 years to address opioid dependence and

43 impact on individuals and families.

44

45 Section 4) This act will allow for the education of Tennessee's youth to detect risks and side effects

46 of opioid abuse, understand opioid dependence and its impacts, as well as gaining knowledge of

47 prescription and treatments, so that they can contribute to the process of prevention and recovery

48 of a family member going through opioid abuse.

49

50 Section 5) This act will incur \$10,500 to develop the course, funded by the DHS. It will provide

51 four, one hour lessons, scheduled at the discretion of the school. There will be no additional cost to

52 the state of Tennessee, except for the administrative work involved in the distribution process. The

53 course shall be evaluated on an annual basis, and will be revised as needed. Aforementioned

54 revisions will incur additional costs at the discretion of DHS.

55

56 Section 6) All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

57

58 Section 7) This act shall take effect June 1, 2023, with confirmation from D.A.R.E., along with

59 TDOE, as well as DHS, the public welfare requiring it.

60

61

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		BHB/23-5-16	
			BLUE HOUSE	
House - Agriculture and Natural Resources			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐	
House - Agriculture and Natural Resources Ginger Rodda, Kaylee Kim, Lauren Seabolt Green Hill High School				

An Act to Ban the Dumping of Coal Ash into Water Sources and Put them into more Eco-Friendly Uses

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
- 2 Section I: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:
- 3 a) Coal Ash: Produced when coal is burned by power plants, an umbrella term for the various
- 4 forms of coal combustion toxic waste.
- 5 b) Facilities: Coal-fired power plants, or thermal power station which burns coal to generate
- 6 electricity.
- 7 c) Water sources: Bodies of water such as rivers, streams, lakes, reservoirs, springs, groundwater,
- 8 etc. Some of which provide public drinking water.
- 9 d) Beneficial Use: The recycling or reuse of coal ash instead of disposal.
- 10 e) Impoundments: Man-made excavations, some lined with materials that are used to hold an
- 11 accumulation of liquid hazardous waste.
- 12 f) Landfills: A place to dispose of waste material by burying it and covering it with soil.
- 13 g) Geomembranes: Synthetic membrane liners used to control fluid migration, and to secure
- 14 landfills for hazardous wastes.
- 15
- 16 Section II: Due to coal ash containing many toxic chemicals such as arsenic, lead, and mercury,
- 17 this legislation will work to ban facilities from dumping coal ash into water sources to help stop
- 18 contamination.
- 19
- 20 Section III: This legislation will require facilities to put coal ash into more environmentally friendly
- 21 use, such as, but not limited to:
- 22 a) Beneficial uses such as replacing coal ash as a core ingredient in concrete
- 23 b) Impoundments lined with a geomembrane
- 24 c) Landfills lined with a geomembrane
- 25
- 26 Section IV: Any facility that fails to put the coal ash into more eco-friendly uses will result in a fine
- 27 of up to \$4000 per offense. After 3 offenses legal action could be pursued.
- 28
- 29 Section V: This act will require no funding from the state budget.
- 30
- 31 Section VI: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 32
- 33 Section VII: This act shall take effect January 1, 2024, the general welfare requiring it.
- 34

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		BHB/23-5-17	
			BLUE HOUSE	
House - Health			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐	
House - Health Brooklyn Cuthbertson, Shaan Patel, Isabella Alvarez Martin Luther King Magnet School				

An Act to Reinstate Abortions in Tennessee

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
- 2
- 3 Section 1) Terms used in this act shall be defined as follows:
- 4 Abortion- means the deliberate termination of a human pregnancy, most often performed during
- 5 the first 28 weeks of pregnancy
- 6 Fertilization- means to render (the female gamete) capable of development by uniting it with the
- 7 male gamete.
- 8 Contraceptives- means tending or serving to prevent conception or impregnation.
- 9 Pregnant- (of a woman or female animal) having a child or young developing in the uterus.
- 10 Fetus- an unborn offspring of a mammal, in particular an unborn human baby more than eight
- 11 weeks after conception.
- 12
- 13 Section 2) For a woman to go through an abortion will be required to have the appointment of
- 14 choice within 27 weeks for a clinic abortion. For the decision of an abortive pill, it will be required
- 15 within 12 weeks.
- 16
- 17 Section 3) The options for abortion will be:
- 18 Morning-After Pill (Emergency Contraceptive)
- 19 First Trimester: Emergency Contraceptive
- 20 Second Trimester: Surgical Abortion (Mifepristone- by Mifeprex)
- 21 Third Trimester: No form of abortion will be appointed from the start of 28 weeks.
- 22
- 23 Section 4) There are to be no additional fees by additional state funding. The woman to get an
- 24 abortion will have a fee starting \$800 for an in-clinic abortion or \$580 for an abortion pill.
- 25
- 26 Section 5) This act is enrolled by clinics in Tennessee that offer opportunities for abortion.
- 27
- 28 Section 6) An oversight board will be constructed to monitor enforcement of the mandate through
- 29 the TN Departments of Health.
- 30
- 31 Section 7) Hospitals and clinics that fail to comply with this bill, once enacted, are not subjected to
- 32 repercussions if presented refusal.
- 33
- 34 Section 8) All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this hereby repealed.
- 35
- 36 Section 9) This act shall take effect on April 18, the health-care institutions requiring it.
- 37
- 38 Summation:

39 We want women to feel comfortable with the rights to their own bodies and not to be concerned if
40 denied their rights.
41 In addition, we want patients to have quality healthcare and accurate medical information when
42 needed.
43 Women who have been subjected to rape should not be conducted to birth living trauma.
44 There are many financial suffrages that are placed on a single mother or a family to which they
45 can be unprepared and at a starting disadvantage and to not have the option of an abortion can
46 pressurize that.
47

TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT



HOUSE COMMITTEE 6 Jackson Hayes

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 House - Health Joshua Dulin, Jeffery Lin Signal Mountain High School	RHB/23-6-3 RED HOUSE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐
--	---	---

AN ACT TO REMOVE HEALTHCARE-RELATED CERTIFICATE OF NEED LAWS

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 defined as follows:

4 a) Certificate of Need (CON): permit for the establishment of healthcare institution, facility, or

5 service at a specific location granted if three criteria are met:

6 i. Action proposed must be necessary to provide needed healthcare in the area

7 ii. Applicant must provide healthcare services that meet appropriate quality standards

8 iii. Effect attributed to competition or duplication must be positive for the consumer

9 b) Health Services Development Agency (HSDA): organization which hears CON applications with a

10 total of eleven members

11

12 Section 2: This bill will remove certificate of need laws from the healthcare system in order to

13 promote fair competition through the removal of hospital monopolization. It will promote the

14 establishment of new healthcare facilities and the growth of existing healthcare facilities in order to

15 provide better care to residents across the state.

16

17 Section 3: This bill will remove the need for hospitals or other healthcare facilities to petition the

18 government through certificate of need laws in order to:

19 a) Extend currently offered medical services including, but not limited to:

20 i. Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)

21 ii. Opioid addiction treatment centers

22 iii. Psychiatric and mental health facilities

23 b) Open any new healthcare related facility, such as but not limited to:

24 i. Hospitals

25 ii. Nursing homes

26 iii. Rehabilitation facilities

27

28 Section 4: This bill will prevent existing hospitals from lobbying or petitioning against competing

29 hospitals in an attempt to prevent their establishment or growth, meaning current hospitals cannot

30 monopolize the healthcare in a given region.

31

32 Section 5: The repeal of certificate of need laws would not only allow for higher quality medical

33 care at lower costs but would also adequately prepare the state of Tennessee for future health

34 crises by also removing barriers to important healthcare decisions.

35

36 Section 6: Hospitals will still be required to meet certifications, quality standards, and other related

37 regulations in order to be established and operate. This bill simply removes the need for a

38 healthcare facility to demonstrate need before expanding or being established.

39

40 Section 7: This bill requires no immediate funding from the state. It will lead to economic growth

41 as the expansion and opening of for-profit hospitals and other medical service providers will result

42 in increased tax revenue as well as higher employment.

43

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

45

46 Section 9: This act will take effect immediately upon passage, the public welfare requiring it.

47

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		RHB/23-6-4	
			RED HOUSE	
House - Health Clayton Morrow, Jackson Romer Green Hill High School			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO LEGALIZE TRANSGENDER HEALTHCARE FOR TRANS YOUTH

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
- 2
- 3 Section I: Terms in this act shall be defined as follows:
- 4 a) Transgender: Relating to a person whose gender identity does not correspond with the sex
- 5 registered for them at birth
- 6 b) Gender Identity: A person's innate sense of their gender
- 7 c) Gender Dysphoria: A sense of unease that a person may have because of a mismatch between
- 8 their biological sex and their gender identity. This sense of unease or dissatisfaction may be so
- 9 intense it can lead to depression and anxiety and have a harmful impact on daily life.
- 10 d) Gender Affirming Care: prevention, diagnosis and treatment of physical and mental health
- 11 conditions, as well as sex reassignment therapies, for transgender individuals
- 12 e) Puberty Blockers: Medicines used to postpone puberty in children
- 13 f) Hormone Replacement Therapy: Process of medically adjusting the hormones in your body
- 14 g) Gender Affirming Surgeries: a surgical procedure, or series of procedures, that alters a
- 15 transgender person's physical appearance and sexual characteristics to resemble those associated
- 16 with their identified gender, and alleviate gender dysphoria.
- 17 h) Gender Therapy: help anyone questioning and exploring their gender identity, feeling
- 18 uncomfortable with aspects of their gender, or seeking gender-affirming interventions
- 19
- 20 Section II: This legislation would allow all ages to receive gender therapy without the need for a
- 21 referral from a doctor.
- 22
- 23 Section III: This legislation would allow all ages to start puberty blockers for treatment of gender
- 24 dysphoria, provided they have a gender dysphoria diagnosis and prescription from a doctor or
- 25 psychologist.
- 26
- 27 Section IV: This legislation would allow people ages 14 and up to begin hormone replacement
- 28 therapy for treatment of gender dysphoria, provided they have a gender dysphoria diagnosis and
- 29 prescription from a doctor or psychologist.
- 30
- 31 Section V: This legislation would allow people ages 15 and up to undergo gender affirming surgeries,
- 32 provided they have a gender dysphoria diagnosis and a referral from a doctor or psychologist.
- 33
- 34 Section VI: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby repealed.
- 35
- 36 Section VII: This legislation shall go into effect immediately upon becoming a law, the public
- 37 welfare requiring it.
- 38
- 39 Section VIII: This legislation will not cost any money to the state of Tennessee
- 40

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		RHB/23-6-5	
			RED HOUSE	
House - Health Elia Schweikert, Hodan Mohamud Valor College Prep			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO MAKE ANTI-HOMELESS ARCHITECTURE ILLEGAL IN PUBLIC SPACES

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA LEGISLATURE:
- 2
- 3 Section 1) Terms in this act should be defined as follows:
- 4 Homelessness: Any individual who may lack stable, safe, and adequate housing on a given night.
- 5 Architecture: the art or practice of designing and constructing buildings
- 6 Hostile Architecture: city planners purposely building infrastructure that deters homeless people
- 7 from "setting up camp" in public spaces
- 8 Unethical: Not morally correct
- 9 Public Space: A place that is open and accessible to the general public.
- 10 Anti-Homeless Architecture: City planners purposefully creating architecture that deters homeless
- 11 people from "setting up camp"
- 12
- 13 Section 2) This act addresses the hostile and defensive architecture being made to prevent
- 14 homeless people from sleeping under highways and benches.
- 15 As of 2020, there were around 7,877 homeless people who died across 73 U.S. cities and counties.
- 16 In 2021, there were at least 194 deaths in the homeless community. Additionally, at least 20
- 17 people experiencing homelessness die every single day in America are susceptible to accidents in
- 18 their temporary places of residence such as in tents, shelters or the streets.
- 19
- 20 Section 3) This Act will make anti homelessness architecture illegal. Additionally, the steps needed
- 21 to be taken in order to aid Tennessee's homelessness population are:
- 22
- 23 Benches with arms rests that are strategically place so that no one would be able to sleep on the
- 24 bench, will be removed while the bench stays in place
- 25 Spikes littering the ground under highways and in other places within Tennessee will be destroyed
- 26 or gotten rid of
- 27
- 28 Section4) This act will not require funding from any institution or department.
- 29
- 30 Section5) All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 31
- 32 Section6) This act shall take effect on January 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.
- 33

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	RHB/23-6-6
	House - Health Adaliss Anthony, Hailee Thompson Collegiate School	RED HOUSE
ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ SENATE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐		

An Act to Establish Counseling Sessions for Students with Mental Health Needs

- 1 Be it enacted by Tennessee Department of Health
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this act shall be defined as followed:
- 4 a.) Depression - A mental health disorder characterized by persistently depressed mood or loss of
- 5 interest in activities; causing significant impairment in daily life.
- 6
- 7 Section 2: If enacted, this bill will require all schools in the state of Tennessee to set aside time
- 8 during the school day for students to enact means of self-care of their choosing. Scholars who are
- 9 referred to counseling or who have a desire to seek counseling will have the opportunity to meet
- 10 with a counselor at least once a week to check on their mental health.
- 11
- 12 Section 3: This bill will not cost the government of the state of Tennessee anything to implement.
- 13 Rather, the onus will be on the individual school districts to appropriately fund and hire the
- 14 requisite number of mental health care professionals to serve their populations.
- 15
- 16 Section 4: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 17
- 18 Section 5: This act shall take effect August 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.
- 19

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	WHB/23-6-7
	House - Government Operations Terumi Stover Green Hill High School	WHITE HOUSE
ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ SENATE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐		

An Act to Revise Electoral Voting Procedures by Amending Tennessee Code Annotated §§ 2-15-101

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT LEGISLATOR:
- 2
- 3 Section I: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:
- 4 a) Electoral College: the system by which the President of the United States is elected by votes
- 5 cast by delegates from each state
- 6 b) Winner-take-all Method: all electoral votes are cast for the party that wins the state
- 7 c) Congressional District Method: the number of electoral votes cast by each party is determined
- 8 by the number of congressional districts that each party gains in the election
- 9 d) Congressional District: the geographical divisions by which the House of Representatives are
- 10 elected, the number of which determines how many electoral votes each state casts
- 11 e) Elector: those who are elected and who cast the electoral votes in each state
- 12 f) Electoral Vote: one of the 538 votes cast in the Electoral College that determines the President
- 13 of the United States of America, of which Tennessee has 11 votes
- 14 Tennessee Code Annotated §§ 2-15-101: code that outlines the dividing of electoral votes within
- 15 the state of Tennessee
- 16
- 17 Section II: Based on the United States Constitution, "Each State shall appoint, in such Manner as
- 18 the Legislature thereof may direct, a Number of Electors, equal to the whole Number of Senators
- 19 and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress".
- 20
- 21 Section III: This legislation will change the Electoral College voting method in Tennessee from the
- 22 Winner-take-all method to the more democratic Congressional District method.
- 23
- 24 Section IV: In order to do so, T.C.A. §§ 2-15-101 will be amended to read as follows:
- 25 At the regular November election immediately preceding the time fixed by the law of the United
- 26 States for the choice of president and vice president, as many electors of president and vice
- 27 president as this state may be entitled to shall be elected. The electors chosen must cast their
- 28 vote for the president and vice president that won the congressional district they represent.
- 29 The two elected at-large electors will vote for the president and vice president that won the
- 30 majority of the state. If no candidate wins a majority (50% + 1 vote) of the state then the two
- 31 at-large electors shall vote for the two candidates that received the highest percentage of the
- 32 vote in the state.
- 33
- 34 Section V: This act will require no funding from the state.
- 35
- 36 Section VI: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
- 37
- 38 Section VII: This act shall go into effect immediately, the public welfare requiring it.
- 39

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		WHB/23-6-8	
House - Education Isaac Grant, Torin Young Signal Mountain High School		WHITE HOUSE	
		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE _____ Pass ☐ _____ Pass ☐ _____ Fail ☐ _____ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO REQUIRE ALL PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN TENNESSEE TO IMPLEMENT A FRENCH, GERMAN, AND SPANISH CLASS AS AN ELECTIVE STARTING IN THIRD GRADE

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 Teaching Credential: Subject credential obtained upon completion of a bachelor's degree from a

5 college that holds regional accreditation and prescribed professional education.

6 Subject Endorsement: The area a teacher is qualified to teach and is placed on a teaching

7 credential.

8 Ranked Choice Voting: Any voting system in which voters rank their candidates in a sequence from

9 first to last choice (in this case first to third).

10 Foreign Language: A language that is not widely or officially spoken in a particular place.

11

12 Section 2: All public schools are required to have one teacher per language holding a teaching

13 credential as well as a subject endorsement in the language taught.

14

15 Section 3: The standards for all of the courses, teachers, standardized tests, and materials will be

16 provided by the Tennessee Department of Education.

17

18

19 Section 4: Each of the three foreign language teachers will teach 3 levels of their subject:

20 Level one shall begin in third grade

21 Level two shall be enforced in fourth grade

22 Level three shall be enforced in fifth grade

23

24 Section 5: The students will be given the option to choose their language by ranked-choice voting

25 but a parent signature is required for the final placement.

26

27 Section 6: If there is an overflow of students wishing to do one of the three languages, the

28 ranked-choice voting will help the administration come to a decision on the placement of each

29 child.

30

31 Section 7: With the teacher's recommendation, a child may move up or down through levels

32 depending on their understanding of the subject. The decision to move up or down a class level

33 must be approved by the parent or guardian of the student.

34

35 Section 8: Each level builds off the last, creating a comprehensive program in which students will

36 fully become enriched in a cultural and lingual foundation for later years while accommodating new

37 students who will be placed in level 1 if they are not already familiar with their chosen language.

38

39 Section 9: Students of these courses must abide by the participation requirements of Tennessee

40 public schools. (i.e. If participation is not met, students will be subject to retaking the current

41 level).

42

43 Section 10: Classes will take place in elective classrooms and will be held once a week every week

44 with the exception of already existing breaks, future field trips, and other related obstacles.

45 Materials, chairs, and tables will all be readily available and/or placed in the classroom.

46

47 Section 11: These language courses will take place only in a classroom setting and will not require

48 any homework to be completed. The goal is to teach the foundation of a foreign language to

49 students and test their knowledge in a positive light without the added stress of out-of-school

50 work.

51

52 Section 12: This addition to this course will cost \$179,600,000 and will be funded through

53 the Tennessee Department of Education budget.

54

55 Section 13: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

56

57 Section 14: This act shall take effect July 31, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.

58

		70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA				WHB/23-6-9	
Youth in Government		the		WHITE HOUSE			
House - Government Operations				ACTION ON THE BILL			
Demiana Sadek, Vivan Ibrahim				HOUSE		SENATE	
Valor College Prep				Pass ☐ Fail ☐		Pass ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO REHABILITATE STRUGGLING PARENTS

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA LEGISLATURE

2

3 Section 1; Terms used in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, shall be defined as

4 followed:

5 Foster Care- Temporary service provided by States for children who cannot reside with their

6 families

7 DCS- (Department of Child Services) a state agency of Tennessee that operates services for

8 children and youth. The department's first goal for children is to work toward a safe return home

9 to their families.

10 Substance abuse- Excessive use of psychoactive drugs, such as alcohol, pain medications, or

11 illegal drugs leading to physical, social, or emotional harm.

12 Trauma - Trauma is the lasting emotional response that often results from living through a

13 distressing event. Experiencing a traumatic event can harm a person's sense of safety, sense of

14 self, and ability to regulate emotions and navigate relationships.Among foster children physical

15 and sexual abuse are common sources of trauma

16 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) - SAMHSA's mission is to

17 lead public health and service delivery efforts that promote mental health, prevent substance

18 misuse, and provide treatments and support to foster recovery while ensuring equitable access

19 and better outcomes.

20 House Bill 1512: House Bill 1512 of The 101st General Assembly of Tennessee. This bill defines

21 both temporary and permanent restrictions on parenting plans. The definitions are used to

22 determine if a parent is unfit to raise a child or maintain child custody in Tennessee

23

24 Section 2; This act will address the problem concerning the overwhelming number of cases within

25 the Tennessee foster care system. As of January 2023, Tennessee's foster care system currently

26 has almost 9,000 foster children, but only 4,000 parent homes.

27

28 Section 3; This act will amend House Bill 1512 Section 1: 36-6-406 "Restrictions in temporary or

29 permanent parenting plans." This section provides a list of qualities that make a parent "unfit" to

30 keep their child resulting in them being taken out of the home immediately and put into foster

31 care. This list of definition include: Physical, sexual or a pattern of emotional abuse of a child or of

32 another person living with that child, a history of acts of abuse or a single incident of assault or

33 sexual assault.In order to prevent the DCS from immediately taking the child for a case of parental

34 substance abuse this act will omit "An impairment resulting from drug, alcohol, or other substance

35 abuse that interferes with the performance of parenting responsibilities;"

36

37 Section 4; This act will also provide substance abuse rehabilitation as well as counseling programs

38 with government funding, in order to lower the number of children that are taken from their

39 homes.

40

41 Section 5; Rehabilitation/counseling will be made mandatory for parents investigated by DCS and

42 determined to be in need of substance abuse rehabilitation or counseling.

43

44 Section 6; There are currently 9 free-of-charge rehabilitation centers that will be provided for the

45 parents: Buffalo Valley, Clarksville, Coffee County Drug Court, Manchester, cornerstone of

46 Recovery, Louisville, First Step Recovery Centers, Memphis, Grace House of Memphis, Memphis,

47 McNabb Center, Chattanooga, Park Center, Nashville, Samaritan Recovery Community. These drug

48 and alcohol rehab centers receive funding from the state or federal government,making their

49 programs and services free of charge.

50

51 Section 7; This act will cost nothing, the government is currently covering the cost of rehabilitation

52 centers.

53

54 Section 8; All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

55

56 Section 9; This act shall take effect 6 months upon becoming a law, if not immediately as

57 possible, with public welfare requiring it.

58

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the	WHB/23-6-11	
		WHITE HOUSE	
House - Consumer and Human Resources		ACTION ON THE BILL	
Addie Tenbarge, Deyvy Roman, Addison Mitterholzer Lebanon High School		HOUSE	SENATE
		Pass ☐	Pass ☐
		Fail ☐	Fail ☐

An Act to Provide Incentives for Local Sanitation Departments to Donate Disposed-of-Clothing Items for the Purpose of Sanitizing and Donating to Local Charities

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 Comparable: equal in quality and worthy of comparison

5

6 Section 2: This bill will require waste collection services to donate disposed-of-clothing for the

7 purpose of sanitizing and distributing them to local help centers. The clothing will be donated to

8 established help centers; helping the homeless population and other in need populations.

9

10 Section 3: The clothes will first go through a round of base line cleaning. The clothes will then be

11 moved on to washing and sanitizing. Lastly all the clothing will be categorized and sorted to be

12 sent to local help centers.

13

14 Section 4: This will initially be implemented in comparable metropolitan areas such as Nashville

15 and Memphis. Depending on the results and benefits of the program it would be implemented in

16 various metropolitan areas.

17

18 Section 5: This will require initial funding of \$250,000 for the facilities and washing and drying

19 machines, as well as an annual budget of \$150,000 for workers' salary and any maintenance that

20 is needed. Funding will come from the TN department of Environment and Conservation's budget

21 of 407 million dollars.

22

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

24

25 Section 7: This act will go into effect on January 1, 2024.

26

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the	WHB/23-6-12	
		WHITE HOUSE	
House - Criminal Justice		ACTION ON THE BILL	
Maya Atkins, Brynlee Massey, Teygan Williams Innovation Academy		HOUSE	SENATE
		Pass ☐	Pass ☐
		Fail ☐	Fail ☐

AN ACT TO RENEW AND AMMEND TN CODE §§ 118.01

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

2

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

4 A). Religion: A formulaic set of rituals and repetitive or persistent ways of expressing the sacred.

5 B). Religious Texts: Texts relating to religious traditions.

6 C). Religious Practices: The means of attending worship services, praying, wearing religious garb

7 or symbols, displaying religious objects, adhering to certain dietary rules, proselytizing or other

8 forms of religious expression.

9 D). Chaplain: A staff member who is an endorsed minister in their faith group, who remains in

10 good standing and meets the requirements established by the Department of Human Resources

11 for employment as a chaplain. This individual is responsible for providing pastoral care and

12 religious leadership within an institution.

13 E). Outside Clergy: An official religious leader who comes into TDOC institutions for the purpose of

14 ministering to all inmates of different religions.

15 F). Correctional Facilities: A prison, reformatory, or simple institution in which people are confined

16 for the purpose of punishment and/or social rehabilitation.

17 G). Prisoner: Any person for the time being in a prison as a result of any requirement imposed by

18 a court or otherwise that they be detained in legal custody.

19 H). STG: Security Threat Group, is a formal or informal group of prison inmates.

20 I). Security Threat Group: Any group, organization, or association of individuals who possess

21 similar characteristics to distinguish them from other individuals or groups who have been

22 determined to be working together to pose a threat or potential threat to staff, other inmates, the

23 institution, or the community.

24 J). TDOC: Tennessee Department of Corrections.

25

26 Section 2: In order to expand freedom of religion to those incarcerated, all correctional facilities

27 throughout the state of Tennessee (16) shall be required to provide and allow the time for

28 individual practices of religion.

29

30 Section 3: The resources needed for certain religious practices shall be provided to each

31 correctional facility by the state of Tennessee and given to prisoners upon request and approval.

32 These resources include, but are not limited to religious texts, prayer mats, religious headgear,

33 dietary supplements, and meal alternatives.

34

35 Section 4: These resources shall be granted to any prisoner who asks at any time. All items must

36 be approved by the Warden beforehand. The Warden may only disapprove of an item with

37 probable cause and shall form a written statement regarding the prisoner, including an explanation

38 of unauthorized use of the specified item.

39

40 Section 5: Prisoners in these various facilities shall not be denied the rights to the proper religious
41 materials due to the assumption of being a STG, the form of religion, the characteristics of the
42 individual(s), or the time of day. If in any instance this occurs, the person(s) affected shall be able
43 to appeal to a judge of the state and be taken to another section of the facilities to perform their
44 religious duties.

45
46 Section 6: If any religious materials can be used in a harmful way towards an individual, a group,
47 an official, or the facility, an authorized person may overlook and monitor the practice occurring.
48 However, the person overseeing this practice may not remove the material upon suspicion, they
49 may only remove this material when it is actively being used in the harmful ways listed previously.
50 If this occurs, the personnel must first control the situation, and then provide a detailed report of
51 the incident to a court and or judge. From here, the judge can decide the appropriate
52 repercussions.

53
54 Section 7: The Institutional Chaplain shall have the responsibility of coordinating, leading,
55 administering, and monitoring all religious activities within the correctional facility. The Chaplain is
56 responsible for all coordination involving religion. These coordination's include, but are not limited
57 to, initiating programs, drafting budget requests, submitting reports, selecting times for group
58 practice, and counseling prisoners that need guidance. A Chaplain's faith is to always be upheld.
59 There is never an instance where a Chaplain should be forced to go beyond their belief or be
60 disrespected regarding their personal life and religion.

61 An institution shall not be without a Chaplain being that it is the Chaplain's responsibility to ensure
62 that all prisoners get the right time, materials, and areas for their religious practices under the
63 correct administration. If there is any case where a chaplain may be absent, a volunteer must be
64 trained and taken through step by step of the Chaplain's routine and guided by the Chaplain
65 beforehand.

66
67 Section 8: Inmates and Chaplains shall always have constant access to one another, no matter the
68 status of the prisoner, where the prisoner is in the facility, or the prisoner's religious preference.
69 Inmates may receive visits from outside clergy and volunteer chaplains. Their names and the
70 names of inmates they are allowed to visit shall be provided by the Chaplain and stored in a
71 database for future reference. Outside clergy and volunteer chaplains should be recruited to assist
72 in meeting the religious needs of all represented faith groups in the institution. Religion could
73 possibly be a factor in selecting volunteers, for the purpose of maintaining balance between faith
74 groups or to recruit a leader for a specific faith group.

75
76 Section 9: If enacted, the bill will require an additional 3 million dollars funded to the budget of the
77 Tennessee Department of Correction yearly to cover costs of additional payroll, standardized
78 religious headgear, religious texts, meal alternatives and dietary supplements, and any other
79 necessary expenses.

80
81 Section 10: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

82
83 Section 11: This act shall take effect January 1, 2024, the prisoners' welfare requiring it.

84

		70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government			BHB/23-6-13	
House - Criminal Justice				BLUE HOUSE		
Ethan Bennett, Hunter Bailey, Aden Cobb Innovation Academy				ACTION ON THE BILL		
				HOUSE	SENATE	
				Pass ☐	Pass ☐	
				Fail ☐	Fail ☐	

An Act to Amend Tennessee Code Section 39-13-306 Concerning Custodial Interference

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 Detainment - The condition of being in restraint or custody.
5 Custodian - One who looks after or has responsibility for something.
6 Interference - Wrongful conduct that prevents or disturbs another in the performance of their
7 usual activities, or in the conduct of their business or contractual relations.
8 Incompetent Persons - Those who are unable to manage their own affairs due to mental
9 incapacity.
10 Accessory - One who assists in the commission of a felony, or who harbors the felon.
11 Tennessee Department of Corrections - The Department in Tennessee overseeing jails, prisons,
12 and public safety
13
14 Section 2:
15 Tennessee Code, §§ 39-13-306, is amended by deleting subsection (e) and replacing it with the
16 following
17 Custodial interference under subdivision (a)(2) is a Class C felony
18 Custodial interference under subdivision (a)(5) and (b) is a Class C misdemeanor.
19 Custodial interference under subdivisions (a)(1) and (b)(1) is a class D felony, unless the child
20 or incompetent persons taken is willfully returned by the defendant, in which case it is a class E
21 felony
22 Custodial interference as defined in subsection (a)(3) is a Class E felony
23
24 Section 4: This bill would require a minimum budget increase of \$2,235.3 and a maximum budget
25 increase of \$407,942 per person convicted of custodial interference. The money would come from
26 the budget surplus of the 2022 Fiscal Year.
27
28 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict of this act are hereby repealed.
29
30 Section 6: This act shall take effect immediately after becoming a law, the public welfare requiring
31 it.
32
33

		70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government				BHB/23-6-14	
House - Health				BLUE HOUSE			
Rebekah Kee, Abigail Tiahun, Meron Bekele Martin Luther King Magnet School				ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐			

AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT AEDS IN PUBLIC TRANSIT

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

- 2
- 3 Section 1 : Terms in this act will be defined as follows, unless the context requires otherwise:
- 4 A) SCA - (Sudden Cardiac Arrest) A state in which a person's heart stops beating, causing a
- 5 malfunction within its electrical system.
- 6 B) SCD - (Sudden Cardiac Death) The sudden death caused by heart failure, (SCA).
- 7 C) AED - (Automated External Defibrillator) A portable medical device that analyzes a person's
- 8 heart rhythm and delivers an electric shock if it senses an irregularity with the heart rhythm. Is
- 9 used to treat cardiac arrest.
- 10 D) PAD - (Public Access Defibrillator) An AED that can be used by anyone, to treat SCA victims in
- 11 public.
- 12 E) TDOH - (Tennessee Department of Health) The Tennessee government agency that is
- 13 responsible for public health.
- 14 F) TDOT - (Tennessee Department of Transportation) The Tennessee government agency that is
- 15 responsible for public transit.
- 16 G) OCHA - (Out of hospital cardiac arrests)

17

18 Section 2 : To prevent SCD rates and protect the local citizens across the state, this act will

19 enforce the placement of AEDs in all public transit services within Tennessee by inaugurating a

20 PAD program. This PAD program will work to ensure accessibility of AEDs in public vehicles and

21 stations throughout the state.

22

23 Section 3 : The TDOH states that heart disease is the number one cause of death in the state of

24 Tennessee, it is also one of the largest contributors of SCA. An estimated 70 to 90 percent of

25 people experiencing OCHAs die before official medics arrive. This is a significant problem in

26 Tennessee that requires adequate actions to combat it.

27

28 Section 4 : In addition to the mandate of the PAD program, all current authorized drivers and

29 personnel shall be CPR and AED trained by the TDOH, with alignment of Tennessee code, 68-140-

30 403. Training will last for only a couple of hours, with exception to those unable to attend the

31 initial class. Drivers will participate before or after their shifts to acquire their certificate. This

32 training will be held in person, along with online portals the staff can access.

33

34 Section 5 : With AEDs implemented into public transit, a number of these deaths can be

35 prevented. With guidance from the driver, anyone on a public vehicle can save a life by using

36 hands-on CPR and/or an AED. These changes can also form a safe environment for those suffering

37 with heart problems, or those who are more likely to experience SCA.

38

39 Section 6 : The placement of these AEDs shall be paid for by the purchasing company. Funds and

40 additional services shall be taken care of by the TDOH and TDOT. If the cost of AEDs and other

41 training or maintenance equipment exceeds 3.5 percent of the company's revenue, the TDOH will

42 issue a grant. The grant will correspond with the transportation companies' needs.

43

44 Section 7 : Individuals who violate this law by refusing to participate in the training shall be fined

45 \$150. If the individual continues these violations, their job shall be revoked. Companies refusing to

46 abide by these regulations shall be fined \$1,500 on the first offense. Further offenses will lead to

47 legal action managed by the Tennessee government.

48

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

50

51 Section 9 : This act shall be in effect upon passage, the public welfare requiring it. Companies shall

52 comply with guidelines by April 14th, 2023.

53

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		BHB/23-6-15
	BLUE HOUSE		
House - Health Jacob Meadows, Maddox Foreman-Lin Wilson Central High School		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

An Act To Implement Narcan In Medical Offices In High Schools Across Tennessee

- 1 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:
- 2 Narcan - Also known as Naloxone, a synthetic drug used to reverse or reduce the effects of an
- 3 opioid overdose. Non-harmful to those not experiencing an overdose.
- 4 Opioids - A class of drugs widely prescribed as pain relievers.
- 5 Overdose - When you take more than the normal or recommended amount of a drug, which can
- 6 cause serious injury or death if not treated immediately.
- 7 Epidemic - The rapid spread of disease to a large number of patients in a given population.
- 8 Recreational Drugs - A drug generally taken for enjoyment; usually illegal; rather than used
- 9 medically.
- 10 Laced - Contaminated with a substance, usually harmful or toxic; present in non-traceable
- 11 amounts.
- 12
- 13 Section 2: All schools containing grades 9 through 12 across Tennessee will be required to carry
- 14 Narcan in each school's medical offices; all schools shall restock Narcan every three years.
- 15
- 16 Section 3: Narcan's availability in schools in Tennessee will aid in the treatment of prominent
- 17 overdoses with youth in the United States. Reports show opioid overdoses in Tennessee more than
- 18 doubled from 2021 to May of 2022. Following Arizona, which started stocking schools with Narcan
- 19 in response to a student overdose during school hours, Tennessee schools will take similar
- 20 measures to prevent this from happening.
- 21
- 22 Section 4: Accidental overdoses have increased rapidly because drugs are readily available,
- 23 resulting in an extensive epidemic. This is due to two contributing factors: doctor overprescription
- 24 of drugs and consistently laced recreational drugs. Studies show that laced recreational drugs are
- 25 more likely to be used by high school students. Making Narcan available in school medical offices
- 26 will significantly lower the chances of accidental deaths due to overdoses.
- 27
- 28 Section 5: The incorporation of this drug will cost \$50,000 every three years and will be financed
- 29 through the Tennessee Department of Health budget. An additional \$27,000 will be allocated
- 30 towards the restock of Narcan per year.
- 31
- 32 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 33
- 34 Section 7: This act shall take effect July 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
- 35

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		BHB/23-6-16
	BLUE HOUSE		
House - Health Regan Duong, Cathrine Yousef, Hala Hantouli Valor College Prep		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT REHAB FOR THE PURPOSE OF DECREASING DRUG RELATED CRIMES

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA LEGISLATURE:
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this act should be defined as follows:
- 4 Prison: Building in which people are legally held as a punishment for a crime they have committed
- 5 or while awaiting trial.
- 6 Minor/non-violent drug offenses: Crimes that involve unregistered medicine which do not involve a
- 7 threat of harm or an actual attack upon a victim. (e.g.
- 8 Incarceration: State of being confined in prison
- 9 Offense: Breach of law and rule
- 10 Misdemeanor: A lesser criminal act within a legal system
- 11 Sentence: The length of time an offender is ordered to serve by court.
- 12 Drugs: Medicine not registered under the drug control authority. (A medicine or other substance
- 13 which has a physiological effect when ingested or otherwise introduced into the body.
- 14 Rehabilitation: process of medical or therapeutic treatment for people dependent on substances,
- 15 such as prescription drugs.
- 16 Tennessee Department of Corrections: a Cabinet-level agency within the Tennessee state government
- 17 responsible for the oversight of more than 20,000 convicted offenders in Tennessee's fourteen prisons
- 18 Substance Misuse: Substance misuse develops when you continue to take substances which
- 19 change the way you feel and think, such as alcohol, drugs or food, even though they may cause
- 20 problems with your body, your mind and the way you behave.
- 21 Drug Court: Help participants recover from use disorder with the aim of reducing future criminal activity.
- 22
- 23 Section 2) This act will address Tennessee's influx of drug related crimes and the incredibly large
- 24 amount of money being spent keeping incarcerated and reincarcerated drug offenders in prison. As
- 25 of FY 2019-2020, drug offenses accounted for 1 in 5 incarcerated individuals in the Tennessee
- 26 prison system. And considering drug-related offenses contribute the second most to prison
- 27 expenses, it is in Tennessee's best interest to deal with the root of the issue accordingly.
- 28
- 29 Section 3) This act will implement rehabilitation programs available to inmates struggling with
- 30 substance misuse to accommodate the growing incarceration and recidivism rates.
- 31
- 32 Section 4) Rehabilitation programs will consist of diversionary programs: drug courts and
- 33 behavioral therapy will be implemented into prisons.
- 34
- 35 Section 5) This bill will cost about an estimated \$3 million.
- 36
- 37 Section 6) All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed
- 38
- 39 Section 7) This act shall take effect starting January 1, 2024.
- 40

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA		BHB/23-6-17
	Youth in Government	the Youth in Government	BLUE HOUSE
House - Consumer and Human Resources		ACTION ON THE BILL	
Heidi Juarez-Galicia, Atziry Juarez, Acu Costa		HOUSE	SENATE
Collegiate School		Pass ☐ Fail ☐	Pass ☐ Fail ☐

An Act to Incentivize the Development of Privately Owned Grocery Stores in Poverty Stricken Neighborhoods

- 1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms used in the bill are defined as follows:
- 4 A) Poverty stricken neighborhoods - areas with people who struggle to
- 5 survive on low incomes
- 6 B) Grocery stores - a shop that offers healthy foods and material goods at reasonable cost
- 7 C) Healthy food options - a variety of food options that give the necessary
- 8 nutrients do be healthy
- 9 D) Government tax - money demanded by the government for its support
- 10 or for specific facilities or services
- 11
- 12 Section 2: If enacted, this bill should provide people living in zip codes where the median
- 13 household income is below the national poverty line, \$26,500 for a family of 4, access to healthy
- 14 foods, and everyday necessities.
- 15
- 16 Section 3: Privately owned businesses will be given tax incentives to operate grocery stores in zip
- 17 codes with median household incomes below the poverty line of \$26,500 for a family of 4.
- 18 Businesses choosing to operate grocery stores will receive a 15% rate reduction on their state
- 19 business taxes for those stores. These businesses may also receive a \$2,000 tax credit per
- 20 employee hired, capped at \$30,000 in tax credits for the business as a whole, for the employment
- 21 of people living in the same zip code as the business itself. This bill also would encourage local
- 22 governments to consider a property tax rate reduction for these businesses as well.
- 23 This bill is meant to initiate the creation of small businesses and promote private investment in
- 24 poverty stricken communities. Food deserts exist throughout the state of Tennessee. This bill is
- 25 attempting to fix that problem. In order to qualify as a grocery store for this provision the business
- 26 must stock at least 10% of inventory as fresh fruits, fresh vegetables, and fresh meat.
- 27
- 28 Section 4: This bill will cost the state a 15% reduction in business tax revenue on grocery stores
- 29 which meet these standards; however, few of these businesses even exist at this moment which
- 30 means the loss in state revenue from a decrease in business taxes will be miniscule. In addition,
- 31 the effect of creating employment and investment at a local level is invaluable.
- 32
- 33 Section 5: All laws or parts of conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.
- 34
- 35 Section 6: This act will take effect on July 1, 2023
- 36

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA		BHB/23-6-18
	Youth in Government	the Youth in Government	BLUE HOUSE
House - State Government		ACTION ON THE BILL	
Leah Crawford, Hank Stubbiefield, Luke Sowa		HOUSE	SENATE
Signal Mountain High School		Pass ☐ Fail ☐	Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT RELATING TO THE SELLING AND MANDATORY BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR PURCHASE OF FIREARMS BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:

- 1 Section 1: Terms in this act are defined as follows:
- 2 Firearm: a small arms weapon, from which bullets are fired out of.
- 3 Background Check: A review of a person's criminal, commercial, and financial records.
- 4 NICS: National Instant Criminal Background Check System
- 5 TICS: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation
- 6 TICS: Tennessee Instant Check System
- 7 IANSA: International Action Network on Small Arms
- 8 NSSF: National Shooting Sports Foundation
- 9
- 10 Section 2: Selling of firearms from personal collections will be illegal unless formal documentation
- 11 is submitted to NICS or TBI. This will be enforced by the FBI as it is considered a violent crime.
- 12 This will be so that documentation is possessed by leading firearm organizations such as the
- 13 IANSA and the NSSF.
- 14
- 15 Section 3: Selling will require the occupant to have a Federal Firearms License. Founded by the
- 16 Gun Control Act of 1968, this will ensure rights are known and prohibit unqualified purchasers. If
- 17 the FFL equipped owner disregards laws, the license will be taken away and the course reinstated
- 18 and firearm will be withheld
- 19
- 20 Section 4: If dealership personnel are to be reported to the NICS or TBI. Suspects in question will
- 21 be held from purchasing firearms, until proper pre-existing examinations from the NICS or TICS
- 22 are completed and the conclusion is that the suspect should be allowed to purchase firearms.
- 23 Section 5: All laws in conflict with this bill will be abolished or revised.
- 24
- 25 Section 6: Failure to comply with this act will result in a fine ranging between \$5,000 - \$50,000
- 26 depending on the quantity of firearms sold, type of weapon(s), and activities the firearm is used for.
- 27
- 28 Section 7: Instances of misconduct such as felonies will result in the withdrawal of all documented
- 29 firearms, and a search for any illegal undocumented firearms will be conducted. This will also
- 30 cause the removal of the owners FFL.
- 31
- 32 Section 8: Firearm owners will require a Federal Firearms License to carry a firearm on their
- 33 person in public spaces; however it must be concealed. This will not be required on private
- 34 grounds, or permitted grounds.
- 35
- 36 Section 9: This act will take effect on January first, 2024. This bill will not require any funding as it
- 37 uses pre-existing concepts that will be more strictly enforced.
- 38

TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT



**HOUSE
COMMITTEE 7
Eliza Abston**

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		RHB/23-7-1	
House - Agriculture and Natural Resources		RED HOUSE	
Cambria Ginther		ACTION ON THE BILL	
Signal Mountain High School		HOUSE	SENATE
		Pass ☐	Pass ☐
		Fail ☐	Fail ☐

AN ACT TO PROHIBIT ALL ANIMALS FROM RIDING FREELY IN THE TRUCK BEDS OF FAST-MOVING VEHICLES

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) Animals: Living creatures (includes, but is not limited to pets and farm animals).

5 b) Freely: Without restriction.

6 c) Secured: Attached in a manner that prevents it from moving dramatically.

7 d) Enclosed: Closed off on all sides.

8 e) Fast-moving: Moving at a speed greater than 15 miles per hour.

9

10 Section 2: All following sections apply to any number of animals unrestrained in the back of truck

11 beds.

12

13 Section 3: If an animal is in the truck bed of a fast-moving vehicle, it must be secured in a manner

14 that protects the animal from falling, jumping, or exiting the vehicle in any fashion.

15

16 Section 4: Ways of securing the animal include but are not limited to: A cage or ventilated

17 container that is tied (preferably cross-tethered) to the truck bed.

18

19 Section 5: If the animal is placed in a container, the container must be at least:

20 a) 6 inches taller than the top of the head of the animal(s) when standing.

21 b) 3 inches wider than the animal(s) on each side when standing.

22 c) 3 inches longer than both the front and back of the animal(s) when lying down.

23 d) Enclosed.

24 e) Well ventilated.

25

26 Section 6: If the container does not meet the parameters, then the following punishments will

27 occur:

28 a) First offense: A warning.

29 b) Second offense: \$75 fine.

30 c) Third offense or more: \$150 fine.

31

32 Section 7: Law enforcement will have the responsibility of enforcing this law.

33

34 Section 8: If the vehicle is moving 15 miles per hour or less, no punishment will ensue unless the

35 animal is seen to exit the moving vehicle.

36

37 Section 9: If the animal is unrestrained and exits the truck bed of a vehicle that is moving 15 miles

38 per hour or less, the following punishments will occur per animal:

39 a) First offense: \$100 fine.

40 b) Second offense: \$175 fine.

41 c) Third offense or more: \$250 fine.

42

43 Section 10: If the animal exits the truck bed of a vehicle that is moving faster than 15 miles per

44 hour, the penalty for all offenses will be \$1,000 per offense.

45

46 Section 11: If the animal is unrestrained in the truck bed of a vehicle that is moving between 16

47 and 30 miles per hour, the following punishments will occur per animal:

48 a) First offense: \$250 fine.

49 b) Second offense: \$500 fine.

50 c) Third offense: \$750 fine.

51 d) Fourth or more offense: \$1,500 fine.

52

53 Section 12: If the animal is unrestrained in the truck bed of a vehicle that is moving faster than 30

54 miles per hour, the following punishments will occur per animal:

55 a) First offense: \$500 fine.

56 b) Second offense: \$1,000 fine.

57 c) Third offense: \$1,500 fine.

58 d) Fourth offense or more: \$2,500 fine.

59

60 Section 13: The revenue generated from the fines will go to the Tennessee Department of

61 Agriculture.

62

63 Section 14: This will have no costs.

64

65 Section 15: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

66

67 Section 16: This act shall take effect on January 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.

68

69

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	RHB/23-7-2
	House - Consumer and Human Resources Jaxx Goodman Green Hill High School	RED HOUSE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ SENATE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO MITIGATE LOW WAGE JOBS

- 1 Section I: Terms in this legislation, unless the context requires otherwise, shall be defined as
- 2 Follows:
- 3 Minimum wage: the lowest wage per hour that is required by law to be paid to a worker.
- 4 Subminimum wages: Employment at less than the minimum wage is authorized to prevent
- 5 curtailment of opportunities for employment.
- 6 Phase out: To cease or discontinue
- 7 Define Department of Labor and Workforce Development: Department and division in Tennessee
- 8 which has the purpose of promoting employment, safety, providing beneficial employment and
- 9 development for the welfare of the workforce of Tennessee.
- 10
- 11 Section II: the minimum wage will be raised from 7.25 to 15.00 in the following increments.
- 12 The minimum wage will be raised to \$10.00 an hour on June 1st, 2023.
- 13 The minimum wage will be increased to \$12.00 an hour on January 1st, 2024.
- 14 The minimum wage will be increased to \$14.00 an hour on June 1st, 2024.
- 15 The minimum wage will be increased to \$15.00 an hour on January 1st, 2025.
- 16
- 17 Section III: The subminimum wages will begin to phase out by June 1st, 2023 and finish being
- 18 completely phased out by January 1st, 2025.
- 19 Employers will be required to raise their subminimum wage to \$4.00 an hour by June 1st,
- 20 2023.
- 21 Employers will be required to raise their subminimum wage to \$8.00 an hour by September
- 22 1st, 2023.
- 23 Employers will be required to raise their subminimum wage to \$10.00 by January 1st, 2024
- 24 Employers will be required to raise their subminimum wage to \$12.00 by June 1st, 2024
- 25 Employers will be required to raise their subminimum wage to \$14.00 by September 1st, 2024
- 26 Employers will be required to eliminate the subminimum wage and replace it with the minimum
- 27 wage which would be raise to \$15.00 an hour by January 1st, 2025
- 28
- 29 Section IV: This legislation will be enforced and be carried out by the Tennessee Department of
- 30 Labor and Workforce Development.
- 31 Section V: This act will not require funding from the state budget.
- 32
- 33
- 34 Section VI: All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
- 35
- 36 Section VII: If this legislation is passed, it will go into effect on June 1st, 2023.
- 37

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	RHB/23-1-3
	House - Consumer and Human Resources Aryan Pandey, Lila Martin Mt. Juliet High School	RED HOUSE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ SENATE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐

An act to promote the development of high-speed internet infrastructure in rural areas through incentivizing Internet Service Providers (ISPs) with state tax credit

- 1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government:
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this Act, unless context requires otherwise, shall be defined as follows:
- 4 a) ISP: A company that provides internet to people who are subscribed.
- 5 b) Rural area: Any area that is not within the boundaries of a city or town with a population of
- 6 50,000 or more.
- 7 c) High-speed internet: A connection with a minimum download speed of 25 Mbps and a minimum
- 8 upload speed of 3 Mbps.
- 9 d) Tax credit: A dollar-for-dollar reduction in the total amount of money that a privately owned
- 10 business owes to the government for taxes.
- 11
- 12 Section 2: ISPs that construct new high-speed internet infrastructure in a rural area shall be
- 13 eligible for a state tax credit of 50% of construction, up to a maximum credit of \$5,000,000 per
- 14 year.
- 15
- 16 Section 3: ISPs that expand current high-speed internet infrastructure within a rural area shall be
- 17 eligible for a state tax credit of 40% of the total cost of expansion, up to a maximum credit of
- 18 \$3,000,000 per year.
- 19
- 20 Section 4: ISPs must demonstrate that their infrastructure will provide high-speed internet access
- 21 to at least 75% of households within a rural area, functioning at high-speed for 90% of the time
- 22 over the span of 4 months, to be eligible for these tax credits.
- 23
- 24 Section 5: ISPs must send annual reports to the state government detailing the progress and
- 25 completion of their infrastructure projects.
- 26
- 27 Section 6: Any law or part of a law in conflict with this act is hereby repealed.
- 28
- 29 Section 7: This bill will take effect on March 1, 2024, giving time for ISPs to learn of and prepare
- 30 for this bill.
- 31

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	 the Youth in Government	RHB/23-7-4	
		RED HOUSE	
House – Transportation		ACTION ON THE BILL	
Isabella Lopez, Anna Bui		HOUSE	SENATE
Valor College Prep		Pass ☐	Pass ☐
		Fail ☐	Fail ☐

AN ACT TO REQUIRE ELDERLY DRIVERS TO PASS A ROAD TEST UPON LICENSE RENEWAL

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA LEGISLATURE:
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this act should be defined as follows:
- 4 Elderly: A person over the age of 65.
- 5 Car Crash: A car colliding with another vehicle or object.
- 6 Driver's License: An official authorization that gives an individual the ability to operate a vehicle.
- 7 Driver's Test/Road Test: An assessment used to determine one's competence to operate a vehicle
- 8 and obtain a driver's license.
- 9 Renewal: Extending the validity of one's license.
- 10
- 11 Section 2: This act will address the safety of elderly drivers. While the elderly do not make up a
- 12 majority of car accidents in Tennessee, senior citizens are unable to withstand harsh physical
- 13 injuries in the event that a car accident occurs. As people start to age, vision becomes poor and
- 14 physical movement becomes more difficult.
- 15
- 16 Section 4: Due to increased risk for substantial injury, drivers over the age of 70 have higher rates
- 17 of death per crash than drivers aged 35-54.
- 18
- 19 Section 3: This act will require drivers over the age of 65 to renew their driver's license every 5
- 20 years, as well as complete a road test to determine their competency to operate a motor vehicle.
- 21
- 22 Section 5: This bill will require no cost.
- 23
- 24 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 25
- 26 Section 7: This act shall take effect on January 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.
- 27
- 28

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	 the Youth in Government	RHB/23-7-5	
		RED HOUSE	
House – Consumer and Human Resources		ACTION ON THE BILL	
Alyssa Wilson, Justin McGuire, Cadem Fulks		HOUSE	SENATE
Dyer County High School		Pass ☐	Pass ☐
		Fail ☐	Fail ☐

Divorce Opportunities

- 1 Section 1: There are about four major issues with divorce today. They are property division,
- 2 alimony, child custody, and child care. In Tennessee, all martial property is to be divided in every
- 3 divorce. Although many sources state that it is usually a 50/50 split; that is not always the case.
- 4 Not only that but each of these cases can, and often, take a longer time than they should, causing
- 5 serious stress on those involved, including children.
- 6
- 7 Section 2: Child custody is a big issue when it comes to divorce because the mother almost always
- 8 gets the child because she is seen as better suited to care for the child emotionally while the father
- 9 is viewed as the one responsible for financial contributions. Alimony is financial support that is
- 10 ordered by a court to give to the opposite spouse. What was once considered a feminist coup
- 11 because of its support of women who had few financial opportunities, now hurts women. It is also
- 12 tough for men because they could already be in a bad marriage and now have to pay their ex-
- 13 wives for years. This also will cause the women to be more resentful towards their ex and just
- 14 overall less ambitious. This bill is to ensure that these hard times and difficult situations are dealt
- 15 with the fastest, yet carefully, and most efficient way without causing any more stress on families
- 16 than they are going through while also making sure everyone is getting their fair share.
- 17

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		WHB/23-7-6
	WHITE HOUSE		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐
House - Education Libby Miller Wilson Central High School			

An Act to Help the Teacher Shortage 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 Discretionary funding- the funding in which the state/ local government gives the school districts
- 5 money to put toward any subject as they see fit.
- 6 Livable wage- wage in which a person can live in their county comfortably without needing help
- 7 from the government.
- 8
- 9 SECTION 2
- 10 The purpose of this bill is to reduce the teacher shortage in the state of Tennessee. This bill would
- 11 require more teaching benefits, and a rise in teacher pay in the state of Tennessee. The purpose of
- 12 this bill is to reduce the teacher shortage in the state of TN by making available more teacher
- 13 benefits and increasing teacher pay. This would ensure that teachers could have a more livable
- 14 wage, as well as benefits that would help them to stay in Tennessee schools for a longer period, or
- 15 until they reach retirement age. These benefits would start for teachers as soon as they get a
- 16 bachelor's degree in education along with a county teaching job in Tennessee. Benefits would
- 17 include, free childhood daycare in the educator's school, a larger pay range to compensate for
- 18 state retirement funds, and an instate tuition break for teachers wishing to advance their
- 19 education.
- 20
- 21 SECTION 3
- 22 This would cost a \$75,000,000 increase in the state of Tennessee's education budget. The
- 23 \$570,000,000 would come from Tennessee's budget surplus category.
- 24
- 25 SECTION 4
- 26 If a county fails to follow this, then their state discretionary funding would be cut by 40%.
- 27
- 28 SECTION 5
- 29 All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 30
- 31 SECTION 6
- 32 This act shall take effect June 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
- 33

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		WHB/23-7-7
	WHITE HOUSE		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐
House - Government Operations Lucas Bulla, Evan Cowan, Miracle Brown Lebanon High School			

An Act to Amend the Verbiage of the Tennessee Surrender Form

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE YMCA YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:
- 4 a) Verbiage: speech or writing that uses too many words or excessively technical expressions
- 5
- 6 Section 2: The original bill 36-1-111 problematically insists the following boxes must be checked:
- 7 "This child was born
- 8 in wedlock []
- 9 out of wedlock []
- 10 in wedlock but the mother's husband is not the child's biological father []."
- 11
- 12 Section 3: If enacted this bill would remove 36-1-111 section B section 4 sub section 3 making the
- 13 requirement for a child surrender forms to state if the child was born in or out of wedlock along
- 14 with if the child was born in wedlock but the mothers husband is or is not the biological father null.
- 15
- 16 Section 4: This bill will cost \$100 in order for government officials to construct new replacement
- 17 forms for all children in Tennessee.
- 18
- 19 Section 5: All laws or parts of the law are hereby repealed
- 20
- 21 Section 6: This bill if adopted will further be enacted on July 1, 2023
- 22

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the Youth in Government	WHB/23-7-8
House - Health		WHITE HOUSE
Sophie Bugg, Gabriela Matis		ACTION ON THE BILL
Green Hill High School		HOUSE
		Pass ☐ Fail ☐
		Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO RESTRICT FACTORY USAGE OF ETHYLENE OXIDE IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE HEALTH OF TENNESSEE CITIZENS

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). Ethylene Oxide (EtO): a carcinogenic gas used as a sterilizer for medical equipment, used as a

5 pesticide, and used as an ingredient in other chemicals.

6 b). Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): an independent executive agency of the United States

7 federal government tasked with environmental protection matters.

8 c). Clean Air Act: a federal law that regulates air emissions from stationary and mobile sources.

9 d). The Occupational Safety and Health Administration(OSHA): an organization to ensure safe and

10 healthful working conditions for workers by setting and enforcing standards.

11 e). Tennessee Department of Environmental Conservation: the Tennessee state department

12 responsible for managing and maintaining Tennessee's natural environment

13 f). Sterilizing: the process of making something free from bacteria

14 g). Fumigating: to apply smoke, vapor, or gas for the purpose of disinfecting or destroying pests.

15

16 Section 2: This legislation would restrict the use and disposal of the gaseous chemical Ethylene

17 Oxide, also known as EtO, in factories statewide. This includes:

18 a). Factories that use EtO as a sterilizing agent

19 b). Factories that use EtO as a fumigating agent for spices and cosmetics

20 c). Factories that use EtO in the manufacturing of ethylene glycol, textiles, detergents,

21 polyurethane foam, solvents, medicine, adhesives, and other products

22 d). Factories that actively use and/or dispose of EtO

23

24 Section 3: This legislation would include the following restrictions on Ethylene Oxide:

25 a). All factories that use the chemical EtO must confirm their usage of said chemical

26 b). All factories using EtO are required to have and conduct regular maintenance checks on air

27 filters leading to outdoor areas every month

28 i. If irregularities are found, the problem must be investigated in order to find a

29 replacement filter and/or fix the existing one.

30 ii. If irregularities are found, the problem must be reported immediately to the Tennessee

31 Department of Environmental Conservation for data collection

32 c). All factories must have multiple air ventilation units and filters installed to protect the

33 outside environment from any potential EtO leaks

34

35 Section 4: Factories in the State of Tennessee must follow all OSHA guidelines in regard to

36 Ethylene Oxide. These are included but not limited to:

37 a). Proper protective equipment provided for employees of these factories

38 b). Basic emergency plans in place for potential leaks and dangerous situations

39 c). Exposure management for employees, including safety rooms with regulated airflow

40

41 Section 5: If any entity, company, or person is found to not be in compliance with the regulations

42 stated, as per the Clean Air Act, an amount of \$37,500 can be fined per day, per violation. The

43 total amount may not exceed \$295,000

44

45 Section 6: This bill will cost \$0 in the state of Tennessee

46

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

48

49 Section 8: This act shall take effect on January 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.

50

51



70th General Assembly
of the
State of Tennessee



the
Youth in Government

House - Agriculture and Natural Resources

Callaway Wheeler, Laurel Anne Lang

Signal Mountain High School

WHB/23-7-9

WHITE HOUSE

ACTION ON THE BILL

HOUSE SENATE

Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO PROMOTE FOOD RETAILERS IN TENNESSEE THAT GENERATE ONE TON OR MORE OF FOOD WASTE WEEKLY TO DONATE EDIBLE FOOD AND TO RECYCLE THE REMAINING SCRAPS

1 BE ENACTED BY TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2

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

4 a) Food Retailers: a place of business where consumers can purchase food and take it off the

5 premises.

6 b) Edible Food: food that is safe to eat.

7 c) Food Scraps: inedible food, leftovers from food preparation, and edible food that is not donated.

8 d) Food Waste: food that is fit for consumption but consciously discarded during the retail phase.

9 e) Nonprofit: organizations that are created for reasons other than profit and money

10 Section 2: This act highly suggests that all food retailers in Tennessee that produce one ton or

11 more of food waste each week donate food waste to food donation organizations.

12

13 Section 3: The Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act will protect food retailers while

14 donating to food banks and shelters.

15 a) Food retailers must donate to nonprofit organizations to adhere to state law.

16 b) The donated food must meet all labeling and quality standards.

17

18 Section 4: Food that would otherwise be thrown out must be donated or recycled.

19 a) New facilities for storing the food donations may be deemed necessary if there is not already a

20 facility in existence to store the food and keep it fresh for the longest time possible.

21

22 Section 5: The federal government provides tax deductions to businesses that donate food. With

23 the implementation of this bill, businesses that donate inventory may claim a tax deduction in the

24 amount of the property's cost basis.

25

26 Section 6: On June 1, 2023, Tennessee's government will publish a list of all nonprofit

27 organizations accepting food donations.

28 a) Food retailers will donate to the closest organization to decrease the transportation needed and

29 to achieve the freshest food possible.

30

31 Section 7: Food retailers must contact the organization they plan to donate to before donating the

32 food to allow the organization to prepare for the incoming food.

33

34 Section 8: The leftover food scraps that the food donation organizations can no longer accept will

35 be sent to nearby food recycling centers or Tennessee state parks.

36 a) The food can be recycled into animal feed so long as the food scraps with animal products are

37 correctly heat treated before being fed to animals.

38 b) State parks can compost the food scraps and use the compost to enhance the soil, mulch the

39 trails and paths, or use it in landscaping.

40

41 Section 9: Businesses will be required to complete a monthly form to document the donations and

42 recycling that will take place online. The food donation services will be responsible for confirming

43 that the business has delivered the food. The recycling services will also be responsible for

44 confirming. The businesses will notify the government with a list of the food donation and recycling

45 services they plan to use.

46

47 Section 10: It will be up to the food donation service's discretion to determine how to use the food

48 once it is donated to the services.

49 a) The food donation services will distribute the food collected to hunger-relief charities, which are

50 smaller front-line agencies.

51 b) It is up to the food retailers to determine if the food is eligible to donate based on the Bill

52 Emerson Good Samaritan Food Act.

53

54 Section 11: The food retailers will be responsible for transporting the food to the donation sites

55 and recycling centers/state parks.

56

57 Section 12: If the Food Retailers fail to donate or recycle the food, then they will not receive the

58 tax incentive given by the government.

59

60 Section 13: Fiscal Statement: This bill will cost \$69,000 annually to cover the salary of the

61 government worker that will be assessing and creating the online form. This bill will be funded

62 through Tennessee public tax revenue.

63

64 Section 14: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

65

66 Section 15: On January 1, 2025, Tennessee's government will require food retailers that produce

67 one ton or more of waste each week to donate food that would be otherwise thrown out and to

68 recycle food that can no longer be donated.

69

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		WHB/23-7-10	
		WHITE HOUSE	
		ACTION ON THE BILL	
		HOUSE	SENATE
		Pass ☐ Fail ☐	Pass ☐ Fail ☐
House - Education			
Evan Massey, Tucker Osborne, Allisson Asencio Innovation Academy			

A Resolution for the recruitment of school bus drivers

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:

2 Section 1:

3 Terms in this act are defined as follows:

4 COVID-19: Viral respiratory disease called Coronavirus

5 CDL: Commercial Driver's License

6 Class B CDL: Commercial Driver's License allowing operation to vehicles 26,000lbs and up

7 P endorsement: Public Passenger and Transportation License

8 Section 2:

9 With a shortage of dozens of bus drivers, some drivers have had to double their routes. If a bus
10 driver is late for a route this can cause many students to be late. In addition to scholars arriving
11 late, they are not in class learning. This may affect scholars later with their schedule and teachers.
12 Though teachers may arrive early at school to prepare for their scholars, if there are no bus
13 drivers to pick up or drop off the scholars, then the teachers won't be able to educate properly
14 without their scholars.

15 Section 3:

16 Ever since the turning events of the COVID-19 pandemic, many school bus drivers were left
17 without jobs due to schools going virtual. In addition to schools going virtual, many bus drivers
18 were left jobless or in a less paying job. Now that schools have reopened, many bus drivers never
19 came back, due to help from the government or found another job to replace bus driving duty with
20 a better income.

21 Section 4:

22 If enacted, new school bus drivers will be granted a 3,000\$ bonus by completing a 30-day training
23 program. This newly created program will be run by retired bus drivers that have since left the
24 school district. This program will begin at the start of June and will conclude at the end of July.
25 This resolution will create a 3,000\$ signing bonus to attract new school bus drivers. To properly
26 enact this resolution, we require Approximately 6,668,530\$ these funds would be allocated
27 towards advertisements including billboards, and online advertisements as well as 3,000,000\$
28 would be allocated to the 3,000\$ signing bonus. Drivers need to complete a training session that is
29 14 days long to acquire the bonus. This program will be held at county specific departments of
30 transportation.

31 Section 5:

32 If this program were to be created, the employment of two instructors per district would be
33 necessary. The instructors will be paid 6000\$ for 2 months of teaching. The money will be given to
34 each district making a total of 294 instructors. This will come to a total of 1,764,000\$ towards
35 instructors throughout the districts.

40 Section 6:

41 For new bus drivers to be able to drive a school bus, the following things that they will need is a
42 class B CDL, and a P endorsement. To obtain both class B CDL and a P endorsement, one must
43 pay 110\$. (100\$ for the class B CDL, and 10\$ for the P endorsement). We are asking the State
44 government to pay the 110\$ for the class B CDL and a P endorsement. This will also require 9
45 weeks of completion.

46 Section 7:

47 Out of the 8,886,000,000\$ in the k-12 education funding delegated by the Tennessee department
48 of education, we are asking for a total of 6,668,530\$.

49 A) Signing bonus: 3,000,000\$

50 B) Radio advertising: 30,000\$

51 C) Billboard advertising: 807,500\$

52 D) Instructors (2 months): 1,764,000\$

53 E) Licensing: 1,067,000\$

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

55 Section 9: This resolution shall take effect on June 1, 2023.

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the Youth in Government	WHB/23-7-11
House - Civil Justice		WHITE HOUSE
Muhammad Abdullah, Melawi Teclesenbet, Adam Puckett		ACTION ON THE BILL
House - Civil Justice		HOUSE SENATE
Valor College Prep		Pass ☐ Fail ☐
Pass ☐ Fail ☐		Pass ☐ Fail ☐

**AN ACT TO FURTHER CRIMINALIZE THE ABUSE OF DOMESTICATED ANIMALS AND
TRADITIONAL HOUSE PETS**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA LEGISLATURE:

2

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

4 Felonies: A crime, typically one involving violence, regarded as more serious than a misdemeanor,

5 and usually punishable by imprisonment for more than one year.

6 Class A Felony: 15-60 years in prison, up to a \$50,000 fine.

7 Class B Felony: 8-30 years in prison, up to a \$25,000 fine.

8 Class C Felony: 3-15 years in prison, up to a \$10,000 fine.

9 Class D Felony: 2-12 years in prison, up to a \$5,000 fine.

10 Class E Felony: 1-6 years in prison, up to a \$3,000 fine.

11 Misdemeanors: A non-indictable offense, regarded in the US as less serious than a felony.

12 Class A Misdemeanor: Up to 1 year in prison, up to a \$2,500 fine.

13 Class B Misdemeanor: Up to 6 months in prison, up to a \$500 fine.

14 Class C Misdemeanor: Up to 1 month in prison, up to a \$50 fine.

15 Emotionally intelligent: The state of being able to feel and comprehend the emotions of yourself

16 and other living organisms around you; for the sake of this bill, this would look like a typical house

17 cat, domesticated dog, or other traditional house pets.

18 Animals: A living organism that feeds on organic matter, typically having specialized sense organs

19 and nervous system and able to respond rapidly to stimuli.

20 Domesticated Animals: Animals which have been bred by humans and conditioned to be suitable

21 to cohabitate with humans in a typical home or living environment.

22 Traditional house pets: An animal which would be common to see as a pet in an average person's

23 home; examples include dogs, cats, rabbits, birds, and reptiles.

24 Animal abuse: Cruelty to animals, animal neglect or animal cruelty, is the infliction by omission or

25 by commission by humans of suffering or harm upon non-human animals.

26 Abandonment: The act of leaving something uncared for which is unable to take care of itself or

27 provide a healthy and comfortable living environment on its own, to leave something alone and

28 helpless with no intentions of coming back.

29 Forced Starvation: Denied access to adequate amounts of food or fuel required for the sustaining

30 of life.

31

32 Section 2) This act will address the most severe of animal abuse cases in which a domesticated or

33 otherwise emotionally intelligent animal or animals face severe, life threatening abuse, or are

34 fatally injured as a result of constant abuse. Regardless of whether or not the animal mentioned

35 faces death as a result of the abuse, the aggressor will be charged with a Class C Felony. If the

36 animal or animals in mention are fatally injured, the aggressor shall face the maximum

37 punishment allowed for a Class C felony.

38

39 Section 3) If the form of abuse in question is less serious than above mentioned and there is no

40 immediate threat to the animal's life, the aggressor should be charged with a Class D felony. If the

41 animal faces constant or daily abuse even without an immediate threat to their life, the aggressor

42 should face the maximum punishment allowed for a Class D felony. If multiple animals face

43 constant or daily abuse, the aggressor would subsequently face the maximum punishment allowed

44 for a Class D felony. If the two prior scenarios do not match the case, the charge will be

45 determined by the frequency of the abuse dealt by the aggressor.

46

47 Section 4) If the form of abuse in question is forced starvation of the animal, the aggressor should

48 be charged with a Class E felony. If the forced starvation results in the death of one or multiple

49 animals, the aggressor will be charged with a Class D felony unless an amount greater than 10

50 domesticated animals die as a result in which the aggressor will be charged with a Class C felony

51 and the aggressor will be charged as such.

52

53 Section 5) If the form of abuse in question is abandonment, the aggressor shall be charged with a

54 Class A misdemeanor. If the aggressor in question is convicted of committing animal abandonment

55 5 or more times, the aggressor shall be charged with a Class E felony.

56

57 Section 6) If the form of abuse in question is sexual in nature, and significant harm or damage is

58 done to the animal, the aggressor should be charged with a Class D felony. If the sexual abuse of

59 the animal in question results in the death of the animal, the aggressor should be charged with a

60 Class C felony. If the aggressor is found guilty in multiple cases of sexually abusing different

61 animals, they subsequently be charged with a Class C felony. If the aggressor is found guilty of

62 causing the death of multiple animals via sexual abuse, they shall face the maximum punishment

63 allowed under a Class C felony.

64

65 Section 7) This bill will require no cost.

66

67 Section 8) All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.

68

69 Section 9) This act shall take effect immediately upon becoming a law.

70

		70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government				BHB/23-7-12	
House - Education				BLUE HOUSE			
Abigail Holly, Lily Haynes, Emmaline Bradley-Shoup Signal Mountain High School				ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ _____ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ _____ Fail ☐			

An Act To Require Schools in the State of Tennessee to Expand School Counseling 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 School Counselor: A professional who works in primary schools or secondary schools to provide

5 academic, career, college access/affordability/admission, and social-emotional competencies to all

6 students through a school counseling program.

7 Specialized Counselor: Similar background to a regular school counselor though requiring a more

8 advanced LPC/MHSP license. They also complete an extra semester-long evaluation period before

9 being granted a full-time position. These counselors work closely with individual students rather

10 than on a larger scale with a full student body.

11 Seminar: A conference or meeting for discussion or training

12 Counselor Criteria: The criteria counselors are required to have to be able to obtain a job as a

13 school counselor

14 Stress: A state of mental or emotional strain or tension resulting from adverse or very demanding

15 circumstances.

16 Anxiety: A feeling of worry, nervousness, or unease, typically about an imminent event or

17 something with an uncertain outcome.

18 Trauma: A deeply distressing or disturbing experience

19 Jason Flatt Act: An act in the state of Tennessee that requires teachers and certain school

20 personnel to complete two hours of youth suicide awareness and prevention training in order to

21 maintain or renew their licensing credentials

22 LPC: Licensed Professional Counselor, provides mental health services that focus on behavioral,

23 emotional, and mental issues in various healthcare settings.

24 LPC/MHSP: Licensed Professional Counselor with a Mental Health Service Provider Designation,

25 similar to the LPC license but the service provider can prevent, diagnose, and treat mental,

26 emotional, or behavioral disorders and associated disorders which interfere with mental health.

27

28 Section II) This act requires all Tennessee Public High Schools to expand their school counseling

29 systems by hiring an additional specialized counselor.

30

31 Section III) This act will require yearly seminars for teachers to be taught about common signs of

32 mental struggle in schools, and the new specialized counselors would lead these seminars. This

33 would be done in addition to the youth suicide prevention training laid out in the Jason Flatt Act.

34

35 Section IV) The specialized counselors will follow the same path to get a degree as regular

36 counselors though to qualify to be a specialized counselor an LPC/MHSP license must be acquired

37 over the LPC license. The LPC/MHSP license includes the ability to diagnose and treat mental

38 health disorders through specialized counselors in schools who would only be allowed to defer

39 opinions and treatment to outside therapists. The advanced license would provide more

40 background knowledge in the signs and symptoms of mental health problems over the standard

41 LPC license.

42

43 Section V) The specialized counselors would work alongside pre-existing counselors. These

44 specialized counselors complete a semester-long evaluation period at a school before being hired

45 full-time. This period would be on top of any supervised clinical hours gained during the process of

46 getting their degree or license. The specialized counselor will become familiar with the procedures

47 in their respective schools. This period would be an opportunity for both counselors to adapt to

48 working together and see if the specialized counselor works well in the school.

49

50 Section VI) Students would be able to visit these counselors during the school day. This would

51 require a note from the counselor to be able to attend. Students with mental health problems and

52 those without but are still struggling and could benefit, would have time to talk with a professional

53 to destress and talk through problems.

54

55 Section VII) Students who get in trouble often can be deferred to specialized counselors. Students

56 with difficult personal situations are more likely to act out at school frequently. Specialized

57 counselors would work to find the root of bad behavior and assess how outside pressures on

58 students are connected, case by case.

59

60 Section VIII) If there is a need for a consultation then it would be able to happen at any point in

61 the school day, before/after school, and when a class could be skipped and work made up. Visits

62 with the counselors would be done in a way that would not interfere with classwork.

63

64 Section IX) This will cost approximately \$23,000,000 and will be funded by the Tennessee

65 Department of Education Budget.

66

67 Section X) All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

68

69 Section XI) This act shall take effect January 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.

70

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA		BHB/23-7-13	
	Youth in Government		BLUE HOUSE	
House - Health Kaden Houser, Michael Pemberton, Eli Carroll Webb School			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

An Act to Help Further Enable Drug Addicts To Successfully Seek Rehabilitation

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:
- 2
- 3 Section 1) Terms used in this act should be defined as follows:
- 4 a.) Rehab Center: a registered institution (other than a Hospital) which provides physiotherapy,
- 5 occupational therapy and other rehabilitative treatment for physical injury, dysfunction or
- 6 disability.
- 7 b.) SAMHSA: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
- 8 c.) Opioids: a class of drugs that derive from, or mimic, natural substances found in the opium
- 9 poppy plant. Opioids work in the brain to produce a variety of effects, including pain relief.
- 10 d.) Addiction: the fact or condition of being addicted to a substance, thing, or activity.
- 11
- 12 Section 2) The following businesses will be converted into state-funded drug and alcohol
- 13 rehabilitation centers. Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Memphis, Hermitage Comprehensive
- 14 Treatment Ctr in Nashville, and BHG Knoxville Citico Treatment Center in Knoxville.
- 15
- 16 Section 3) The costs for this act to take effect will vary greatly depending on the existing wages of
- 17 the current employees of the affected institutions.
- 18
- 19 Section 4) The number of free outpatient and telemedicine drug and alcohol rehabilitation centers
- 20 will be increased by converting current private owned establishments into state-funded centers.
- 21
- 22 Section 5) Required funds will be attained via reallocating existing public taxes from reservoirs
- 23
- 24 Section 6) Further establishments may be converted into state-funded institutions depending on
- 25 the success of the aforementioned centers
- 26
- 27 Section 7) All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
- 28
- 29 Section 8) This act shall take effect on June 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
- 30

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA		BHB/23-7-14	
	Youth in Government		BLUE HOUSE	
House - Criminal Justice Trystan Forehand, Autry Antonides, Spencer Newsome Innovation Academy			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

An Act to Increase the Punishment for Animal Abuse

- 1 Section 1.) Terms in this act will be defined as follows:
- 2 a.) Animal abuse: The crime of causing physical, emotional, or sexual harm to an animal. Abuse
- 3 can also include participation in events such as animal fights or excessive neglect. Occasionally,
- 4 the animal will die. The act of animal abuse can be committed either deliberately or
- 5 unintentionally, but in either case, the animal is put in danger of harm or death.
- 6 b) Abuser: A person or group of people who deliberately causes physical or mental harm to a living
- 7 being.
- 8 c) Felony: A crime, typically one involving violence, regarded as more serious than a
- 9 misdemeanor, and usually punishable by imprisonment for more than one year or by death.
- 10 e.) Misdemeanor: A nonindictable offense, regarded in the US (and formerly in the UK) as less
- 11 serious than a felony.
- 12 f.) Incarceration: The state of being confined in prison; imprisonment.
- 13 g.) Fine: A penalty that requires the convicted person to pay the public treasure a sum of money
- 14 fixed by law after an offense has been committed.
- 15
- 16 Section 2.) This bill urges the house to maintain stricter laws on animal abuse in the state of
- 17 Tennessee. Around 10 million animals die from abuse every year in the United States. In nine
- 18 states including Alabama, Mississippi, and Arkansas have made animal abuse a felony. With this
- 19 bill, we are hoping to have an impact on the state's animal abuse percentage, but also to set an
- 20 example The charges for animal abuse in the state of Tennessee are:
- 21 1: A class A misdemeanor for first-time offenders.
- 22 2: A class E felony for multiple offenses.
- 23 With this bill, we would like the charges for this offense to be raised to:
- 24 1: A class D felony for first-time offenders
- 25 2 A class C felony for multiple offenses
- 26
- 27 Section 3.) A convicted animal abuser shall:
- 28 a) Go through the court process, and once determined guilty of this offense, will be incarcerated.
- 29 Then serve the proper sentences.
- 30 b) The convicted shall serve a minimum of five years in prison, but a maximum of ten years. The
- 31 convicted shall also pay a fine of \$10,000 in United States currency. (The punishment for a class D
- 32 felony.)
- 33 c) If this is a second offense for the convicted. They shall serve a minimum of ten years in prison,
- 34 but a maximum of twenty-five years. The convicted shall also pay a fine of \$10,000 in United
- 35 States currency. (The punishment for a class C felony.)
- 36 d) Once released from prison the convicted will be marked as a felon.
- 37
- 38 Section 4.) The initial passing of this bill will not require funding from the state as the additional
- 39 cost from the increase in prison sentence will be exceeded by the increased revenue from fines.

40 Section 5.) All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
42
43 Section 6.) This act shall take effect May 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
44

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		BHB/23-7-15
House - Health			BLUE HOUSE
Chiadi Onuorah, Mayan Rashid, Toluwakitan Akinsola			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ SENATE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐
Valor College Prep			

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH REHABILITATION CENTERS FOR EX-PRISONERS

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA LEGISLATURE:
2
3 Section 1) Terms in this act should be defined as follows:
4 Rehabilitation Centers: Designed to reduce reimprisonment among adults who have been
5 convicted of an offense by improving their behaviors and social functioning.
6 Ex-Offender: Person or individual with who was involved with a prison within the past 3 years.
7 Career counselors: Someone whose job is to give people guidance and advice about what type of
8 work they could do or how they could progress to a better job.
9 Therapist: A medical care professional trained in methods of rehab.
10 Reincarceration: The process of an ex-offender committing a crime and being reinstated into
11 prison.
12 Project Return: A non-profit organization with the mission of creating new beginnings for people
13 who are returning to our community after being put in prison. They provide the resources and
14 services needed to gain employment and build full and free lives.
15
16 Section 2) This act will address the issue of ex-offenders being unable to reintegrate into society
17 instead of returning to a life of crime. Studies indicate that roughly 68% of ex-offenders are
18 reincarcerated as early as 3 years after being released.
19
20 Section 3) This act will provide ex-offenders with safe and secure rehabilitation centers, in which
21 they will have access to resources such as career counselors to assist them in finding economic
22 stability by providing jobs through private sessions, hence aiding ex-offenders who suffer from
23 stigma and discrimination when applying for jobs. This includes frequent scheduled appointments
24 and visits to the establishment until they have accrued a stable financial situation. The three
25 establishments will be located in Memphis, Nashville, and Knoxville.
26
27 Section 4) This act will require a partnership between Tennessee's Department of Correction
28 (TDOC), Project Return, as well as the Construction Division of Tennessee. This act will cost
29 \$261,940 per establishment. Additional costs include regular maintenance and will cost annually
30 \$2,000, yearly, per establishment and will be funded by TDOC. \$50,000 for the job counselor's
31 salary per establishment, funded by Project Return. All costing \$941,820.
32
33 Section 5) All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
34
35 Section 6) This act shall take effect January 1st of the following year upon becoming a law.
36

		70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government				BHB/23-7-16	
House - State Government				BLUE HOUSE			
Taylor Holmes, Brooklyn Reeves, Lalah Clemmons				ACTION ON THE BILL			
Collegiate School				HOUSE SENATE			
				Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐			

An Act to Allow County Specific Firearm License Requirements for the Purchase of Firearms

1 Be it enacted by Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government
2 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:
3 a.) Conceal Carry Permit - A license which allows citizens in Tennessee to carry a concealed
4 handgun. The State of Tennessee does not require this license for Tennessee citizens to carry a
5 handgun concealed or on their persons. Counties enacting this law would require citizens of those
6 counties to obtain a Concealed Carry Permit in order to purchase a firearm. Those without this
7 license will be prohibited from purchasing firearms in that county.
8 b.) FFL - Federal Firearms License
9
10 Section 2: If enacted, this bill would require all handgun purchases, including purchases made
11 from private sellers, in counties which enact this law, to require a Concealed Carry Permit for all
12 firearm purchases.
13
14 Section 3: Before ever being eligible to purchase a firearm from an FFL or a private firearm seller
15 in counties where this law will go into effect a citizen of that county must obtain a Concealed Carry
16 Permit. Firearm Sellers, when selling in a county with this law enacted will only be allowed to sell
17 to purchasers with a valid Concealed Carry Permit. To be eligible for a Concealed Carry Permit,
18 private citizens must pass a state approved firearm safety course (Concealed Carry Courses are
19 already in place and are readily accessible), followed by a state and federal background check.
20 Background checks are already a Federal Law required when purchasing a firearm from an FFL or
21 for obtaining a Concealed Carry Permit; the FBI (Tennessee Bureau of Investigation) conducts
22 these background checks online prior to the purchase of a firearm and the issuing of a Concealed
23 Carry Permits.
24 These licenses are valid for a period of eight years or for a higher fee the permit holder can choose
25 to obtain a permit which will never expire unless the licensee forfeits their ability to hold the
26 license due to felony conviction or being placed on a federal or state watch list. Any other
27 infractions which are already in place that may cause a citizen to forfeit their ability to purchase a
28 firearm are also included in this law.
29 Concealed Carry Permits are already registered with local and state law enforcement agencies. Any
30 citizen with a valid Conceal Carry Permit in the state of Tennessee or any other state carrying
31 reciprocity will be allowed to use this permit as a license to purchase firearms in the county where
32 this law is active.
33 Currently, the state of Tennessee does not require any private citizen to have a Concealed Carry
34 Permit prior to the act of purchasing a firearm. This bill seeks to add another layer of protection in
35 counties that have problems with firearm access to keep individuals with a history of criminal
36 activity or mental illness from getting their hands on a firearm.

38 Section 4: This law would cost the state nothing to implement. The burden will be placed on the
39 counties which choose to enact this legislation and on private citizens within those counties to
40 obtain these licenses.
41
42 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
43
44 Section 6: This act shall take effect July 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
45

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the Youth in Government	BHB/23-7-17
House - Education		BLUE HOUSE
Richard Tennent, Margaret Tennent, Aisha Siddiquee		ACTION ON THE BILL
Martin Luther King Magnet School		HOUSE SENATE
		Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐

An act to create a pilot program allowing optional same-sex classrooms for core subjects

- 1 Section 1: Terms used in this act shall be defined as follows:
- 2 Core subjects: English Language Arts (ELA), Science, and Math.
- 3 Same-sex classrooms: Designated classrooms within co-ed public schools that allow male and
- 4 female students the option of learning core subjects in a same-sex environment to enhance
- 5 individual achievement.
- 6
- 7 Section 2: This act will establish a pilot program allowing students access to same-sex classrooms
- 8 for core subjects in grades 7 - 12. Subjects such as math and science tend to see male dominance
- 9 in the classroom, to the detriment of female academic achievement. Same-sex classrooms would
- 10 allow young women to advance in a safe and equal environment. Additionally, there have been
- 11 studies demonstrating that male students have better outcomes in same-sex ELA classrooms.
- 12
- 13 Section 3: The pilot program will be tested in twenty (20) schools with varying socio-economic and
- 14 demographic compositions to be chosen by the Tennessee Department of Education (TDOE).
- 15
- 16 Section 4: The goal of the program is to ascertain whether optional same-sex classrooms will
- 17 improve student achievement.
- 18
- 19 Section 5: Outcomes will be measured via standardized tests. To verify that this program is not
- 20 causing distress or negative outcomes for participating students, monthly surveys shall be
- 21 administered to all students and teachers involved in the pilot program.
- 22
- 23 Section 6: After five (5) years, the program will be reviewed by the TDOE. The department will
- 24 offer a complete analysis of the program's efficacy to be reviewed by the House of
- 25 Representatives, who will decide whether to expand, continue testing, or end it.
- 26
- 27 Section 7: If the program is expanded, all Tennessee high schools must allow students the option
- 28 to enroll in same-sex classrooms for core subjects as defined in this section. This program must be
- 29 implemented within a two-year grace period.
- 30
- 31 Section 8: To prevent students from feeling forced to conform to binary genders, students may
- 32 switch to a co-ed classroom or another same-sex classroom at any point in time.
- 33
- 34 Section 9: All teachers assigned to same-sex classrooms shall attend a training session to help
- 35 maximize their use of same-sex education and effectively cater to different learning styles.
- 36
- 37 Section 10: This bill will have an initial cost of \$9,000 to fund training for pilot teachers involved in
- 38 the program. A yearly cost of \$952,000 will fund an administrative office overseeing the program

39 within TDOE. If the program is extended by the House of Representatives after 5 years, an

40 additional \$1,367,000 will be allocated to fund teaching staff across the state for the purpose of

41 implementing same-sex classrooms.

42

43 Section 11: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

44

45 Section 12: This bill shall take effect at the beginning of the fiscal year.

46

TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT



SENATE COMMITTEE 1 Sally Gaither

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	RSB/23-1-1	
	RED SENATE	
ACTION ON THE BILL		
HOUSE SENATE		
Pass ☐ Fail ☐		
Senate - Finance, Ways and Means		
Anna Butler		
Green Hill High School		

An Act to Raise Property Taxes for Non-Residents of Tennessee

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, are defined as follows:
- 4 Residential property: a property zoned specifically for living or dwelling for individuals or
- 5 households; it may include standalone single-family dwellings to large, multi-unit apartment
- 6 buildings.
- 7 Property tax: a tax paid on property owned by an individual based on the property's value.
- 8 Non-resident of Tennessee: every person who has not filled for residency in this state by not
- 9 providing documents such as a current paycheck/check stub, current Tennessee voter registration,
- 10 or a current Tennessee driver's license, etc.
- 11 Homeowner: a person or group who own the house or apartment that they live in as a primary
- 12 residence.
- 13 County Commission: a group of elected officials in charge of how the county government functions
- 14 with responsibilities such as setting the county property tax rate.
- 15 County Trustees: a treasurer for the county who collects the county's property taxes
- 16
- 17 Section 2: This act will require non-residents of Tennessee to pay a higher property tax rate in
- 18 their county. Each county commission will determine the raised tax rate for their area.
- 19
- 20 Section 3: If non-resident homeowners want to appeal their change in taxes by filing for
- 21 residency, the county commission and county trustees will handle the appeals. To file an appeal,
- 22 the homeowner has to provide documents of Acceptable Proof of Residency set forth by the
- 23 Tennessee Department of Safety & Homeland Security and proof that the homeowner has lived in
- 24 the residential property for 183 days. If homeowners, the county commission, and the county
- 25 trustees can not come to an arrangement, then the State Board of Equalization will hear the case.
- 26
- 27 Section 4: This tax will require no funding from the state budget but may generate revenue for
- 28 counties resulting from taxes.
- 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 at the beginning of the 2024 fiscal year, with the public welfare
- 33 requiring it.
- 34
- 35

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	RSB/23-1-2	
	RED SENATE	
ACTION ON THE BILL		
HOUSE SENATE		
Pass ☐ Fail ☐		
Senate - Judiciary		
Carly Galbreth		
Webb School		

An Act to Standardize the Eyewitness Identification Process in Criminal Cases

- 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 Confidence statement - a verbal statement in which the eyewitness describes how confident they
- 5 are in their identification. This should not be a number.
- 6 Criminal Case - a court case in which a defendant is being tried for a violation of a criminal law.
- 7 Double-blind administration - the administrator (in addition to the eyewitness) will not be informed
- 8 who the suspect is and who the fill-ins are in the lineup.
- 9 Eyewitness - someone who saw the perpetrator at the time of the crime.
- 10 Eyewitness Identification Process (EIP) - the process in which an eyewitness to a criminal crime
- 11 visually identifies the perpetrator.
- 12 Sequential lineups - the lineup must be shown one at a time, and the eyewitness must make a
- 13 decision about each person in the lineup before seeing the next person.
- 14
- 15 Section 2: Once enacted, this bill will implement the following five measures to improve the EIP in
- 16 criminal cases:
- 17 Instructions - Prior to the EIP, the test administrator must inform the eyewitness that:
- 18 The perpetrator might not be in the lineup.
- 19 They are not obligated to choose a suspect if they do not see the perpetrator.
- 20 They are not allowed to look to the administrator for help during the EIP.
- 21 Double-blind administration
- 22 Sequential lineups
- 23 The eyewitness must give a confidence statement following their identification.
- 24 EIPs must be recorded in case they need to be reviewed.
- 25
- 26 Section 3: This bill will have no fiscal impact on the state of Tennessee.
- 27
- 28 Section 4: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
- 29
- 30 Section 5: This act will take effect on January 1, 2024.
- 31

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		RSB/23-1-3	
			RED SENATE	
Senate - State & Local Government Hardy Gardner Central Magnet High School			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

An Act to Automatically Register Eligible 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 a) Eligible voter: A citizen of the United States eighteen (18) years of age or older, who is a
- 5 Tennessee resident and is not disqualified from voting, as stipulated in Tenn. Code. Ann. §§ 2-2-102.
- 6 b) Residency status: an individual's current address.
- 7
- 8 Section 2: The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) is to provide the Tennessee
- 9 Department of State with electronic records containing the legal name, age, sex, residency status,
- 10 and citizenship information, of all eligible voters in the state of Tennessee.
- 11
- 12 Section 3: TDOT and the Department of State are directed to develop a shared electronic database
- 13 of eligible voters that is continuously updated as TDOT's records are added, changed, or deleted,
- 14 to be used by the Department of State for automatically registering eligible voters.
- 15
- 16 Section 4: Upon reaching the age of eighteen (18), all eligible voters are to be automatically
- 17 registered to vote by the Department of State. Current eligible, unregistered voters are also to be
- 18 registered to vote upon the passage of this bill.
- 19
- 20 Section 5: The Department of State must notify newly registered voters of their status via mail. The
- 21 notification letter is to contain a voter registration card, and a form with the option to opt out of
- 22 voter registration; voters who wish to opt out must mail said form back to the Department of State.
- 23
- 24 Section 6: Tennessee residents without a driver's license or state-issued ID will be required to
- 25 register to vote by mailing an application form to their county election commission.
- 26
- 27 Section 7: The Tennessee Department of State is to update the existing online voter registration portal
- 28 to allow current registered voters to update their information (e.g., address, legal name) as needed.
- 29
- 30 Section 8: In order to vote in person, potential voters are required to present a valid voter
- 31 registration card.
- 32
- 33 Section 9: This program will cost the state \$1,000,000 total in its first year, and from then on will
- 34 cost \$100,000 a year, and is to be funded through the state's discretionary spending.
- 35
- 36 Section 10: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
- 37
- 38 Section 11: This act is to take effect immediately upon passage so as to begin the process of
- 39 implementation before the next election, and is to be fully implemented no later than August 1st, 2024.
- 40

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		RSB/23-1-4	
			RED SENATE	
Senate - Health & Welfare Olivia Glover Signal Mountain High School			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

An Act to Require Pediatricians to Offer Primary Screenings for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder as a Part of Annual Wellness Exams For Seven-Year-Old Children

- 1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government:
- 2
- 3 Section 1: The terms in this bill shall be defined as follows:
- 4 Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder or ADHD: A chronic neurodevelopmental disorder that is
- 5 characterized by a lack of executive function, impulsivity, hyperactivity, and an inability to regulate
- 6 attention that affects about 3.3% to 10.1% of the global population.
- 7 Annual wellness exam: A routine visit to a standard healthcare provider that evaluates one's
- 8 overall wellness and screens patients for potential health issues.
- 9 Devereux Scales of Mental Disorders or DSM-IV: A multidimensional behavior rating scale for
- 10 children and adolescents designed to assess a wide variety of psychopathology including, but not
- 11 limited to, Depression, Anxiety, Autism, and ADHD.
- 12 Neurodivergence: a general term describing variations in cognition or the human brain such as
- 13 mental disorders and mental illnesses.
- 14
- 15 Section 2: Whereas this act will require all pediatricians in Tennessee to offer to screen seven-
- 16 year-old children for neurodivergence as a part of their annual wellness checkups.
- 17 The screening will only take place with the guardian's consent after the pediatrician gives them a
- 18 brief explanation of the screening and the benefits of screening their children.
- 19 Pediatricians should stress the importance of an early diagnosis, as it will give the child and their
- 20 guardians ample time to educate themselves on life with ADHD and to find the treatments and/or
- 21 coping mechanisms that are the most effective before the child enters high school and eventually
- 22 the workforce.
- 23 Guardians will be given a copy of the DSM-IV Conduct and Attention scales that they will fill out
- 24 with their child and the pediatrician.
- 25 The pediatric screening will take place at the end of the checkup.
- 26 The pediatrician will either assess the child themselves or give the results of the screening to a
- 27 clinician who specializes in neurodivergence.
- 28
- 29 Section 3: The criteria for the screening will come from the fifth edition of the Devereux Scales of
- 30 Mental Disorders.
- 31 The DSM-IV is currently the most accurate clinical screening for ADHD.
- 32 The DSM-IV also tests for Autism, Depression, and Anxiety.
- 33 All of the content on the scale comes directly from DSM-IV criteria.
- 34 The criteria do not cover all possible symptoms of the disorders it is testing for, because it was
- 35 created in order to aid clinicians in the diagnosis process.
- 36 It is inexpensive, easy to administer, and yields similar information to structured interviews.

37 Section 4: If a child receives a primary ADHD diagnosis from the screening, the pediatrician will
38 provide their guardian with a variety of steps they could take moving forward.
39 Pediatricians will recommend a secondary screening from a child psychiatrist in order to ensure the
40 child was not misdiagnosed.
41 Upon receiving the proper evaluation from the school district, the child is officially protected from
42 discrimination in school and the workplace under Section 504 of federal law.
43 Guardians and children will also be educated on treatments such as stimulant medications and
44 behavioral therapy.
45 Guardians will be heavily encouraged to educate themselves further about the effect ADHD has on
46 their children's daily lives and on the proper way to raise a child with ADHD.
47 Additionally, the guardians will be encouraged to get screened for ADHD as the disorder is often
48 genetic.
49
50 Section 5: If a child receives a diagnosis for another form of neurodivergence from the screening,
51 appropriate steps toward potential treatment will be taken depending on the diagnosis.
52
53 Section 6: The criteria for the screening will be updated as needed whenever updated versions of
54 the Devereux Scales of Mental Disorders are made available to the medical community.
55
56 Section 7: If enacted, this bill would incur no large expenses as any possible costs will be the
57 responsibility of the guardian(s) and their insurance companies.
58 4% of the Tennessee Powerball Lottery will be placed in a fund that will be used to partially cover
59 the costs of primary and secondary screenings for underprivileged children.
60 Qualifications for financial assistance will be under the jurisdiction of the individual pediatric
61 offices.
62
63 Section 8: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
64
65 Section 9: This act shall take effect August 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
66
67

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the Youth in Government	RSB/23-1-5	
		RED SENATE	
Senate - Judiciary Ceci Griffin Signal Mountain High School		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ SENATE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 39-15-402 IN TENNESSEE LAW

1 Be enacted by the Tennessee YMCA youth legislature:
2
3 Section 1: Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, shall be defined as follows:
4 Aggravated Child Abuse: the abuse of a child: Resulting in serious bodily harm. Occurring with the
5 use of a deadly weapon or instrument, or controlled substance. Done in a "heinous, atrocious or
6 cruel" way, or involving torture.
7 Aggravated Child Neglect: Failure to provide for a child's physical survival needs to the extent that
8 there is harm or risk of harm to the child's health or safety.
9 Aggravated Child Endangerment: when a person engages in conduct that places a child in
10 imminent danger of death, bodily injury, or physical or mental impairment. This can be through an
11 act or omission.
12 Class A Felony: those convicted of a class A felony may face imprisonment for a period of 15 to 60
13 years and be required to pay a fine of up to \$50,000.
14 Class B Felony: punishable by imprisonment for a period of eight to 30 years, in addition to a fine
15 of up to \$25,000.
16 Tennessee Law 39-15-402, "Haley's Law": A person commits the offense of aggravated child abuse,
17 aggravated child neglect or aggravated child endangerment, who commits child abuse, as defined
18 in 39-15-401(a); child neglect, as defined in 39-15-401 or (b) child endangerment
19
20 Section 2: This act will require an alteration to the degree of the felony to be made to section 39-
21 15-402 of Tennessee Law.
22
23 Section 3: This act will change the original claim in section 39-15-402 that states "If the abused,
24 neglected or endangered child is eight (8) years of age or less, or is vulnerable because the victim
25 is mentally defective, mentally incapacitated or suffers from a physical disability, the penalty is a
26 Class A felony." It will instead be changed to the adult being penalized who abuses, neglects, or
27 endangers any child under 18 years of age rather than 8 years and/or less of age will receive a
28 Class A Felony.
29
30 Section 4: This act will increase the punishment given to an adult who commits any form of child
31 abuse, child neglect, and child endangerment upon a child under the age of 18 from a Class B
32 Felony to a Class A Felony.
33
34 Section 5: This act will be of no cost to any sector of the government or the taxpayers of
35 Tennessee.
36
37 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
38
39 Section 7: This act shall take effect on January 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.
40

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		WSB/23-1-7	
			WHITE SENATE	
Senate - Health & Welfare Jai Mehta Wilson Central High School			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO PROVIDE INSURANCE TO WAITLISTED UNDERREPRESENTED GROUPS

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this act are defined as follows:
- 4 TennCare: The healthcare program offered by the state. The program serves low-income pregnant
- 5 women, parents or caretakers of a minor child, children, and individuals who are elderly or have a
- 6 disability.
- 7 Rainy Day Fund: The amount of money left over following a fiscal year saved for a future time
- 8 when capital resources are necessary.
- 9 FY: Fiscal Year.
- 10 Underrepresented groups: A Tennessee citizen that is of eligibility for the TennCare insurance
- 11 program. Typical citizens eligible for the program have a household income at or below the 250%
- 12 poverty line.
- 13
- 14 Section 2: To support the state's citizens, it is imperative that more funding is allocated towards
- 15 TennCare to serve Tennesseans. The current budget of \$13,891,504,400 is not adequate to meet
- 16 the growing state's needs. Utilizing TennCare's \$1 billion surplus of FY 2021, \$113,043,478 will be
- 17 allocated towards alleviating healthcare insecurities.
- 18
- 19 Section 3: The capital will be used to create 2,000 TennCare insurance plans to remove
- 20 underrepresented groups from the "TennCare waitlist." The budgeted capital will cover the interest
- 21 groups' medical expenses, providing more equitable access to insurance across Tennessee.
- 22
- 23 Section 4: The oversight of the waitlist removal program will be managed by the Tennessee
- 24 Division of TennCare.
- 25
- 26 Section 4: This bill will require no additional money from the state, but will utilize \$113,043,478
- 27 from the "Rainy Day Fund" of the TennCare program.
- 28
- 29 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 30
- 31 Section 6: This act shall take effect June 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
- 32

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		WSB/23-1-8	
			WHITE SENATE	
Senate - State & Local Government Luke Mueller Signal Mountain High School			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO DECRIMINALIZE OVERNIGHT CAMPING OF THE HOMELESS IN TENNESSEE

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms used in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, shall be defined as
- 4 follows:
- 5 a) Homeless: An individual or family who does not have a fixed and regular residence.
- 6 b) Residence: A place where someone lives, or calls home. Examples include but are not limited to:
- 7 i) Apartment
- 8 ii) House
- 9 iii) Trailer
- 10 iv) Homeless shelter
- 11 v) Retirement facility
- 12 vi) Hospital or medical facility
- 13 vii) Government provided housing
- 14 viii) Property owned by the individual who is staying there
- 15 ix) The person has permission from the property owner to stay there.
- 16 c) Camping: as follows:
- 17 i) Erecting, placing, maintaining, or using temporary structures such as tents, tarps, and
- 18 other temporary shelters for living accommodation activities such as sleeping, or making
- 19 preparations to sleep;
- 20 ii) Carrying on cooking activities, whether by fire or use of artificial means, such as a
- 21 propane stove or other heat-producing portable cooking equipment;
- 22 iii) Sleeping outside of a motor vehicle or making preparations to sleep outside of a motor
- 23 vehicle, including laying down a sleeping bag, blanket, or other material used for bedding.
- 24 d) Equal Access to Public Property Act of 2012: This section prohibits camping overnight on public
- 25 property except in designated camping areas. A conviction comes along with a Class E Felony. This
- 26 section was amended by house bill 978 on July 1st, 2022 to make it all public property.
- 27 e) Tennessee Code Annotated 31-14-414: Equal Access to Public Property Act of 2012. This
- 28 section was amended by house bill 978 on July 1st, 2022.
- 29 f) Tennessee Code Annotated 39-16-301: This section prohibits impersonating a law enforcement
- 30 officer, a veteran, a homeless person, a person with a disability, or another person. A conviction
- 31 includes a Class A Misdemeanor, and possible fines ranging from \$500 all the way to \$5,000.
- 32
- 33 Section 2: Tennessee Code Annotated 31-14-414 shall be amended by adding the following as a
- 34 new section:
- 35 a) People who are homeless are exempt from receiving a felony for camping overnight on
- 36 public property. Homeless people will be required to move locations by a half mile every week.
- 37 They are not permitted to return to previous locations for 2 calendar months.
- 38 i) Government property is exempt from this.

39 ii) Other exemptions from this protection include, but are not limited to :

- 40 1) Business fronts
41 2) Storefronts
42 3) Bridges
43 4) Overpasses
44 5) Educational facilities
45 6) Parking garages
46 7) Medical facilities
47 8) Penal detention centers
48 9) Public recreation centers
49 10) Public athletic facilities
50 11) Monuments
51 12) Memorials
52 13) Cemeteries
53 14) Graveyards
54 15) Historic areas
55 16) Uninhabited or abandoned buildings closed to the public
56 17) Land that is not currently, or does not plan to be constructed on.
- 57 Section 3: Tennessee Code Annotated 31-14-414 amended by adding the following as a new
58 section:
59 a) Any person who camps on Government Property is subject to the punishments of the Equal
60 Access to Public Property Act of 2012
61 i) This includes all persons
62 ii) Under special circumstances, the Governor, or National Government can issue a
63 temporary exemption from this section of the law if specifically mentioned.
64
65

66 Section 4: Due to the difficulty of gaining a permanent residence without funds and the dangers
67 and liabilities of camping on public land, this shall only exempt homeless individuals from the
68 penalties of camping overnight on public property.

69 Section 5: Any person trying to evade potential charges by impersonating a homeless person will
70 have their sentence increased.
71 a) Persons convicted of impersonating a homeless person to attempt to evade this charge will
72 be charged as a normal offender of the Equal Access to Public Property Act of 2012, and will
73 also receive a Class B Misdemeanor per Tennessee Code Annotated 39-16-301.
74 b) Persons convicted of impersonating a homeless veteran will be charged as a normal
75 offender of the Equal Access to Property Act of 2012, and will also receive a Class A
76 Misdemeanor per Tennessee Code Annotated 39-16-301.
77

78 Section 6: Any homeless person who received a Class E felony for the offense of the Equal Access
79 to Public Property Act of 2012 from July 1, 2022, through the passing of this bill will have the
80 felony removed from their record.

- 81 a) This excludes felonies gained from camping on government property during this time.
82 b) Each case will be reviewed separately and will go through normal court processes to
83 determine if the felony will be removed or not.
84

85 Section 7: The passing of this bill would not require any cost directly.

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

87 Section 9: This act shall take effect immediately following the passing of this bill, the public
88 welfare requiring it.

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		WSB/23-1-9
	Senate - Health & Welfare	WHITE SENATE
	Ryan Chatman, Henry Wells Central Magnet High School	ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO PROMOTE A HEALTHY REHABILITATION OF EX CONVICTS BACK INTO SOCIETY AND THE WORKFORCE BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

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

- 2 a. Eligible counties: Tennessee counties with a population of over 10,000 residents
3 b. Rehabilitation specialist: Psychological official who will be available at a police department for
4 ex-convicts.
5
6 Section 2: As of now, organizations are available throughout Tennessee to help former inmates
7 integrate themselves into society in a healthy manner, but most of these organizations' locations
8 are not constant throughout Tennessee. This bill will employ ex-convict rehabilitation specialists
9 into local police departments as a way to provide help for former inmates that will be in a constant
10 area throughout the state, always at a police department, and a healthy, safe environment to
11 voice one's concerns or progress.

12
13 Section 3: The responsibilities of a rehabilitation specialist will be to help ex-convicts create and
14 follow, a path of progression toward societal reentry, to listen and respond to any concerns the
15 client may have along this path, and to celebrate the clients where they succeed in their goals for
16 further motivation.

17
18 Section 4: All 87 eligible counties of the state of Tennessee will be required to provide an ex-
19 convict rehabilitation specialist in their local police department.

20
21 Section 5: Rehabilitation specialists will be provided for ex-convicts who committed low-level
22 felonies, mainly focusing on drug use, drug possession, drug distribution and theft.

23 Section 6: Rehabilitation specialists must have previously worked as a therapist with at least 10
24 years of experience outside of the justice system or at least 5 years of experience working within
25 the justice system.

26
27 Section 7: Based upon the average salary for a therapist in Tennessee, the salary for these
28 rehabilitation specialists will be 48,800 dollars, and across the 87 eligible counties in Tennessee for
29 this opportunity, the total yearly cost of this program will total at approximately 4.25 million
30 dollars per year.

31
32 Section 8: The funding for this program will come from the Tennessee Department of Correction
33 budget.

34
35 Section 9: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

36
37 Section 10: This act shall take effect January 1, 2024.

38

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the YMC	WSB/23-1-10	
		WHITE SENATE	
Senate – Energy, Agriculture and Natural Resources Amanda Fernandez-Jaeger, Rachel Bradley Central Magnet High School		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ _____ Pass ☐ _____ Fail ☐ _____ Fail ☐ _____	

AN ACT TO DIMINISH THE RETAIL USE OF PUPPY MILLS

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. Animal care facility: An animal control center or animal shelter, maintained by or under

6 contract with any state, county, or municipality, whose mission or practice is, in whole, or

7 significant part, protecting the welfare of animals and the placement of animals in

8 permanent homes or with animal rescue organizations.

9 B. Animal rescue organization: Any not-for-profit organization whose mission and practice

10 is, in whole or in significant part, the rescue of animals and the placement of those

11 animals in permanent homes. This term does not include any entity that is, or is affiliated

12 with, or is housed on the premises of, a breeder or broker, obtains dogs from a breeder

13 or broker in exchange for payment or compensation, or resells dogs obtained from a

14 breeder or broker and provides payment or compensation to such breeder or broker.

15 C. Breeder: A person who maintains dogs or cats for breeding and selling their offspring.

16 D. Broker: A person who transfers dogs or cats for resale by another.

17 E. Humane Society: A society which is incorporated for the prevention of cruelty to animals.

18 F. Retail pet shop: Any for-profit place of business that sells or offers for sale animals to be

19 kept as household pets, pet food or supplies, but shall not include breeders who sell or

20 offer to sell directly to the consumer animals that are born and raised on the breeder's

21 residential premises; provided that an animal care facility or animal rescue organization,

22 as defined, shall not be considered "Retail pet shops."

23

24 Section 2:

25 A. A retail pet shop as defined in this article shall not sell, lease, offer to lease, offer to sell,

26 barter, auction, or otherwise transfer ownership of any dog or cat; unless it complies with

27 following Section 2C.

28 B. Exemptions. This section does not apply to:

29 a. An animal care facility, as defined in this chapter;

30 b. An animal rescue organization, as defined in this chapter;

31 c. A charitable, non-profit animal humane which does not acquire or sell dogs or

32 cats for profit.

33 C. Alternatives.

34 Any retail pet shop may be permitted to sell, lease, offer to lease, offer to sell, barter,

35 auction, or otherwise transfer ownership of any dog or cat only if acquired from any

36 organizations listed under Section 2B. In which case, a retail pet shop must comply with

37 the following conditions:

38 a. Maintain records sufficient to document the source of each dog or cat the pet

39 store acquires, for at least one year following the date of acquisition.

40 b. Place the name and contact information of the animal care facility or animal

41 rescue organization relating to each animal in a conspicuous location on the cage

42 or enclosure of each animal.

43 c. Not offer for adoption a dog or cat that is younger than eight weeks old.

44

45 Section 3: Violations

46 A. The following administrative fines shall may be imposed by the state of Tennessee upon

47 any person or entity who violates any provision of this act or any rule adopted by the

48 state under this act:

49 a. For the first violation, a fine of \$500-\$1,000.

50 b. For a second violation that occurs within 3 years after the first violation, a fine of

51 \$1,000-\$2,500.

52 c. For a third violation that occurs within 3 years after the first violation, mandatory

53 probationary status and a fine of \$2,500-\$3,000. If a person or entity fails or

54 refuses to pay an administrative fine authorized by this Section, the state may

55 prohibit that person or entity from renewing a license under this Act until the fine

56 is paid in full.

57

58 Section 4: Existing Retail Pet-Stores

59 Any existing retail pet store may continue to display, offer for sale, offer for adoption,

60 barter, auction, giveaway, or otherwise transfer dogs and cats until 1 year after the act's date of

61 passage.

62

63 Section 5: The implementation of this act will not directly cost anything due to it solely adding a

64 new policy, along with possibly creating revenue from fines.

65

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

67

68 Section 7: This act will go into effect 1 year from the date of passage.

69



70th General Assembly

of the

Tennessee YMCA

Youth in Government



Senate - Government Operations

Kaylee Victory, Elizabeth Hines

Central Magnet High School

WSB/23-1-11

WHITE SENATE

ACTION ON THE BILL

HOUSE

Pass ☐ Fail ☐

SENATE

Pass ☐ Fail ☐

40 Section 9: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

41

42

43 Section 10: This act shall take effect January 1st, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.

44

AN ACT TO MAKE THE REDRAWING OF DISTRICT LINES A FAIR PRACTICE

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) Gerrymandering - the act of unfairly drawing electoral districts to favor one party or class

5 b) Electoral district - area in which a representative is chosen to represent the population in the

6 state's legislature

7 c) Redistricting cycle - a span of ten years in which a state is required to redraw district lines

8

9 Section 2: As of now, electoral districts in Tennessee are drawn every ten years by the state

10 legislature, leading to the common practice of gerrymandering. This practice undoubtedly causes

11 many problems to the state's goal of making these districts represent population, rather than race,

12 political alignment, etc. This bill proposes the formation of an unbiased panel, named the

13 Independent Redistricting Committee (IRC) that will oversee the redistricting process to ensure

14 that it is solely based on population provided by the federal census.

15

16 Section 3: States such as Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Iowa, Michigan, Utah, and

17 New York have implemented a similar process with great success.

18

19 Section 4: The IRC will consist of 2 Republicans, 2 Democrats, and 1 Independent party member.

20 These members will be selected on an application basis and evaluated to ensure adequate

21 understanding of the redistricting process and Tennessee law. Members will be selected by a panel

22 of 2 former judges.

23

24 Section 5: These judges will meet twice to review applications whenever necessary, such as 1 year

25 before a census year or if a member of the IRC were to pass. As well as choosing members of the

26 IRC, judges will also be responsible for overseeing the district lines at the end of the IRC's

27 meetings to ensure they are unbiased and fair.

28

29 Section 6: IRC meetings will be held quarterly to ensure members are kept up to date with the

30 ever-changing population shifts in Tennessee. Along with this, each IRC member will serve a term

31 of 10 years, in which they can resign at any time. A single IRC member must only serve one term

32 in their lifetime.

33

34 Section 7: Each IRC member will be paid \$200 dollars for each meeting attended. In addition to

35 this, each judge will be paid \$350 for each meeting they must attend.

36

37 Section 8: The addition of the IRC will cost \$1,000 each year for the funding of IRC members and

38 a maximum of \$2,100 each year for the funding of the panel of judges. This will be funded through

39 the Tennessee Department of Human Resources budget.

		70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government				WSB/23-1-12	
Senate - Education				WHITE SENATE			
Abigail McMillon, Madelyn Sheehy Green Hill High School				ACTION ON THE BILL			
				HOUSE		SENATE	
				Pass ☐ Fail ☐		Pass ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO DEVELOP A MORE ADVANCED BOOK CENSORSHIP SYSTEM

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 Book Censorship - The removal of books from school libraries and reading lists because the

5 content, ideas, or themes are objected to.

6 Developmental Psychologists - study human growth and development over the lifespan, including

7 physical, cognitive, social, intellectual, perceptual, personality, and emotional growth.

8 Developmental psychologists working in colleges and universities tend to focus primarily on

9 research or teaching.

10 Literature Expert - Retired teachers/librarians, English professors, and editors with at least 10

11 years of experience in an English-related field.

12

13 Section 2) Create a government-funded board made up of literature experts to determine the level

14 of maturity of parent-challenged books in schools.

15

16 Section 3) This board will be made up of 125 individuals separated into 30 teams of 4 and one

17 team of 5 - one former teacher/librarian, one developmental psychologist, one editor, and one

18 English professor - that will decide on the censorship of a book.

19

20 Section 4) During the first 3 months of the school year, the board will accept book objections

21 through an online form where parents can list the book/books they wish to be banned in the state

22 and describe their qualims against it.

23

24 Section 5) The board will use the time books are being submitted to review any potential books

25 from the previous year they did not have the opportunity to read and vote on. From November

26 through the end of April, the teams will each be given a minimum of 12 titles to read, research,

27 and review. From May to the end June, teams will present the limitations that will be enacted on

28 the book if majority vote in favor. July will be the time allotted to update school libraries. 1 will be

29 the time allotted to librarians to update their libraries with the board's decisions.

30

31 Section 6) This act will require a yearly budget of \$10,000,000 for salaries of 125 employees if

32 enacted taken from the Tennessee State Department of Education.

33

34 Section 7) The expert teams will determine the books level of restriction as follows:

35 Level 1: No restrictions

36 Level 2: Restricted from K-6 (Available to 7-12)

37 Level 3: Restricted from K-9 (Available to 10-12)

38 Level 4: Complete removal from all Tennessee public schools

39

40 Section 8) The principal would be responsible for ensuring that Level 4 books are removed from

41 their school library by the librarian. If non-removal is noticed, two warnings will be issued. If after

42 those warnings the book/books are not removed within 2 weeks, monthly fines of \$250 will be

43 billed to the school until the book/books are removed.

44

45 Section 9) All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

46

47 Section 10) This act shall take effect on July 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.

48

		70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government				BSB/23-1-13	
Senate – State & Local Government				BLUE SENATE			
Grayson Rosenblad, Clara Batista, Alyssa Herman				ACTION ON THE BILL			
Webb School				HOUSE SENATE			
				Pass ☐ Fail ☐			
				Pass ☐ Fail ☐			

An Act to Legalize Physician-assisted Death

- 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 follows:
- 4 Physician: Anyone qualified to practice medicine and prescribe certain lethal medications,
- 5 possessing an MD or OD, and licensed by the State of Tennessee.
- 6 Terminal Illness: An illness which will undoubtedly be fatal within six month's time.
- 7 (of) Sound Mind: Used to describe someone with a stable, healthy mind, and sufficient capacity to
- 8 understand their actions.
- 9 Mental Examination: Refers to a comprehensive examination of the patient's mental state,
- 10 specifically including (in this case) evaluation of any evidence of hasty decision-making,
- 11 impressionability, depression, or suicidal tendencies.
- 12 Advanced Healthcare Directive: A legal document in which a patient's friend or relative is given the
- 13 authority to enact medical decisions in place of the patient if and only if the patient is incapable of
- 14 making decisions as a result of an illness or injury.
- 15 Physician-assisted Death (PAD): A medical instance in which, upon the request of a terminally-ill
- 16 patient of sound mind, a physician provides a prescription for a lethal dose of medication which will
- 17 be self-administered, resulting in a more humane and painless death.
- 18
- 19 Section 2: Physician-assisted Death will be legalized in the state of Tennessee.
- 20
- 21 Section 3: Patients must fulfill the following qualifications to request PAD: they must have a
- 22 terminal illness with a prognosis of 6 or less months to live; they must be an in-state resident of
- 23 Tennessee; be able to self-administer and ingest physician-prescribed medication voluntarily; and
- 24 they must be of sound mind both when making the request and when the medication is
- 25 administered.
- 26
- 27 Section 4: Only the patient is permitted to make the request for lethal medication. This can be
- 28 rescinded at any point, up to the moment of administration.
- 29
- 30 Section 5: Minimum two equally qualified physicians, one being the patient's attending physician,
- 31 must confirm that the patient is terminally ill following a complete examination of the patient and
- 32 their specific case. These physicians should meet the aforementioned qualifications and have
- 33 familiarity with the specific illness.
- 34
- 35 Section 6: If any involved medical providers determine that there is a possibility that the patient is
- 36 experiencing a psychiatric disorder potentially impairing the patient's judgment, the patient must
- 37 be referred to an unaffiliated and qualified physician for a mental examination. The prescription
- 38 and administration of lethal medication is prohibited until such an assessment confirms that the
- 39 patient is mentally capable of putting forth a request for PAD.
- 40
- 41 Section 7: Written requests must be witnessed by at least 2 people, of sound mind, who are able
- 42 to attest that the patient meets the requirements listed above in Section 3, and is acting
- 43 voluntarily without pressure from medical professionals or family members. One of these
- 44 witnesses cannot be a relative to the patient by blood, marriage, or adoption, or otherwise entitled
- 45 to any portion of the patient's estate or inheritance, and they cannot be affiliated with the eligible
- 46 patient's medical facility as a resident, employee, owner, operator, or as the patient's attending
- 47 physician. These witnesses can also be qualified if it can be proven that they are acting in the
- 48 patient's interest without standing to gain anything from the administration of PAD.
- 49
- 50 Section 8: No relatives of the patient by blood, marriage, or adoption is permitted to request PAD
- 51 on the behalf of the patient. The attending physician also cannot request PAD on the behalf of the
- 52 patient.
- 53
- 54 Section 9: The request or administration of PAD must be terminated immediately if there is any
- 55 suspicion or evidence of coercion by any involved parties.
- 56
- 57 Section 10: A two-week waiting period shall be put in place between the request and the
- 58 prescription, as well as another two weeks between the prescription and administration of lethal
- 59 medication, in order to prevent hasty-decision making and allow the involved patient time to
- 60 consider and possibly rescind their request. This applies only in the case of a patient expected to
- 61 live a minimum of one to six months; if the patient's condition is proceeding at a rate which means
- 62 they will not live past the complete four-week period, this can be accelerated to a two-week
- 63 period, with both a week between request and prescription and a week between prescription and
- 64 ultimate administration.
- 65
- 66 Section 11: Physicians cannot be prosecuted in a court of law or held liable for legally prescribing
- 67 death hastening medicine upon request of the patient.
- 68
- 69 Section 12: Each individual case will be documented and supervised by both the medical institution
- 70 as well as the Tennessee Department of Health in addition to both physicians. Federal statutes, i.e,
- 71 HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act), protect the confidentiality of all
- 72 patient records.
- 73
- 74 Section 13: PAD cannot be administered with advanced directives; this ensures that PAD is a
- 75 completely voluntary decision, made by a patient of sound mind.
- 76
- 77 Section 14: The legalization of PAD will not require any funding of any sort.
- 78
- 79 Section 15: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 80
- 81 Section 16: This act shall take effect February 26, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
- 82

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government				BSB/23-1-14	
Senate – Transportation and Safety Sophia Stringfield, Brookelyn Lewis, Presley Carpenter Central Magnet High School		BLUE SENATE		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Senate ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO MODIFY TENNESSEE ROAD SKILLS TESTING

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

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

- 3 4 A) Angle parking: A form of roadside parking in which the parking spaces are arranged at an acute
- 5 angle to the direction of approach
- 6 5 B) Class-D License: A regular driver license required to operate a passenger vehicle; effective for 8
- 7 years without renewal
- 8 6 C) Four-way stop: An intersection of two roads with four stop signs, one facing in each direction
- 9 D) Interstate driving: Driving that takes place on a network of freeways and highways that cross
- 10 over state lines
- 11 E) Learner's Permit: A permit that authorizes a person 15 years or older to operate a motor vehicle
- 12 under the supervision of a licensed driver of at least 21-years of age after passing a written Class-
- 13 D Knowledge exam.
- 14 F) Left-hand turns: A turn that brings a person's front to face the way their left side did before
- 15 G) Parallel parking: A type of city-street parking in which a vehicle is parked close to and parallel
- 16 to the curb, typically between two other similarly parked vehicles
- 17 H) Perpendicular parking: A form of roadside parking where the parking spaces are arranged at a
- 18 90-degree angle with the curb
- 19 I) Right-hand turns: A turn that brings a person's front to face the way their right side did before
- 20 J) Road skills test: A road driving test required to receive a Class-D license
- 21 K) SF-1256: The Certification of 50 Hours Behind-the-Wheel Driving Experience
- 22 L) Three-point turn: A turn reversing the direction of motion of a motor vehicle using forward and
- 23 reverse gears alternately, and completed after only three movements
- 24 M) U-turn: A U-shaped turn made by a vehicle to head in the opposite direction from its original
- 25 course

26 Section 2: All Tennessee Driver's Services Centers must require the following skills as defined in

27 Section 1 in Tennessee's Class-D road skills test:

- 28 29 A) Four-way stop
- 29 30 B) U-turn
- 30 31 C) Three-point turn
- 31 32 D) Left and right-hand turns
- 32 33 E) Interstate driving
- 33 34 F) Parallel parking
- 34 35 G) Angle parking
- 35 36 H) Perpendicular parking
- 36 37 I) As well as all current requirements.
- 37 38

39 Section 3: All Tennessee Drivers Services centers must modify their SF-1256 forms to require 5

40 hours of interstate driving experience within the present requirement of 50 hours of driving

41 experience.

42 Section 4: Class-D license holders who are renewing their license after six previous renewals or

43 over the age of 70, whichever comes first, must retake the road skills test in order to receive their

44 valid renewed license.

45 Section 5: Those who have scheduled a road skills test before the law goes into effect will not be

46 required to adhere to the modifications to the road skills test made by this bill

47 Section 6: The enactment of this bill will not require that any funds be spent by the State of

48 Tennessee.

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

50 Section 8: This bill will go into effect six months from the date of passage.

51

52

53

54

55

56

57

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		BSB/23-1-15
	Senate - Judiciary Stella Mulloy, Cheyenne Cummins, Mary Fookes Signal Mountain High School		BLUE SENATE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO INCREASE PENALTIES AGAINST OFFENDERS CHARGED WITH SEXUAL BATTERY FROM A CLASS E FELONY TO A CLASS C FELONY

- 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) Sexual battery - unlawful sexual contact with a victim by the defendant through coercion or
- 5 force
- 6 b) Class C felony - Punishable by incarceration for not less than three (3) years nor more than
- 7 fifteen (15) years. In addition, the jury may assess a fine of eight thousand dollars (\$8,000).
- 8 c) Class E felony - Punishable by incarceration for not less than one (1) year nor more than six (6)
- 9 years. In addition, the jury may assess a fine not to exceed three thousand dollars (\$3,000),
- 10 unless otherwise provided by statute.
- 11
- 12 Section 2: All felony sexual battery offenders that are proven guilty by the court of Tennessee
- 13 shall be charged with a Class C felony.
- 14
- 15 Section 3: All felony sexual battery offenders will be fined \$8,000
- 16
- 17 Section 4: All guilty offenders must also be faced with a jail term and must serve time in a
- 18 penitentiary for at least three (3) years nor more than fifteen (15) years
- 19
- 20 Section 5: Offenders who have committed repeated acts of sexual battery will be punished
- 21 according to the severity of the offense, with penalties which include but are not limited to:
- 22 a) The judge of the repeated sexual battery case may sentence additional jail time which will
- 23 be decided regarding the severity of the offense.
- 24 b) Facing additional and increasing fines that will be ordered and decided by the judge in court
- 25 c) The judge having the ability to order the offender to pay reparations to the victim for any
- 26 expenses that have resulted from the offense
- 27
- 28 Section 6: This addition of this law will result in an additional cost \$30,000,000 and will be funded
- 29 through the Tennessee Department of Correction budget.
- 30
- 31 Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 32
- 33 Section 8: This act shall take effect January 1st, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.
- 34

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		BSB/23-1-16
	Senate - Health & Welfare Sophie Tan, Lillie Dwyer, Amelia Fournier Central Magnet High School		BLUE SENATE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐

An Act to Prohibit Declawing Procedures for Cats

- 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) Declawing procedure- An onychectomy (surgical excision of a fingernail or toenail), a
- 5 dactylectomy (amputation of a finger), or any other procedure that removes a portion of the paw
- 6 or digit of an animal in order to remove a claw.
- 7 b) Therapeutic purpose- The necessity to address the physical medical condition of the animal that
- 8 compromises the animal's health.
- 9 c) Cosmetic/aesthetic purpose- Reasons of convenience in keeping or handling an animal.
- 10 d) Veterinary practitioner- Any person holding the qualifications and licensing to perform medical
- 11 treatments on domestic animals.
- 12 e) Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (BVME)- Group of licensed veterinarians that work to
- 13 ensure the wellbeing of Tennesseans by reviewing the qualifications of veterinary medical and
- 14 euthanasia technicians.
- 15
- 16 Section 2: This act prohibits all declawing procedures in the state of Tennessee unless performed
- 17 by a veterinary practitioner and is necessary for a therapeutic purpose. Therapeutic purpose does
- 18 not include cosmetic or aesthetic reasons in the keeping and handling of an animal
- 19
- 20 Section 3: This act authorizes the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (BVME) to refuse,
- 21 suspend, or revoke any applications or license, and censure or place on probation any licensee
- 22 after a hearing, if the veterinary practitioner willfully violates the cat declawing prohibition.
- 23
- 24 Section 4: Under existing prohibitions, the BVME may propose a penalty of (1) up to \$5,000, for a
- 25 first offense, instead or in addition to suspension or revocation of a license and (2) up to \$10,000
- 26 for a subsequent offense, in addition to a suspension or revocation of a license.
- 27
- 28 Section 5: This act prohibits any person without the qualifications of a veterinary practitioner from
- 29 performing any declawing procedures, whether necessary for a therapeutic purpose, or
- 30 unnecessary for cosmetic or aesthetic purposes.
- 31
- 32 Section 6: A violation of this prohibition by an uncertified veterinary practitioner will be considered
- 33 a civil offense, resulting in a fine of up to \$1,000.
- 34 Section 7: This prohibition may be enforced by local animal control or law enforcement.
- 35
- 36 Section 8: This act will not require funding from the state budget but may generate revenue
- 37 resulting from fines.
- 38
- 39 Section 9: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 40
- 41 Section 10: This act shall take effect on July 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
- 42

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		BSB/23-1-17
	Senate - Judiciary Jonathan Weston, Ivan Jimenez, Luis Jimenez Collegiate School		BLUE SENATE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐

An Act to Ban the Usage of Execution by Lethal Injection in Tennessee

- 1 Be it enacted by Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government
- 2 Section 1: Terms in this act shall be defined as followed:
- 3 a.) Lethal Injection - A method of prisoner execution consisting of injecting mixture of deadly
- 4 drugs into a person to kill them.
- 5
- 6 Section 2: If enacted, this bill would prohibit execution via lethal injection in the state of
- 7 Tennessee. This bill will affect TN prisons which perform executions, prisoners on death row, and
- 8 the families of victims awaiting justice.
- 9
- 10 Section 3: Lethal injection is an inhumane method of execution. There are reports of victims
- 11 foaming and frothing at the mouth in pain. There are also accounts of the anesthetic not working
- 12 and the prisoner being completely awake and aware during the execution. The use of lethal
- 13 injection is the very definition of cruel and unusual punishment. As a state, we are in violation of
- 14 the Eighth Amendment.
- 15 In recent years the chemicals necessary for lethal injection have become difficult to procure. The
- 16 chemicals are made in Europe and capital punishment is banned in Europe. Therefore, the
- 17 companies that make the drugs will no longer sell them in the United States. Due to this shortfall
- 18 of chemicals the state of Tennessee has executed seven prisoners via electrocution since
- 19 November 1, 2018. In addition, this state allows the execution of prisoners by firing squad,
- 20 deemed by many to be the least cruel form of execution.
- 21
- 22 Section 4: Currently only twenty-three 3 other states nationwide use lethal injection as a form of
- 23 execution. Many of those twenty-three states score among the lowest in the nation on education
- 24 rankings and among the highest in poverty. Just because we border Mississippi, Alabama, and
- 25 Arkansas doesn't mean we have to follow in their footsteps.
- 26 Globally, only seven other countries use lethal injection as a means of execution; China, Thailand,
- 27 Nigeria, and Vietnam being on that list.
- 28
- 29 Section 5: This bill will cost the state of Tennessee nothing to enact. Other forms of execution
- 30 have already taken the place of lethal injection. These forms of execution are already funded by
- 31 the State Department of Corrections.
- 32
- 33 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 34
- 35 Section 7: This act shall take effect immediately upon passage, the public welfare requiring it.
- 36
- 37

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		BSB/23-1-18
	Senate - Health & Welfare Christine Tran, Tracy Nguyen Hillwood High School		BLUE SENATE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT TENNGAP PLANS INTO TENNESSEE MEDICAID

- 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 Community-rated: a fixed health insurance rate that is not age-based and may only increase due
- 5 to economic factors such as inflation.
- 6 Coinsurance: the percentage of costs an insured individual pays out-of-pocket for services, with
- 7 the rest being paid for by a health insurance plan. Applies typically after all deductibles have been
- 8 met.
- 9 Copayments: a fixed amount an insured individual pays for healthcare services.
- 10 Deductibles: the amount an insured individual pays for covered health care services before the
- 11 insurance plan starts to pay.
- 12 FPL (Federal Poverty Level): a measure of income used to determine eligibility for certain
- 13 programs and benefits issued every year by the Department of Health and Human Services.
- 14 Healthcare: the maintenance or improvement of health via the prevention, diagnosis, treatment,
- 15 amelioration, or cure of disease, illness, injury, and other physical and mental impairments in
- 16 people.
- 17 Medicare: a federal health insurance for those over the age of 65 or for those with disabilities;
- 18 divided into several subsections outlining its benefits
- 19 (Medicare) Part A: covers inpatient hospital stays, skilled nursing facility stays, some home health
- 20 visits, and hospice care.
- 21 (Medicare) Part B: covers physician visits, outpatient services, preventive services, and some
- 22 home health visits.
- 23 (Medicare) Part D: covers outpatient prescription drugs through private plans that contract with
- 24 Medicare.
- 25 Medigap: a supplemental insurance policy that helps pay health care costs that Medicare Part A
- 26 and Part B do not cover; broken into 5 standardized plans with different benefits (B, G, K, L, and
- 27 N).
- 28 TennCare: the state of Tennessee's Medicaid (healthcare for some with limited income and
- 29 resources) program.
- 30 TennGap: a supplemental insurance policy implemented by TennCare that will help to pay health
- 31 care costs not covered under TennCare, the Tennessee Medicaid program.
- 32
- 33 Section 2: The implementation of medigap-like plans, hereinafter called TennGap plans, will help
- 34 those insured cover coinsurance, copayments, and deductibles for the reduction of healthcare
- 35 costs.
- 36
- 37 Section 3: Eligibility for all TennGap plans will be community-rated; based on FPL and household
- 38 size. Additionally, to be eligible for TennGap plans, household income must fall no higher than
- 39 275% of the FPL.

40
41 Section 4: Consumer costs for all TennGap plans will vary based upon family size and household
42 income, as determined by TennCare.
43
44 Section 5: All TennGap plans available will include Medicare Part A coinsurance and hospital
45 coverage.
46
47 Section 6: The individual costs for plans are as follows:
48 i. TennGap Plan B will cost \$73-113 covering; Part B coinsurance or copayment, Part A hospice
49 care coinsurance or copayment, first 3 pints of blood, and Part A deductible.
50 ii. TennGap Plan G will cost \$77-117 covering; Part B coinsurance or copayment, Part A hospice
51 care coinsurance or copayment, first 3 pints of blood, Part A deductible, skilled nursing facility
52 coinsurance, 80% foreign travel emergency, and Part B excess charges.
53 iii. TennGap Plan K will cost \$34-75 covering; 50% Part B coinsurance or copayment, 50% Part
54 A hospice care coinsurance or copayment, 50% first 3 pints of blood, 50% Part A deductible,
55 50% skilled nursing facility coinsurance.
56 iv. TennGap Plan L will cost \$73-113 covering; 75% Part B coinsurance or copayment, 75%
57 Part A hospice care coinsurance or copayment, 75% first 3 pints of blood, 75% Part A
58 deductible, 75% skilled nursing facility coinsurance.
59 v. TennGap Plan N will cost \$59-99 covering; Part B coinsurance or copayment, Part A hospice
60 care coinsurance or copayment, first 3 pints of blood, Part A deductible, skilled nursing facility
61 coinsurance, and 80% foreign travel emergency.
62
63 Section 7: Family costs will be determined based upon a percentage of the individual costs.
64
65 Section 8: Specific cost for both families and individuals will be determined by TennCare.
66
67 Section 9: Prescription medication copayments will be assessed as a flat fee for brand-name and
68 generic medication. The determination of cost for prescription copays will be determined and re-
69 evaluated by the Tennessee state medical board, respectively.
70
71 Section 10: This act will be funded through the expansion of TennCare's budget with an increase
72 from 14 billion to 15 billion through the unbudgeted surplus.
73
74 Section 11: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
75
76 Section 12: This act shall take effect January 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.
77

TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT



SENATE COMMITTEE 2

**Julia Dieter &
Aashi Vora**

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		RSB/23-2-1	
			RED SENATE	
Senate - Energy, Agriculture and Natural Resources Grady Knox Central Magnet High School			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐	

An act to more efficiently use Tennessee 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 Incineration Plant- any facility dedicated to turning solid waste into energy through combustion or
- 5 partial combustion
- 6 Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation- State Department responsible for
- 7 protecting Tennessee's natural environment through human health and safety, conservation, and
- 8 air, land, and water quality.
- 9
- 10 Section 2: This act will fund the construction of an incineration plant in Tennessee, redirecting the
- 11 95% of recycling material that ends up in landfills to this incinerator, which will in turn release less
- 12 harmful pollutants into the air.
- 13
- 14 Section 3: Upon passage, the Tennessee Commissioner of Environment and Conservation and staff
- 15 will form a committee to oversee the construction of the incineration plant in Tennessee.
- 16
- 17 Section 4: The incineration plant location, timeline, and project planning will be left to the
- 18 discretion of the newly formed committee.
- 19
- 20 Section 5: Independent contractors will be paid to build this plant, they will be vetted and
- 21 supervised by the committee throughout the project.
- 22
- 23 Section 6: Should this plant be successful, the committee will oversee construction of new plants
- 24 as they see fit, with the same timeline as the first plant built, to best address this issue.
- 25
- 26 Section 7: The addition of this plant will cost a total of \$62,000,000, \$12.4 million per year, over
- 27 the course of 5 years, and will be funded through the Tennessee Department of Environment and
- 28 Conservation.
- 29
- 30 Section 8: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 31
- 32 Section 9: This act shall take effect on August 1, 2023, public welfare requiring it.
- 33
- 34

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		RSB/23-2-2	
			RED SENATE	
Senate - Health & Welfare Ricardo Moreno, Julissa Lopez Collegiate School			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐	

An Act to Regulate the Appearance of Vaping Products

- 1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this act shall be defined as followed:
- 4 a.) Vape - An electronic device that simulates tobacco smoking
- 5 b.) Appearance - The way something or someone looks
- 6 d.) Addiction - The fact or condition of being addicted to a particular substance, thing, or activity
- 7
- 8 Section 2: It shall be unlawful to sell, distribute, or manufacture any vaping product that is
- 9 designed to appeal to youth, including but not limited to, the use of bright colors, cartoon
- 10 characters, or other designs that are typically associated with children's products.
- 11
- 12 Section 3: Many teens come across vapes and see them as something harmless due to their
- 13 appearance. They are colorful, which gives off the impression that they are not harmful. Teen vape
- 14 users cite flavors and appearance as a main reason they begin using vapes. A study that included
- 15 middle and high school students found that 43 percent of young people who ever used vapes tried
- 16 them because of appealing flavors. All vaping products shall be required to have a warning label
- 17 that states that the product contains nicotine and that nicotine is an addictive substance. The label
- 18 shall be prominently displayed and of sufficient size to be easily read by consumers.
- 19
- 20 Section 4: The estimated cost to implement this bill should be negligible as state agencies and
- 21 compliance officers already exist and enforce existing regulations. Any cost would reside in the
- 22 training of these compliance officers though continuing training of these state officials is already
- 23 budgeted. Additionally, there will be costs for companies to redesign their products to comply with
- 24 new regulations; however, this cost will be incurred by the companies themselves.
- 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 January 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.
- 29

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		RSB/23-2-3
	Senate - Health & Welfare Campbell Tidwell Webb School	RED SENATE	ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ _____ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ _____ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO MAKE NALOXONE AVAILABLE IN ALL TENNESSEE PHARMACIES

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. Chief Medical Officer: Works with the Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Health to

5 ensure that doctors provide safe, effective medical services to the public.

6 b. Collaborative Pharmacy Practice Agreement (CPPA): An official agreement between a licensed

7 pharmacist and a state's Department of Health that permits a pharmacist to provide specific

8 patient care or drug therapy management services, not otherwise permitted to be performed by a

9 pharmacist on patients.

10 c. Opioid antagonist: Binds to opioid receptors to block the effects of opioids and can be used to

11 prevent a fatal opioid overdose. People who receive an antagonist without having already taken

12 opioids will experience little to no effects.

13 d. Tennessee Pharmacists Consortium for Education (TPCE): A Tennessee organization that

14 provides pharmacy education programs in order to help pharmacists and pharmacy technicians

15 meet their continuing education requirements for renewing their licenses.

16 e. Naloxone: An opioid antagonist medication that can reverse an overdose from opioids, including

17 heroin, fentanyl, and other prescription opioid medications.

18 f. Intramuscular naloxone (Intravenous naloxone or IM Naloxone): An injectable form of the

19 medication naloxone.

20 g. Intranasal naloxone (known by the brand names Narcan and Kloxxado): The medication

21 naloxone in the form of a nasal spray form that is administered through the nose.

22 h. Tennessee Board of Pharmacy: A regulatory agency under the Tennessee Department of Health

23 that provides and monitors licenses for pharmacists and pharmacy facilities in Tennessee.

24

25 Section 2: Public Chapter 596 authorizes the Tennessee Department of Health's Chief Medical

26 Officer to implement a statewide Collaborative Pharmacy Practice Agreement (CPPA) specific to

27 opioid antagonist therapy with any pharmacist licensed and practicing in Tennessee.

28

29 Section 3: Pharmacists licensed and practicing in Tennessee are authorized under a valid statewide

30 CPA executed by the Tennessee Department of Health's Chief Medical Officer to dispense an

31 opioid antagonist to a person at risk of experiencing an opiate-related overdose or to a family

32 member, friend, or other person in a position to assist a person at risk of experiencing an opiate-

33 related overdose.

34

35 Section 4: It is required that all pharmacists enter into the CPA outlined in Public Chapter 596.

36

37 Section 5: In order to enter into the CPA outlined in Public Chapter 596, pharmacists must

38 complete an accredited Opioid Antagonist Training Program such as the Opioid Antagonist Training

39 Program for Pharmacists webinar designed by the Tennessee Pharmacists Consortium for

40 Education (TPCE) or a similar program which meets the requirements established by the

41 Tennessee Department of Health for pharmacists to enter into a statewide CPA for the dispensing

42 of opioid antagonists.

43

44 Section 6: It is also required that pharmacies maintain a constant supply of Intramuscular (or

45 injectable) Naloxone, which is less expensive than more commonly carried intranasal versions of

46 naloxone such as Narcan or Kloxxado. This ensures that anyone who might be in need of an opioid

47 antagonist in order to prevent an opioid overdose will have access to it without delay.

48

49 Section 7: If Intramuscular Naloxone becomes identified by the Food and Drug Administration

50 (FDA) as 'in shortage,' pharmacies will be exempted from the previous requirement.

51

52 Section 8: Pharmacies that do not have a Intramuscular Naloxone can be reported to the

53 Tennessee Board of Pharmacy, which will take appropriate disciplinary actions including but not

54 limited to:

55 a. Reprimanding a facility's license

56 b. Placing a facility's license on probation

57 c. Suspending a facility's license

58 d. Revoking a facility's license

59

60 Section 9: This bill will cost \$0.

61

62 Section 10: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

63

64 Section 11: This act shall take effect January 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.

65

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		RSB/23-2-4
	RED SENATE		
Senate - Education Blessyn Nkrumah, Anna Alam Valor College Prep		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO MAINTAIN THE ACCESSIBILITY OF PUBLIC EDUCATION FOR ALL STUDENTS 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 defined as follows:

4 A) Local Education Agency (LEA): A public school in Tennessee consisting of one or more grade

5 groups, one or more teachers to give instruction, and one principal, which school shall be subject

6 to the statutes of the State of Tennessee, and to the rules, regulations, and minimum standards of

7 the State Board of Education.

8 B) Department of Education: State Education Agency of Tennessee.

9 C) Immigration Status: The way in which an individual is residing in the United States in terms of

10 citizenship.

11 D) Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 30: Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49

12 Education, Chapter 6 Elementary and Secondary Education, Part 30 Attendance.

13 E) Enrollment: Arranging the attendance of a student to take part in a specific institution or

14 course.

15 F) Basic Education Program (BEP): The funding formula through which state education dollars are

16 generated and distributed to Tennessee schools.

17 G) Public Charter Schools: A school that receives government funding but operates independently

18 of the established state school system in which its located.

19 H) Student: A person who is enrolled in a school or other educational institution.

20

21 Section 2: Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 30, is amended by adding the

22 following as a new section:

23 a) An LEA or public charter school may not refuse to enroll a student based on immigration

24 status.

25 b) Based on the amount representing the per student state funds generated through the BEP

26 for the LEA in which the student resides, the Tennessee Department of Education shall not

27 withhold funding from the school based on the immigration status of any student admitted.

28 c) LEAs or public charter schools are not required to report the immigration status of students

29 enrolled in the institutions to the Department of Education.

30

31 Section 3: This act will require no financial cost.

32

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

34

35 Section 5: This act shall take effect immediately upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring

36 it.

37

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		RSB/23-2-5
	RED SENATE		
Senate - Finance, Ways and Means Jack Gibby Signal Mountain High School		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO ADDRESS THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING CRISIS IN THE STATE OF TENNESSEE

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2

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

4 a. Workforce housing: Housing that is affordable to households earning between 60% and 120%

5 of an area's median income (median income for Tennessee is \$54,833, but for these purposes

6 median income will be based on each county); Workforce housing is considered affordable if it

7 costs 30% to 40% or less of the household's income.

8 b. Modular homes: Manufactured homes, often factory-built, that can be transported to the site of

9 the home.

10 c. Investor-owned companies: Commercial entities owned by shareholders with a financial stake in

11 the profitability of the company.

12 d. Non-owner occupied short-term rental homes: Housing units that are rented on a short-term

13 basis, typically for vacations or temporary occupancy on a daily or weekly basis.

14 e. Height/density housing restrictions: Limitations on the maximum height or density that restrict

15 the ability to include more individual housing units within a property.

16 f. Adaptive reuse: Repurposing of a built structure that is different from its original purpose.

17 g. Efficiency apartments: Small housing units in which the living, sleeping and cooking areas are

18 typically included in a single room.

19

20 Section 2: The first condition of this act is to support the development of more workforce housing

21 in the state of Tennessee.

22 a. This will be done through various methods, including supporting housing organizations in the

23 construction of affordable multi-family and single-family options, such as:

24 i. Modular homes

25 ii. Tiny Homes

26 iii. Mobile homes

27 iv. Duplexes, triplexes, etc.

28 b. Support for workforce housing construction can appear as, among other methods, preference

29 given to such housing when city permits are granted for housing construction.

30 c. Financial incentives, such as tax breaks for construction or expedited permitting, will be given to

31 property owners on a case-by-case basis who commit to selling or renting to low-income

32 occupants for at least 10 years after construction.

33

34 Section 3: This act will place a moratorium on the granting of city permits to investor-owned

35 companies for non-owner occupied short-term rental homes.

36 a. The act will not revoke or affect city permits that have already been granted to investor-owned

37 companies.

38 b. The moratorium will begin upon the date of this bill going into effect and will last until January
39 1, 2026.

40

41 Section 4: This act suggests that cities and towns perform a review of outdated zoning laws or
42 other restrictions that could inhibit the growth of affordable housing opportunities.

43 a. Examples of outdated or unnecessary laws that could be revised include height or density
44 restrictions for buildings, among other examples;

45 i. Loosening restrictions like these should only be done if it clearly does not pose any obvious
46 risks to the health and safety of city residents.

47 b. The review should specifically search for ways in which more housing opportunities can be built
48 affordably;

49 i. The goals of these projects are to increase housing supply and address racial and economic
50 disparities that have been caused by past laws.

51 c. Reviews should also discover ways to speed up the process of project approval when it comes to
52 affordable housing development.

53 d. Reviews can be done in coordination with and/or with the support of the federal Department of
54 Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

55 e. When reviews are completed, suggestions can be presented to city and town councils, as well as
56 other local or state government bodies, with findings regarding the best practices for adjusting
57 unnecessary regulations and outdated laws/restrictions to maximize housing affordability.

58

59 Section 5: This act will also promote solutions to affordable housing issues in rural areas of
60 Tennessee.

61 a. This includes support for adaptive reuse of derelict buildings in small towns and rural areas;
62 i. Examples of this include repurposing old motels as affordable efficiency apartments, vacant
63 commercial buildings or malls repurposed as retiree community housing, and any other unused
64 property being renovated as affordable housing (whether rental or otherwise).

65 b. Funding for these projects in rural areas can come at least in part from the USDA Housing
66 Preservation Grant and Rural Development programs.

67

68 Section 6: This act will require approximately \$12.7 million in funding, which will be provided by
69 federal budgets from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, as well as portions of
70 the state budget allocated for housing and related funds.

71 a. This value will be entirely subject to change and can vary greatly based on factors such as
72 number/value of tax breaks given, number of low-income homes constructed, cost of city and
73 town housing reviews, etc.

74 b. This act will also create revenue for the state in the form of increased employment, creation of
75 generational wealth, and decreased reliance on federal and state welfare programs.

76

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

78

79 Section 8: This act will take effect on June 1st, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.

80

81

		70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government				WSB/23-2-6	
Senate - Judiciary						WHITE SENATE	
Luis Asencio, Adalyn Cook Innovation Academy						ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Pass ☐ ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐	

An Act to Repeal Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 39-14-414 and Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 55-8-212

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2

3 Section 1: Terms used in this act are defined as follows:

4 A) Class C misdemeanor: a criminal offense punishable by a fine of up to fifty (50) dollars, up to
5 thirty (30) days of jail time, or community service ranging from twenty (20) hours to forty (40)
6 hours.

7 B) Class E Felony: a criminal offense punishable by one (1) to six (6) years of prison and a fine of
8 up to \$3,000.

9 C) Homeless person: as currently defined in Section 330 of the Public Health Service Act; "an
10 individual who lacks housing (without regard to whether the individual is a member of a family),
11 including an individual whose primary residence during the night is a supervised public or private
12 facility that provides temporary living accommodations and an individual who is a resident in
13 transitional housing." (Section 330 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C., 254b))

14 D) Unlawful camping: setting up or using tents and other temporary shelters, cooking, or sleeping
15 outside of a vehicle in an area not designated as a camping area.

16 E) Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 39-14-414 (Equal Access to Public Property Act of 2012): a person who
17 unlawfully camps on public property may be prosecuted for a Class E felony.

18 F) Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 55-8-212: a person who unlawfully camps on a state or interstate highway,
19 bridge, or overpass may be prosecuted for a Class C misdemeanor.

20 G) Repeal: the process of removing a law or making it void.

21

22 Section 2: If enacted, this act shall repeal Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 39-14-414 and Tenn. Code Ann. §§
23 55-8-212. Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 39-14-414 makes it an offense to "engage in camping on public
24 property knowing that the area on which the camping occurs is not specifically designated for use
25 as a camping area by the department or agency responsible for the land." A violation of this
26 statute is designated as a Class E felony. Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 55-8-212 makes it an offense to
27 "engage in camping: (1) On the shoulder, berm, or right-of-way of a state or interstate highway;
28 or (2) Under a bridge or overpass, or within an underpass, of a state or interstate highway." A
29 violation of this statute is designated as a Class C misdemeanor. Upon this repeal, however, the
30 State will be prohibited from prosecuting individuals for the offenses outlined in the
31 aforementioned laws as both statutes will not be replaced. Both statutes shall be rendered
32 completely void as a result.

33

34 Section 3: This act is fiscally neutral, and as such will have no cost to the State of Tennessee.

35 However, this act may result in a slight reduction of state correctional spending.

36

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

38

39 Section 5: This act shall take effect immediately following approval, the public welfare requiring it.

40

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	WSB/23-2-7	
	WHITE SENATE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐	
Senate - Education Anna Lisowski, Aliya Opengart Signal Mountain High School		

An Act to Change Light Bulbs in Public Schools to LED Lights

- 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.) LED: a light-emitting diode.
- 5 b.) Fluorescent light tube: low-pressure mercury-vapor gas-discharge lamp that uses fluorescence
- 6 to produce visible light.
- 7
- 8 Section 2: If enacted, this bill will replace all light bulbs in Tennessee public schools with LED light
- 9 bulbs.
- 10
- 11 Section 3: LEDs are recyclable, do not contain mercury, are longer lasting, and use less electricity
- 12 than fluorescent lights. Therefore, they are more efficient and environmentally friendly than
- 13 fluorescent lights.
- 14
- 15 Section 4: Fluorescent light bulbs currently cost the state approximately \$53,000,000 every time
- 16 they are replaced (about every 2.3 years). LED light bulbs would cost approximately \$54,000,000
- 17 every time they are replaced (about every 5.7 years).
- 18
- 19 Section 5: The initial cost of LEDs will cost the state more, but will save the state money long
- 20 term. The state will be able to save approximately \$52,000,000 about every five years.
- 21
- 22 Section 6: This law will cost about \$1,000,000 and will be funded through the Tennessee
- 23 Department of Education budget.
- 24
- 25 Section 7: All laws or parts of law in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 26
- 27 Section 8: This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.
- 28
- 29

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	WSB/23-2-8	
	WHITE SENATE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐	
Senate - Commerce and Labor Wyatt Brown, Gavin Mercado, Sean Gurley Central Magnet High School		

AN ACT TO INCREASE TENNESSEE INCARCERATED PERSONS' WAGES

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this act are defined as follows:
- 4 Incarceration - confinement in a jail or prison
- 5 Minimum Wage - the smallest amount of compensation that an employer must pay wage earners
- 6 for the work performed during a given period, which cannot be reduced by collective agreement or
- 7 an individual contract
- 8 Prison - an institution (such as one under state authority) for confinement of people convicted of
- 9 felonies
- 10 Commissary - a store for equipment and provisions found in a prison
- 11 Merit Pay - compensation a company uses to reward higher-performing employees
- 12 Trust Fund - a financial account that allows a person to put aside money and/or other assets that
- 13 will later be distributed to the beneficiaries named on the trust
- 14
- 15 Section 2: All state-run prisons will be required to pay their inmate workers an improved wage
- 16 that varies based on the skill level of the job. The following is the inmate pay level scale currently
- 17 used by Tennessee Department of Corrections:
- 18
- 19 Skill/Pay Step 1 Step 2 Step 3
- 20
- 21 Unskilled \$0.17/hour \$0.25/hour \$.34/hour
- 22
- 23 Semi-skilled \$0.25/hour \$0.34/hour \$.42/hour
- 24
- 25 Skilled \$0.34/hour \$0.42/hour \$.50/hour
- 26
- 27 Highly Skilled \$0.42/hour \$0.50/hour \$.59/hour
- 28
- 29 Specialty Jobs \$0.75/hour N/A \$1.00/hour
- 30
- 31 Under this act, this updated scale is proposed, which would better support the current inmate
- 32 population and the valuable work they support the Tennessee economy with:
- 33
- 34 Skill/Pay Step 1 Step 2 Step 3
- 35
- 36 Unskilled \$0.25/hour \$0.50/hour \$.75/hour
- 37
- 38 Semi-skilled \$0.50/hour \$0.75/hour \$1.00/hour
- 39

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	WSB/23-2-9	
		WHITE SENATE	
Senate - Education Jaclyn Owens, Adeline Perryman Central Magnet High School		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

A Resolution to Amend the Tennessee Learning Loss Remediation Student Acceleration Act

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

2

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

4 Adequate Growth: Students who show an increase in improvement in reading levels from second

5 grade to third grade TCAP scores, or students who have improved over the summer.

6 Approaching Expectations: Student who receives a score of 2 on TCAP.

7 Below Expectations/ Below Proficient: Students who score below a 2 on TCAP.

8 On Track: Students who score a 3 on TCAP are therefore proficient.

9 Summer Bridge Camp: A four-to-six-week summer camp offered to students grades fourth

10 through eight, that provides two hours of reading and math instruction, an hour of play, and an

11 hour of intervention in small group settings with the goal of accelerating learning and ensuring a

12 student is on grade level.

13 TCAP: Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program, which tests students in math, English

14 language arts, social studies, and science. These standardized tests are required because they

15 measure a student's understanding of Tennessee's state standards.

16

17 Section 2: As of the Tennessee Fiscal 2020-2021 Budget Plan, Tennessee planned to spend

18 6,911,850,100 USD on K-12 education. Summer schoolteachers are paid 50 USD per hour.

19

20 Section 3: Currently, the third-grade retention law holds back students in third grade that are not

21 proficient in the reading section of the TCAP exam. To not be retained, students must complete 20

22 days of summer school at a 90% attendance rate and receive mandatory tutoring going into their

23 fourth-grade year.

24

25 Section 4: Currently, students are not retained if a student who is an English language learner and

26 has received less than two years of ELA instruction, a student who has been previously retained in

27 any of the grades, kindergarten through third grade, or a student who has a disability or a

28 suspected disability that impacts reading.

29

30 Section 5: If enacted, a third-grade student that is not proficient in English Language Arts (ELA)

31 will not be retained. Tutoring will begin for students who scored below proficiency on their second-

32 grade TCAP exam. Trained teachers will be hired. For students who do not score proficiently in

33 third-grade year, tutoring will be offered their fourth-grade year along with summer bridge camp.

34 Tutoring will occur during a student's English class time in a small teacher to student ratio of 1:3.

35

36 Section 6: If enacted, summer bridge camp will still be offered for below-proficient third-grade

37 students in June. Summer school teachers will have an allotted pay raise to encourage teachers to

38 teach summer school. The curriculum for summer school will be changed to target a more

40 Skilled \$0.75/hour \$1.00/hour \$1.25/hour

41 Highly Skilled \$1.00/hour \$1.25/hour \$1.50/hour

42 Specialty Jobs \$1.25/hour N/A \$2.50/hour

43

44 Section 3: If any inmates show exceptional behavior, personal growth, or improved work ethic

45 compared to their arrival (decided by an inmate psychologist), they will be eligible for merit pay up

46 to an extra \$0.50/hour because of their improved behavior. Inmates will be allowed to work a

47 maximum of 20 hours per week of overtime at a consistent rate of pay.

48

49 Section 4: Pay earned by inmates is deposited into an Inmate Trust Fund, and this money can be

50 used to buy assorted items from the prison commissary such as food and drinks, clothing, hygiene

51 products, medicine, and other miscellaneous goods. Inmates may also use their wages to pay for

52 phone calls made to friends and relatives.

53

54 Section 5: The implementation of this act will add approximately \$6,000,000 of costs annually to

55 the Tennessee Department of Corrections budget.

56

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

58

59 Section 7: This act will take effect July 1st, 2023.

60

61

62

63

39 engaging lesson-based plan, and it will be crafted to help struggling students. The summer school
40 curriculum will be changed to be more comprehensive and cumulative based. If enacted the
41 summer bridge camp will be offered to third-grade students each June.
42
43 Section 7: If enacted, students previously exempt from the law shall remain exempt from being
44 retained. Those students will not be required to take in-school reading tutoring, a summer bridge
45 program, or proof of adequate growth.
46
47 Section 8: If enacted, recurring funding will be provided for the enhancement of compensation for
48 teachers' tutoring or of compensation for English Language Assistance, by increasing the salary
49 component of the BEP formula. This bill will increase the amount of pay for teachers by asking for
50 an annual increase of 250,000 USD. This is an incentive for teachers to partake in summer schools
51 and tutoring programs. Funds will be distributed to each Local Education Agency (LEA) and
52 administered according to each LEA's salary schedule and compensation structure. Funds will be
53 distributed on July 1st, 2023.
54
55 Section 9: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
56
57 Section 10: This act shall take effect on July 1st, 2023, upon becoming a law.
58

		70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA				WSB/23-2-10	
Senate - Education Daniel Le, Kaydee Watkins Central Magnet High School		the Youth in Government		WHITE SENATE		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO IMPROVE THE RESOURCES OF TENNESSEE SCHOOL COUNSELORS ON MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

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 Counselor- licensed educators who provide guidance and support for students in
5 Tennessee.
6 Mental Health Support- any act that helps improve a student's mental state and/or refers them to
7 necessary professionals after proper evaluation of the student and situation.
8
9 Section 2: An extensive online training program on mental health support will be created and
10 distributed to all school counselors in the state of Tennessee. This program will be mandatory. In
11 addition, school counselors will receive a \$1,500.00 raise. Current school counselors have until the
12 start of the 2025-2026 school year to complete their certification.
13
14 Section 3: The online training program will be created by the Tennessee Department of Education
15 in conjunction with the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.
16
17 Section 4: Schools will send out a mandatory survey regarding students' mental health yearly. This
18 survey will be sent to all students and will be anonymous so as to encourage participation. The
19 data collected from these surveys will go towards modifying the counselors training course and
20 renewal examinations. Schools that fail to receive a minimum of 30% feedback from the surveys
21 will be investigated and subject to further disciplinary action from the county board.
22
23 Section 5: All current and future school counseling curriculums will include the new online training
24 program as part of their course.
25
26 Section 6: School counselors will renew their mental health support certification every two years
27 through an online exam. The exam will be updated based on the feedback from the surveys
28 outlined in section 4.
29
30 Section 7: The enactment of this bill will cost \$4,000,000 a year for the increase in school
31 counselor wages and will be funded by the Tennessee Department of Education.
32
33 Section 8: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
34
35 Section 9: This act shall take effect immediately, starting in the first semester of the 2023-2024
36 school year.
37

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		WSB/23-2-11	
		WHITE SENATE	
Senate - Transportation and Safety William Wyckoff, Nathaniel Halevi Martin Luther King Magnet School		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO DEVELOP A TENNESSEE INTER-CITY TRAIN SYSTEM PLAN

- 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. Authority- The Tennessee Inter-City Train System Authority
- 5 b. City- A densely populated urban area
- 6 c. Senate committee on Transportation and Safety- The state senate committee which is
- 7 responsible for highway, railroad, and air regulation oversight.
- 8 d. Senate committee on Energy, Agriculture, and Natural Resources- The state senate committee
- 9 responsible for energy, state parks, natural resource acquisition and preservation, and pollution
- 10 oversight.
- 11 e. House committee on Transportation- The state house committee responsible for highway,
- 12 railroad, and air-traffic regulation.
- 13 f. Tennessee Inter-City Train System Plan- The finalized proposal for budgeting, constructing,
- 14 maintaining, and operating an inter-city train system in the state of Tennessee.
- 15 g. Plan- The Tennessee Inter-City Train System Plan.
- 16 h. Board- The Tennessee Inter-City Train System Authority board of voting members charged with
- 17 the oversight and management of the Authority.
- 18
- 19 Section 2: A Tennessee Inter-City Train System Authority will be established by the State of
- 20 Tennessee.
- 21 a. The Authority will fall under the Tennessee Department of Transportation.
- 22 b. The Authority will be overseen and managed by a board of 7 voting members:
- 23 1. Four experts in transportation and public infrastructure appointed by the governor upon
- 24 recommendation from the Tennessee Department of Transportation.
- 25 2. One expert in transportation appointed by the Senate committee on Transportation and Safety.
- 26 3. One expert in transportation appointed by the House committee on Transportation.
- 27 4. One expert in environmental conservation appointed by the Senate committee on Energy,
- 28 Agriculture, and Natural Resources.
- 29 c. The board members shall be chosen from diverse regions of the state, shall be highly
- 30 knowledgeable in their respective disciplines, shall not currently hold elected office, shall not be an
- 31 active member of the armed forces, and shall not have any conflicts of interest.
- 32 d. The board members shall be appointed on staggered 4-year terms to ensure continuity, with the
- 33 first terms of the first two board members appointed by the governor set to expire on 1/1/2025,
- 34 the first term of the board member appointed by the House committee on Transportation set to
- 35 expire on 1/1/2026, the first terms of the two board members appointed by the Senate
- 36 Committees set to expire on 1/1/2027, and the first terms of the last two board members
- 37 appointed by the governor set to expire on 1/1/2028.
- 38 e. Holding a seat on the board of the Tennessee Inter-City Train System Authority is a form of
- 39 public service intended to occupy on average several hours per week. For their time, board
- 40 members will be compensated 1,000 dollars per month of service.
- 41 f. The Authority will be supplied with 150,000 dollars by the Tennessee Department of
- 42 Transportation to cover all travel and lodging expenses undertaken as part of the board members'
- 43 responsibilities to the state of Tennessee, with this fund intended to last until 1/1/2025, at which
- 44 point all remaining funds will be transferred back to the Tennessee Department of Transportation.
- 45 g. Should a board member resign, the party which is responsible for that seat will be allotted a six
- 46 (6) month time period to select an adequate replacement.
- 47 h. Once the term of a board member has expired, the party responsible for the seat shall appoint a
- 48 new member in accordance with clauses b and d.
- 49 i. The Governor of Tennessee may elect to remove a board member if they are deemed unfit for
- 50 the occupation and execution of the seat's duties, however this action may be reversed and nullified
- 51 by a majority vote from either the State Senate or State House.
- 52
- 53 Section 3: The Authority will be charged with the selection, hiring, and direction of personnel
- 54 whose purpose will be to plan, develop, manage, and operate projects of the Tennessee Inter-City
- 55 Train System.
- 56 a. The Board Members shall appoint an executive director to manage the project.
- 57 b. The Authority will be supplied with a fund of three (3) million dollars to pay the salaries, fees
- 58 and travel expenses of all employees and outside experts contracted during the planning stage of
- 59 the project, with this fund intended to last until 1/1/2025.
- 60 c. Employees of the Authority will be paid salaries equivalent to those received by state employees
- 61 in equivalent Department of Transportation positions.
- 62
- 63 Section 4: The Authority will be tasked with developing a plan deliverable by 1/1/2025 for the
- 64 construction of an Intercity Train System to connect populous Tennessee cities.
- 65 a. The Intercity train system will be designed to provide affordable, efficient, and environmentally
- 66 friendly transportation for as many Tennesseans and tourists as possible.
- 67 b. The System will be designed to sustain itself through ticket sales and other supplementary
- 68 revenue streams.
- 69 c. The Authority shall collaborate with national transportation authorities including Amtrak to
- 70 design the system and ensure that state and national routes combine and synergize.
- 71 d. The System will be designed in several stages to begin offering services to Tennesseans as soon
- 72 as possible while simultaneously creating a program for further expansion.
- 73
- 74 Section 5: The Authority will make protecting Tennessee's landscape and communities a priority
- 75 throughout the development of the project.
- 76 a. The Authority will design the construction plan to avoid disrupting regions of cultural or
- 77 historical significance.
- 78 b. The Authority will take further steps in the construction plan to avoid disrupting residential
- 79 communities.
- 80 c. The Authority will take care to limit environmental degradation as a result of all projects and
- 81 protect local environments.
- 82
- 83 Section 6: Should the plan be approved by the state legislature, the Governor, and all other
- 84 appropriate agencies, the Authority will be charged with realizing and executing the plan.
- 85 a. The Authority will be charged with securing local, state, federal, and private funds to construct
- 86 the system.
- 87 b. The Authority will further be empowered with the ability to negotiate with local governments
- 88 and private entities to secure land and the ability to negotiate proper zoning.
- 89

90 Section 7: To ensure transparency, the Authority will be required to submit a semiannual
91 presentation to the Senate committee on Transportation and Safety detailing all activities,
92 progress and expenditures.
93 a. Additionally, a publicly available report detailing employment, expenditure, activities, and
94 progress will be published annually.
95 b. Both reports will further detail the projected and real economic impact of the plan and the
96 projected and real annual numbers of passengers serviced by the train system.
97
98 Section 8: The Tennessee Inter-City Train System Authority will be provided with a total of
99 \$3,304,000 through the Tennessee Department of Transportation budget to produce the Inter-City
100 Train System Plan.

101
102 Section 9: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

103
104 Section 10: This act shall take effect March 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
105
106

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		BSB/23-2-12
Senate - Education			BLUE SENATE
Abigail Floyd, Ellen Moscardelli, Carson Teel			
Lebanon High School			
		ACTION ON THE BILL	
		HOUSE	SENATE
		Pass ☐	Pass ☐
		Fail ☐	Fail ☐

An Act to Advocate for Mental Health Professionals in Public 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 Mental Health Professional: A health care practitioner or social and human services provider who
5 offers services for the purpose of improving an individual's mental health or to treat mental
6 disorders.
7 Mental Health: A person's condition with regard to their psychological and emotional well-being.
8 School Guidance Counselor: A professional who works in elementary, middle, and high school to
9 provide academic, career, college access/ affordability/ admission, guidance, and social-emotional
10 competencies to all students through a school counseling program.
11
12 Section 2: If enacted, our bill will provide a mental health outlet separate from guidance available
13 for students within Tennessee public schools. Within the program, multiple mental health
14 professionals will be available during school hours, as well as after school hours upon request.
15
16 Section 3: Currently, the average guidance counselor to public high school student ratio is 1:408;
17 however, the ASCA recommends a ratio of 1:250. The number of new mental health care
18 professionals will vary depending on the student body population.
19
20 Section 4: The average salary of a public high school guidance counselor is approximately
21 \$48,000. With this in mind, the salary of each mental health professional in the program will be
22 decided within each county.
23
24 Section 5: All laws and part of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
25
26 Section 6: This act will be effective starting within the 2023-2024 school year.
27

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		BSB/23-2-13	
 the Youth in Government		BLUE SENATE	
Senate - Health & Welfare Ahanti Patowary, Rosemary Frazier, Kyle Carter Central Magnet High School		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ _____ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ _____ Fail ☐	

**AN ACT TO REQUIRE A SHARED SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST IN EACH HIGH SCHOOL
BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT**

1 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:
2 a. Declaration of Mental Health Treatment- legal document that allows people to plan for mental
3 health services they might receive and to say how they want to be treated or not be treated when
4 they lack capacity to make informed decisions about their mental health treatment
5 b. Psychologist- a medical practitioner specializing in the diagnosis and treatment of mental illness.
6 c. Mental Health- a person's condition regarding their psychological and emotional well-being,
7 d. High School- An area where kids 9th through 12th go to learn
8 e. Informed decisions - having done appropriate research
9 f. SAMHSA - The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration is a branch of the
10 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
11 g. Grant - a sum of money given by a government or other organization for a particular purpose.
12 h. Hippocratic Oath - an oath stating the obligations and proper conduct of doctors, formerly taken
13 by those beginning medical practice.
14 i. NOFO - Notice of Founding Opportunities; a description of the project and the entities that are
15 eligible to apply. If you are interested in applying for a funding opportunity, first review the
16 eligibility criteria located within the NOFO.

17
18 Section 2: The Signers Act is regarding the Mental Health (c) of High school students. The
19 delegates propose the project of offering mental health services to all youths in Tennessee Public
20 High schools. This act is in response to the growing number of Mental Health issues including but
21 not limited to Suicide, Self-Harm, and Depression. Suicide rates have steadily risen over the past
22 years to the most recent government audit showing that Tennessee is 29% over the national
23 suicide rate. This is also supported by the child suicide rate which has gone up by 200% in the last
24 50 years. With this in mind, the proposed act if enacted will first allow children 13 years old and up
25 to make a Declaration of Mental Health Treatment (a). Secondly, the proposed act will mandate
26 Tennessee Public High Schools to have a full-time school psychologist (b).
27

28 Section 3: With this act, the age limit for Declaration of Mental Health will be lower, however
29 children 13-15 will not be allowed to make informed mental health treatment decisions without a
30 present medical professional. This is due to recent studies showing that younger children do not
31 have the same mental ability that their older peers have.

32
33 Section 4: All Tennessee high schools will be required to have full-time school psychologists on a
34 full-time basis and pay scale.

35
36 Section 5: Tennessee public schools will have at least one psychologist per high school (d). Each
37 psychologist will adhere to the Hippocratic Oath and uphold medical ethics. Said psychologist

38 would aid the school administration in identifying and treating students with mental health issues.
39 This includes Behavioral Issues, Disabilities, Depression, Anxiety, and ADHD.

40
41 Section 6: The total bill cost will be \$46,026,500. This would cover the salary of a psychologist in
42 each high school. The said psychologists would work full-time at each high school and would
43 oversee the care and evaluation of each student.

44
45 Section 7: The responsibilities of said employed psychologists are as follows (1) Identify any and
46 all students that have a mental health issue, behavioral problem, or learning disability. (2) Speak
47 to each student one on one and create and enact an effective plan to evaluate and help the
48 student. (3) Report any illegal activities or cases of Child Abuse or Neglect to the TN Department
49 of Child Services. (4) Uphold all responsibilities given to the employee by the Hippocratic oath. (h)

50
51 Section 8: This project will be paid for with the Federal Grant called the Substance Abuse and
52 Mental Health Services Administration or SAMHSA. This grant will be applied for by a NOFO(i) and
53 would have the ability to pay \$32,860,513 of the needed amount. The remaining \$13,165,987 will
54 be paid for by the long-dormant \$27,000,000 that the federal government gave Tennessee during
55 the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year or (FY) This funding has been untouched for nearly all the 2022-2023
56 Fiscal Year and would be able to provide the remaining funding for said project leaving the state
57 \$13,834,013 to fund other Mental Health and Substance Abuse projects. With this funding, the
58 state and county would pay virtually nothing for the first year. After the first year, the state would
59 then apply for a full SAMHSA grant that would cover \$51,627,887 of the costs. Along with this, the
60 cost of the project is expected to go down by \$1,000,000 after the first year. Any remaining costs
61 or unforeseen expenses will be calculated later with up-to-date information. Any and all remaining
62 costs will be divided equally between the high schools and their respective county school boards.

63
64 Section 9: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

65
66 Section 10: This act shall take effect on January 1st, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.

67
68



70th General Assembly
of the
Tennessee YMCA
Youth in Government



the

Senate - Energy, Agriculture and Natural Resources
Karunya Vudattula, Andrew Smith, Hunter Higgs
Central Magnet High School

BSB/23-2-14

BLUE SENATE

ACTION ON THE BILL

HOUSE SENATE

Pass ☐ Fail ☐
Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO REDUCE RIVER POLLUTION THROUGH INCLUDING GRANULAR ACTIVATED CARBON FILTERS IN DAMS AND SEABINS

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

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

- 3 a) Granular Activated Carbon (GAC): A raw organic material used to filter contaminants from
4 water and air, it is also very absorbent, benefiting purification.
5 b) Per-and polyfluorinated substances (PFAS) - PFAS are a group of chemicals used to make non-stick
6 and waterproof coating applications for products such as Teflon, Scotchgard, and firefighting foam.
7 c) Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)- PCBs are chemicals used in electrical equipment such as
8 transformers and large appliances.
9 d) Seabin- The Seabin is a device designed to collect floating debris from the surface of marinas,
10 harbors, and other bodies of water. It is a floating trash receptacle placed in the water and
11 connected to a pump that sucks in floating debris. The debris is then trapped in a catch bag inside
12 the Seabin.
13 e) Department of Environment and Conservation- A department which is responsible for protecting and
14 improving the quality of Tennessee's air, land, and water through a responsible regulatory system.

15 Section 2) This act seeks to reduce water pollution in Tennessee rivers using existing programs
16 and facilities such as dams and the Seabin program. A compound called GAC, or Granular
17 Activated Carbon, will be utilized in these facilities in order to cleanse the rivers of various
18 industrial chemicals and heavy metal compounds. This act proposes testing this idea on a small
19 scale before releasing it to all of Tennessee.

20 Section 3) Over the past few years, Tennessee has been known to have a significant issue with water
21 pollution. This issue is exacerbated due to Tennessee having developed and changed significantly
22 over the past few years, resulting in an issue with microplastics, industrial chemicals, and general
23 waste in the rivers. Further demonstrating the inadequate quality of rivers in Tennessee, research
24 has shown that 55% of Tennessee's river miles are impaired for recreational use, 122 miles are
25 contaminated with various bacteria, and 547 miles contain fish consumption advisories.

26 Section 4) The purpose of this act is to filter out and reduce the number of chemicals, waste, and
27 microplastics in Tennessee's rivers. This will be achieved through utilizing granular activated
28 carbon to add another level of filtration to already existing filters in facilities such as dams and
29 Seabins. This added level of filtration has shown drastic changes in many other areas including the
30 United Kingdom, Michigan, and India.

31 Section 5): Due to every dam being unique, only a general plan of implementation for dams will be
32 given. How each dam will fit this addition to its existing system is something that will be worked
33 on in collaboration between the engineers of the specific dam and the Department of Environment
34 and Conservation. This will be slightly different for the Seabin program, due to Seabins being a

40 filtration system that pumps water into the ground, filters it, and sends it back to the river. The
41 solution is to add another level of filter to the already existing filter so it can cleanse the water of
42 plastics, industrial chemicals, and heavy metal compounds all at the same time.

43 Section 6) The general plan itself is based on an existing part of every dam, which is the filter to
44 prevent seepage-related issues. While the dam itself already has a filter, it does not help with
45 anything but directing water outwards to prevent seepage in the dam's infrastructure. Instead of
46 changing and replacing a filter, this solution will modify the filter by adding a layer of GAC to the
47 existing filter, helping with issues discussed in the previous sections. This method is more cost-
48 efficient and easier to install in a currently running dam than building a whole new filter into the dam.

49 Section 7) Before implementing this on a larger scale, this plan will be tested on a smaller scale. For
50 this, we will use a group of scientists, engineers, and specialists. With this group, there will be an
51 opportunity for colleges and students to learn, gain experience, and develop connections by assisting
52 in this project. We will also offer the same role to interns willing to learn, enhance their resumes,
53 develop connections, and obtain real-world experience. We see this research group as an opportunity
54 to help our community while also working towards solving the main issue at the same time.

55 Section 8): Before releasing this plan to all of Tennessee, the discussed group of scientists in the
56 previous section will come together and decide on the location of an experiment to test the validity
57 of this project. The experiment will be required to last for at least six months in order to reflect on
58 the results, but if more data is required, the period can be extended to a maximum of a year. The
59 scientists would choose two dams and Seabins in highly polluted areas and two in low polluted
60 areas to observe results from multiple environments. The purpose of this experiment is to
61 determine granular activated carbon's exact effects on Tennessee's environment as even though
62 GAC is said to not affect living things or the environment, we want to ensure there are no
63 unforeseen consequences. This experiment also serves to determine the effectiveness of GAC so
64 the exact amount and locations of where GAC is needed can be determined, if modifications to the
65 system are necessary, or if the current solution is satisfactory.

66 Section 9) This act will require estimated 21 million dollars due to the following:

- 67 A) Average discharge of water in dams in Tennessee - estimated 2.1 million gallons of water per minute
68 B) One cubic foot of GAC can filter 6 gallons per minute (usually depends on the quality of GAC
69 because the best quality can filter 10 gallons) which means 350,000 cubic feet of GAC is needed
70 C) Due to the production occurring in China, cubic feet are converted to kilograms, making the
71 required amount an estimated 9.8 million kg
72 D) The retailer has a set price of \$0.51 per kg making the total cost for one dam - \$4,998,000
73 E) With 4 dams the total cost would be - \$19,992,000
74 F) With additional miscellaneous fees and an estimated cost of \$500,000 for the Seabins, this act
75 requests 21 million dollars from the 2022 budget surplus be given to the Tennessee Department of
76 Environment and Conservation for the project, which is estimated to be 3% of the total budget surplus.

77 Section 10) While there may be other products or processes that may have a greater impact, most
78 of them are negatively impactful to the environment and ecosystem in the water, many use
79 chemicals and other materials which also ruin the environment. Many other processes depend on
80 the environment, require more labor and care, and have a significantly higher cost for a similar
81 effect. After looking at multiple factors, GAC was found to be the most optimal due to its function
82 being remarkably diverse, very accessible, having no effect on the environment and helping fish,
83 and being easy and efficient to use.

84 Section 11) All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

85 Section 12) This act shall take effect as soon as possible, the public welfare requiring it.

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the Youth in Government	BSB/23-2-15
	Senate - Health & Welfare Charlie Griffin, Jonathan Perrin, Nicholas Thombs Signal Mountain High School	BLUE SENATE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO EXPAND PUNISHMENTS FOR UNLAWFUL PRESCRIPTIONS OF OPIOIDS

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 Healthcare Practitioner- a person who is a licensed physician, professional nurse and/or a licensed

5 social worker capable of providing prescriptions.

6 Drug misuse- the use of illegal substances and/or the use of prescription medications outside of

7 the guidelines set forth by a doctor, such as taking them in higher doses, more frequently, or for

8 longer periods of time than recommended or utilizing a prescription written by someone else.

9 Illicit drugs- The illegal use of a range of medications for purposes other than medicine. These

10 substances include stimulants of the amphetamine type, cannabis, cocaine, heroin, various

11 opioids, and synthetic narcotics including ecstasy and illicitly produced fentanyl (IMF) (MDMA).

12 Overdose- Injuries to the body (poisoning) that result from using drugs in excess. There can be

13 both fatal and nonfatal overdoses.

14 Prescription Opioids- can be prescribed by doctors to treat moderate to severe pain but can also

15 have serious risks and side effects.

16 Malicious Intent- the person acted willfully or intentionally to cause harm, without legal

17 justification.

18

19 SECTION 2: All drug misuse resulting in overdoses should be investigated to see if prescription

20 opioids are the illicit drug.

21

22 SECTION 3: If prescription opioids are the cause of the overdose then an investigation should

23 occur to track where the prescription came from.

24

25 SECTION 4: If the investigator knows where the opioid came from then the Healthcare Practitioner

26 should be contacted.

27

28 SECTION 5: After the healthcare practitioner is contacted, an investigation should occur to see

29 whether the healthcare practitioner followed Tennessee code 63-1-164(2021).

30

31 SECTION 6: If the healthcare practitioner followed Tennessee code 63-1-164(2021), then they will

32 be deemed not guilty and no charges will be pressed.

33

34 SECTION 7: If the healthcare practitioner did not follow Tennessee code 63-1-164(2021), the

35 investigator will then investigate whether the Practitioner had malicious intent or not.

36

37 SECTION 8: If no malicious intent is found, then the healthcare practitioner will be subject to a

38 civil penalty and fined up to \$10,000.

39

40 SECTION 9: If malicious intent is found, then the healthcare practitioner will be subject to criminal

41 charges up to 15 years in prison and their medical license being revoked.

42

43 SECTION 10: This bill deters healthcare practitioners from distributing prescription opioids illegally

44 and would also bring corrupt healthcare practitioners to justice.

45

46 SECTION 11: This bill would cost approximately 2.5 million dollars per year in order to pay for the

47 prosecutors, investigators and any other employee or resource the investigators may need. The

48 2.5 million dollars would come from the money confiscated from the corrupt healthcare

49 practitioners and the fines for breaking Tennessee code 63-1-164(2021) without malicious intent.

50 Any additional cost would be covered by the government of Tennessee.

51

52 SECTION 12: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

53

54 SECTION 13: This act shall take effect March 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.

55

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	BSB/23-2-16	
	BLUE SENATE	
ACTION ON THE BILL		
Senate - Transportation and Safety Malvika Singh, Drew Eckerman, Benjamin Vickers Webb School	HOUSE Pass ☐ Fail ☐	SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐

An Act to Require a Permit to Carry a Firearm

- 1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government:
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms used in this act shall be defined as follows:
- 4 Firearm - any weapon designed, made or adapted to expel a projectile by the action of an
- 5 explosive or any device readily convertible to that use, including handguns, long guns, and all
- 6 other weapons which meet the definition
- 7 Permit - an official document that grants authorization to do something
- 8 Concealed carry - practice of carrying a concealed firearm on one's person in public
- 9
- 10 Section 2: Should this bill be enacted, open or concealed carry of a firearm without a permit would
- 11 lead to a \$50 fine and/or 30 days in jail time on the first offense. The second offense would lead to
- 12 a \$500 fine and/or six months of jail time. Any subsequent offenses would lead to reprimanding of
- 13 the firearm.
- 14
- 15 Section 3: Pay application fee of \$65 for an eight (8) year permit. Submit completed Concealed
- 16 Handgun Carry Permit (CCP) Proof of Training form along with training proof.
- 17
- 18 Section 4: This bill does not require any funding from the state's budget to be enacted or
- 19 maintained.
- 20
- 21 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 22
- 23 Section 6: This act shall take effect May 30th, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
- 24

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	BSB/23-2-17	
	BLUE SENATE	
ACTION ON THE BILL		
Senate - State & Local Government Grayson Barham, Jurmar Williams Dyer County High School	HOUSE Pass ☐ Fail ☐	SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐

An Act to Expand State Reach of RICO Act

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE
- 2
- 3 Section 1: (a) RICO: racketeer influenced and corrupt organization
- 4 (b) organized crime is a continuing enterprise that rationally works to profit from illicit activities
- 5 that are often in great public demand
- 6 (c) examples of organized crime. Money-laundering. Asset misappropriation.
- 7 Counterfeiting and contraband. Fraud and extortion. Human trafficking. Cybercrime.
- 8
- 9 Section 2: initiating state RICO laws with the outreach of the federal government. The RICO act or
- 10 racketeer influenced and corrupt organization act is a group that targets organized crime, RICO is
- 11 weak in other states but at the federal level it has a lot of power. also Tennessee has not enacted
- 12 RICO but they do have their own racketeering laws. It will generate revenue from this bill
- 13 Expected revenue from RICO charges can be up to 250,000 or double this is federally but it is
- 14 much lower in Tennessee
- 15 You can also face life sentences
- 16
- 17 Section 3: To violate RICO a person must engage in a pattern of racketeering activity connected to
- 18 an enterprise. The law defines 35 offenses as constituting racketeering, including gambling,
- 19 murder, kidnapping, arson, drug dealing, bribery. Significantly, mail and wire fraud are included on
- 20 the list. A defendant with no prior significant record who was assigned the minimum level
- 21 (nineteen) would receive a sentence of thirty (30) to thirty seven months in prison. This is the
- 22 minimum.
- 23
- 24 Section 4: If enacted, this bill would have minimal financial cost to the state of Tennessee;
- 25 however it would require the redistribution of TN lottery revenue.
- 26
- 27 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
- 28
- 29 Section 6: This bill will take effect July 1, 2023
- 30

TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT



SENATE COMMITTEE 3 Grant Summar & Meicy Gomez Vasquez

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the Youth in Government	RSB/23-3-1	
		RED SENATE	
Senate - Transportation and Safety		ACTION ON THE BILL	
Nicholas Barrett		HOUSE	SENATE
Signal Mountain High School		Pass ☐	Pass ☐
		Fail ☐	Fail ☐

An Act to Amend Current Legislation to Increase the Reprimands for Distracted Driving Infractions

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

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

3 a) Aggravated vehicular assault: a person who is found violating any current legislation regarding
4 distracted driving:

5 i) Has two or more prior convictions for driving under the influence of an intoxicant, vehicular
6 assault, violation of distracted driving legislation, or any combination of such offenses;

7 ii) Has one or more prior conviction for the offense of vehicular homicide; or

8 iii) There was, at the time of the offense, twenty-hundredths of one percent (0.20%), or more,
9 by weight of alcohol in the defendant's blood and the defendant has one prior conviction for

10 driving under the influence of an intoxicant or vehicular assault.

11 b) BAC: the blood-alcohol concentration of a person's bloodstream.

12 c) Distracted driving: the act of being in control of a vehicle in motion while attention is diverted
13 to a device.

14 d) DUI Offender: a person who has violated current legislation regarding DUI infractions.

15 e) Wireless telecommunications device: a cellular telephone, a portable telephone, a text-
16 messaging device, a personal digital assistant, a stand-alone computer, a global positioning
17 system receiver, or substantially similar portable wireless device that is used to initiate or receive
18 communication, information, or data. "Wireless telecommunications device" does not include a
19 radio, citizens band radio, citizens band radio hybrid, commercial two-way radio communication
20 device or its functional equivalent, subscription-based emergency communication device,
21 prescribed medical device, amateur or ham radio device, or in-vehicle security, navigation,
22 autonomous technology, or remote diagnostics system.

23 Section 2: This act amends all current legislation regarding distracted driving so that violations of
24 any of the current legislation results in punishments equivalent to those given to DUI Offenders,
25 barring reprimands specifically related to drugs and alcohol or BAC. All current exceptions to
26 sections of current legislation shall be sustained.

27 Section 3: The new reprimands for violators of legislation relating to distracted driving are as
28 follows:

29 A. For first time offenders:

30 a. 48 hours up to 11 months, 29 days in jail.

31 b. License revocation for 1 year with a restricted license available.

32 c. Pay restitution to any person suffering physical injury or personal loss.

33 d. \$350-\$1,500 fine.

34 B. For second time offenders:

35 a. 45 days to 11 months, 29 days in jail.

36 b. \$600-\$3,500 mandatory fine.

37 c. License revocation for 2 years with a restricted license available.

38 d. Subject to vehicle seizure or forfeiture.

39 e. Pay restitution to any person suffering physical injury or personal loss.

40 C. For third time offenders:

41 a. 120 days to 11 months, 29 days in jail.

42 b. \$1,100 to \$10,000 mandatory fines.

43 c. License revocation for 6 years with a restricted license available.

44 d. Subject to vehicle seizure or forfeiture.

45 Fourth time and subsequent offenders:

46 a. Class E felony.

47 b. 365 days of jail time with a minimum of 150 consecutive days served.

48 c. \$3,000 to \$15,000 mandatory fine.

49 d. License revocation for 8 years with a restricted license available.

50 e. Subject to vehicle seizure or forfeiture.

51 E. If the offense causes a serious injury to another person, it shall be considered vehicular
52 assault, and the offender will receive the following reprimands:

53 a. Class D felony, resulting in 2-12 years of jail time and fines up to \$5,000.

54 b. License revocation for 1-5 years according to the number of prior offenses with
55 no restricted license available.

56 c. If the offender has a passenger under 18 years of age at the time of the offense,
57 it shall be considered child endangerment, and the offender will receive the following
58 reprimands:

59 d. Class D felony if the passenger suffers a serious injury, resulting in 2-12 years of
60 jail time and fines up to \$5,000.

61 e. Class B felony if the passenger is fatally injured, resulting in 8-30 years of jail
62 time and fines up to \$25,000.

63 f. License revocation.

64 F. If the offense causes the death of another person, it shall be considered vehicular
65 homicide, and the offender will receive the following reprimands:

66 a. Class B felony, resulting in 8-30 years of jail time and fines up to \$25,000.

67 b. License revocation for 3-10 years with no restricted license available.

68 c. If the offender is found to have committed aggravated vehicular assault, the
69 offender will receive the following reprimands:

70 d. Class A felony, resulting in 15-60 years of imprisonment and fines up to
71 \$50,000.

72 Section 4: The revenue generated from fines shall be spent on improving transportation
73 infrastructure and funding state-mandated driver education courses.

74 Section 5: All laws or sections of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

75 Section 6: This act shall take effect on January 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	RSB/23-3-2	
	RED SENATE	
ACTION ON THE BILL		
Senate - State & Local Government Connor Henry Central Magnet High School	HOUSE Pass ☐ Fail ☐	SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO MAKE BUSINESSES CLOSE ON ELECTION DAY

- 1 BE IT ENACTED By THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
- 2
- 3 Section 1: DEFINITIONS
- 4 Voter Turnout: The number of eligible voters voting in state elections.
- 5 Election Day: The Tuesday that occurs within November 2 to November 8.
- 6 Emergency Services: Police, fire, and emergency medical services.
- 7
- 8 Section 2 :All businesses, schools, and other facilities, with the exception of emergency services,
- 9 first responders, and the polling stations themselves, shall be closed on election day to give
- 10 employees and other eligible voters ample time to vote.
- 11
- 12 Section 3: Emergency services shall give employees at minimum three hours to get to a polling
- 13 station and cast their vote.
- 14
- 15 Section 4: This law shall take effect starting on November 7th 2023
- 16
- 17 Section 5: If any portion of this bill shall be declared unconstitutional, it is the intent of the
- 18 Legislature that the other portions shall remain in full force and effect.
- 19
- 20 Section 6: This bill will have no fiscal impact.
- 21

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	RSB/23-3-3	
	RED SENATE	
ACTION ON THE BILL		
Senate - Commerce and Labor Anirudh Krishnan Mt. Juliet High School	HOUSE Pass ☐ Fail ☐	SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO MANDATE MEDICAL AND CHILDBIRTH LEAVE

- 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 Paternal leave- leave given to fathers for a certain period after their child is born
- 5 Maternal leave- leave given to mothers for a certain period after they give birth to a child
- 6 Medical leave- leave given to workers who cannot work for medical reasons such as illnesses or
- 7 disabilities.
- 8 Tax credit- A tax credit is a provision that reduces a taxpayer's final tax bill, dollar-for-dollar.
- 9
- 10 Section 2:All private businesses within the state of Tennessee with 30 or more employees shall be
- 11 mandated to provide at least 15 days of paid sick leave, 2 months of paid maternity leave, and at
- 12 least 1 month of paid paternity leave
- 13
- 14 Section 3 -The state of Tennessee will create a statewide program for implementation of this
- 15 mandated leave by giving a 20 - 50% tax credit depending on the size of the business or a grant
- 16 that will help the business take care of the costs associated with the employees taking leave. This
- 17 program will expire after 5 years, after which the costs must be endured by the business owners.
- 18
- 19 Section 4:This program will cost 5 million dollars a year for 5 years and will be funded through the
- 20 Department of Labor and Workforce Development's budget.
- 21
- 22 Section 5:All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 23
- 24 Section 6:This act shall take effect March 1, 2023
- 25

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		RSB/23-3-4	
			RED SENATE	
Senate - Health & Welfare			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	
Reese Wineland Webb School				

An Act To Require Numbered Allergens On Restaurant Menus

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as:
- 4 allergens - a food item that could cause an allergic reaction.
- 5
- 6 Section 2: The eight most common allergens will be assigned a specific number statewide as
- 7 follows:
- 8 Gluten (1)
- 9 Shellfish (2)
- 10 Tree Nuts (3)
- 11 Fish (4)
- 12 Peanuts (5)
- 13 Soy (6)
- 14 Milk (7)
- 15 Egg (8)
- 16
- 17 Section 3: Each restaurant and food truck in the state of Tennessee will be required to use this
- 18 number system on their menus.
- 19
- 20 Section 4: If any business feels the need to include other allergens on their menus, printed or
- 21 online, they are permitted to do so by adding numbers to the set system.
- 22
- 23 Section 5: No restaurant is permitted to change the number assigned to each allergen.
- 24
- 25 Section 6: This bill should not have a fiscal impact on the state of Tennessee.
- 26
- 27 Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 28
- 29 Section 8: After the enacting date, restaurants are required to include the allergen number system
- 30 within the next two years.
- 31
- 32 Section 9: This act will take effect beginning June 1, 2023.
- 33
- 34

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		RSB/23-3-5	
			RED SENATE	
Senate - Energy, Agriculture and Natural Resources			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	
Rudy Sleight Clarksville Academy				

AN ACT TO ADD TILE DRAINAGE AS A PROGRAM FUNDED BY NONPOINT SOURCE GRANT PROGRAM

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this act are defined as follows:
- 4 a) Tile Drainage (or simply tile) - subterranean plastic tubing system with perforations that pulls
- 5 water not bound to the soil into the tubes and channels the water into a catch basin. Used by
- 6 farmers to remove excess water and increase yields.
- 7 b) Catch Basin - A hole in the ground similar to a storm drain that "catches" the water drained by
- 8 the tile and deposits it into a sewage system.
- 9 c) Nonpoint Source (NPS) Pollution - Pollution caused by water traveling across land, picking up
- 10 pollutants and depositing them into a body of water, polluting it in the process
- 11 d) Agricultural Runoff - Any material that gets washed off of a farm and contaminates a body of
- 12 water. This can include sediment, nutrients, pathogens, and pesticides. Agricultural runoff is a
- 13 major source of NPS pollution
- 14 e) Nonpoint Source Grant Program - A program that provides funds to states, territories, and
- 15 Native American tribes to install Best Management Practices to best prevent Nonpoint source
- 16 pollution
- 17
- 18 Section 2: This act will add tile drainage and catch basin installation to the list of programs funded
- 19 in the Nonpoint Source Grant Program in an effort to combat water pollution due to agricultural
- 20 runoff.
- 21 a) Due to the nature of tile, it will reduce NPS by reducing the amount of water that can run off
- 22 with pollutants.
- 23 b) The addition of tile to the Nonpoint Source Grant Program will not only help clear out bodies of
- 24 water, it will also help out the farmer by increasing yield from crops
- 25
- 26 Section 3: Fund distribution is determined by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture.
- 27
- 28 Section 4: Funds will be 80\$ per square foot, and projects will be funded 60% by the TDA-NPS and
- 29 40% by the Grantee.
- 30
- 31 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict are hereby repealed.
- 32
- 33 Section 6: This act shall take place on July 1st, 2023.
- 34

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government			RSB/23-3-6
	Senate - Finance, Ways and Means Matthew Smith, Tasman Takayama Central Magnet High School		RED SENATE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐	

A Bill to Establish Funding for Stem Cell Research

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 Stem Cells - cells from which all other cells with specialized functions are generated

5 Stem Cell Therapy - the use of stem cells to treat, cure, or prevent a disease or condition

6 General Obligation Bonds - a common type of municipal bond in the United States that is secured

7 by a state or local government's pledge to use legally available resources, including tax revenues,

8 to repay bondholders.

9 Medical research - studies or experiments conducted to increase knowledge on diseases and

10 disabilities in order to find causes, cures, and/or treatments

11

12 Section 2: Under this act, an average of \$100 million per year in General Obligation Bonds over a

13 10-year period will be sold to fund the newly created institute called the Tennessee Regenerative

14 Medical Research Institution to further stem cell research in Tennessee's universities and other

15 advanced medical research facilities throughout the state.

16

17 Section 3: The institute will be run by an Independent Citizen's Oversight Committee composed of

18 12 representatives, serving 2-year terms, 10 of which are chosen by the Governor, the Lieutenant

19 Governor, the Treasurer, and the Comptroller through an application and interview process:

20 3 Vanderbilt regenerative medicine researchers, assigned by the Treasurer and Comptroller

21 3 University of Tennessee regenerative medicine researchers, assigned by the Treasurer and the

22 Comptroller

23 2 life science professional that is not commercially related to stem cells, assigned by the Governor

24 and the Lieutenant Governor

25 2 ethical supervision members, assigned by the Governor and Lieutenant Governor

26 2 Doctors from other Tennessee hospitals or non-profit research institutions elected by

27 aforementioned members

28

29 Section 4: These members will have maximum salaries of \$20,000 as the position is part time, and

30 the members are expected to already be employed by other organizations. The exact

31 compensation within this range can be determined by the board.

32

33 Section 5: The committee will fund dedicated facilities for scientists at Tennessee's universities and

34 medical research centers throughout the state. They will ensure the funds are used efficiently to

35 maximize the areas of research that can bring cures and therapies with stem cells. Patient

36 confidentiality will be upheld at any time in the research that a patient is used to test stem cell

37 treatment or studied for any other reason that could further discoveries. Ethical standards will also

38 be upheld according to the nation's standards of safety, rights, and privacy. The committee is

39 required to hold public hearings and open meetings. The committee must also have independent

40 audits and release annual reports to the public.

41

42 Section 6: The committee will also create an application process that determines the best

43 candidates to receive funding. Factors to consider are but are not limited to experience, education,

44 or accomplishments.

45

46 Section 7: When money is given through loans, grants, or another type of funding determined by

47 the Tennessee Regenerative Medical Research Institution, the receivers must use 25% of the funds

48 to buy from Tennessee suppliers.

49

50 Section 8: The Tennessee budget will be protected and benefited by postponing general fund

51 payments on the bonds for the first five years; by funding scientific and medical research that will

52 significantly reduce state health care costs in the future; and by providing an opportunity for the

53 state to benefit from royalties, patents, and licensing fees that result from the research. It benefits

54 the Tennessee economy by creating projects, jobs, and therapies that will generate millions of

55 dollars in new tax revenues. Additionally, the advances in the biotech industry from in-state to

56 world leadership, caring for Tennessee's future economy.

57

58 Section 9: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

59

60 Section 10: This bill will go into effect at the start of fiscal year 2024.

61

62

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the Youth in Government	WSB/23-3-7
	Senate - Health & Welfare Aida Abello, Ellie Donen Signal Mountain High School	WHITE SENATE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐

An act to legalize physician assisted death 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 Physician: medical professional who studies, diagnoses and treats illness with knowledge of

5 medical ethics, human anatomy, pharmacology and other specialties depending on their field

6 Life ending medication: medication prescribed by physician to end one's life

7 Physician assisted death: a physician providing, at the patient's request, a prescription for the

8 lethal dose of medication that the patient can self-administer by ingestion, with the explicit

9 intention of ending life.

10 Psychiatric evaluation: an assessment, based on present problems and symptoms, of an individual's

11 biological, mental, and social functioning

12 Coercion: the practice of persuading someone to do something by using force or threats.

13 Expected death: a death where the individual is diagnosed with a terminal illness or condition

14 whose health status, based on current medical knowledge, is not expected to improve but likely to

15 deteriorate.

16

17 Section 2: If enacted, the physician will be allowed by state law to obtain and administer life

18 ending medication to terminally ill patients with less than six months until expected death in order

19 to give patients the right to their own death.

20

21 Section 3: All patients requesting life ending medications must be a legal resident of Tennessee,

22 over the age of eighteen, and terminally ill with less than six months until expected death. They

23 will need to receive a second opinion from a different physician regarding their diagnosis and life

24 expectancy. The patient will be required to make two oral requests for physician assisted death at

25 least 20 days apart from each other, along with one written request. This written request must be

26 witnessed by two other parties not related by blood, marriage, or adoption. The other parties must

27 also not be the physician. Following these actions, the patient will receive a psychiatric evaluation

28 from a specialized psychiatrist. If the patient is declared in the right state of mind to make this

29 decision, the physician is enabled by law to administer the life ending medication.

30

31 Section 4: Prior to making the request, the patient must be competent to make and communicate

32 their own healthcare decisions. They also must be capable of ingesting and self-administering

33 medication without assistance. Only the patient can make the request for this medication. Family

34 members and others are not permitted to make this request and the request process must be

35 terminated if any evidence of coercion is found. The patient is allowed to withdraw their request at

36 any time throughout the process.

37

38 Section 5: If enacted, physician and provider participation is voluntary. Physicians choosing to

39 participate and administer life ending medications to patients that meet the given criteria will be

40 protected by law.

41

42 Section 6: This bill will be enacted after a three month period in order to give physicians time to

43 establish if they are going to participate.

44

45 Section 7: If enacted, this bill will not cost the state of Tennessee or the Tennessee Health

46 Department any money. Federal funding cannot be used for medications or services under this act,

47 including Medicaid or Medicare.

48

49 Section 8: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with the act are hereby repealed.

50

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the Youth in Government	WSB/23-3-8							
		WHITE SENATE							
Senate – Energy, Agriculture and Natural Resources Derek McCollum, Charlie Fairfax Central Magnet High School		ACTION ON THE BILL <table border="0"> <tr> <td>HOUSE</td> <td>SENATE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass ☐</td> <td>Pass ☐</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fail ☐</td> <td>Fail ☐</td> </tr> </table>		HOUSE	SENATE	Pass ☐	Pass ☐	Fail ☐	Fail ☐
HOUSE	SENATE								
Pass ☐	Pass ☐								
Fail ☐	Fail ☐								

An Act to Implement Carbon-Sequestering Concrete Throughout 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. Carbon-sequestering: the capturing, removal, and storage of carbon dioxide (CO2) from the

5 earth's atmosphere

6 b. State construction project (or City construction project): government-funded project that is not

7 owned by the federal government, potentially including public schools, civic buildings, highways,

8 bridges, or sidewalks

9 c. Congressional District: an electoral division of a state that elects a member of the House of

10 Representatives

11 d. Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation: the chief environmental and natural

12 resource regulatory agency in Tennessee

13

14 Section 2: This act calls for the implementation of the manufacturing and application of carbon-

15 sequestering concrete in any Tennessee state or city construction projects.

16

17 Section 3: Every year, the required funds will be allocated to the Tennessee Department of

18 Environment and Conservation budget and dedicated to the construction and installation of

19 carbon-sequestering concrete by way of an independent contractor.

20

21 Section 4: Each year, the budget will be focused into a different congressional district of the state

22 of Tennessee. The order of utilization will be determined by population size of the congressional

23 districts. The order is as follows:

24 Year 1: Congressional District 9- 20 million USD

25 Year 2: Congressional District 8- 17 million USD

26 Year 3: Congressional District 1- 17 million USD

27 Year 4: Congressional District 3- 17 million USD

28 Year 5: Congressional District 2- 15 million USD

29 Year 6: Congressional District 5- 15 million USD

30 Year 7: Congressional District 6- 13 million USD

31 Year 8: Congressional District 7- 13 million USD

32 Year 9: Congressional District 4- 12 million USD

33 Year 10: Supplementary Actions- 11 million USD

34

35 Section 5: The carbon-sequestering concrete will be supplied by an independent contractor,

36 selected and paid by the state.

37

38 Section 6: For each district, an interim, state-vetted civil engineering supervisor will be contracted

39 to visit and ensure that the necessary work is being completed in a timely manner and in

40 accordance with the designated design plans. These routine examinations will occur bi-monthly

41 from the inception of the project to its completion (per district).

42

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

44

45 Section 8: This act shall take effect September 1, 2023, the environment and climate requiring it.

46

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		WSB/23-3-9	
			WHITE SENATE	
Senate - Education Callan Williams, Izzy Johnson Signal Mountain High School			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Senate ☐ Fail ☐	

An Act to Change the Tennessee School Week from 5 Days to 4 Days

- 1 BE ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT.
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:
- 4 Attendance: the action or state of going regularly to or being present at a place or event: the
- 5 number of people present at a particular event, function, or meeting.
- 6 Public K-12 Schools: elementary and secondary school grades kindergarten through grade 12 are
- 7 required, after which a student may choose to attend college or university.
- 8 Teacher: a person who teaches or instructs, especially as a profession; instructor.
- 9 Student: a person who is studying at school.
- 10 School Board: the title given to the governing body of a school district.
- 11
- 12 Section 2: An act to allow public school districts to implement a four day school week for public K-
- 13 12 schools as approved by the local and state school board of education. School boards adopting
- 14 a four day school week must implement this calendar year for all buildings in its district.
- 15
- 16 Section 3: This act will require students to attend a minimum term of at least 148 days to ensure
- 17 144 days. Students will have a 7.5 hour school day. School districts will determine daily start and
- 18 end times for teachers, students, and ancillary staff.
- 19
- 20 Section 4: This act will allow school districts to save approximately \$100,000 annually on utilities,
- 21 transportation, maintenance, and food.
- 22
- 23 Section 5: The enactment of this bill will be at no cost. The funds needed to implement this bill
- 24 will come from current state and local district budgets.
- 25
- 26 Section 6: This act shall take effect at the start of the 2024-2025 school year.
- 27

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		WSB/23-3-10	
			WHITE SENATE	
Senate - Health & Welfare Ella Kate Harris, Marlee Johnson Central Magnet High School			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Senate ☐ Fail ☐	

An Act to Increase ROPS and Narcan to the Public in Order to Lower Drug Overdose Deaths

- 1 Section One: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:
- 2 a) ROPS: Regional Overdose Prevention Specialists (ROPS) are located throughout the state of
- 3 Tennessee as a point of contact for training and education relating to opioid overdose, along with
- 4 offering overdose prevention services through the distribution of naloxone. ROPS help increase
- 5 awareness of the dangers of opioids or stimulants as well as making resources for overdose
- 6 prevention available. Training is provided without cost to individuals or groups.
- 7 b) Areas with high substance abuse: Defined, by the Tennessee Government, as having over forty
- 8 (40) fatal overdoses by residents of a county per year.
- 9 c) Narcan/Naloxone: A synthetic drug which blocks opiate receptors in the nervous system. It can
- 10 treat a narcotic overdose in an emergency situation.
- 11 d) Overdose: An excessive and dangerous dose of a drug, with the possibility of fatality.
- 12 e) Substance abuse: Excessive use of psychoactive drugs, such as alcohol, pain medications, or
- 13 illegal drugs. It can lead to physical, social, or emotional harm.
- 14 f) TDOMHSA: Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse.
- 15 g) TN Save a Life Program: a program designed to increase awareness across Tennessee on the
- 16 dangers of opioids and stimulants, and the available resources for overdose prevention.
- 17
- 18 Section Two: The current ROPS department will be expanded from 20 to 26 specialists. This will
- 19 allow areas with high numbers of substance abuse to have greater access to overdose prevention
- 20 specialists and their teams. To expand this program, these new ROPS will be assigned to areas
- 21 with rates of high substance abuse. (Primarily Shelby County, Rutherford County, Montgomery
- 22 County, Davidson County, Hamilton County, and Knox County).
- 23
- 24 Section Three: Currently, ROPS are funded by the TDOMHSA, but supervised and trained by non-
- 25 governmental organizations specific to their area, examples of these would include any agency
- 26 that provides treatment recovery services or community resources. This helps to ensure
- 27 community specific work, standards, and services. The standards of work will stay the same.
- 28
- 29 Section Four: We will also add additional funding to the TN Save a Life Program. This program
- 30 reaches across all 95 counties and will act to educate and expand how to use narcan in a deathly
- 31 situation. This program will also work to make narcan more safely accessible to the public through
- 32 the TDOMHSA.
- 33
- 34 Section Five: This will cost approximately \$350,000 annually and will be taken from the TDOMHSA,
- 35 which currently funds the ROPS program. This cost will cover salary, naloxone, and any additional
- 36 supplies/funding necessary. Around \$240,000 of the budget will be allocated to salaries for the
- 37 additional persons. \$32,000 for additional narcan based on the rate of opioid overdose deaths.
- 38 Leaving remaining funding for programs and extra supplies as needed.

39 Section Six: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
40
41
42 Section Seven: This act shall take effect June 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.
43

		70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government			WSB/23-3-11	
Senate - Health & Welfare					WHITE SENATE	
Bindi Patel, Mary Claire Blanton					ACTION ON THE BILL	
Signal Mountain High School					HOUSE Pass ☐ Fail ☐	
					SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT FULL PRACTICE AUTHORITY FOR PRIMARY CARE NURSE PRACTITIONERS.

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNEMENT
2 Section 1: Terms in acts shall be defined as follows:
3 a) Primary Care Physician - A healthcare professional who practices general medicine.
4 b) Registered Nurse (RN) - A nurse who has graduated or passed a nursing program from a
5 recognized nursing school and has met the requirements outlined by the state or government-
6 authorized licensing body to receive a license.
7 c) Advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) - Nurses who have met advanced educational and
8 clinical practice requirements.
9 d) Nurse Practitioner (NP) - An Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) that has completed
10 advanced clinical training beyond their initial professional registered nurse (RN) preparation. All
11 NPs have completed a master's or doctoral program with didactic and clinical courses that prepare
12 nurses with specialized knowledge and clinical competency to practice in primary care, acute care
13 and long-term health care settings.
14 e) Full Practice Authority - APRN's ability to utilize knowledge, skills, and judgment to practice to
15 the full extent of his or her education and training.
16 f) American Nursing Credentialing Center (ANCC) - Credentialing board that credentials both
17 organizations and individuals who advance nursing practice. Offer competency based examination
18 that provides a valid and reliable assessment of entry-level clinical knowledge to practice as a NP.
19 g) American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) - The AANP is an independent, non-profit
20 certifying body with a purpose to provide a valid and reliable credentialing program for the
21 evaluation of individuals wishing to enter and/or advance in the NP profession.
22 h) Collaborative Practice Agreement - A written contract between an APRN and a physician that
23 sets forth the rights and responsibilities of each party. The exact requirements vary by state, but
24 generally they specify activities within the APRNs scope of practice. Physician oversight is a
25 component of the collaborative practice agreement. In Tennessee supervising physicians are
26 required to review 20% of NP charts and make at least one site visit if the NP practices in a
27 different location than the physician.
28
29 Section 2: To become a full practice authority nurse practitioner, registered nurses should:
30 a) Have to have worked in a skilled clinical nursing area such as med-surg, ICU or ER for a period
31 of at least two years before entering an accredited nursing program in either a masters or doctoral
32 nursing program.
33 b) After graduation, NPs must pass board exams
34 c) NPs must work in a documented collaborative relationship with a qualified health care provider
35 for no less than two years.
36

37 Section 3: After the requirements stated in section two are met, and the NP meets the
38 requirements for credentialing and licensure, they will be granted the authority to practice within
39 the defined scope of practice as identified by the State Board of Nursing.
40
41 Section 4: If full practice authority is granted for Nurse Practitioners, APRNs will have the ability
42 to continue in the same practice as they do now which include:
43 a) Evaluating and diagnosing patients,
44 b) Writing orders,
45 c) Prescribing medications,
46 d) Interpreting diagnostic tests,
47 e) Initiating and managing treatments; without the required written collaborative agreement that
48 grants permission to practice with a doctor.
49
50 Section 5: Independent licensure and certification is maintained by the individual nurse
51 practitioners,
52 a) Re-credentialing will be renewed every 5 years by retaking boards,
53 b) Re-licensure will be renewed every 2 years and cost around \$250 from the individual
54 practitioner.
55
56 Section 6: If legislation passes then all nurse practitioners meeting criteria stated in section 2 will
57 be granted full practice authority,
58
59 a) If a nurse practitioner does not want to take on the responsibility and exercise their full practice
60 then they will have the opportunity to remain under the supervision of a certified physician.
61
62 Section 7: The implementation of full practice authority should not cost the state (Medical
63 Licensure Board, Nursing Licensure Board) any more money than it currently does
64
65 Section 8: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
66
67 Section 9: This act shall take effect January 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.
68

		70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government				WSB/23-3-12	
Senate - Health & Welfare				WHITE SENATE			
Kenzie Rowlett, Anaya Agyemang Lebanon High School				ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ SENATE ☐ Pass ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐			

An Act To Amend Chart Review

- 1 Section 1:
- 2 A: Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner- Nurses who have met advanced educational and
- 3 clinical practice requirements, and often provide services in community-based settings.
- 4 B: Chart Review- Patient charts that are reviewed by Physicians
- 5
- 6 Section 2: This bill will revise chart review for Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners (ARNP) to
- 7 only have a 20% chart review from physicians and one site check per month for the first two years
- 8 or 4,000 hours of practice.
- 9
- 10 Section 3: Nurse Practitioners that have previously completed these requirements and have
- 11 verification of that completion will be exempt.
- 12
- 13 Section 4: This bill will create the foundation for autonomous ARNP practices.
- 14
- 15 Section 5: This removal would have no fiscal effect.
- 16
- 17 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 18

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		BSB/23-3-13	
			BLUE SENATE	
Senate - Government Operations			ACTION ON THE BILL	
Michael Cole			HOUSE	SENATE
Dyer County High School			Pass ☐	Pass ☐
			Fail ☐	Fail ☐

An Act to Provide Child Care for Children of Tennessee National Guard Members

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
- 2
- 3 Section 1. Child care- Someone or something that can watch/takes care of a child whenever the
- 4 guardian cannot
- 5
- 6 Section 2. All drill units in the state of Tennessee which the Tennessee national guard uses will
- 7 have a set place or a person to occupy the soldiers' kids while they are at their monthly drill.
- 8 There will be a separate room or facility where a caregiver will be present in case of an emergency
- 9 The caregiver spot will be open for community service by local teens or certified adults
- 10
- 11 Section 3. The standards are to be set by the Tennessee national guard
- 12
- 13 Section 4. This program will cost around 500,000 yearly and will be paid for by the Tennessee
- 14 Surplus
- 15
- 16 Section 5. All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed
- 17
- 18 Section 6. This act shall take effect on Jan 26, 2024.
- 19

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		BSB/23-3-14	
			BLUE SENATE	
Senate - Health & Welfare			ACTION ON THE BILL	
Tynan Borders, Grey Robertson, Benjamin Wright			HOUSE	SENATE
Signal Mountain High School			Pass ☐	Pass ☐
			Fail ☐	Fail ☐

An act to ban the acquisition of sugary drinks exceeding 20 ounces in size in any business organization or public institution that provides nourishment.

- 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) Nourishment: The food or other substances necessary for growth, health, and good condition
- 5 B) Calorie: A measurement of the energy content of food
- 6 C) Sugary Drink: A beverage that contains 24 or more grams of added sugar for 8 fluid ounces of the drink.
- 7
- 8 D) Obesity: The condition of having a BMI of 30 or higher.
- 9 E) Soda Fountain: A station that dispenses a variety of soda
- 10 F) Fluid Ounces: A unit of measurement equal to 1/16 of a US pint
- 11 G) Gram: A unit of measurement equal to 1/1000 of a kilogram
- 12
- 13 Section 2: Sugary drinks, or soda is one of the leading causes of obesity and overconsumption of sugar in Tennessee. The average 8-ounce soda contains around 24-30 grams of added sugars. The recommended daily sugar intake is no more than 24 grams for most adult women and 36 grams for most adult men.
- 14
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18 Section 3: This act will limit the available size of sugary drinks to 20 fluid ounces or lower in fast-food restaurants, gas stations, and anywhere that provides drinks with a soda fountain. Businesses that do not follow this law will pay a fine of up to 1,000 dollars, and repeat offenders will pay 25% more than the previous fine.
- 19
- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23 Section 4: This will not affect the government with any costs and they will likely make around 500 dollars per store that fails to satisfy the requirements. However, businesses that sell the drinks will lose money because they are not able to sell the larger sizes, and will make less money due to people only buying the small sizes. These businesses will lose somewhere between 10 and 50 cents per drink, since consumers will buy the smaller size drinks, however they have the choice to raise the prices.
- 24
- 25
- 26
- 27
- 28
- 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 January 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.
- 33

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		BSB/23-3-15
	BLUE SENATE		
Senate - Health & Welfare Rachael Feinbaum, Will Carroll, Kunal Pradhan Webb School		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

An Act To Make All Tennessee Landlords Properly Check And Remove Any Mold On The Premises Of Rental Properties

- 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 Mold - a fungal growth that forms and spreads on various kinds of damp or decaying organic
- 5 matter
- 6 Landlord - a person who rents land, a building, or an apartment to a tenant
- 7 Properly - Inspected or removed by a certified professional
- 8
- 9 Section 2: All landlords must check for existing and pre-existing mold every 4 years.
- 10
- 11 Section 3: All landlords must terminate all existing and pre-existing mold.
- 12 Any mold left on premise will result in a fine determined by mold amount.
- 13 9 sq. ft or less - \$100 - \$250*
- 14 10 to 29 sq. ft - \$250 - \$500*
- 15 30 to 99 sq. ft - \$500 - \$750*
- 16 100 sq. ft or more - \$1000 - \$1500*
- 17 *The fine is to be determined by local officials determined by the amount of mold.
- 18 Three or more of these offenses will result in landlord rental license suspension.
- 19 All fines and penalties may be disputed in local court cases.
- 20
- 21 Section 4: All landlords under Tennessee law must take proper action to hire professional
- 22 inspectors and/or removers before any property is rented under Tennessee law.
- 23
- 24 Section 5: All landlords are required to pay for the mold removal in total.
- 25 Government funding upon request will be approved if the circumstances show it is necessary.
- 26 Circumstances that government funding will be approved will be disputed in local court where
- 27 landlords will be able to argue why they should acquire government funding.
- 28 All additional funding will come from the Tennessee Department of Health.
- 29
- 30 Section 6: The addition of this law will cost \$850,000 and government requested fines for proper
- 31 mold removal will be funded through the Tennessee Department of Health's budget.
- 32
- 33 Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 34
- 35 Section 8: This act shall take effect September 1, 2023 the public welfare requiring it.
- 36

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		BSB/23-3-16
	BLUE SENATE		
Senate - Health & Welfare Vada Thomas, Lily Ray, Josie Bush Central Magnet High School		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

An Act to Enforce the Increase of Full-Time Nurses in Each of Tennessee's Public Schools

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms used in this act shall be defined as follows:
- 4 Basic Education Program (BEP) - the state's current education funding formula, providing funding
- 5 for one full-time nurse position for each district and generating additional funding for nurse
- 6 positions based on a ratio of one school nurse for every 3,000 students.
- 7 National Association of School Nurses (NASN) - Non-profit organization whose mission is to
- 8 optimize student health and learning by advancing the practice of school nursing.
- 9 American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) - the largest professional association of pediatricians in the
- 10 US whose mission is to attain optimal physical, mental, and social health and well-being for all
- 11 infants, children, adolescents, and young adults.
- 12 Tennessee Investment in Student Achievement (TISA) - new law that replaces BEP and reinvents
- 13 school funding in Tennessee by moving from resource-based funding to student-based funding.
- 14 Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) - technical nursing license with one-year training from an
- 15 accredited practical nursing school.
- 16 Registered Nurse (RN) - a professional nursing license with an associate degree from an accredited
- 17 Nursing RN program, or a bachelor's or master's degree from an accredited Nursing RN program at
- 18 a university.
- 19 Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) - professional nursing license with an associate degree from
- 20 an accredited Nursing RN program.
- 21 Bachelor of Nursing (BSN) - professional nursing license with a four-year bachelor's degree from
- 22 an accredited Nursing RN program at a university.
- 23 Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) - professional nursing license with an additional 2+ years for a
- 24 master's degree from an accredited nursing program at a university.
- 25 Local Education Agencies (LEA) - a public board of education or other public authority legally
- 26 constituted within a State for either administrative control or direction of, or to perform a service
- 27 function for, public elementary schools or secondary schools in a city, county, township, school
- 28 district, or other political subdivision of a State, or for a combination of school districts or counties
- 29 as are recognized in a State as an administrative agency for its public elementary schools or
- 30 secondary schools.
- 31
- 32 Section 2: In the most recent official study commissioned by the state, in 2019, 60 percent of
- 33 Tennessee's public schools employed a nurse full-time in their school. The National Association of
- 34 School Nurses (NASN) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommend a nurse for
- 35 every school based on the more complex needs of today's students. In 2018-2019, The Basic
- 36 Education Program (BEP) generated funding for 355 school nurse positions. That same school
- 37 year, Tennessee school districts employed 1,734 school nurses. Districts are responsible for
- 38 funding 100 percent of the salaries, health insurance premiums, and retirement contributions for

39 positions beyond the number generated by the BEP. There are 1,881 public schools in Tennessee.
40 Based on the current number of public schools and school nurses, an additional 147 school nurses
41 would need to be employed to have a one-to-one nurse to school ratio.

42
43 Section 3: Each school nurse holds one of four types of degrees: LPN, RN, ASN, BSN, or MSN.
44 School nurses can significantly improve students' health, safety, and abilities to learn since they
45 are often the only healthcare provider a student sees regularly. During the 2017-2018 school year,
46 one county documented 52,434 school nurse visits. This data shows the incredible importance of
47 school nurses.

48
49 Section 4: All Local Education Agencies (LEA) will be required to use the state funding intended for
50 school nurse salaries that they are given for school nurse salaries, meaning that they should use
51 the money properly. The money from the Tennessee Investment in Student Achievement (TISA)
52 given for that purpose shall only be used for that same purpose.

53
54 Section 5: All Local Education Agencies will be required to pay school nurses at the same rate as
55 they are funded for a teacher. The BEP formula funds salaries for school nurses based on a
56 \$43,330 salary for the fiscal year. School districts will decide the exact amount paid to each nurse
57 as long as it is the same as a teacher salary.

58
59 Section 6: If funding allocated for school nurses is not used as such, it will be withdrawn.

60
61 Section 7: This act will have no financial effect on the state. In the 2023-2024 school year, there
62 will be a new funding formula for each school system from the state, the TISA. The state will
63 already have funding for our bill to be passed through this. Under this new funding formula, each
64 school will receive money for one school nurse for every 750 students at the same rate as they are
65 funded for a teacher.

66
67 Section 8: All laws or parts of laws in conflict are hereby repealed.

68
69 Section 9: This act shall take effect August 1, 2023, or the beginning of the 2023-2024 school
70 year.

71

		70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government			BSB/23-3-17	
Senate – Finance, Ways and Means					BLUE SENATE	
Ada Vance, Paige Seaborn						
Central Magnet High School						
					ACTION ON THE BILL	
					HOUSE	
					Pass ☐ Fail ☐	
					SENATE	
					Pass ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO ABOLISH SALES TAX ON MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS

- 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 menstruation- the process in a person with a uterus of discharging blood and other materials from
- 5 the lining of the uterus at intervals of about one lunar month
- 6 feminine/menstrual products- personal care products used during menstruation, such as pads,
- 7 tampons, menstrual cups, etc.
- 8 period poverty- the inability to afford or access menstrual products
- 9 toxic shock syndrome- certain bacterial infections that release toxins into the bloodstream
- 10 pink tax- the tendency for products marketed toward women to be more expensive than the same
- 11 products marketed toward men
- 12 tampon tax- the sales tax on menstrual products due to them being classified as non-essential
- 13 medical items
- 14 FSA- flexible spending account that holds money used to pay for healthcare costs without having
- 15 to pay taxes on it
- 16
- 17 Section 2: Currently in the state of Tennessee, 51% of people have uteruses. The average person
- 18 with a uterus menstruates from age 12 to their early 50s, around 40 years. Cycles occur once
- 19 every 3-5 weeks and last three to seven days per cycle. Overall, the average person who has a
- 20 uterus menstruates for 2400 days in their lifetime, or about 6.6 years. With the average lifespan of
- 21 79 in the United States, people with uteruses menstruate without a choice for 8.3 % of their lives.
- 22
- 23 Section 3: Around 86% of menstruators use tampons, 72% use pads, and 75% use panty liners.
- 24 Over a menstruators entire lifetime, they can use around 16,000 tampons. This amount of
- 25 products alone does not account for any other feminine products, medicine, or doctor visits needed
- 26 concerning a woman's menstruation period. The total cost for all of these products can make it
- 27 hard for someone to obtain necessities needed during their menstruation period. Overall, a person
- 28 will spend around \$18,000 throughout their entire lifetime on products during menstruation, not
- 29 accounting for anyone needing special care, birth control, or more than an average amount of
- 30 products.
- 31
- 32 Section 4: As of 2021, 1 in 4 women is affected by period poverty, around 892,500 women in
- 33 Tennessee alone. Menstruators have been found to be more likely to be in poverty than men due
- 34 to the need to buy menstrual supplies. Women in prison are given too few products as well. Lack
- 35 of adequate supplies can cause infections such as toxic shock syndrome that are life threatening
- 36 and expensive to treat.
- 37
- 38 Section 5: The pink tax affects all people with uteruses and costs the average woman in the United
- 39 States around 13% more for the same products like razors, hair products, and deodorant. On

40 average women's accessories and clothing are 8% more expensive than similar products marketed
41 towards men. This tax has been documented affecting items since the early 1990s and causes
42 women to lose thousands of dollars a year.

43
44 Section 6: In the state of Tennessee, certain medical products are able to be purchased without
45 sales tax because they are seen as essential, including needles, adhesives, and many other
46 medical supplies when they are considered necessary for a patient to have.

47
48 Section 7: In 33 of the 50 states, tampon tax has been repealed, allowing all period products to be
49 sold without a statewide sales tax, starting with Minnesota in 1981. Tennessee is one of the 22
50 states that has yet to do this.

51
52 Section 8: If enacted, this bill will classify tampons and all other menstrual products as necessary
53 medical supplies. All menstrual products in the state of Tennessee will no longer require sales tax
54 to be paid on them when bought. Menstrual products will be allowed to be bought with an FSA.
55 Repealing the tampon tax in Tennessee can help to remove an unequal tax and money burden on
56 menstruators.

57
58 Section 9: This bill will not require any funding from the state of Tennessee.

59
60 Section 10: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

61
62 Section 11: This act shall take effect on January 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.

63
64

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		BSB/23-3-18
Senate - Education Madalyn Wix, Riley Vinson, Brittany Dishman Upperman High School			BLUE SENATE
ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE Pass ☐ Fail ☐ SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐			

**AN ACT TO REQUIRE DRIVERS EDUCATION FOR ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS BE
IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT**

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE DRIVERS EDUCATION FOR ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

3
4 Section 1: Terms in this act are defined as follows:

5 drivers education- the preparations of students for driving tests whether at school, in a car, or
6 through online courses

7 online course-a program of learning that's organized according to a syllabus

8

9 Section 2: This act will require all citizens of Tennessee grades 9-12 to enroll in a driver's
10 education course and pass this course in order to obtain a driver's license if under the age of 18
11 and enrolled in school. Driver's education is beneficial to take before you graduate high school.

12 Section 3: Under this act, the penalty for not taking driver's education and passing the class
13 should result in the student not getting their driver's license or permit until they pass the
14 class/exam.

15

16 Section 4: This act will require students to have at least 30 hours of formal education (online or
17 classroom), and 6 hours behind the wheel.

18

19 Section 5: This act will require funding by the Tennessee Department of Education for payment of
20 the teacher, and the materials needed for the state to require this course. Tennessee may also
21 apply for grants through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

22

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

24

25 Section 7: This act shall take effect on January 1, 2024 in order to give the Tennessee Board of
26 Education time to receive the correct funding for this bill and require the course.

27

28 Section 8: If a student already has their license before this law goes into effect, they do not have
29 to take the course.

30

TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT



**SENATE
COMMITTEE 4
Kaitlyn Castellonet &
Shamah Chinyanga**

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the Youth in Government	RSB/23-4-1	
		RED SENATE	
Senate - Health & Welfare Hannah Holderby		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐	
Green Hill High School			

AN ACT TO DECRIMINALIZE HOMELESSNESS

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) Homeless: (of a person) being without a home, typically living on the streets or on public

5 property

6 b) Tennessee HB0978: legislation that made it a Class C Misdemeanor for people to camp out on

7 highways or under bridges, as well as making it a Class E Felony to camp out on most public

8 property

9 b) Class C Misdemeanor: the least serious crime in Tennessee, punishable by a fine of \$50 and

10 community service work

11 bii) Class E Felony: the least serious felony in Tennessee, punishable by the automatic removal of

12 voting rights, 1-6 years in prison, and/or a fine of up to \$3,000

13 c) Misdemeanor: in Tennessee, the least serious criminal defense, with the most serious

14 punishment being a \$2,500 fine and an 11 month and 29 day imprisonment for a Class A

15 Misdemeanor

16 d) Life-sustaining practices: daily activities that need to be performed in order to survive, such as

17 eating, sleeping, or using the bathroom

18 e) Tennessee Housing Development Agency: Tennessee agency created as the state's affordable

19 housing financing unit

20 f) Constructive encampments: places where a group of homeless individuals reside together that is

21 not intended for long-term, continuous occupancy

22

23 Section 2: Tennessee HB0978 will be repealed for the safety of Tennessee's homeless population.

24

25 Section 3: Homeless individuals must not be given misdemeanor charges for committing life-

26 sustaining practices in public places. Homeless individuals' personal property must not be subject

27 to unreasonable searches and seizures whilst on public property.

28

29 Section 4: The Tennessee Housing Development Agency will provide \$16,000,000 in grants for

30 sanctioned constructive encampments in the cities of Nashville, Chattanooga, Knoxville, and

31 Memphis, as they have the highest homeless population in the state. Each city will be given up to

32 \$4,000,000, which can in turn be used to create enough encampments to house at least 200

33 individuals in each city. The individual municipalities will be in charge of how they divide their own

34 land for this project.

35

36 Section 5: The sanctioned constructive encampments must be given utilities such as water, trash

37 pickup, and toilets.

38

39 Section 6: An additional \$2,000,000 will be provided for the creation of an Board of Advisors for

40 the Assistance of the Unhoused under the Tennessee Housing Development Agency, which will

41 oversee the creation of encampments at the state level. The money will go to the salaries of

42 employees and the further maintenance of the board.

43

44 Section 7: This act will cost \$18,000,000, funded through the Tennessee Housing Development

45 Agency, which is federally funded.

46

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

48

49 Section 9: This act shall take effect immediately, the public welfare requiring it.

50

51

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	RSB/23-4-2	
	RED SENATE	
ACTION ON THE BILL		
Senate - Health & Welfare Zoe Campbell Dyer County High School	HOUSE Pass ☐ Fail ☐	SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO REFORM ADOPTION 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 Discrimination- the unjust treatment of different categories of people
- 5 Juvenile dependency- when a child is taken from their parents on the grounds of neglect or abuse
- 6 Price gouging- the act of setting prices far above what is reasonable or fair
- 7
- 8 Section 2: Adoption candidates will not be able to be turned away on the grounds of race, gender
- 9 identity, sexual orientation, political views, religion, disability, and education. It will be considered
- 10 discrimination if they are turned away on previously mentioned grounds.
- 11
- 12 Section 3: Children who become juvenile dependants will not be able to be turned back into their
- 13 parents' custody. The children will remain in the adoption system until adopted.
- 14
- 15 Section 4: Adoptions will not be reversed unless by a juvenile dependency case. If already
- 16 adopted, their parents' custody can not be reinstated.
- 17 Section 5: Adoptions agencies will not be allowed to gouge prices. The maximum amount an
- 18 adoption agency can charge will be \$35,000.
- 19
- 20 Section 6: This reform will not cost anything.
- 21
- 22 Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 23
- 24 Section 8: This act shall take effect January 1, 2024.
- 25
- 26

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	RSB/23-4-3	
	RED SENATE	
ACTION ON THE BILL		
Senate - Finance, Ways and Means Riley Goff Signal Mountain High School	HOUSE Pass ☐ Fail ☐	SENATE Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO OFFER TAX DEDUCTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE DISPOSAL OF COMMERCIAL FOOD WASTE

- 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 defined as follows:
- 4 A) Food Waste: Food products that are not consumed, and thus, disposed of.
- 5 B) Sustainable Disposal: The process of getting rid of waste by either donating items of consumer
- 6 quality to participating establishments and organizations or composting items that don't meet
- 7 qualification criteria.
- 8 C) Consumer Quality: The standard food donations must reach in order to be considered consumer
- 9 safe for donation.
- 10 D) Qualification Criteria: Food must be considered safe for consumption upon criteria of freshness
- 11 and nutritional value.
- 12 E) Participating Establishments and Organizations: Establishments and organizations that serve
- 13 the purpose of accepting and distributing donated food to those in need. Including but not limited
- 14 to:
- 15 a) Food Banks
- 16 b) Homeless Shelters
- 17 c) Private Charities
- 18
- 19 Section 2: This act will offer tax incentives for businesses that choose to sustainably dispose of
- 20 food waste.
- 21
- 22 Section 3: If the food waste meets the criteria to be considered consumer quality, it can be
- 23 donated to participating establishments and organizations. If the food does not meet the criteria
- 24 for consumer quality, it can be disposed of at composting facilities.
- 25
- 26 Section 4: Businesses are required to provide adequate documentation of the waste they dispose
- 27 of and donate. This can be done through dated receipts with signatures from managers at
- 28 participating establishments, organizations, or composting facilities.
- 29
- 30 Section 5: The tax deduction will be worth 65% of the original worth of the product that is
- 31 disposed of sustainably, as long as adequate proof in the form of signed receipts can be given 30
- 32 calendar days prior to the tax due date along with estimated worth of the products disposed of.
- 33
- 34 Section 6: The Tennessee Department of Revenue will take on the responsibility of reviewing the
- 35 receipts of donation and disposal. If receipts are found to be purposefully falsified on any account,
- 36 the following penalties will occur:
- 37 A) First Offense: 1 month ban from the incentive program
- 38 B) Second Offense: 6 month ban from the incentive program

39 C) Third Offense: Permanent ban from the incentive program

40
41 Section 7: The implementation of this bill will cost the state nothing, but it will result in the loss of
42 some revenue from State Business Taxes.

43
44 Section 8: All part or part of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

45
46 Section 9: This act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

47
48

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		RSB/23-4-4
Senate - Health & Welfare			RED SENATE
Navaal Kouser			
Webb School			
		ACTION ON THE BILL	
		HOUSE	SENATE
		Pass ☐	Pass ☐
		Fail ☐	Fail ☐

**AN ACT TO BETTER THE MENTAL HEALTH OF PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS 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. Mental health concerns: Mental health issues including depression, anxiety, suicidal thoughts,
5 etc., diagnosed by a mental health professional.

6 b. Guidance counselor: Professional hired to guide students with struggling mental health through
7 social or emotional distress and promote access and equity for all students.

8 c. Youth Mental Health Screening: An online survey published by the Tennessee Department of
9 Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services designed to aid parents and/or teachers in observing
10 a behavioral inconsistency in students.

11
12 Section 2: A mental health screening will occur mid-semester for all students in the ninth (9th)
13 through twelfth (12th) grade in October and March.

14
15 Section 3: This screening will be modeled based on the Youth Mental Health Screening designed by
16 Mental Health America.

17
18 Section 4: This screening is based upon a 70-point scale, with subcategories of
19 anxiety/depression, attention, and conduct. An overall score of 30 out of 70 is an indication of
20 difficulties in overall psychosocial functioning. A score of 5 out of 10 on the anxiety/depression
21 scale may be an interpretation of a student having significant difficulty with anxiety and/or
22 depression. A score of 7 out of 10 on the attention score may indicate a student who experiences
23 significant difficulty with attention. A score of 7 out of 14 on the conduct scale may be a predictor
24 of a student having significant difficulty with conduct.

25
26 Section 5: If concerning results are found, the specific student will be directed to show their
27 results to their guidance counselor for additional support.

28
29 Section 6: It is important to recognize that this screening process will not be considered a
30 diagnosis, but rather a predictor or indication of mental health concerns. A diagnosis would only be
31 established by a trained professional, such as a school guidance counselor.

32
33 Section 7: With increased mental health screenings, it is hoped that students will have greater
34 opportunities for their mental health concerns to be acknowledged and for them to have greater
35 accessibility to their counselor.

37 Section 8: Tennessee Code Ann §§ 49-2-114(b)(2) defines school fees as "fees for activities and
38 supplies required to participate in all courses offered for credit or grade." Thus, with a school-
39 provided laptop, it will be possible for each student to take this online screening biyearly.
40
41 Section 9: This bill will cost \$0.
42
43 Section 10: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
44
45 Section 11: This act shall take effect August 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
46
47

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		RSB/23-4-5
Senate - Energy, Agriculture and Natural Resources Britton Williams Signal Mountain High School			RED SENATE
AN ACT TO ALLOCATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE STATE FORESTRY SERVICE AND LOCAL CONSERVANCY AGENCIES TO PRESERVE THE HEMLOCKS			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ SENATE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
2
3 Section I: The terms in this act are defined as follows.
4 State Forestry Service: An organization of the USDA Forest Service which reaches across national
5 forests to states, tribes, communities, and non-industrial private landowners. They are the federal
6 leader who provides financial and technical assistance to landowners and resource managers to help
7 sustain the nation's forests and grasslands along with protecting communities from wildlife fire.
8 Local Conservancy Agencies: An organization that is a licensed and managed nonprofit corporation
9 whose mission is to emphasize natural resource conservation and supports science-based natural
10 resource management.
11 Hemlocks: Any of various coniferous evergreen trees of the genus Tsuga of North America and
12 eastern Asia, having small cones and short flat leaves with two white bands underneath.
13 Imidacloprid: A systemic insecticide belonging to a class of chemicals called the neonicotinoids
14 which act on the central nervous system of insects. The chemical works by interfering with the
15 transmission of stimuli in the insect nervous system.
16 Hemlock Woolly Adelgid: An insect of the order Hemiptera native to East Asia. It feeds by sucking
17 sap from hemlock and spruce trees, killing trees.
18 Arborist: A tree surgeon, or arboriculturist, is a professional in the practice of arboriculture, which
19 is the cultivation, management, and study of individual trees, shrubs, vines, and other perennial
20 woody plants in dendrology and horticulture
21
22 Section II: This bill will provide funds to state and local agencies for the purpose of assisting in the
23 purchase of insecticide and manual labor as needed to control the infestation of Hemlock Woolly Adelgid.
24
25 Section III: Manual labor will be provided by state park services and local conservancy
26 organizations. The professions involved in this task include:
27 Arborist and their assistants
28
29 Section IV: The insecticide Imidacloprid will be the treatment option used to treat the Hemlocks as
30 they are cost effective and will protect the trees for up to five years.
31
32 Section V: Funding will be generated from the revenue allocated from state and local sales tax.
33 \$7.5 million of the \$110 million granted towards the Tennessee state park system will be utilized
34 for the purpose of preserving the hemlocks each year. This funding will go towards manual labor
35 and the supplies needed.
36
37 Section VI: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
38
39 Section VII: This act will go into effect on June 1st, 2023 and will repeal on December 31st, 2028.
40

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the Youth in Government	RSB/23-4-6
Senate - Education		RED SENATE
Lola Brown, Ashlyn Dewey		ACTION ON THE BILL
Central Magnet High School		HOUSE
		Pass ☐ Fail ☐
		Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO CREATE A STUDENT VOTING COMMITTEE IN THE TENNESSEE BOARD OF 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 A) Committee of Student Representatives: A subdivision of the Tennessee Board of Education that

5 is made up of elected student representatives from each of the nine districts in Tennessee, plus

6 one student specifically from metropolitan Nashville. This branch will be made up of 10 high school

7 students.

8 B) Executive Student Representative: A student that is appointed by the governor of Tennessee.

9 This student will be on the Tennessee Board of Education and must be 16 years or older.

10 C) County Nominees: The student candidates that ran during the county elections and were then

11 voted for by their respective school boards to be the county representative.

12 D) County Representatives: The students from each of the counties in Tennessee that are

13 nominated by their local school board.

14 E) School Board: The school board of each county in Tennessee, selected by the residents of the

15 pertaining county.

16

17 Section 2: As of now, one student representative from the state of Tennessee sits on the

18 Tennessee Board of Education and serves a one-year term. This student is nominated by the

19 current governor of Tennessee, and then, they are confirmed by the General Assembly of

20 Tennessee. This student representative will have the same duties and election process if the bill is

21 passed, except they will be able to achieve this position at the age of 16. He or she will be named

22 the Executive Student Representative and will hear and head the Council of Student

23 Representatives. This bill is adding 10 more students, one from each district in Tennessee and one

24 from metropolitan Nashville, to serve as an addition to the current Board of Education as the

25 Council of Student Representatives. These students will report to the current Executive Student

26 Representative, chosen by the governor, in attempts to have student's voices heard across

27 Tennessee.

28

29 Section 3: Students who meet all guidelines set by this bill may run from each county. These

30 County Nominees will then be selected by their respective school boards, making them the County

31 Representative. The Tennessee Board of Education will then select 10 district representatives from

32 the chosen county representatives. To stay representative, we will always have one student from

33 Nashville, as this is a large population cluster in Tennessee. These students, chosen by the

34 Tennessee Board of Education, will make up the Council of Student Representatives.

35

36 Section 4: The guidelines for students who plan to run are as listed: must be a rising Junior, must

37 have a written recommendation from their school, and must have at least a 3.8 grade point

38 average.

39 Section 5: All student representatives, including the Executive Student Representative, will serve

40 one-year terms.

41

42 Section 6: The Student Representatives' responsibilities will consist of listening to and attending to

43 the complaints and inquiries of students within their respective district, having a monthly meeting

44 with the Council of Student Representatives to discuss how to address educational issues, and

45 compiling a student-focused report on education at the end of each school year. An added

46 responsibility of the Executive Student Representative would be to inform the Tennessee Board of

47 Education of said issues and bring forth the solutions that the Council of Student representatives

48 have suggested in finding a permanent solution for the issues.

49

50 Section 7: This act will not require funds because it will be utilizing processes already in place in

51 the state of Tennessee.

52

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

54

55 Section 9: This act shall take effect immediately, starting in the second semester of the 2024-2025

56 school year.

57

58

59

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	WSB/23-4-7
	Senate - Health & Welfare Lena Hilk, Alice Dehart Martin Luther King Magnet School	WHITE SENATE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO LIMIT OPIOID DOSAGE TO DECREASE ADDICTION

- 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 Opioids- substances that act on opioid receptors to produce morphine-like effects in the brain;
- 5 used to treat chronic pain
- 6 Illicit Opioids- illegal, addictive opioids usually produced from a plant like the opium poppy flower
- 7 Chronic Pain- any pain lasting longer than three months (IASP)
- 8 Substance Abuse- dependence on an addictive substance, in this case opioids
- 9 Fatal Ingredients- drugs such as fentanyl, cocaine, or non-opiate heroin
- 10
- 11 Section 2: This act requires the Tennessee State Government to further regulate the prescription
- 12 of opioids.
- 13 A stronger state government regulation of the dosage of opioid drugs used to treat chronic pain
- 14 will disincentivize overprescription.
- 15
- 16 Section 3: Doctors will only be able to prescribe opioid drugs by the amount enforced by a panel of
- 17 health professionals.
- 18 A) Doctors can only prescribe 30 MME of any opioid per day.
- 19 B) The panel will have the authority to enforce the proper dosage, as well as any fines from
- 20 an overprescription.
- 21
- 22 Section 4: Any doctor that violates the consensus of the board will be subject to fines or
- 23 suspension of medical license, depending on the severity of the case.
- 24
- 25 Section 5: There will be no fiscal costs as these state boards already exist.
- 26
- 27 Section 6: This act will take effect immediately after becoming a law.
- 28

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	WSB/23-4-8
	Senate - Judiciary Lang McDaniel, Jackie Dummermuth Central Magnet High School	WHITE SENATE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐

An Act to Expand Voting Rights for Convicted Felons

- 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 Felon- any person convicted of a crime for which the minimum punishment is one year of
- 5 imprisonment
- 6 Suffrage- the right to vote in political elections
- 7 Reenfranchisement- the restoration of voting rights
- 8 Incarceration- confinement in prison
- 9 Probation- a sentence that typically consists of fulfilling a community service requirement
- 10 Parole- a condition of prison release subject to specific constraints and supervision
- 11 Class A Felony- a conviction with a punishment of 15-60 years in prison and up to a \$50,000 fine
- 12 Class B Felony- a conviction with a punishment of 8-30 years in prison and up to a \$25,000 fine
- 13 Class C Felony- a conviction with a punishment of 3-15 years in prison and up to a \$10,000 fine
- 14 Class D Felony- a conviction with a punishment of 2-12 years in prison and up to a \$5,000 fine
- 15 Class E Felony- a conviction with a punishment of 1-6 years in prison and up to a \$3,000 fine
- 16
- 17 Section 2: Upon completion of a prison sentence, all previously incarcerated felons convicted of a
- 18 Class B, C, D, or E felony, including those on probation or parole, shall have their full right to
- 19 suffrage restored.
- 20
- 21 Section 3: Any Class B-E felon whose prison sentence has already been completed who is ineligible
- 22 to vote at the time of the passage of this bill shall be automatically reenfranchised.
- 23
- 24 Section 4: Any Class A felon who has completed their prison sentence shall be eligible for
- 25 restoration of voting rights upon completion of the Certificate of Restoration of Voting Rights.
- 26
- 27 Section 5: The passage of this act will incur no cost to the state of Tennessee.
- 28
- 29 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 30
- 31 Section 7: This act shall take effect immediately upon passage.
- 32
- 33

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		WSB/23-4-9	
			WHITE SENATE	
Senate - Judiciary Virginia Knox, Adriana Guevart Central Magnet High School			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐	

An Act to Clarify Tennessee Law in Regards to Mutual Combat

- 1 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:
- 2 a.) Mutual combat: when two individuals participate in a willing fight under mutually defined
- 3 terms without hurting bystanders or damaging property.
- 4 b.) Deadly weapon: a knife, gun, or any other weapon that can inflict severe bodily harm.
- 5 c.) Informed consent: permission granted with the full knowledge of possible consequences.
- 6
- 7 Section 2: An optional opt-in to mutual combat will be provided to new, regular class D driver's
- 8 licenses; this opt-in allows a participant who engages in mutual combat to automatically provide
- 9 informed consent.
- 10
- 11 Section 3: Any costs incurred by this addition will be paid by the license holder in a one-time thirty
- 12 dollar (\$30) fee.
- 13
- 14 Section 4: If death occurs within the prescribed boundaries of mutual combat, license holders who
- 15 opt-in will be charged with no higher sentence than voluntary manslaughter, and no less than
- 16 three (3) years nor more than fifteen (15) years. In addition, the jury may assess a fine not to
- 17 exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), unless otherwise provided by statute (pursuant to TCA
- 18 Title 40 Chapter 35 Section 111).
- 19
- 20 Section 5: Individuals who do not opt-in on their driver's license must provide explicit informed
- 21 consent before engaging in mutual combat, less it be considered simple assault. Individuals
- 22 engaging in mutual combat may remove consent at any moment.
- 23
- 24 Section 6: The confines of mutual combat do not allow escalation of force; combat with a weapon
- 25 or deadly weapon forfeits consent to mutual combat and does not provide the associated
- 26 immunities; such injury is treated as aggravated assault as mentioned in section 4.
- 27
- 28 Section 7: Mutual combat must be presided over by an officer of the law; if such an official isn't
- 29 present, it must be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that consent was provided by both parties
- 30 for an incident to be considered mutual combat.
- 31
- 32 Section 8: Any laws or sections of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
- 33
- 34 Section 9: This act will take effect January 1, 2024
- 35

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		WSB/23-4-10	
			WHITE SENATE	
Senate - Education Nij Patel, Noah Koenig Central Magnet High School			ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐	

AN ACT TO DIVERT GOVERNMENT FUNDS FROM EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANTS

- 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) Educational Consultant: A former educator whose job is now to help and advise educators on
- 5 teaching styles and educational strategies. However, lots of current teachers feel their methods
- 6 are subpar and don't approve of educational consultants or their advice.
- 7 B) Teacher: A qualified educator with a college level degree in a field related to or focused on
- 8 education. As of now, many teachers believe that teaching consultants only provide advice that
- 9 has been taught to the teachers during their college courses.
- 10
- 11 Section 2: As of now, the school districts of Tennessee spend an estimated \$8,771,630 on
- 12 educational consultants 145 educational consultants. There are currently 141 public school districts
- 13 in Tennessee meaning there are, on average, approximately 1.028 consultants per district.
- 14 Consultants would still be able to lecture in schools if this bill is passed. This bill reduces the
- 15 money spent on consultants to \$2,850,000, which would be a reduction of \$5,921,630. This would
- 16 be enough to pay for 47 educational consultants for the state of Tennessee which would limit the
- 17 number of consultants to 1 per every 3 school districts. Teaching consultants would be switched to
- 18 a system of larger meetings with teachers, requiring the teachers to attend physical or virtual
- 19 conferences during teacher training and/or workdays.
- 20
- 21 Section 3: The money profited from the decreased spending on educational consultants would be
- 22 allocated equally to the schools of Tennessee. This money would be targeted towards raising
- 23 teachers' salaries, with the goal of not only improving the livelihood of teachers, but also assisting
- 24 with the shortage of educators as more people passionate about teaching would be driven to the
- 25 profession due to increased motivation from the pay increase.
- 26
- 27 Section 4: This bill will not cost anything. All the money gained is redistributed to schools to
- 28 improve quality of education.
- 29
- 30 Section 5: All laws or sections of laws in conflict with this bill shall be repealed upon its passing.
- 31
- 32 Section 6: This bill would take effect July 1, 2023. This means schools would start receiving extra
- 33 funding at the start of the 2023-2024 school year.
- 34

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	WSB/23-4-11
	Senate - Judiciary Anna Grace Im, Willa Smith Signal Mountain High School	WHITE SENATE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐

An Act to Compensate Acquitted Individuals Held in Pre-trial Detention

- 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.) Monetary- relating to money or currency
- 5 b.) Pre-trial detention- the detainment of a person leading up to their trial, following their arrest
- 6 and charge of an offense
- 7 c.) Acquittal- A judgment that a person is not guilty of a crime with which the person has been
- 8 charged.
- 9
- 10 Section 2: If enacted, this bill will mandate monetary compensation for persons that served time
- 11 in pre-trial detention and were acquitted.
- 12
- 13 Section 3: Standards set forth in this bill will be enforced by judges employed in the state of
- 14 Tennessee.
- 15
- 16 Section 4: If enacted this bill will cost \$1,907,500 per year, and will be funded through the District
- 17 Attorney's Conference.
- 18
- 19 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 20
- 21 Section 6: This act shall take effect immediately after being passed. This will benefit individuals
- 22 who are acquitted after this bill is passed.
- 23
- 24

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	WSB/23-4-12
	Senate - Health & Welfare Erika Ventura, Charlotte Flowers Signal Mountain High School	WHITE SENATE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO LEGALIZE OVER-THE-COUNTER PURCHASES OF BIRTH CONTROL PILLS

- 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) Birth Control Pills- A pill that prevents pregnancy using hormones that block the release of eggs
- 5 from the ovaries
- 6 b) Oral Contraceptive- Refers to birth control taken orally
- 7 c) OTC- "Over the counter," referring to medicine that can be bought without a prescription from
- 8 retail locations
- 9 d) Retail Business- A business that sells goods and products, such as clothing, drugs, groceries,
- 10 etc.
- 11 e) Ovulation- The release of an egg during the monthly menstrual cycle
- 12 f) Menstrual Cycle- a series of natural changes in hormone production and structure of the uterus
- 13 and ovaries that makes pregnancy possible
- 14 g) OB-GYN- OB stands for obstetrician, a physician who cares for women and their babies during
- 15 pregnancy and childbirth and GYN stands for gynecologist, a physician who specializes in treating
- 16 female reproductive conditions
- 17
- 18 Section 2: All birth control pills will be defined and sectioned into one of these three groups:
- 19 a) All of these, if FDA approved, will be allowed to be sold at retail locations to improve the
- 20 accessibility of the pill:
- 21 i) The Combination Pill- the pill contains a mix of estrogen and progesterone hormones to
- 22 prevent ovulation.
- 23 1) Includes conventional pills, which include a mixture of active an inactive pills to aid
- 24 one's menstrual cycle
- 25 ii) The Progestin-only Pill- the pill works by thickening the mucus in the cervix to prevent
- 26 the sperm from reaching an egg, it uses only one hormone, progesterone.
- 27 2) This pill is also commonly called the "mini pill."
- 28 iii) Continuous/Extended Birth Control Pill- the pill contains estrogen and progesterone
- 29 hormones to prevent pregnancy and delay your menstrual cycle.
- 30
- 31 Section 3: If enacted, this bill will allow all FDA-approved oral contraceptives to be sold.
- 32 Prescription contraceptives will still be available if a buyer feels safer consulting a doctor or
- 33 pediatrician
- 34 a) It is not required for the buyer to consult an Obgyn to start birth control, but we advise
- 35 seeing a professional before starting
- 36
- 37 Section 4: The legalization of OTC birth control pills is to be enacted by the following standards:
- 38 a) Birth control pills can be sold in any retail business.
- 39 b) The price is to be determined by individual retail locations.
- 39

40 c) Individual retail locations will be allowed to keep the same standards of business including:
 41 i) The right to run your business any way you see fit;
 42 ii) The limited refusal of services;
 43 iii) The legal limitation on goods imposed by a manufacturer; etc.
 44
 45 Section 5: This act does not require funding from the state.
 46
 47 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
 48
 49 Section 7: This act shall take effect on June 1, 2023.
 50
 51

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	WSB/23-4-13	
		WHITE SENATE	
		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Pass ☐ ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐	
Senate - Government Operations Hanna Yang, Kate Barger Signal Mountain High School			

AN ACT TO ENSURE TRANSPARENCY OF RACIAL AND IDENTITY PROFILING

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) Racial and Identity Profiling: discriminatory practices by law enforcement officials with
 5 consideration to any degree of actual or perceived race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age,
 6 religion, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, or mental or physical disability
 7 b) Enforcement stops: an action by an officer of the Department in relation to enforcement and
 8 investigation duties
 9 c) Originating Agency Identifier number: a nine character identifier assigned to an agency that has
 10 met the established qualifying criteria for a fingerprint based background check
 11
 12 Section 2: The Racial and Identity Profiling Advisory Board shall be established for the purpose of
 13 eliminating racial and identity profiling and improving diversity and identity sensitivity in law
 14 enforcement;
 15 a) The board will consist of 17 members assigned by the Tennessee Attorney General every four
 16 years and shall be made up of but not limited to:
 17 i) Community advocates
 18 ii) Attorneys
 19 iii) Law enforcement
 20 b) The board will be responsible for the following:
 21 i) Analyzing the stop data and the civilian complaint data on an annual basis
 22 ii) Working with law enforcement to review racial and identity profiling policies and
 23 practices
 24 iii) Reviewing law enforcement training
 25 iv) Issuing an annual report that details the data findings
 26 v) Providing policy recommendations and best practices to law enforcement for
 27 eliminating profiling in the state of Tennessee
 28
 29 Section 3: Tennessee law enforcement agencies are required to report data on all citizen
 30 complaints that allege racial or identity profiling annually to the Tennessee Department of Justice.
 31
 32 Section 4: All law enforcement officers in Tennessee are obligated to collect perceived data on the
 33 persons subjected to enforcement stops,
 34 a) Exceptions to this include:
 35 i) Probation officers
 36 ii) Special agents
 37 iii) Stops that occur in custodial settings
 38 b) The detailed reports shall contain the following information:
 39 i) Originating Agency Identifier number

- ii) Officer's Identification (ID) Number
- iii) Date, time, location and duration of the stop
- iv) Perceived race/ethnicity, gender, age, disability, of person stopped
- v) Person stopped has limited or no English fluency
- vi) Person stopped perceived to be LGBTQ
- vii) Reason for stop
- viii) Stop made in response to a call for service
- ix) Actions taken by officer during stop
- x) Results of stop
- xi) Officer's years of experience
- xii) Type of assignment officer

c) These reports shall be sent annually by the corresponding agency to the Tennessee Department of Justice in order to analyze the statistical rates of stops based on perceived minorities and discriminations.

Section 5: Law enforcement agencies are permitted to report citizen complaint and/or enforcement stop data more frequently than the annual requirement.

Section 6: Law enforcement agencies that fail to properly collect and report the data to the Department within the proper time period shall face penalties determined by the board.

Section 7: The addition of this law shall result in a cost of \$6,500,000 and will be funded through the Tennessee Department of Justice.

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

Section 9: This act shall take effect June 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the Youth in Government	BSB/23-4-14	
		BLUE SENATE	
Senate - Health & Welfare Matthew Ciampa, Jack Weibby, Zach Arguello Father Ryan High School		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

An act to establish a relief fund for rural healthcare centers struggling to maintain funding.

1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee Youth in Government.

2

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

4 a. Medicaid: a joint federal and state program that helps cover medical costs for some people with

5 limited income and resources. The federal government has general rules that all state Medicaid

6 programs must follow, but each state runs its own program.

7 b. TennCare: is the state of Tennessee's Medicaid program. It provides healthcare to mostly low-

8 income pregnant women, parents or caretakers of a minor child, children, and individuals who are

9 elderly or have a disability. To get Medicaid, you must meet the income and resource limits.

10 c. Center for Healthcare Quality and Payment Reform (CHQPR): a national policy center that has

11 been a trusted ally to many other medical bills and programs such as those in Alabama and

12 Mississippi focused on designing and implementing payment systems that support affordable,

13 patient-centered healthcare.

14 d. Immediate risk of closure of Hospitals V.S. high risk of closure: Immediate risk is the hospital

15 must have a negative total margin over the most recent years of financial data and low-to-

16 nonexistent financial reserves. High risk of Closure in hospitals is caused by financial reserves are

17 only enough to sustain it for a few years, or there's a high dependence on outside funding -

18 funding that does not come from providing services to patients.

19

20 Section 2: Tennessee's rural areas have recently seen 16 healthcare centers close in the past

21 three years. At the moment, 25 hospitals are at high risk of closure, and 5 are at immediate risk.

22 These hospitals are part of a wave of closures that have resulted from our state's refusal to

23 expand Medicaid.

24

25 Section 3: Private insurance pays hospitals 1.6 to 2.5 times more than TennCare, so every

26 impoverished patient that relies on TennCare takes a toll on hospital revenues. This places

27 Tennessee as the state with the most hospital closures per capita in the country.

28

29 Section 4: TennCare covers around 23% of the state population and pays for around 50% of all

30 births. Hospitals lose thousands of dollars a month to Medicaid, a problem that has only been

31 worsened by the refusal of state lawmakers who refuse to expand Medicaid and who cut existing

32 healthcare programs. This not only lessens hospital revenue but also dissuades citizens from

33 seeking medical attention due to fear of being unable to make payments.

34

35 Section 5: In order to combat this overwhelming wave of closures, Tennessee will establish a

36 reserve fund that will compensate rural hospitals for treating patients on TennCare and Medicaid. A

37 rough sum of the losses was calculated by the Tennessee Hospital Association (T.H.A.); they

38 determined that the total combined losses amount to around 5 million annually.

39 Section 6: The reserve fund would function as follows: healthcare centers can petition to draw up
40 to \$300,000 a year as a low-interest loan, based on their records of debt from the past year. The
41 hospitals would pay off the loan when they become more stabilized financially. The allocation of
42 the fund would be managed by the CHQPR, and the money will be drawn from Tennessee's
43 emergency fund.
44
45 Section 7: The reserve would draw \$50 million every 5 years (hopefully decreasing the amount at
46 the next 5-year mark, based on the increasing stabilization of rural hospitals) from the Tennessee
47 emergency reserve. These hospitals will become more stable when they do not have to worry
48 about paying off their debt because it gives them time to become more established and focus on
49 implementing measures to compensate for the influx of patients on TennCare.
50
51 Section 8: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
52
53 Section 9: Tennessee citizens can expect implementation of the new budget program by August
54 2023. This is to make sure the budget can get made and the hospitals understand what the money
55 should be used for.
56
57

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		BSB/23-4-15 BLUE SENATE	
Senate - Judiciary Ben Green, Isaac Driesenga, Mariana Reyes Collegiate School		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ SENATE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐	

An Act to Ban the Usage of Execution by Electrocution in Tennessee

1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government
2
3 Section 1: Terms in this act shall be defined as followed:
4 a.) Electric Chair - A method of prisoner execution consisting of a chair and electrodes attached to
5 the head and leg.
6
7 Section 2: If enacted, this bill would make the electric chair banned as a method of execution in
8 the state of Tennessee. This bill will affect TN prisons which perform executions, prisoners on
9 death row, and the families of victims waiting for executions.
10
11 Section 3: Lethal injection is the default method of execution in Tennessee and more broadly in
12 the U.S. If this bill is enacted, lethal injection will continue to be the default method of execution in
13 Tennessee. Other execution methods are still available. Tennessee's most recently executed
14 prisoner, Oscar Smith, was executed via lethal injection on April 21, 2022.
15 Tennessee has executed seven prisoners by electrocution since November 1, 2018. Tennessee is
16 one of five southern states in the US that still allows this form of execution. Electrocution has been
17 banned in the other 45 states; at the Federal level, and in every other country in the world. Death
18 by electrocution is considered a war crime according to the Geneva Convention.
19
20 The electric chair is an inhumane method of execution. There are reports of victims being pried off
21 of the chair after execution and their skin falling off. The use of an electric chair is the very
22 definition of cruel and unusual punishment. As a state, we are in violation of the Eighth
23 Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Let's change this and bring our state into the 21st century.
24
25 Section 4: The cost of this bill to the state of Tennessee will be nothing. Other forms of execution
26 will take the place of the Electric Chair; however, these forms of execution are already funded by
27 the State Department of Corrections.
28
29 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
30
31 Section 6: This act shall take effect immediately upon passage, the public welfare requiring it.
32

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		BSB/23-4-16
	Senate - Education Anisley Earl, Ella Obringer Signal Mountain High School		BLUE SENATE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐

An Act To Require Three Mental Health Days Per Semester In Public Highschools

- 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 Mental Health- one's emotional, psychological, and social wellness.
- 5 Mental Health Day- a day off to rest and recharge from stressful obligations.
- 6
- 7 Section 2) All public high schools in the state of Tennessee will be required to offer three mental
- 8 health days per semester for each student.
- 9
- 10 Section 3) Giving students time to focus on themselves will help reduce the likelihood of burning
- 11 out and getting too overwhelmed with school work.
- 12
- 13 Section 4) During mental health days, students will have 10 days from the time of their absence to
- 14 turn all missing assignments. Students will be required to make up tests/ exams if missed as soon
- 15 as possible.
- 16
- 17 Section 5) Those participating will be given an excused absence from the school.
- 18 Section 6) To communicate your absence to the school, your legal guardian must call school's front
- 19 office to let them know. This has to be done before school is in session (day of).
- 20
- 21 Section 7) Students are required to email their teachers to let them know of their absence, as part
- 22 of demonstrating responsibility for themselves.
- 23 Section 8) Levels of depression, anxiety, and suicide in highschool students have risen over the past
- 24 decade and are still rapidly increasing. Giving students mental health days will help with these issues.
- 25
- 26 Section 9) Mentally Healthy students are more likely to be engaged and actively participating in
- 27 the classroom, therefore having a better academic outcome.
- 28
- 29 Section 10) Schools will promote students to focus on their mental health, while still upholding the
- 30 responsibilities of getting their work completed in a timely manner.
- 31
- 32 Section 11) Fiscal Agreement: This act will require no cost. This is will have a positive impact on
- 33 highschool students' well-being.
- 34
- 35 Section 12) Repealing Clause: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 36
- 37 Section 13) This act shall take effect at the beginning of the school year 2025, providing three
- 38 mental health days per student per semester and the Tennessee State Department of Education
- 39 will require it.
- 40

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		BSB/23-4-17
	Senate - Health & Welfare Anirudh Kodukula, Abdullah Abu Halimah, Aditya Dwivedi Central Magnet High School		BLUE SENATE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐

An Act to Improve Health Care Accessibility for the People in the Rural Communities of Tennessee, and to Educate them Regarding the Importance of Personal Health Awareness

- 1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee Youth in Government,
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:
- 4 Health Care: The organized provision of medical care to individuals or a community.
- 5 Personal Health Awareness: General understanding and knowledge about their health, available
- 6 Health Care options and services, health needs, diseases, and preventive measures.
- 7 Rural: In, relating to, or characteristic of the countryside rather than the town
- 8 Pop-up Clinics: An integral component of the healthcare system that serves vulnerable populations
- 9 and promotes high-quality care at low cost.
- 10 Rural Transportation Network: Transportation service for countryside areas with low population
- 11 densities, using publicly funded buses and vans on a set schedule.
- 12
- 13 Section 2: According to a 2021 US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Report, people
- 14 living in rural areas die at higher rates than those of their urban counterparts. The health of rural
- 15 communities in Tennessee has been on the decline. As per an American Hospital Association
- 16 report, 136 rural hospitals were closed from 2010 to 2021, with 19 closures in 2020 alone. Some
- 17 of the reasons stated were staff shortages, low patient volume, as well as financial challenges due
- 18 to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Tennessee alone, has experienced 13 rural hospital closures - the
- 19 second highest closure rate in the U.S. 10.1% of Tennessee's population was uninsured in 2021
- 20 (2021 America's Health Ranking - United Health Foundation). Tennessee has around 20 counties in
- 21 which there are no hospitals at all. In spite of having TennCare, the state of Tennessee's Medicaid
- 22 program, access to hospitals and healthcare facilities continue to be a major concern for
- 23 Tennessee's rural areas.
- 24
- 25 Section 3: Due to the remote location of the various rural communities existing in Tennessee,
- 26 access to care, preventative screenings, and periodical health checkups is becoming difficult.
- 27 Transportation is also a problem which further increases the cost and time to travel to receive
- 28 adequate healthcare. According to a 2021 US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Report,
- 29 the mortality rates are higher in rural areas for the top ten causes of death, heart disease being
- 30 the leading cause of death and cancer following at a close second. Consequently, people who live
- 31 in rural areas of Tennessee are more likely than urban residents to die prematurely from
- 32 undiagnosed terminal illnesses such as heart disease, cancer, chronic lower respiratory disease,
- 33 and stroke.
- 34
- 35 Section 4: Geographic isolation not only limits availability and accessibility to care, but it also
- 36 discourages utilizing preventative care services such as routine cancer screenings and annual

37 checkups. To expand upon this, a patient living in rural Tennessee may only decide to seek health
38 care after an illness has advanced to a fatal stage. Furthermore, the lack of sufficient pharmacies
39 is also contributing to the decline of health in individuals settled in rural communities. Due to this
40 problem, many are suffering and dying from undiagnosed illnesses.

41
42 Section 5: As one of the efforts to combat this issue, Remote Area Medical (RAM), a major
43 nonprofit provider of pop-up clinics has been providing free dental, vision, and medical services in
44 underserved areas. But, in spite of such efforts, accessibility to care still remains a challenge in
45 rural communities.

46
47 Section 6: In addition to these efforts, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural
48 Development has provided an \$804,600 grant through the Emergency Rural Healthcare Grant
49 Program for the free medical clinic of Oakridge. This program's purpose is to provide primary care
50 to around 14,000 low-income and uninsured residents of Anderson, Morgan, and Roane counties in
51 Tennessee. Despite these efforts, there are still many gaps in rural healthcare provision.

52
53 Section 7: In order to resolve this major issue, an initial step would be to make enhance changes
54 to current programs so that the rural communities of Tennessee could enjoy widespread access to
55 healthcare in the rural communities of Tennessee. As a starter, the promotion and establishment
56 of pop-up clinics in various rural counties will be commenced. Already established pop-up clinics
57 will be merged into this project. The main purpose of pop-up clinics is to provide immediate and
58 readily available access to medical care. The pop-up clinics will serve as an extended branch of
59 existing hospitals, thereby acting as a link between established medical facilities and inaccessible
60 rural areas. People visiting the pop-up clinics will be educated about the importance of personal
61 health awareness, and how diseases are more likely to spread unnoticed without proper health
62 checks. If an illness is detected in an individual, a rural transportation network shall be utilized to
63 transport them to better medical facilities. This will enable the patients to receive better care.

64
65 Section 8: Pop-up clinics help promote healthcare equality by enabling it to be within everyone's
66 reach. Also, preventive care helps many diseases to be discovered in the early stages, thereby
67 providing patients with a higher chance of recovery. In addition to this, health awareness
68 programs help individuals become more conscious about their health needs and more willing to
69 receive the necessary health checkups. These pop-up clinics will provide medical care irrespective
70 of a person's ability to pay; the charges collected will be based on individual income level scales.

71
72 Section 9: The total cost for this to be implemented is \$25,394,000. A total of \$26,000,000 is
73 requested to be earmarked from the Tennessee Department of Health's total budgeted funds of
74 \$384,000,000, which are allocated to expand access to health services to the people of Tennessee.
75 The requested amount is only 7 percent of the entire budget available. The requested extra
76 \$606,000 will be used for the replenishment of medical resources in the pop-up clinics and will
77 also be utilized to promote the importance of personal health awareness amongst the rural
78 communities of Tennessee. The cost, per annum, breakdown for each individual pop-up clinic is
79 derived as:

80 A total of \$291,200 for the salaries of all respective staff members in the pop-up clinics. The nurse
81 practitioner receives a total of \$100,000 per annum, and the two medical assistants receive a total
82 of \$35,000 respectively. The radiology technician earns a total of \$52,000 per annum, and the
83 pharmacy assistant, who is specifically engaged to help patients with their prescription pickups and
84 refills and to help elder patients with at-home medication deliveries so that no patient has to wait
85 on their medicines, earns \$31,200 per annum. In addition to this, the drivers of the rural
86 transportation network will be paid \$38,000 per annum.

87 A total of \$113,500 for the medical equipment needed in the pop-up clinics. These include:
88 One autotrade sterilizer is priced at \$15,000.

89 Two portable electrocardiograms (ECG) machines priced at \$2000 each

90 One ultrasound machine is priced at \$50,000.
91 General medical equipment and supplies, which include: procedure equipment, emergency
92 equipment, laboratory clinical supplies, and protective equipment, are priced at a total of \$38,000.
93 Ten vaccine transport and storage boxes are priced at \$350 each.

94 Two portable x-ray units priced at \$1500 each.

95 In addition to all this, the operational cost for each pop-up clinic: \$600,000 per annum

96 Implementation of the rural transportation network is priced at \$265,000 per annum.

97 To summarize, the annual recurring cost for the implementation of a pop-up clinic in a given place
98 is \$1,269,700. Initially, the pop-up clinics will be established in the 20 counties of Tennessee that
99 do not have any hospitals or medical facilities at all, and the total cost amount to (20*\$1,269,700)

100 \$25,394,000.

101

102 Section 10: This model is being implemented on a small scale at first, and gradually, depending on
103 statistics such as the average number of patients, number of tests performed, and number of
104 people connected to a hospital network, further expansion will take place by establishing more
105 pop-up clinics in areas where greater need is identified. Periodically, surveys will be distributed to
106 patients to gain feedback and opinions and based on this, necessary improvements will be made to
107 serve more people and achieve better success rates as well as patient satisfaction.

108

109 Section 11: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

110

111 Section 12: This act shall take effect March 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.

112

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		BSB/23-4-18							
 the		BLUE SENATE							
Senate - Education Sydney Platt, Chloe Emerson Valor College Prep		ACTION ON THE BILL <table><tr><td>HOUSE</td><td>SENATE</td></tr><tr><td>Pass ☐</td><td>Pass ☐</td></tr><tr><td>Fail ☐</td><td>Fail ☐</td></tr></table>		HOUSE	SENATE	Pass ☐	Pass ☐	Fail ☐	Fail ☐
HOUSE	SENATE								
Pass ☐	Pass ☐								
Fail ☐	Fail ☐								

AN ACT TO MANDATE SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS IN TENNESSEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA LEGISLATURE:

2

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

4 School Psychologist: A licensed psychologist who works in mental health at a school.

5 Therapist: Trained and licensed professionals in the field of any types of services like

6 psychologists, social workers, counselors, life coaches and others. They are helpful in counseling

7 individuals for various mental and physical issues.

8 School Psychologist Salary: The average salary of a school psychologist in Tennessee is 71,850

9 dollars.

10 The Tennessee Investment in Student Achievement (TISA): An act passed funding K-12 public

11 schools starting in the 2023-2024 school year. This act is putting 9 billion dollars toward TN's

12 education budget.

13 The National Association of School Psychologists: An organization working towards improving the

14 mental health of students. In schools this organization recommends one psychologist for every

15 500 students in a school.

16

17 Section 2) This act will address the rising Mental Health concerns becoming ever more present in

18 K-12 schools. With an increased rate of approximately 20% of youth ages 13-18 experiencing

19 severe mental health disorders in a given year, it is vital children get the mental health care they

20 need.

21

22 Section 3) This act will hire school psychologists in public schools across the state of TN, following

23 the 1 psychologist to 500 students ratio that is recommended by The National Association of

24 School Psychologists. There are already about 540 current school therapists hired in Tennessee.

25 With 984,326 students attending public schools across TN, we will be hiring a total of 1429 new

26 licensed psychologists making it so that there are a total of 1969 school psychologists working in

27 public schools.

28

29 Section 4) This act will require 102,673,650 dollars annually from Tennessee's \$9 billion K-12

30 education fund, in order to cover the salary of each new school psychologist. Tennessee currently

31 invests 5.3 billion dollars into education annually leaving 3.7 billion dollars in the budget. This act

32 would only take 2.77 percent of the remaining budget.

33

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

35

36 Section 6) This act shall take effect starting the 2024-2025 school year, giving time for schools to

37 hire psychologists.

38

TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT



**SENATE
COMMITTEE 5
Trey Madison
& Adrian Andreescu**

		70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government				RSB/23-5-1	
Senate - Education				RED SENATE			
Mark Ciampa				ACTION ON THE BILL			
Father Ryan High School				HOUSE		SENATE	
				Pass ☐	Pass ☐		
				Fail ☐	Fail ☐		

An Act to Expand and Publicize the Tennessee Education Savings Account Program

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

2

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

4 a) Education Savings Account Program (ESA): A program created by Public Chapter 506 in 2019

5 which provides funds for eligible low-income students zoned for certain low-performing school

6 districts (Metro Nashville Public Schools, Shelby County Schools, and the Achievement School

7 District) for grades kindergarten through twelfth grade to assist them in attending private

8 educational institutions. Students are eligible for an ESA if their household income falls below twice

9 the federal free lunch guideline, and they are zoned for one of the previously listed school districts.

10 The ESA program has been officially initiated in the 2022-2023 school year.

11 b) Federal Free Lunch Guideline: Specific household income threshold that qualifies a student at a

12 public school to receive free school lunch. This income level varies depending on the number of

13 members of the household.

14 c) Priority/Comprehensive Support and Improvement Schools: Consistently low-performing

15 Tennessee public schools with multiple consecutive years in the bottom 5% of TCAP performance

16 or a graduation rate of less than 67% for the previous year. These schools must receive special

17 assistance and attention from the Tennessee Department of Education.

18 d) Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP): Tennessee's state standardized test

19 administered to all public school students in grades 3-8, with assessment tests in the areas of

20 mathematics, English language arts, social studies, and science.

21

22 Section 2: For the 2022-2023 school year, 5,000 ESAs are available, with each account providing

23 \$7,000 (on average) to assist the student in paying certain school-related costs, including tuition,

24 textbooks, uniforms, and tutoring fees. These ESA funds are sent directly to the 41 currently

25 participating private institutions to reimburse the institution for these costs. Eligible students are

26 selected to receive an ESA via a lottery system if more than 5,000 eligible students apply for ESAs.

27

28 Section 3: Currently, ESAs are only available to students zoned to the Shelby County, Metro

29 Nashville, and Achievement School districts. Of the 101 schools listed as Priority/Comprehensive

30 Support and Improvement Schools, only 78 schools are within these three districts. Students

31 zoned for the additional 23 schools listed as Priority/Comprehensive Support and Improvement

32 Schools do not currently have access to the ESA program.

33

34 Section 4: Currently, students must reapply for an ESA every year. Additionally, students must be

35 enrolled in a Tennessee public school for the previous school year or be eligible to attend a

36 Tennessee public school for the first time in order to be eligible for an ESA.

37

38 Section 5: The guidelines for ESA eligibility will be altered to allow a student zoned to attend any

39 Priority/Comprehensive Support and Improvement School, as well as any student who is zoned to

40 attend schools in Metro Nashville Public Schools, the Achievement School District, or the Shelby

41 County School District, to be eligible to apply for an ESA, as long as they meet the current

42 financial requirements for ESAs.

43

44 Section 6: Flyers will be mailed annually to the households of all students zoned for the schools

45 listed in Section 5 with information about the ESA application and benefits. These flyers will refer

46 to the ESA's website and list of participating private institutions.

47

48 Section 7: If a student was zoned for a school listed as a Priority/Comprehensive Support and

49 Improvement School for the previous school year and received an ESA, but that public school is

50 not given the designation of Priority/Comprehensive Support and Improvement School for the next

51 school year, the student may reapply for an ESA even if they have attended a private school for at

52 least one semester of the previous school year.

53

54 Section 8: Publicization of the ESA program will cost \$20,000 per year. These funds will be

55 provided by the Tennessee Department of Education.

56

57 Section 9: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

58

59 Section 10: This act will go into effect on June 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.

60

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	RSB/23-5-2
Senate - Health & Welfare	RED SENATE
Abigail Dungan	ACTION ON THE BILL
Signal Mountain High School	HOUSE
	Pass ☐ Fail ☐
	Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO CRIMINALIZE FERTILITY FRAUD IN THE STATE OF TENNESSEE

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
- 2 Section 1: The terms used in this act shall be defined as follows:
- 3 a. Fertility fraud: The deliberate and non-consensual misuse of reproductive material in artificial
- 4 insemination
- 5 b. Reproductive Material: Sperm
- 6 c. Artificial insemination: The impregnation of a woman through artificial means, the most popular
- 7 form being intrauterine insemination
- 8 d. Intrauterine Insemination: A medical procedure in which a fertility doctor places sperm directly
- 9 into a woman's uterus
- 10 e. Fertility Doctor: A licensed medical professional who uses reproductive material chosen by the
- 11 patient for artificial insemination
- 12
- 13 Section 2: Upon passing, this bill introduces Fertility Fraud as a Class B felony.
- 14 a. A person can be charged with Fertility Fraud if they are found guilty of deliberately and non-
- 15 consensually misusing reproductive material in artificial insemination
- 16 b. Punishments for Fertility Fraud are as follows:
- 17 i. A prison sentence of 8 to 30 years
- 18 ii. Fines up to \$25,000
- 19
- 20 Section 3: If found guilty of Fertility Fraud with reproductive material that is not the doctor's but is
- 21 still unauthorized by the patient, the fertility doctor shall be subject to the following:
- 22 a. A charge of Fertility Fraud
- 23 b. Revocation of medical license
- 24
- 25 Section 4: If found guilty of Fertility Fraud using one's own reproductive material, the fertility
- 26 doctor shall be subject to the following:
- 27 a. A charge of Fertility Fraud
- 28 b. Revocation of medical license
- 29 c. Charges of second-degree rape, which include:
- 30 i. a prison sentence of 8 to 30 years
- 31 ii. fines up to \$25,000
- 32 d. Charges of Second-degree Criminal Sexual Conduct, which include:
- 33 i. a prison sentence of 2 to 15 years
- 34 e. Mandatory registration as a sex offender
- 35
- 36 Section 5: This bill will be of no cost to the state.
- 37
- 38 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 39
- 40 Section 7: This act shall take effect upon January 1st, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.
- 41

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	RSB/23-5-3
Senate - State & Local Government	RED SENATE
Kara Faulkner	ACTION ON THE BILL
Webb School	HOUSE
	Pass ☐ Fail ☐
	Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO DECRIMINALIZE CAMPING AS DEFINED BY BILL HB0978 AND INCREASE HOUSING AVAILABLE TO THE HOMELESS

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms will be defined as follows:
- 4 Class C misdemeanor: a minor crime involving a fine up to \$50, between 20-40 hours of
- 5 community service, and a potential sentence of 30 days or less in jail. This offense remains on
- 6 permanent record of the convicted individual.
- 7 Homeless person: an individual unable to afford shelter, either living on the streets, in a homeless
- 8 shelter, or in a state of chronic homelessness.
- 9 Chronic homelessness: persons who have experienced homelessness for a year or more whilst
- 10 struggling with disabling conditions.
- 11 Camping: As defined by bill HB0978, "Erecting, placing, maintaining, or using temporary
- 12 structures Carrying on cooking activities or Sleeping outside of a motor vehicle."
- 13 Homeless shelter: As defined by Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 1240-01-31-.04, "a public or private
- 14 non-profit facility that provides temporary shelter and meals to the homeless."
- 15 "Housing First" model: designed to create permanent, affordable housing for homeless persons,
- 16 ranking by severity, and including "treatment services."
- 17 \$50 million homeless plan: supports temporary and affordable housing, the housing first initiative,
- 18 and "relaxation of barriers" around housing via landlords.
- 19 CoC: Continuum of Care
- 20 MHID: Metropolitan Homeless Impact Division
- 21
- 22 Section 2: Officers of the law will be instructed to redirect camping homeless individuals to their
- 23 respective homeless facilities under this act as opposed to charging them with a class C
- 24 misdemeanor. Officers will note the identity of said homeless individual and determine the
- 25 duration of time in which they've remained unsheltered, with an additional background check by a
- 26 member of the CoC to ensure applicable housing and chronic homelessness status.
- 27
- 28 Section 3: In the circumstance of homeless shelters being overwhelmed by homeless individuals,
- 29 risking an increase in camping activity, areas of the prepared public domain can also be used to
- 30 house the homeless. As listed in the \$50 million homeless plan under the Housing First model,
- 31 hotels are also listed as venues for temporary housing, and an additional 1,000 beds via shelters
- 32 are estimated to be available by fall 2023.
- 33
- 34 Section 4: In lieu of Mayor John Cooper's \$50 million plan, small, 96 sq. foot units of affordable
- 35 housing can be constructed for an affordable price, falling within the \$20,000 range per unit in
- 36 comparison to the allotted \$47 daily cost to house a jailed person totaling \$534,242,066. This
- 37 additional program for an increase in temporary housing would be funded by the \$9 million
- 38 allotted to the MHID under this plan.

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		RSB/23-5-5	
			RED SENATE	
ACTION ON THE BILL			HOUSE	SENATE
Senate - Education			Pass ☐	Pass ☐
Ashlynn York, Connor Grain			Fail ☐	Fail ☐
Clarksville Academy				

AN ACT TO REDUCE BIAS IN BOOK BANNING PRACTICES IN PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARIES

- 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) Age-Appropriate Materials Act - act requiring public schools to post a list of the materials in
- 5 their libraries for parents to review
- 6 b) Unite Against Banned Books - the ALA's initiative to combat censorship of library materials
- 7 c) American Library Association Office for Intellectual Freedom - enforces ALA policies regarding
- 8 intellectual freedom as outlined in the Library Bill of Rights
- 9 d) ALA Library Bill of Rights - the ALA's policy on access to library materials
- 10 e) TISA - the Tennessee Investment in Student Achievement which moved Tennessee from
- 11 resource-based funding to student-based funding
- 12
- 13 Section 2: This act requires measures to be taken to ensure that a more inclusive and
- 14 representative process in regards to identifying appropriate materials is redefined, such as:
- 15 a) Establishing a committee of school librarians, reading specialists, and school administrators
- 16 to review complaints of inappropriate material and respond to any questions or concerns as
- 17 well as create guidelines for defining age-appropriate material
- 18 b) Partnering with the American Library Association Office for Intellectual Freedom and the
- 19 Unite Against Banned Books initiative in order to raise awareness on the harm of book banning
- 20 c) Creating special library cards for public libraries inspired by the Nashville Public Library's "I
- 21 read banned books" for the purpose of raising awareness about book banning
- 22
- 23 Section 3: Parents with concerns regarding school library material may meet with the committee
- 24 established in Section 2. Furthermore, meetings similar to school board meetings may be held for
- 25 the community to voice any concerns they may have and advocate for any change they see
- 26 necessary.
- 27
- 28 Section 4: If enacted, this bill will be paid for with funds from the TISA with a total cost of
- 29 \$17,338,328. Of these funds, \$16,920,000 will be allocated to paying committee members and
- 30 \$418,328 will be allocated to create the special library cards stated in Section 2.
- 31
- 32 Section 5: All laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 33
- 34 Section 6: This act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.
- 35

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government		WSB/23-5-6	
			WHITE SENATE	
ACTION ON THE BILL			HOUSE	SENATE
Senate - Commerce and Labor			Pass ☐	Pass ☐
Aoife Davis			Fail ☐	Fail ☐
Signal Mountain High School				

AN ACT TO BAN THE IMPORTING, SELLING, AND MANUFACTURING OF FULLY AUTOMATIC ASSAULT WEAPONS

- 1 Section 1) Terms used in this act are defined as follows:
- 2 a) Semiautomatic assault weapons: civilian versions of automatic military assault rifles (such as
- 3 the AK-47 and the M-16) and automatic military assault pistols, the only difference being that
- 4 military assault weapons are machine guns with rounds being continuously fired and civilian
- 5 assault weapons are semiautomatic, requiring the user to repeatedly pull the trigger.
- 6 b) Fully automatic assault weapons: synonymous with machine guns, fire rounds continuously as
- 7 long as the user is pulling the trigger. Has a wider connotation of mass murder because of the
- 8 ease of use and destructive association.
- 9 c) Bump stock: a device that can be attached to semiautomatic assault weapons in the place of
- 10 the gunstock that allows the gun to fire bullets more rapidly, converting a semiautomatic assault
- 11 weapon into a fully automatic assault weapon.
- 12
- 13 Section 2) This act will ban the manufacturing, selling, and importing of fully automatic assault
- 14 weapons. Fully automatic assault weapons are not used for any civilian needs including but not
- 15 limited to: hunting, personal safety, and stationary practice. On average, 1,273 people die every
- 16 year from gun violence in the state of Tennessee, costing the Tennessee government \$18.0 billion
- 17 each year, \$415.5 million of which is paid for by taxpayers.
- 18
- 19 Section 3) If enacted, this act will prohibit the sale, manufacturing, or importation of fully
- 20 automatic assault weapons and bump stocks. This will affect corporations who are currently
- 21 manufacturing and selling fully automatic assault weapons as they no longer will be able to
- 22 manufacture these weapons in the state of Tennessee.
- 23
- 24 Section 4) If enacted, this act will end the current importation of fully automatic assault weapons
- 25 in TN, prohibiting corporations from shipping said weapons into the state, or having current arms
- 26 factories repair or modify them.
- 27
- 28 Section 5) This act will save the state of Tennessee billions of dollars each year from the decrease
- 29 in gun violence and its effects across the state.
- 30
- 31 Section 6) All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
- 32
- 33 Section 7) This act shall take effect on December 1, 2023, with public welfare requiring it.
- 34
- 35

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	WSB/23-5-7
	Senate - Government Operations Bethel Derege, Shae Camardo, Ainay Delahanty Martin Luther King Magnet School	WHITE SENATE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO EXTEND VOTING RIGHTS TO NON-VIOLENT EX-FELONS.

- 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 Non-violent felon: A non-violent felon is a person who commits a crime that is very severe but
- 5 does not involve the use or threat of force. These felonies do not result in physical injury to
- 6 another individual. These people may perpetrate non-violent crimes, such as property damage,
- 7 possession or distribution of drugs, etc.
- 8
- 9 Section 2: All non-violent felons who have served their prison sentences will be eligible to vote.
- 10
- 11 Section 3: This act will be overseen by Mark Goins, the coordinator of elections and the head of
- 12 the Division of Elections department in the state of Tennessee.
- 13
- 14 Section 4: This bill will be of no cost to the Tennessee state government.
- 15
- 16 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 17
- 18 Section 6: This act will take effect immediately after passing.
- 19
- 20

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	WSB/23-5-8
	Senate - Health & Welfare Sanaa Johnson, Kayla Johnson Wilson Central High School	WHITE SENATE ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ Fail ☐

An Act to amend Tennessee code 41-21-206

- 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 "Custodian" means the warden of a state correctional facility;
- 5 "Menstrual care" a person's physical, mental, and social well-being during menstruation;
- 6 "Ibuprofen" means a non-steroidal, anti-inflammatory medication used to treat mild to moderate
- 7 pain and inflammation;
- 8 "State correctional facility" means a state facility or state institution that holds inmates under the
- 9 jurisdiction of the department; and
- 10 The Tennessee "Rainy Day Fund" is a reserve of money created by fiscally conservative spending.
- 11 The fund currently stands at 1.6 billion dollars.
- 12 "Commissary" means the correctional facility's store from which inmates can purchase personal
- 13 care and food items; and;
- 14 "Feminine hygiene products" includes:
- 15 Sanitary Napkins
- 16 Tampons
- 17 Menstrual cups
- 18 Menstrual sponges
- 19
- 20 Section 2: 41-21-206 .In accordance with Tennessee code 41-21-206, Custodians are required to
- 21 provide feminine hygiene products to all women incarcerated in a state correctional facility free of
- 22 charge in an amount that is appropriate to the needs of the woman without a medical permit.
- 23 Incarcerated women are not required to have a medical diagnosis to request hygiene products.
- 24 Custodians must make hygiene products available in the medical area and housing unit of the
- 25 state correctional facility.
- 26 Section 3: Feminine hygiene products that are provided must be provided in appropriate quality.
- 27 Incarcerated women must be able to use these products to meet their needs without altering them
- 28 or without using multiple products at one time.
- 29 Section 4: A system will be put in place to allow inmates to request what they deem a necessary
- 30 number of products related to menstrual care from the medical staff.
- 31 If inmates require feminine hygiene products, they will complete a form using a system developed
- 32 by the correctional facility to request a specified number of feminine hygiene products from
- 33 medical staff. Inmates must be provided with their products within a week of submission. The
- 34 medical staff will be responsible for distributing feminine hygiene products. If, upon arrival,
- 35 inmates are in need of feminine hygiene products before they can submit a form, they can
- 36 request the amount they will need within the first week of their arrival. Any inmate that still
- 37 requires more feminine hygiene products after they have submitted their form can make a request
- 38 to the medical staff for more. Inmates should have the option of purchasing ibuprofen for a fee of
- 39 two dollars. Ibuprofen will be available to purchase in the commissary; the medication will be kept

40 in the medical area and distributed by medical staff. Medical staff must ensure that the inmate
41 who purchased the ibuprofen takes the proper dosage.
42
43 Section 5: Every four years, a baseline sum of \$175,062.08 will be withdrawn from the Tennessee
44 Rainy Day fund for reusable sanitary napkins. A baseline sum of \$85,482.24 will be withdrawn
45 from the Tennessee Rainy Day Fund annually to acquire ibuprofen. Additional feminine hygiene
46 products can be obtained through coordination efforts with non-profit organizations. Any funds
47 that are not used from the Tennessee Rainy Day Fund will roll over into the next year.
48
49 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
50
51 Section 7: This act shall take effect June 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.
52

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	 the Youth in Government	WSB/23-5-9	
		WHITE SENATE	
Senate - Judiciary Zach Gardner, Delaney Reynolds Central Magnet High School		ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐	

An Act to Change the Punishment for Domestic Assault

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:
- 2
- 3 1) Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:
- 4 a. Domestic Assault - A pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that is used by one partner
- 5 to gain or maintain power and control over another intimate partner. Methods of domestic abuse
- 6 include physical, sexual, emotional, economic, psychological, or technological abuse.
- 7 b. Aggravated Assault - An unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of
- 8 inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury.
- 9 d. Felony - An offense for which a sentence to a term of imprisonment in excess of one year is
- 10 authorized.
- 11 e. Class E Felony - An offense that carries prison time of one to six years in Tennessee, in addition
- 12 to a fine of up to \$3,000. Offenses without a specified felony classification will be charged as a
- 13 Class E felony.
- 14 f. Misdemeanor - A type of offense punishable under criminal law by less than 12 months in jail.
- 15
- 16 Section 2: Domestic assault is to be increased in terms of punishment from a misdemeanor to a
- 17 Class E felony. This would come into accordance with the United States Department of Justice
- 18 article 1610. Assault -- 18 U.S.C. 351(E), which "[D]ivides assault into two categories: those that
- 19 result in personal injury, which are punishable by 10 years of imprisonment and a fine; and all
- 20 others, which are punishable by one year of imprisonment and a fine." The current legislation
- 21 regarding domestic assault in TN, TN Code §§ 39-13-111 (2021), classifies such crime as a Class A
- 22 Misdemeanor and will hereon be reclassified as a Class E felony.
- 23
- 24 Section 3: The intent of this increase in punishment is to require a higher minimum sentence as
- 25 classified in the terms of a Class E felony in comparison to the minimum sentencing of a
- 26 misdemeanor. The increase in legal punishment for domestic assault will also guarantee that the
- 27 charges will appear in any future background checks of the convicted person(s) and cannot be
- 28 expunged.
- 29
- 30 Section 4: The change in punishment is to be considered definite in court trials, with a minimum
- 31 sentencing of 1 year in jail as described in the definition of a Class E felony, without the chance to
- 32 decrease the sentence if the defendant is found guilty.
- 33
- 34 Section 5: The aforementioned increase in jail time would allow for the victim of assault to settle
- 35 domestic affairs with their family and anyone related to the convicted person(s). The actions
- 36 intended to be taken by the victim include but are not limited to: Finding a new place of residence,
- 37 making any physical or mental recoveries from events involved in the crime, becoming financially
- 38 independent from the convicted person(s), and/or making any legal settlements about property
- 39 while safe from seeing the convicted person(s) anywhere but court sessions.

40
41 Section 6: The change in punishment for domestic assault would be in concordance with current
42 punishments in most other states, which have established punishments of low to higher class
43 felony punishments for domestic assault. In addition, this change would make the punishment for
44 domestic abuse much like that of aggravated assault or first-degree assault (in other states), with
45 which it shares many qualities, and which is already classified as a felony.
46
47 Section 7: Due to the nature of this change in legal legislature, this bill does not require any
48 funding from the involved parties to be enacted.
49
50 Section 8: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
51
52 Section 9: This act shall take effect January 1st ,2024, the public welfare requiring it.
53
54

		70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government			WSB/23-5-10	
					WHITE SENATE	
					ACTION ON THE BILL	
					HOUSE	SENATE
					Pass ☐	Pass ☐
					Fail ☐	Fail ☐
Senate - Education						
Simon Lewis, Preston Selby						
Signal Mountain High School						

AN ACT TO MAKE MORE STEM-RELATED OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
2
3 Section 1: Terms used in this act shall be defined as follows:
4 a) STEM- Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics
5 b) Stem Education- Educational programs inclusive of STEM, focusing on hands-on learning that
6 have real-world applications
7 c) Academic Programs- Educational programs run by the schools that provide extra academics.
8 support and enrichment to students
9 d) Curriculum- The subjects in school that make up the schedule or classes
10 e) Classroom Instruction- Instructional material provided directly from the teacher and the school
11 as opposed to the district or state
12 f) Low Income- Income which is lower than 200% of the poverty threshold determined by the US
13 Census Bureau
14 g) Title 1 Schools- A Federal Education Program in schools to support lower income students.
15
16 Section 2: All Tennessee schools shall be given the opportunity to apply for state funded
17 educational grants in order to provide lower income students with STEM opportunities. The
18 purpose of the grants is to:
19 a) Give schools the opportunity to expand current STEM programs, or integrate STEM into the
20 curriculum or extracurricular activities;
21 b) Allow for lower-income students to receive the same quality of education as their higher
22 income peers;
23 c) Increase productivity of the Tennessee Workforce by providing students with key STEM skills
24 that shall benefit them once they enter the workforce.
25
26 Section 3: The money given to the schools will vary, with the cap amount being \$250,000 for a
27 single school. A new committee composed of a diverse group of school employees will review the
28 applications for STEM grants. This committee will meet once every fiscal year to assess all
29 applications received from Tennessee Public Schools.
30 a) In order to determine which schools receive these grants, the committee will review:
31 i. Any current STEM programs the school may have;
32 ii. The amount of outside funding schools receive to fund these programs;
33 iii. The feasibility of introducing STEM programs;
34 iv. Any STEM-related extracurricular activities that the school is planning to have;
35 v. The mean household income of the school's student population;
36 vi. School student size.

37 b) Certain schools will be eligible for a higher monetary grant than other schools. When
38 reviewing the criteria, the committee will use a scale of 1 to 5. The lower a school's score, the
39 less of a grant the school can expect to receive.
40 c) The primary recipients of the STEM grants will be Title 1 schools which primarily serve lower
41 income students.
42

43 Section 4: The funding specified in Section V is used to cover the establishment of new programs
44 or labs, the annual upkeep of said labs, utilities, new technology, and other miscellaneous
45 materials including but not limited to:

- 46 a) Computers
47 b) 3-D printers
48 c) Hardware
49 d) Tools
50 e) Online Software
51 f) Building materials.
52

53 Section 5: The funding for STEM grants will cost \$50,000,000 upon passage of this bill and an
54 additional \$10,000,000 annually for upkeep. This funding will come from the Tennessee
55 Department of Education's yearly budget.
56

57 Section 6: All laws or sections of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
58

59 Section 7: This act shall take effect July 1st, 2024 with the public welfare requiring it.
60

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		WSB/23-5-11
Senate - Commerce and Labor			WHITE SENATE
Callie Copeland, Helen Smith			ACTION ON THE BILL
Central Magnet High School			HOUSE
			Pass ☐ _____ Pass ☐
			Fail ☐ _____ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO EXPAND WHEELCHAIR WARRANTY PROTECTION FOR CONSUMERS WITH DISABILITIES

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

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

3 A. Disability- a physical or mental condition that limits an individual's movements, senses, or
4 activities.

5 B. Warranty- a written guarantee, issued to the purchaser of an article by its manufacturer,
6 promising to repair or replace it if necessary within a specified period.

7 C. Manufacturer- a person or company that produces finished goods from raw materials by using
8 various tools, equipment, and processes, and then sells the goods to consumers, wholesalers,
9 distributors, retailers, or other manufacturers for the production of more complex goods.

10 D. Consumer- (1) the purchaser of a wheelchair, including purchases covered by private or public
11 insurance, if the device was purchased from an authorized wheelchair dealer or manufacturer for
12 purposes other than resale; (2) a person to whom the device is transferred for purposes other
13 than resale if the transfer occurs before the expiration of an express warranty applicable to the
14 device; (3) a person who may enforce the warranty; or (4) a person who leases a device from a
15 wheelchair lessor under a written lease. Consumers' shall include those who have not paid all or
16 some costs out of pocket for the purchase or lease of a wheelchair.

17 E. Express warranty- a warranty provided as outlined in this section, which requires that the
18 wheelchair shall be free from any condition or defect which substantially impairs the use, value, or
19 safety of the wheelchair.

20 F. Wheelchair lessor- an individual or entity that leases a wheelchair to a consumer, or who holds
21 the lessor's rights, under a written lease.

22 G. Authorized wheelchair dealer- any seller of a wheelchair that: (1) has, within a specified

23 geographic area, an exclusive distribution arrangement with any person or entity that

24 manufactures or assembles such device; or (2) is designated by the person or company that

25 manufactures or assembles such device to repair or accept for repair a such device.

26 H. Nonconformity- a condition or defect that substantially impairs the use, value, or safety of a

27 wheelchair; 'nonconformity' shall not include a condition or defect which results from abuse,

28 neglect, or the unreasonable and unforeseeable misuse of the wheelchair by consumer

29 modification or alteration.

30 H. Collateral costs- one of the following expenses incurred by a consumer: (1) the cost to rent a

31 substitute wheelchair during the time repairs are attempted for a wheelchair that has a

32 nonconformity and during the time preceding replacement for this wheelchair; (2) the cost of

33 shipping a wheelchair that has a nonconformity to a manufacturer, lessor, or authorized

34 wheelchair dealer for repair or replacement; (3) lost wages and transportation expenses resulting

35 from a nonconformity in a wheelchair; and (4) out-of-pocket medical expenses for the treatment

36 of a physical injury caused by a nonconformity in a wheelchair.

37

39 Section 2: Following the sale of a wheelchair from a manufacturer to a consumer, an express
40 warranty for the wheelchair shall be required to be provided to the consumer. This warranty shall
41 be no less than two years following the delivery of the wheelchair to the consumer. This warranty
42 must be expressed in a statement directed to the consumer, written in a concise form the
43 consumer can understand. The statement must include the applicable warranty period of two or
44 more years from the date of initial delivery. If the consumer is not provided with this statement,
45 the manufacturer is in violation of this section, and the period of the express warranty shall be set
46 to a default of three years.

47
48 Section 3: If a nonconformity of this express warranty is reported to the manufacturer, a
49 wheelchair lessor, or an authorized wheelchair dealer, and the wheelchair is made available for
50 repair prior to the expiration of the applicable warranty period, the nonconformity shall be repaired
51 at no charge to the consumer. It shall be presumed that the consumer has made available for the
52 wheelchair to be taken by the manufacturer or dealer from the consumer's home or other location
53 where the wheelchair is customarily used.

54
55 Section 4: Whenever a wheelchair covered by a manufacturer's extended warranty is
56 nonconforming and made available by a consumer to the manufacturer, assistive technology
57 lessor, or authorized assistive technology dealer from whom it was purchased or exchanged for the
58 repair of a defect, malfunction, or nonconformity to which the warranty is applicable, the
59 manufacturer shall cover all collateral costs. The manufacturer shall directly provide to the
60 consumer for the duration of the repair period, as selected by the consumer, either: (i) a
61 replacement wheelchair; or (ii) reimbursement for the cost incurred by the consumer for renting a
62 replacement wheelchair.

63
64 Section 5: To receive a comparable new wheelchair or a refund due a consumer shall offer to
65 transfer possession of that wheelchair to that manufacturer. No later than thirty days after this
66 offer, the manufacturer shall provide the consumer with a comparable new wheelchair or refund.
67 When the manufacturer provides the wheelchair or refund, the consumer shall return the
68 wheelchair with said nonconformity to the manufacturer, along with any endorsements necessary
69 to transfer legal possession to the manufacturer.

70
71 Section 6: If enacted, this act shall cost the state of Tennessee no money.

72
73 Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

74
75 Section 8: This act shall take effect immediately, the public welfare requiring it.

 70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government		BSB/23-5-12
	Senate - State & Local Government	BLUE SENATE
	Uma Sood Central Magnet High School	ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE ☐ Pass ☐ SENATE ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT THE BALLOT INITIATIVE PROCESS 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) Active measure: proposed initiative.
5 b) Attorney General (as it relates to ballot initiatives): the attorney general prepares a title and
6 summary for proposed initiative measures prior to the circulation of qualification petitions. A
7 proponent must furnish the Attorney General's Office with the complete text of a proposed
8 initiative measure for preparation of an official title and summary.
9 c) Ballot initiative: a means by which citizens may propose to create, amend, or repeal a state law
10 or constitutional provision by collecting petition signatures from a certain minimum number of
11 registered voters.
12 d) Initiated amendment: initiated constitutional amendment is an amendment to a state's
13 constitution that results from petitioning by a state's citizens.
14 e) Indirect initiative: refers to a process in which, after sufficient signatures to place a measure on
15 the ballot are collected, the measure is first considered by a state or local legislative body.
16 f) Inactive measures: withdrawn or failed proposals.
17 g) Initiative petitions: circulated to collect enough signatures from registered voters
18 h) Initiated statute: a citizen-initiated ballot measure that amends state statute (state law).
19 i) Legislative referrals: also known as legislatively referred ballot measures are ballot measures
20 that appear on a state or local ballot due to a vote by the state legislature or local lawmakers.
21 j) Pay-per-signature: a method of compensating signature gatherers, also known as circulators,
22 who collect signatures for ballot initiatives and veto referendums. The method involves paying
23 signature gatherers at a rate based on the number of signatures collected.
24 k) Petition: a petition is a document addressed to some official and signed by many individuals. A
25 petition may be oral rather than written and may be transmitted via the Internet.
26 l) Proponent(s): a person who advocates a theory, proposal, or project.
27 m) Referendum: a type of citizen-initiated ballot measure that asks voters whether to uphold or
28 repeal a law passed by the state legislature, a city council, a county board of supervisors, or some
29 other legislative body. This type of ballot measure is also called veto referendum, citizen
30 referendum, statute referendum, statute remand, popular referendum, people's veto, or citizen's
31 veto.
32 n) Supermajority vote: in some votes and elections, more than a simple majority of those voting
33 must vote in favor of a proposal for it to be considered to have been approved.

34
35 Section 2: This act will implement a modified ballot initiative process in Tennessee.

36
37 Section 3: The initiative process acts as a check on the actions of the legislature. Legislators are
38 more inclined to introduce certain reforms and measures if the initiative process exists, as it is
39 likely that if they do not, action will be taken. US researchers have proved that states using the

40 initiative process are more likely to introduce governance reform policies. The number of initiatives
41 that are received but afterward withdrawn in Switzerland because it virtually mandated the
42 legislature to address the issue. It is thus asserted that the initiative process makes legislatures
43 more aware.

44
45 Section 4: To begin the initiative process, the proponent(s) will write their bill, get help with it, and
46 get help from the Office of Legislative Counsel in fixing the proposed law's language. To do so,
47 they must send a written request signed by 24 or more electors. The proponent(s) can request the
48 Secretary of State to review the proposed initiative measure after it is prepared and prior to its
49 circulation. Upon this request, the Secretary of State will review the measure regarding form and
50 language clarity and will request and obtain a statement of fiscal impact from the Legislative
51 Analyst's Office. The proponent(s) must submit a printed copy of the proposed measure to the
52 Attorney General with a written request that a petition title and summary of the purpose and
53 points of the proposed measure be prepared.

54
55 Section 5: When submitting the proposed measure to the Attorney General, the proponent(s) must
56 pay a \$3,000 fee. The \$3,000 is placed in a trust fund for the Office of the State Treasurer and is
57 refunded if qualified for the ballot within two years of the summary being issued to the
58 proponent(s). If the proposed initiative measure does not qualify, it is put into the General Fund of
59 the State. The Attorney General's Office will post the proposed initiative measure on its website for
60 a public review process during which the public sends written public comments to the Attorney
61 General's Office via their website. During the public review period, amendments signed by all
62 proponents may be sent to the Attorney General's Office. After the public review period, once the
63 \$3,000 is received, and the proponents have requested it for review, the Attorney General will
64 prepare a circulating title and summary, which is the official summary of the proposed initiative
65 measure. While preparing a circulating title and summary shall, in boldface print, it is required to
66 include either the estimate of the amount of any increase or decrease in revenues or costs to the
67 state or local government and if any substantial net change in state or local finances would result.
68 The Department of Finance and the Legislative Analyst must prepare this estimate within 60 days
69 of receiving the money and having been requested for the approval of the proposed initiative
70 measure.

71
72 Section 6: The format for the initiative petition is specified by law. County elections officials will
73 not accept or file petitions which do not follow the Elections Code.

74
75 Section 7: To qualify for the ballot, the initiative petition must be signed by a specified number of
76 registered voters depending on the type of proposed initiative measure. All petitions must be
77 signed by registered voters. Petitions proposing initiative statutes must have signatures equal to at
78 least 5% of the total votes cast for the office of Governor at the last gubernatorial election.
79 Petitions proposing initiative constitutional amendments must have enough signatures equal to at
80 least 8% of the total votes cast for the office of Governor at the last gubernatorial election. The
81 signature requirements are the same for a referendum as an initiative statute—at least 5% of the
82 total votes cast for the office of Governor at the last gubernatorial election.

83
84 Section 8: Some of the regulations on ballot initiatives include the following: Each proposed
85 measure may only address one subject. A measure may not make any of its provisions dependent
86 on a certain percentage of voters approving or disapproving of the measure, or any provisions
87 apply differently to political subdivisions. Veto Referendums may not be used on emergency
88 legislation, statutes calling elections, or statutes supplying tax levies or appropriations for current
89 expenses of the state. If two or more measures conflict, the measure receiving the greatest
90 number of affirmative votes supersedes the other. Veto referendums cannot be used for tax
91 increases or decreases. Pay-per-signature is prohibited. The State may not constitutionally delay
92 the circulation of a referendum petition to certify a ballot title. The legislature and amending

93 indirect initiatives may not be passed during the same legislative session. The Elections Code
94 imposes certain criminal penalties for abuses related to the circulation of initiative petitions. It
95 prohibits circulators from intentionally misrepresenting or intentionally making any false statement
96 concerning the petition, or the petition's Official Top Funders, to potential petition signers;
97 intentionally making a false statement as to whether the circulator is a paid signature gatherer or a
98 volunteer; and from prohibiting signers from reading the proposed initiative measure or petition or
99 Attorney General's summary.

100
101 Section 9: The initiated statutes and amendments will be introduced to the State of Tennessee. If
102 enacted, in the first year only the referendum process will be introduced. In the second year,
103 initiated amendments will be introduced, and the following year the initiated statute will be
104 introduced. This bill will come at no cost to the State of Tennessee as the bills will be available to
105 vote on during General Election Days, meaning no money will be spent on an additional election,
106 however, \$10,000 have been allocated for any unforeseen issues.

107
108 Section 10: This will come at a \$10,000 cost to the State of Tennessee.

109
110 Section 11: All laws or parts of laws in conflict are hereby repealed.

111
112 Section 12: This act shall take effect on March 5, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.

113
114

39 Section 9: This act shall take effect June 1, 2023, these apps and websites will need to have
40 implemented geo-blocking within 3 months of this bill being enacted. z
41
42

		70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government	
		BSB/23-5-13	
Senate - Health & Welfare		BLUE SENATE	
Alastair McCarrall, Ross Kleinlein, Benjamin Xiao		ACTION ON THE BILL	
Central Magnet High School		HOUSE	SENATE
		Pass ☐	Pass ☐
		Fail ☐	Fail ☐

AN ACT TO BAN ONLINE SPORTS BETTING IN TENNESSEE

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
2
3 Section 1: Terms in the act will be defined as follows:
4 Online Sports Betting- The activity of predicting sports results and placing a wager on the
5 outcome.
6 Geo-blocking - technology that restricts access to Internet content based upon the user's
7 geographical location.
8
9 Section 2: Online casinos are notorious for taking users data in order to target them in the future
10 which is also very likely what betting sites do. In the state of Tennessee alone over 375 million
11 dollars was bet on sports in one month in 2021. This number has not decreased since.
12
13 Section 3: Online sports betting apps and websites will be forced to use geo-blocking in the state
14 of Tennessee so that it cannot be used. Some of these apps include DraftKings, Caesars, BetMGM,
15 and Fanduel. Geo-blocking has and is currently being used in Utah and Hawaii to block sports
16 betting in the states. There are some ways to bypass this block by using VPNs, however,
17 companies are actively trying to develop better technology to detect when users are using VPNs.
18
19 Section 4: Violation of this bill, once enacted, will have a maximum penalty of 100 hours of
20 community service along with mandated therapy if it is believed that the offender has a gambling
21 addiction.
22
23 Section 5: This bill is designed to protect low-income citizens who are below the average income
24 level. This is because based off multiple studies people who are in poverty or live in poverty-
25 stricken neighborhoods are 100% more likely to gamble and twice as likely to be a problem
26 gambler.
27
28 Section 6: Over 350 million dollars was lost in 2022 alone, which would be the equivalent of taking
29 100 dollars from every single resident that is of age to gamble. Mental, social, and even physical
30 health can all be affected by problem gambling. According to the HRIA, problem gambling has the
31 highest suicide rate of any addictive disorder with 1 in 5 attempting suicide. It can also lead,
32 obviously, to financial problems as well as broken relationships, job loss, and legal issues, which
33 do not help the development of the state.
34
35 Section 7: The addition of this course will not require any funds to enact.
36
37 Section 8: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
38

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	BSB/23-5-14 BLUE SENATE
	Senate - Transportation and Safety Sienna Cherry, Lillian Padgett Valor College Prep	ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ _____ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ _____ Fail ☐

An Act to Expand the Effectiveness of the Tennessee Bus System

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA LEGISLATURE
- 2
- 3 Section 1) Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, should be defined as follows:
- 4 FTA- the Federal Transit Administration, the FTA provides financial and technical aid to local public
- 5 transit systems including buses, subways, light rail, commuter rail, trolleys and fairies.
- 6 Fiscal year - a year as applied for taxing or accounting purposes.
- 7 Public transit - Public transportation as a system for transport of passengers by group.
- 8 Infrastructure - The basic organizational structure and facilities as needed for the operation of society.
- 9 WeGo Public Transit - Transit service in Nashville-Davidson County
- 10 Northeast Tennessee Rural Public Transit (NET Trans) - Transit service for Carter, Greene,
- 11 Hancock, Hawkins, Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi and Washington Counties (operated by First
- 12 Tennessee Human Resource Agency (FTHRA))
- 13 TDOT - the Tennessee Department of Transportation is responsible for the management of many
- 14 forms of transportation and are involved mostly in funding and planning, for transit buses and more.
- 15
- 16 Section 2) This act will address the inadequacies of the bus systems, which consists of problems
- 17 with reliability and accessibility of buses. These problems deny workers access to jobs and public
- 18 amenities, and leaves rural areas largely inaccessible to Tennessee's current public transportation
- 19 systems. The Tennessee bus system currently has an average of 56 miles between each stop, over
- 20 100 times larger than the mean average distance between stops in US states. This act will also
- 21 reduce traffic and negative environmental consequences associated with a high amount of low
- 22 occupancy vehicles. Additionally, the government will be able to accumulate money through bus
- 23 lane fines and passenger fees which can be beneficial for other governmental projects .
- 24
- 25 Section 3) This act will provide funding to expand its map and rout system, increase the amount of bus
- 26 stops to decrease the distance between bus stops, increase the amount of buses and increase the
- 27 amount of bus only lanes. Bus only lanes would only be allowed to have buses in them from Monday-
- 28 Friday at 7:30am-10:00am and 4:00pm-6:30pm. Funds and standards will be provided by TDOT.
- 29
- 30 Section 4) A sum of about \$15 million will be taken from the TDOT budget of over \$600 million to
- 31 support this bill. Approximately \$5 million will be spent on a fleet of new buses, \$3 million on bus
- 32 stops, \$3 million will be spent on adding bus lanes to improve reliability and accessibility in
- 33 Tennessee. \$11 million will be spent over the course of 1 fiscal year to start up a more sustainable
- 34 bus system, and another 4 million will be set aside in the following fiscal year as a way to make up
- 35 for start-up shortcomings.
- 36
- 37 Section 5) All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 38
- 39 Section 6) This act will take effect January 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it.
- 40

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA the Youth in Government	BSB/23-5-15 BLUE SENATE
	Senate - Education Adalee Rainey, Lilly Pfeiffer Green Hill High School	ACTION ON THE BILL HOUSE SENATE Pass ☐ _____ Pass ☐ Fail ☐ _____ Fail ☐

An ACT TO INSTATE SEL LEARNING AS A CURRICULUM IN GRADES K-5

- 1 Section I: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:
- 2 Internalizing behavior: reflects a child's emotional or psychological state
- 3 Externalizing behavior: behavior directed outwardly toward others or the social environment
- 4 SEL: social-emotional learning is an educational method that aims to foster social and emotional
- 5 skills
- 6
- 7 Section II: This act calls for the implementation of the RESPONSE program in all elementary schools
- 8 throughout Tennessee would enact SEL standards that would be taught by grades K-5 by their
- 9 original teachers. They would be trained by the SEL specialists hired by the state of Tennessee. The
- 10 standards created would consist of: identifying internalizing and externalizing behaviors and
- 11 educating grades K-5 about ways to respond to those certain behaviors. The SEL standards would
- 12 differ by grade level and would build on previous standards taught in the year before.
- 13
- 14 Section III: The standards for the RESPONSE program will be set by the Tennessee Department of
- 15 Education. The state of Tennessee would hire 20 SEL specialists who would each cover five
- 16 counties, training teachers in a two week course, and would be assigned 92 elementary schools
- 17 each to cover. The teachers would be trained on how to differentiate internalizing and
- 18 externalizing behaviors and educate the students on ways to respond to each.
- 19
- 20 Section IV: The trained teachers would then teach the standards in the RESPONSE program in
- 21 various techniques, depending on the grade level. They would incorporate the standards into
- 22 learning strategies and styles that can appeal to every students' liking. Time during the school day
- 23 would be devoted to teaching the SEL standards, just as there is time for math and other subjects.
- 24 Some examples of different learning styles that would be incorporated are:
- 25 Kinesthetic: Practice problem solving skills in situations, incorporate activities such art and
- 26 journaling
- 27 Auditory: Discuss managing emotions
- 28 Visual: Displaying strategies in videos or pictures
- 29 Reading and writing texts
- 30
- 31 Section V: The total cost would be \$1.3 million. That is including: a salary of \$55,673 per each SEL
- 32 specialist hired, and transportation and potential hotel costs. The \$1.3 million would be out of the
- 33 estimated 9 billion that will be invested into the Tennessee state public school funding in the 2023-
- 34 24 school year, and the additional recurring 1 billion every year after.
- 35
- 36 Section VI: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 37
- 38 Section VII: This act shall go into effect at the beginning of the 2023-24 school year, the public
- 39 welfare requiring it.
- 40

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA		BSB/23-5-16
	Youth in Government	the	BLUE SENATE
Senate - Health & Welfare		ACTION ON THE BILL	
Jennifer Rivera, Yocelin Lopez, Marcela Moreno Collegiate School		HOUSE	SENATE
		Pass ☐ Fail ☐	Pass ☐ Fail ☐

AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE PINK TAX IN TENNESSEE

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms used in the bill are defined as follows:
- 4 a.) Menstrual products-pads, pantyliner, tampons, menstrual cups, or any product designed
- 5 specifically for absorption or containment of menses
- 6
- 7 Section 2: If enacted, this bill will require the state of Tennessee to exempt all menstrual products
- 8 from state and local sales tax. Currently, in the state of Tennessee menstrual products are taxed
- 9 in the same way as makeup, toys, electronics, and decor, that is to say, at the standard tax rate
- 10 as all other products. We are one of only twenty-two states which still enforce a tax on these
- 11 goods. Moreover, TN, along with Mississippi and Indiana, has the highest statewide sales tax in
- 12 the nation on these products at 7%.
- 13
- 14 Section 3: This bill would make it easier for women to access feminine hygiene products by
- 15 lowering the price. Nationwide, women spend \$150,000,000 a year on sales tax for menstrual
- 16 products. Why are we taxing our women for basic healthcare necessities? If we These products are
- 17 not a luxury item, they are a basic necessity for women to function within society, moreover,
- 18 access to these items are vital to a woman's health.
- 19
- 20 Section 4: This bill will not require any funding from the state. The state may see a slight
- 21 decrease in tax revenue because these products are no longer taxed; however, the benefit to
- 22 women's health statewide should negate any loss of revenue. Any cost associated with price
- 23 adjustments for these products will be incurred by the retailers.
- 24
- 25 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 26
- 27 Section 6: This act shall take effect January 1, 2024, or at the start of the next fiscal year, the
- 28 general welfare requiring it.
- 29
- 30

	70th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA		BSB/23-5-17
	Youth in Government	the	BLUE SENATE
Senate - Health & Welfare		ACTION ON THE BILL	
Parker Stewart, Mallory Chamberlain, Avery Eades Signal Mountain High School		HOUSE	SENATE
		Pass ☐ Fail ☐	Pass ☐ Fail ☐

An Act to Raise the Sales Tax to 10% in Tennessee on GMO products

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
- 2
- 3 Section 1) Terms in acts will be defined as follows:
- 4 a. GMO- genetically modified organism, whose genetic makeup has been altered in a laboratory
- 5 using genetic engineering.
- 6 b. Sales Tax- a tax added onto the sale of goods from the government.
- 7 c. Retailer - a business or person that sells goods to the public
- 8 d. Product - a good offered for sale
- 9
- 10 Section 2) Tennessee will charge a 10% sales tax rather than a 7% sales tax on GMO products,
- 11 using this as a disincentive to purchase these products.
- 12
- 13 Section 3) This act will be implemented into retailers that sell GMO products.
- 14
- 15 Section 4) This act will require the government to set a sales tax of 10% to all GMO products in
- 16 stores located in the state of Tennessee.
- 17
- 18 Section 5) Fiscal Agreement: This act will not cost the government any money, but it will come
- 19 from consumers purchasing the GMO products.
- 20 a. In the year 2021 consumers will purchase an estimated amount of 42.7 trillion dollars worth
- 21 of GMO food. If 10% of this is then given to the government, the government will make a total
- 22 of 4.3 trillion dollars each year.
- 23 b. For example if a pack of oreos is \$4.58 after the 10% sales tax it is \$0.46 more so the total
- 24 for a pack of oreos would be \$5.04.
- 25
- 26 Section 6) All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
- 27
- 28 Section 7) This act shall take effect January 1, 2024 raising the tax of GMO products to 10% and
- 29 the public welfare requiring it.
- 30
- 31
- 32

Tennessee Mail-In Application For Voter Registration

You can use this form to:

- register to vote in Tennessee or 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
- If you have had a felony conviction, your eligibility to register and vote depends upon the crime you were convicted of and the date of your conviction. To assist in processing your application, provide the required information in box 4 and any responsive documents you have. For more information about this process, call **1-877-850-4959** or visit **sos.tn.gov/restoration**.

Are you interested in working on Election Day? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Instructions/Checklist:

- ☐ Please PRINT with a blue or black **INK** pen (not felt tip).
- ☐ Provide the information in boxes 1–4 below, read the VOTER DECLARATION in box 5, and sign by the “X” in box 5.
- ☐ You must mail or hand deliver this form to your county election commission at least 30 days before an election. Go to **sos.tn.gov/election-commission** to find your county election commission address.
- ☐ To ensure a more confidential mailing process for this form, you can place this application in an envelope addressed to the county election commission.

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.

Names of persons selected for jury service in state court are not chosen from permanent voter registration records.

Voter registration records are public records, open to inspection by any citizen of Tennessee, excluding social security numbers.

Federal or Tennessee state government-issued photo ID is required to vote unless exception applies.

Warning: Knowingly 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.

FOR COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION USE ONLY

Mail _____ Reg # _____ Approved _____
Effective Date _____ P/A _____
District _____ Precinct _____ Ward _____

1 VOTER ELIGIBILITY

Are you a citizen of the United States?

☐ YES ☐ NO

Are you a resident of the State of Tennessee?

☐ YES ☐ NO

Will you be 18 or older on or before Election Day?

☐ YES ☐ NO

If you answered “No” in response to any of the above, do not complete this form.

2 PERSONAL DETAILS

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Middle Name: _____ Suffix: _____

SSN: _____ / _____ / _____ Date of Birth: _____ / _____ / _____ Sex: ☐ M ☐ F Race (optional): _____

Place of Birth (city/state): _____ Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

Residential Address: _____ (no PO box) Apt #: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____ County: _____ Email (optional): _____

Mailing Address (if different): _____

3 LAST ADDRESS OF VOTER REGISTRATION (if any)

Name: _____ Address: _____ Apt #: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ County: _____

4 FELONY CONVICTION Have you ever been convicted of a felony? (If expunged, answer “no”) ☐ YES ☐ NO If yes, provide the following information (if known).

Crime(s): _____ Date (mo./yr.): _____

Place (city/state): _____ Have you received a pardon or had your voting rights restored? ☐ YES ☐ NO If yes, provide copy of document.

5 VOTER DECLARATION: 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.

X
Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Signature of Person Assisting Applicant _____

Address of Person Assisting Applicant _____



ss-3010 (Rev. 09/20)

FROM:

PLACE
STAMP
HERE
The Post Office
will not deliver
without postage.



Voter Registration Document - Please Do Not Delay

TO:

_____ COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION

TRANSFERRED TO NEW ADDRESS

New Address (and mailing address if different)	District/Ward/ Precinct	Clerk	Date	Additional Information