



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



**Sponsors: Alyssa Flowers, Virginia Ungelsby, Lanie Schaffler,
Langston Scrugum
School: Grace-St. Lukes**

AN ACT TO LET MENTAL HEALTH EXPERTS ANSWER 911 CALLS

1 BE IT RESOLVED/ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE

2
3 Section 1: All terms in this resolution shall be defined as follows:
4 Mental Health - your emotional, psychological, and social wellbeing.
5 911 call centers- place where 911 calls are answered by operators

6
7 Section 2: This act will allow mental health experts to answer 911 calls of
8 this kind before they are dispatched to police officers.

9
10 Section 3: If this bill were to be passed, a lot more lives would be saved. This
11 is because police officers do not always know how to deal with certain mental
12 health situations and do not have the training to do so, and people could die
13 if they did not end up getting help with things like anxiety and depression.
14 Regular 911 operators don't know how to deal with less common situations
15 like dealing with manic depressive people. Because of the pandemic,
16 everyone is stuck inside of their homes dealing with themselves and no way
17 to get help from friends or professionals. But, if we had 911 dispatchers who
18 were also mental health experts, these people who are dealing with things
19 like depression, anxiety, and many other mental health things could have
20 someone to talk to and a possibility of their lives being saved.

21
22 Section 4: (2,520 operators averaging 20.81 p/hr= 62929.44 a year \$
23 158,582,188.80 for all employees in total so round up to \$200,000,000
24 money given to that department 1,000-1,500 for therapist and 400-520 911
25 operators hours of training. 400,000,000

26
27 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws that are in conflict with this
28 resolution/act are hereby repealed.

29
30 Section 6: This law will go into effect immediately after passage, the public
31 welfare requiring it.



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



**Sponsors: Lawson Beupra, Will Miraglia
School: St. George's**

**AN ACT TO INCREASE THE ANNUAL WAGE SCALE OF EDUCATOR
SALARIES IN TENNESSEE**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE

2

3 Section 1:

4 Wage Scale - The amount of american dollars by which a salary increases
5 annually.

6

6 Educator - Any public school teachers

7

7 Salaries - A fixed amount of money paid to a worker on a monthly or bi-
8 weekly basis, often measured in the total amount paid to someone
9 throughout the span of a year.

10

11 Section 2:

12 This bill will effectively create a set amount of money by which a public
13 education's annual wage is by law required to increase.

14

15 Section 3:

16 The sum of the annual increase must add up to a minimum of \$2500 per
17 year. The money required for this increase will be delegated to the school's
18 respective district school board by which it is then the responsibility of the
19 School Board to ensure that said raise is enforced by the school for which the
20 educator in question works for.

21

22 Section 4: The total amount of funding required per year in order to make
23 this possible would be \$99,609,000. The funding would come from the
24 Tennessee lottery of education's total amount of money made per year. This
25 could be mitigated by further delegating government funding to the state
26 board of education and by giving more of the annual tax budget towards said
27 board. All thought this would not produce any money, this would greatly
28 increase the quality of education and educator life.

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 on the beginning of the next public school
33 year



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



**Sponsors: Dev Dalsania, Austin Harris, Denton Smith
School: St. George's**

AN ACT TO LEGALIZE CASINO GAMBLING

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2

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

4

4 Gambling: Games of chance (Usually for money).

5

5 Casino: A public room or building where gambling games are played.

6

7

7 Section 2) This bill will allow casinos to operate legally in Tennessee.

8

9

9 Section 3) A portion of the money made will go to funding public schools.

10

11

11 Section 4) 0.5-1% of the money made by the casinos will be given to the
12 Tennessee Department of Education to give to the public schools.

13

14

14 Section 5) One must be at least 21 to gamble.

15

16

16 Section 6) This bill will not require any funding from the state but in fact it
17 will make the state a profit.

18

19

19 Section 7) All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby
20 repealed.

21

22

22 Section 8) This bill shall take effect as soon as possible upon becoming legal
23 for casinos to operate in the state.

23



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



**Sponsors: Anish Kodali, Elgin Lenoy, Darsh Shrivastava, Darsh Menon
School: Woodland Middle School**

AN ACT TO INCREASE THE USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY IN TENNESSEE

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2

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

5

6 Nuclear Power Plant - A nuclear power plant is a facility that converts atomic
7 energy into usable power.

8

9 Section II: Currently, more than half of the state's energy comes from
10 nonrenewable sources such as coal and natural gas. There are 2 operational
11 nuclear power plants providing 40% of Tennessee's power. That can be
12 improved.

13

14 Section III: Currently, the cost of producing the state's residential use energy
15 is about \$40,000 USD. If Tennessee switches to more nuclear energy, the
16 cost can be closer to \$25,000 USD (\$24,963).

17

18 Section IV: The cost of building a nuclear power plant is about \$6.5 billion
19 USD. This money will come from the TN Department of Energy's budget. The
20 power plant will pay itself off in about 10 years.

21

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

23

Section VI: This act shall take effect as soon as this bill is ratified.



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



**Sponsors: Maya Iyengar, Lily Mirza
School: St. Mary's**

AN ACT TO INITIATE A FIVE-CENT FEE ON PLASTIC BAGS

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

3 Section 1: Terms used in this bill are defined as follows:

4 a) Microplastics: (noun) extremely small pieces of plastic debris in the
5 environment resulting from the disposal and breakdown of consumer
6 products and industrial waste
7

8 Section 2: The average American family uses 1,500 single-use plastic bags
9 per year, each for an average time of 12 minutes, but these bags take over
10 500 years to decompose.
11

12 Section 3: Only 1% of bags are recycled, and the rest are sent to landfills or
13 pollute the environment, killing millions of animals each year.
14

15 Section 4: Plastic bags release harmful microplastics, which have many
16 negative health effects on humans and animals, including cell damage and
17 compromised immune function.
18

19 Section 5: Eight states have already placed bans or regulations on single-use
20 plastic bags.
21

22 Section 6: If enacted, this bill will initiate a 5-cent fee per plastic bag sold in
23 all grocery stores, gas stations, restaurants, and other commercial locations
24 in Tennessee. It will incentivize customers to use reusable bags, which are
25 widely available, rather than pay for plastic bags.
26

27 Section 7: From each sale, 2 cents will be returned to the business that
28 supplied it, 2 cents will be donated to the Tennessee Environmental
29 Protection Agency, and 1 cent will be reserved for administrative purposes.
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 effect January 1, 2022, the public welfare
34 requiring it.



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



**Sponsors: Claire Todd, Bella Grigson, Natalie Regel, Lindsay Manella
School: ECS**

**An Act to Assist Public Officials to Identify Hearing Impaired
Tennessee 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
4 be defined as follows:
5 a) Hearing Impairment: a partial or total inability to hear.
6
7 Section 2: Upon passage of this act, two car decals will be issued to hearing
8 impaired drivers on request by the driver. These decals will assist public
9 officials (first responders, law enforcement officers, etc.) to quickly and
10 efficiently identify Hearing Impaired Tennesseans. This will enable these
11 public officials to better manage emergency situations involving Hearing
12 Impaired Tennesseans.
13
14 Section 3: There will be no cost associated with this bill. The decals will be
15 paid for by the Hearing-Impaired Tennessean at a cost of 25c per decal.
16
17 Section 4: All laws or parts of law in conflict with this bill are hereby
18 repealed.
19
20 Section 5: When signed into law, this bill will go into effect on July 1, 2021.
21



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



**Sponsors: Anna Simpson, Evelyn Watlington, Maddie Camp
School: Harpeth Hall School**

**A Resolution To Give Maternity, Miscarriage, and Stillbirth Leave Pay
In The State Of Tennessee**

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) Maternity Leave- The twelve week period during which a mother gives
5 birth to or adopts a child

6 b) Established Business- "any activity or enterprise entered into for profit. It
7 does not mean it is a company, a corporation, partnership, or has any such
8 formal organization, but it can range from a street peddler to General
9 Motors."

10

11 Section 2) Under this act, all companies with a minimum of fifty employees in
12 the entirety of the business will be required to pay a percentage of the
13 employee's pay while on maternity leave. These employees will receive 70%
14 of their weekly pay for the first four weeks, \$2,000 of this money will be
15 paid by the Tennessee Government, and 50% of weekly pay in the last eight
16 weeks. These payments need to be made on the women's normal pay
17 schedule.

18

19 In order for this program to take effect within a business, the business must
20 have been established for a minimum of five years. During these years, a
21 company must set aside as much as they see fit for this program to be
22 successful within the business.

23

24 A woman is only eligible to receive funds for her first four pregnancies,
25 excluding miscarriages and stillbirths. This act does not apply to those who
26 are a surrogate or are planning an abortion. If a woman were to have a
27 stillbirth or a miscarriage, she is entitled to three days of paid leave that does
28 not tap into vacation or sick days. She will be paid the amount that she
29 would earn on a normal work day those three days. If she wishes to have a
30 longer leave, any extra time outside of those days will count as vacation
31 days.

32

33 This program will help the State of Tennessee because taking a leave of
34 absence is a period of time where a person would not otherwise receive pay.
35 Taking a leave without pay can take a major financial toll on these women

36 and their families during this time. By using this program, these people can
37 have more financial stability in this time of change.

38
39 Section 3) If a woman who meets the requirements is on maternity leave
40 wishes to receive funds, is denied that request, and still does not have the
41 money at the end of her leave, the company will pay 2/3 of the
42 amount she would have received up front and the remaining 1/3 over
43 the course of one year from the date the punishment takes effect. The
44 company will also pay a fine of \$2,500, half of which goes to the woman and
45 the other half goes to the government.

46
47 Section 4) This act will be aired immediately on the news and the
48 government's social media platforms. Each business will receive an email
49 from their state representative with the details of this act, its requirements,
50 and how it applies to their business.

51
52 Section 5) The money for this act will be coming from the Health and Social
53 Services portion of the budget. The companies will pay the aforementioned
54 percent of their regular pay and the government will pay \$2,000 as part of
55 the funds for every woman. This act will cost \$7,680 from the business for
56 one woman over the course of the twelve week period.

57
58 Section 6) All laws or parts of laws that interfere with this act are hereby
59 repealed.

60
61 Section 7) This act will take effect May 7, 2022.