

**32<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL TENNESSEE YMCA**

**MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT**

**SPONSORED BY THE YMCA CENTER FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**



**CHATTANOOGA**

**February 6, 2019**

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

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TENNESSEE YMCA

# MIDDLE SCHOOL

# YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YMCA CENTER FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Chattanooga, TN

February 6, 2019- Brainerd BX

## CONFERENCE AGENDA

8:30 – 9:30 AM	Registration	Outside The Crossing	
9:30 – 12:00 PM	Committee Meetings		
	H-1	House Committee 1	The Crossing
	H-2	House Committee 2	Cross Pointe A
	H-3	House Committee 3	Cross Pointe B
	S-1	Senate Committee 1	The Loft
	S-2	Senate Committee 2	Cross View
12:00 – 1:00 PM	Lunch	See Advisor	
1:00 – 4:00 PM	House Senate	The Crossing The Loft	
4:00 PM	Closing Ceremony	The Crossing	

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**CHATTANOOGA  
MIDDLE SCHOOL  
YIG ROSTER**

<b>Last</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Component</b>	<b>Comm.</b>	<b>Bill #</b>
Abdul-Kadar	Afsheen	Loftis Middle School	House	H-2	HB/2-7
Alley	David	East Hamilton Middle	Senate	S-1	SB/1-10
Amin	Aarav	East Hamilton Middle	Senate	S-1	SB/1-3
Ankar	Laila	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-1	HB/1-6
Arnold	Daniel	Loftis Middle School	Senate	S-1	SB/1-9
Artrip	Seth	Lookout Valley Middle School	House	H-3	HB/3-4
Avery	Jada	Orchard Knob Middle School	Senate	S-2	SB/2-11
Bacon	Katie	Loftis Middle School	House	H-1	HB/1-3
Beaty	Kelsey	Loftis Middle School	House	H-2	HB/2-7
Brantley	Tia	Center for Creative Arts	House	H-3	HB/3-2
Bratcher	McKamey	Loftis Middle School	Senate	S-2	SB/2-1
Brooks	Aiden	Loftis Middle School	Senate	S-1	SB/1-9
Burgess	Jaylon	Orchard Knob Middle School	Senate	S-1	SB/1-11
Burk	Owen	Loftis Middle School	Senate	S-1	SB/1-9
Burleson	Trinity	Lookout Valley Middle School	Senate	S-2	SB/2-4
Cal	Ja'Colviynn	Orchard Knob Middle School	Senate	S-2	SB/2-11
Cardenas	Armani	Orchard Knob Middle School	Senate	S-1	SB/1-11
Carroccio	Anthony	Loftis Middle School	Senate	S-1	SB/1-2
Carruthers	Evelyn	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-1	HB/1-4
Carruthers	Charlotte	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-2	HB/2-2
Casteel	Asa	Loftis Middle School	House	H-2	HB/2-3
Chen	Helen	Lookout Valley Middle School	Senate	S-1	SB/1-5
Cochran	Aria	Center for Creative Arts	House	H-2	HB/2-5
Coln	Bryce	Loftis Middle School	House	H-2	HB/2-3
Cooper	Ja'niah	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-3	HB/3-3
Cox	Audrey	East Hamilton Middle	Senate	S-1	SB/1-1
D'Alessio	Sebastian	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-3	HB/3-7
Davenport	Dylan	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-2	HB/2-10
Davis	Abi	Loftis Middle School	House	H-3	HB/3-6
Davis	Paris	Orchard Knob Middle School	House	H-3	HB/3-11
Davis	Kin'Shaela	Orchard Knob Middle School	Senate	S-2	SB/2-11
Emery	Aubrey	East Hamilton Middle	Senate	S-2	SB/2-10
Espey	Antonia	Orchard Knob Middle School	Senate	S-1	SB/1-11
Esposito	Audrey	Loftis Middle School	Senate	S-1	SB/1-4
Evans	Katelyn	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-1	HB/1-4
Floyd	Morgan	Center for Creative Arts	House	H-2	HB/2-1
Forgey	Reagan	Loftis Middle School	House	H-3	HB/3-8
George	Nicholas	East Hamilton Middle	Senate	S-1	SB/1-1
Gienapp	Kennedy	Lookout Valley Middle School	House	H-3	HB/3-4
Glover	Isabella	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-1	HB/1-1
Gooden	Owen	Loftis Middle School	Senate	S-1	SB/1-9
Graham	Sarah	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-2	HB/2-4
Guadarrama	Jared	Loftis Middle School	House	H-3	HB/3-8
Harper	Miles	East Hamilton Middle	Senate	S-1	SB/1-3
Hixson	Grace	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-1	HB/1-6
Hodes	Jonah	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-1	HB/1-10
Holliday	Emmy	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-1	HB/1-6
Houston	Mya	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-3	HB/3-10

Huff	Charis	Loftis Middle School	House	H-1	HB/1-9
Hughes	Taylor	Loftis Middle School	Senate	S-1	SB/1-2
Hunter	Ayania	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-1	HB/1-1
Hyatt	Tyler	East Hamilton Middle	Senate	S-2	SB/2-8
Isaiah	Franklin	Loftis Middle School	Senate	S-1	SB/1-2
Jackson	Jaeda	East Hamilton Middle	Senate	S-1	SB/1-1
Janes	Ethan	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-3	HB/3-7
Johns	Arianna	Orchard Knob Middle School	House	H-3	HB/3-11
Johnson	Ishmael	East Hamilton Middle	Senate	S-2	SB/2-3
Kanamarlapudi	Nitesh	East Hamilton Middle	Senate	S-1	SB/1-10
Kayasit	Arysa	Loftis Middle School	House	H-1	HB/1-9
Keenan	Kyla	East Hamilton Middle	Senate	S-2	SB/2-5
Kilingsworth	Michael	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-3	HB/3-7
Kirk	John	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-1	HB/1-8
Kocincki	Morgan	Loftis Middle School	House	H-3	HB/3-6
Lewis	Trent	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-2	HB/2-10
Lloyd	Connor	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-2	HB/2-4
Long	Wyeth	Loftis Middle School	Senate	S-2	SB/2-7
Loyd	Alex	Center for Creative Arts	Senate	S-1	SB/1-6
Lucas	Brooklynn	Lookout Valley Middle School	Senate	S-2	SB/2-9
Luker	Sophia	East Hamilton Middle	Senate	S-2	SB/2-10
Madewell	Abbie	Center for Creative Arts	Senate	S-1	SB/1-6
Matheny	Aiden	Center for Creative Arts	House	H-1	HB/1-11
McFarland	Clayton	Loftis Middle School	Senate	S-2	SB/2-7
Moore	Kaylee	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-3	HB/3-3
Moore	Mia	East Hamilton Middle	Senate	S-2	SB/2-5
Mun	Siyeon	Center for Creative Arts	Senate	S-2	SB/2-6
Murphy	Julia	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-3	HB/3-1
Newbille	Bree	Center for Creative Arts	House	H-3	HB/3-2
Nist	Hudson	East Hamilton Middle	Senate	S-1	SB/1-3
Patel	Kripa	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-2	HB/2-8
Patel	Siya	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-3	HB/3-10
Patel	Shivam	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-3	HB/3-5
Patel	Het	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-3	HB/3-5
Patel	Aarav	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-3	HB/3-5
Perryman	Carter	Center for Creative Arts	Senate	S-1	SB/1-8
Phillips	Acadia	Center for Creative Arts	Senate	S-2	SB/2-6
Pound	Solana	Center for Creative Arts	House	H-2	HB/2-1
Quinlan	Keely	East Hamilton Middle	Senate	S-1	SB/1-7
Ragland	TaKwon	Orchard Knob Middle School	House	H-2	HB/2-11
Raper	Katie	Loftis Middle School	Senate	S-2	SB/2-1
Rickerd	Maggie	East Hamilton Middle	Senate	S-1	SB/1-7
Rodriguez Cruz	Daniel	Center for Creative Arts	House	H-1	HB/1-7
Rodriguez-Cruz	Benjamin	Center for Creative Arts	House	H-3	HB/3-9
Russell	Christiana	Center for Creative Arts	Senate	S-2	SB/2-2
Sanders	Olivia	Loftis Middle School	House	H-1	HB/1-3
Schierling	Zora	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-1	HB/1-10

Scott	Marissa	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-2	HB/2-8
Sharp	Olivia	Loftis Middle School	House	H-1	HB/1-3
Shirley	Araya	Center for Creative Arts	Senate	S-1	SB/1-8
Skrypkar	Sofiia	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-1	HB/1-10
Smith	Brannon	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-1	HB/1-8
Smith	Cambree	Lookout Valley Middle School	House	H-1	HB/1-2
Smith	Brody	Loftis Middle School	House	H-2	HB/2-3
Smith	Davieon	Orchard Knob Middle School	House	H-3	HB/3-11
Smith	Brooklynn	Loftis Middle School	Senate	S-1	SB/1-4
Sorensen	Isabelle	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-2	HB/2-8
Sternberg	Jax	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-2	HB/2-4
Stinson	Jackson	Lookout Valley Middle School	Senate	S-2	SB/2-4
Tanis	Caleb	Center for Creative Arts	House	H-1	HB/1-5
Tate	Brandi	Lookout Valley Middle School	Senate	S-2	SB/2-9
Thompson	Maurquez	Orchard Knob Middle School	House	H-2	HB/2-11
Tinney	Lorelei	Loftis Middle School	House	H-3	HB/3-6
Tobias	Teagan	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-3	HB/3-10
Todd	Luke	Loftis Middle School	House	H-3	HB/3-8
Tompkins	Daniel	East Hamilton Middle	Senate	S-1	SB/1-10
Tudor	Sean	Center for Creative Arts	House	H-2	HB/2-9
Tutor	William	Center for Creative Arts	House	H-2	HB/2-5
Valles	Jorge	Orchard Knob Middle School	House	H-2	HB/2-11
VanArsdale	Katherine	Center for Creative Arts	Senate	S-2	SB/2-2
Waddell	Lauren	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-3	HB/3-1
Whitener	Jack	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-2	HB/2-2
Young	Lucien	East Hamilton Middle	House	H-2	HB/2-6



# 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.

# 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)]

# FORMAT FOR DEBATE

**I. Committee**

- Two minutes - Introduction**
- Two minutes - Technical Questions**
- +/-Five minutes - Con/pro debate**
- One minute - Summation**

**Amendments**

- One minute - Introduction**
- Two rounds - Con/pro debate**
- One minute - Summation**

**II. General Assembly/Plenary**

- Two minutes - Introduction**
- One minute - Technical Questions**
- Three rounds - Con/pro debate**
- Two minutes - Summation**

## SAMPLE COMMITTEE RANKING FORM

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

	Bill #	Innovation	Feasibility	Statewide Impact	Content & Research	Presentation	Total
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
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22							

# **YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT RULES OF PROCEDURE**

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

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

A. Patrons of bills should make every effort to write a bill in compliance with the expectations of the YIG conference. The CCE staff may remove inappropriate bills from the dockets of their respective chambers regardless of committee rankings.

B. When presenting their bills, patrons should uphold expectations for appropriate behavior. Disruptive behavior is subject to disciplinary action. Patrons should not use props of any kind while presenting their bills.

C. Patrons may yield extra time from their introduction to their summation. Delegates speaking “pro” on those bills may also yield time to the patrons’ summation. Unused time from the patrons’ summation is yielded to the presiding officer (chair).

D. Patrons may invoke Patron’s Rights during debate on their bill when a delegate has offered factually incorrect information about the text of their bill. Patron’s Rights allows the patrons ten seconds of uninterrupted speaking time to offer correct information. The patrons must wait until the speaker has concluded their remarks before exercising these rights.

## **II. Amendments to Bills**

A. Patrons of bills may submit minor amendments to their bills immediately prior to presenting their bill to their appointed committee. These amendments should be limited to simple corrections and should not change the substance or intent of the bill. Once the patrons have begun their presentation, they may not submit amendments to their bill for the duration of the conference.

B. The title of a bill may not be amended. Delegates must make every effort to ensure that proposed amendments do not make a bill omnibus.

C. Any amendments must be written on the appropriate form, be legible, and be germane.

D. Amendments must be recognized by the chair before the final round of debate on the bill, i.e. before the chair has recognized the last “pro” speaker.

E. The patrons of the resolution must declare any amendment “friendly” (if they agree with the proposed amendment) or “unfriendly” (if they disagree).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### **V. Motions**

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

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

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

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.



# MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT



# SENATE COMMITTEE 1



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Nicholas George, Audrey Cox, Jaeda Jackson  
School: East Hamilton Middle**

**An Act To Input A Monthly Meeting of Promoting Awareness for  
Mental Health in Schools**

- 1 BE IT ENACTED THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT  
2  
3 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:  
4 Promote - Express and actively support  
5 Awareness - Knowledge or perception of a situation or fact  
6 Mental Health - One's condition in regard of their physiological state.  
7 Suicide - The act of intentionally causing one's own death. Depression, bipolar  
8 disorder, schizophrenia, personality disorders, and substance abuse—including  
9 alcoholism and the use of benzodiazepines—are risk factors.  
10  
11 Section 2: All middle and high schools must hold a monthly assembly to expose  
12 students and teachers of mental health disorders, hot lines, and symptoms.  
13  
14 Section 3: The assembly will be held of multiple volunteers that have suffered  
15 through a variety of differing disorders and how they overcame their situation.  
16 The volunteers will explain what to do if a student is in a similar situation, who to  
17 contact anonymously, and why it is important to be aware of their circumstances.  
18  
19 Section 4: If this act is breached, a 1,000 dollar reduction, per missed monthly  
20 meeting, will be withheld from the annual school budget. The money withheld will  
21 be donated to a charity that specializes in mental health awareness or helping  
22 victims of mental health.  
23  
24 Section 5: This law will require little to no funding.  
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 starting July 1st, in the 2019-2020 school  
29 year.  
30  
31 Section 8: This act is to be evaluated after 2 years to confirm its benefits. If no  
32 additional benefits are recorded this law will hereby be repealed.



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Taylor Hughes, Anthony Carroccio, Isaiah Franklin  
School: Loftis Middle School**

**AN ACT TO LIGHTEN OPIOID RESTRICTIONS FOR PRESCRIPTION  
DRUGS**

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

2

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

5

6 OPIOID- A medical compound that resembles opium and is usually used  
7 to treat pain. Taking opioids for too long can result in addiction and  
8 negative psychological behavior.

9 PRESCRIPTION- An instruction written by a medical practitioner that  
10 authorizes a patient to be provided a medicine or treatment.

11 DOSAGE- The size or frequency of a dose of a medicine or drug.

12 DRUG - A medicine or other substance which has a physiological effect  
13 when ingested or otherwise introduced into the body.

14

15 Section 2: Doctors in Tennessee shall be freed from current restrictive  
16 regulations concerning dosing of their patients in need of pain medication  
17 containing opioids. Licensed physicians, being knowledgeable about  
18 medications, illnesses, surgeries and pain management, shall have the  
19 authority to prescribe medications and dosages as they think most  
20 appropriate for their patients. They shall have the authority to make  
21 these decisions on a case by case basis.

22

23 Section 3: This bill should not cost taxpayers any money. It will change  
24 regulations, but not cost any money to implement.

25

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

28

29 Section 5: This act shall take effect July 1, 2019, the public welfare  
30 requiring it.



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Aarav Amin, Hudson Nist, Miles Harper  
School: East Hamilton Middle**

**An Act to Raise the Legal Age To Purchase A Firearm To 25 Years  
Of Age.**

- 1 Section 1: Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, shall  
2 be defined as follows:  
3 Firearm: a rifle, pistol, or other portable guns.  
4 Fatalities: an occurrence of death.  
5 Minimize: reduce to the smallest possible amount or degree.  
6 Portable: able to be easily carried or moved, especially because being of a  
7 lighter and smaller version than usual.  
8 Mass Shootings: an incident involving multiple victims of firearm-related  
9 violence  
10  
11 Section 2: This act will require The State of Tennessee to increase the  
12 legal age to purchase a firearm to 25 years of age. This act is intended to  
13 reduce the availability of guns to juveniles in this age group, and in turn,  
14 minimize the number of gun-related violence.  
15  
16 Section 3: In the state of Tennessee the standard age requirement to  
17 purchase and own a handgun is currently 18 years old, and we intend to  
18 amend that age to 25 years old along with changing the age to own a rifle  
19 to 25.  
20  
21 Section 4: This bill won't require any additional money or funds.  
22  
23 Section 5: Any individual caught marketing firearms to any person under  
24 the age of 25 will be penalized as follows:  
25 1st offense: 3 months in prison and fines up to \$2,000  
26 2nd offense: 1 year in prison and fines up to \$2,500  
27 3rd offense: 3 years in prison and fines up to \$3,000  
28 Any individual caught in possession of a firearm from the age of 18 to 25  
29 will be penalized as follows:  
30 1st offense: 6 months in prison and fines up to \$1,000  
31 2nd offense: 2 years in prison and fines up to \$2,500  
32 3rd offense: 5 years in prison and fines up to 4,000

33 Any individual caught in possession of a firearm under 18 will be  
34 penalized as follows:

35 The consequences will be determined by the judge.

36

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

39

40 Section 7: This act shall take effect on January 1, 2020.



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Brooklynn Smith, Audrey Esposito  
School: Loftis Middle School**

**An act to justify that all Tennessee public schools begin no earlier  
than 8:15 A.M.**

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 Transportation: The action of transporting someone or something or the  
5 process of being transported.

6 Union: The action or fact of joining or being joined, especially in a political  
7 context.

8 Public School Students: Students who attend schools that are funded and  
9 regulated by the state of Tennessee and their local municipalities.

10

11 Section 2: The requirements of the act are as follows: No Tennessee public  
12 schools shall begin the instructional day before 8:15 a.m. Student clubs and  
13 other activities may begin earlier in the day provided they do not begin  
14 before 7:30 a.m. and end in time to begin the instructional day at 8:15.

15

16 Section 3: The implementation of this bill will be be approximately  
17 \$765,861,000. This would pay for more buses and the bus drivers that  
18 would drive them.

19 A.) A new school bus costs approximately \$50,000. The Department of  
20 Education will pay for this proposal.

21 B.) In light of the fact that the State of Tennessee plans to spend  
22 approximately \$ 5,107,571,400 on K-12 education in 2018-2019 the  
23 budget will support this one time expenditure.

24 C.)The following year the cost will decrease drastically because only  
25 maintenance and repairs will need to be included in the budget.

26 D.) After school buses have been in use for 12 years they are eligible to  
27 receive replacement bus funding from the federal government.

28

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

30

31 Section 5: This act shall take effect August 8, 2019, the public schools  
32 requiring it.



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Helen Chen  
School: Lookout Valley Middle School**

**An Act to amend TCA 57-3-403 by establishing a 2.5 gallon alcoholic beverage limit allowable for transport in all non-commercial sized vehicles and any types of non-commercial watercraft.**

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 alcoholic beverage: any drink that contains ethanol.

5 non-commercial: not having a commercial objective; not intended to  
6 make a profit.

7 watercraft: a boat or other vessel that travels on water.

8 revenue: income, especially when of a company or organization and of a  
9 substantial nature.

10

11 Section 2: This act will limit to 2.5 gallons the amount of alcoholic  
12 beverages allowed to be transported by non-commercial vehicles and  
13 non-commercial watercraft.

14

15 Section 3: Under this act, the penalty for storing and transporting over  
16 2.5 gallons of alcoholic beverage in a moving non-commercial vehicle or  
17 watercraft will be required to pay a \$50 dollar fine.

18

19 Section 4: This act will not acquire any state funding but may generate  
20 revenue resulting from fines.

21

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

24

25 Section 6: This act shall take effect January 1, 2019, with the public  
26 welfare requiring it.

27



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Abbie Madwell, Alex Loyd  
School: Center for Creative Arts**

**An act to allow American Sign Language to count as a foreign language credit in all middle and high schools of Tennessee**

1 Whereas American Sign Language is shown to be as beneficial as other  
2 foreign languages.

3

4 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth In Government

5

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

7 American Sign Language - The American English version of  
8 communication for the deaf.

9 Foreign Language - A language other than the native for a person, which  
10 would be other than English in the United States of America.

11

12 Section 2: This act requires all Tennessee public high schools to offer American  
13 Sign Language to count as a foreign language credit for high school graduation.

14

15 Section 3: This act will allow students to take American Sign Language as  
16 their second required foreign language credit even if they have completed  
17 their first foreign language credit before this act goes into effect.

18

19 Section 4: All public high schools in Tennessee will be required to offer an  
20 accredited course in American Sign Language

21

22 Section 5: The standards for this course will be determined by the  
23 Tennessee Department of Education.

24

25 Section 6: The addition of American Sign Language in all public schools will  
26 cost the state of Tennessee approximately \$25,000,000 which will be  
27 funded by the Tennessee Department of Education, which will receive funds  
28 from the Tennessee government surplus of \$2,000,000,000, as of 2017.

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 June 1, 2020





**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Keely Quinlan, Maggie Rickerd  
School: East Hamilton Middle**

**An act to prohibit the use of electronic devices, without bluetooth capability, while driving**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATIONS

2

3 Section 1:

4 a. Prohibit: Formally forbid (something) by law, rule, or other authority.

5 b. Electronic Devices: Components for controlling the flow of electrical  
6 currents for the purpose of information processing and system control.

7 c. Bluetooth: A standard for the short-range wireless interconnection of  
8 mobile phones, computers, and other electronic devices.

9 d. Capability: Power or ability.

10 e. Driving: the control and operation of a motor vehicle.

11

12 Section 2: All citizens in the state of Tennessee will be allowed to only use  
13 their electronic devices with bluetooth capability while driving. This law  
14 will limit the driver's ability to actively use their electronic devices while in  
15 the car.

16

17 Section 3: This bill applies to everybody who has the legal ability to drive  
18 a car in the state of Tennessee.

19

20 Section 4: Tennessee local police departments will enforce this law. If a  
21 person is caught breaking this law, they will be fined \$75. The crime will  
22 be decided by the police officer discretion.

23

24 Section 5: This bill does not require any direct funding from the state of  
25 Tennessee.

26

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

29

30 Section 7: This act shall take effect on August 1, 2019, in all of the State  
31 of Tennessee.



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Carter Perryman, Araya Shirley  
School: Center for Creative Arts**

**An Act to Ban the Use of Cellular Devices While Driving 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) Cellular Device - a smartphone of any kind

5 b) Driving - the operation of a motorized vehicle

6

7 Section 2: Drivers may not use or handle their cellular device while  
8 driving. This includes, but is not limited to:

9 Putting the device in between the shoulder and head/ neck to talk on it

10 Using any other way to secure a device to the head

11 Handling the cellular device in any way which includes, but is not limited to:

12 Calling

13 Checking notifications

14 Any other activity using the cellular device

15

16 Section 3: Any person to be found to be in violation of this act will be  
17 fined \$400.00.

18

19 Section 4: Bluetooth operation of a cellular device is permitted.

20

21 Section 5: Signage will be posted by the Tennessee Department of  
22 Transportation on major highways and interstates that cross state  
23 borders, also outside of major airports. TDOT will also be responsible for  
24 notifying the public of this policy.

25

26 Section 6: This act will raise revenue for the state.

27

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

30

31 Section 8: This act shall take effect on July 1, 2019, the public welfare  
32 requiring it.



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Christopher Arnold, Aiden Brooks, Owen Burk, Owen Gooden  
School: Loftis Middle School**

**A RESOLUTION TO FINE RAILROAD COMPANIES WHEN TRAINS  
BLOCK LEVEL CROSSINGS FOR MORE THAN 10 MINUTES.**

1 WHEREAS, in the state of Tennessee, most freight trains are 1.5 miles  
2 long, and travel at an average speed of 49 miles per hour.

3  
4 WHEREAS, the Federal Railroad Administration has reported that in 38 of  
5 the 50 states trains may not block an intersection for more than 20  
6 minutes, no rules to that effect are in place in Tennessee.

7  
8 WHEREAS in states other than Tennessee trains are forbidden from  
9 blocking more than one access to a cross street.

10  
11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE 2019 TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN  
12 GOVERNMENT:

13  
14 Section 1: Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, shall  
15 be defined as follows:

16 a.) Level crossing- An intersection where a railway line crosses a road or  
17 path at the same level as opposed to the railway line crossing over or  
18 under using an overpass or tunnel.

19 b.) Freight train - A train for carrying goods instead of people.

20 c.) First responders - People designated or trained to respond in an  
21 emergency.

22  
23 Section 2: This act requires that trains stop on tracks for no longer than  
24 10 minutes. The exception would be when trains experience mechanical  
25 difficulties, forcing them to stop. In instances when trains are forced to  
26 stop on the track they cannot block more than one access road.

27  
28 Section 3: This act will not require additional funding from the State since  
29 the traffic patrol division of each local police force will issue the tickets.  
30 Instead, it will generate revenue for the Department of Transportation.  
31 The penalty imposed on railroad companies would mimic the law currently  
32 in place in South Carolina. This law charges trains \$5,000 for each lane

33 blocked for more than 5 minutes. The penalty doubles for traffic tie-ups  
34 between 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

35

36 Section 4: All laws or parts of laws in conflict are hereby repealed.

37

38 Section 5: This act shall take effect on July 1, 2019, the public welfare  
39 requiring it.



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
SENATE**



**Sponsors: David Alley, Nitesh Kanamarlapudi, Daniel Tompkins  
School: East Hamilton Middle**

**AN ACT TO PROHIBIT SMOKING IN ENCLOSED SPACES**

1 WHEREAS, smoking increases the risk of developing ear infections,  
2 asthma, and other breathing complications, such as coughs, shortness of  
3 breath, and even bronchitis,  
4

5 WHEREAS, 15% of smoking-related deaths are the result of secondhand  
6 smoke,  
7

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT  
9

10 Section I: Terms in this bill, unless the context requires otherwise, shall  
11 be defined as follows:

12 Smoking - use of a cigar/cigarette.

13 Secondhand smoke - smoke that affects people around the smoker.

14 Enclosed space - A confined space also has limited or restricted means for  
15 entry or exit.  
16

17 Section II: This act will require the desuetude of cigars/cigarettes in  
18 public enclosed areas,  
19 however there would be designated smoking areas as decided by owners  
20 of private property. This would decrease deaths caused by smoking-  
21 related causes within the state of Tennessee.  
22

23 Section III: While this would ban smoking in enclosed areas, it would not  
24 ban smoking  
25 outdoors.  
26

27 Section IV: This would not cost the state of Tennessee any money.  
28

29 Section V: Failure to comply with this act will result in a fine of \$50.  
30

31 Section VI: All bills in conflict with this bill are hereby repealed.  
32

33 Section VII: This bill will take effect on August 1st, 2019.



# MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT



# SENATE COMMITTEE 2



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
SENATE**



**Sponsors: McKamey Bratcher, Katie Raper  
School: Loftis Middle School**

**An Act to Ensure that End-of-the-Year Testing is Eliminated**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:  
2  
3 WHEREAS TN-Ready end-of-the-year testing scores count 10%- 20% of a  
4 student's final grade  
5  
6 WHEREAS TN-Ready end-of-the-year testing scores heavily affect a  
7 teacher's TVAAS (Tennessee Value-Added Assessment System) score  
8 which determines how well the teacher is doing their job of teaching  
9 students' their proper grade level education  
10  
11 WHEREAS- We have many diagnostic tests to determine how well a student is doing  
12 in their current year of schooling such as Benchmarks, EasyCBM, and I-Ready.  
13  
14 Section 1: Grades 2-8 shall never take or use the TN-READY testing but shall  
15 use quarterly testing, like Benchmarks, to determine their subject mastery.  
16  
17 Section 2: Grades 9-12 shall never use the EOC (End of Course Exam) or  
18 any Tennessee State Regulated Testing to determine the student's GPA  
19 (Grade Point Average) or affect it in anyway.  
20  
21 Section 3: The Department of Education will save 107 million dollars but  
22 will not spend any money if this bill is implemented.  
23  
24 Section 4: An administrator who violates this act will be removed from  
25 the organization and be fined 1,000 dollars.  
26  
27 Section 5: The test-making company who tries to distribute the end-of-  
28 the-year tests will be fined \$50,000 for the first offense and \$75,000 for  
29 every offense after.  
30  
31 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.  
32  
33 Section 7: This act shall take effect May 28, 2019, the public welfare  
34 requiring it.





**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Christiana Russell, Katherine VanArsdale  
School: Center for Creative Arts**

**An Act to Provide School Supplies for Students Enrolled in Public  
Virtual School Programs**

1 Where as it is not equitable that public school students are given  
2 resources like paper and pencils while students attending virtual school  
3 have to pay for these supplies  
4

5 Be it enacted by the TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT  
6

7 Section 1: Terms in this act are defined as follows:

- 8 a) Virtual School - An alternative source of learning online
- 9 b) Public School - A school provided by public funds

10

11 Section 2: All virtual school students will be provided basic school  
12 supplies. Supplies will include the following:

- 13 2 elmers glue sticks
- 14 1 pair of scissors
- 15 1 pack of notebook paper
- 16 1 pack of graph paper
- 17 2 rolls of tape
- 18 1 pack of colored pencils
- 19 1 thumb drive

20

21 Section 3: The standards for this bill will be set by the Tennessee  
22 Department of Education

23

24 Section 4: People receiving the box of supplies shall retrieve it from the  
25 school district office due to the cost of shipping and handling. Supplies  
26 will be made available for pick up at the school district's department of  
27 education office.

28

29 Section 5: The addition of these needs provided for the students will cost  
30 about 50 to 200 dollars depending on class, teacher, and grade level.  
31 There are at least 9 virtual schools in the state of Tennessee. The  
32 estimated cost for the state of Tennessee is approximately 1.5 million

33 dollars. Tennessee grades that are able to go to virtual schools are K  
34 through 12. The money will be funded by the Tennessee Department of  
35 Education.

36

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

39

40 Section 7: This bill will be in act August 1, 2020



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Ishmael Johnson  
School: East Hamilton Middle**

**AN ACT TO REQUIRE ALL HIGH SCHOOLS IN TENNESSEE TO HAVE A  
CIVICS CLASS FOR 10th GRADE UNTIL THERE GRADUATING YEAR**

1 WHEREAS, most high schools do not teach young adults major subjects  
2 that are very beneficial to the real world such as how to get a job or  
3 financial advice.

4  
5 WHEREAS, all students should have a chance to learn how the world  
6 works before they graduate so they can have a better chance at being a  
7 good citizen.

8  
9 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government:

10  
11 Section 1: Term of this act, unless the context requires otherwise, will be  
12 defined as follows:

- 13 a) All schools that are a high school or have a high school in them must  
14 have a civics class that is mandatory to take at least once in a school year  
15 b) This class will only take one semester to completed

16  
17 Section 2: This act does not affect middle or elementary schools or their  
18 students until they are in high school themselves.

19  
20 Section 3: This act will require all high schools make all students attend  
21 this class for a semester from 10th grade to their graduating year of high  
22 school.

23  
24 Section 4: Classes must last 55 minutes long.

25  
26 Section 5: If a school does not follow through with the requirements they  
27 will be temporarily shut down until they meet the requirements and will  
28 be monitored by the Tennessee Department of Education for 3 weeks.

29  
30 Section 6: This act will be monitored by the Tennessee Board of Education  
31 but will require additional funding from the government and increase in  
32 taxes.

33

34 Section 7: This act will make schools have a civics class which will teach  
35 basic/everyday laws, taxes, how to get a job/set up a resume, their right  
36 as an American citizen, and how to live a good life and make a honest  
37 living as a civilian of the United States.

38

39 Section 8: All laws or parts of laws in conflict are hereby repealed.

40

41 Section 9: Upon this passage, this act shall take effect on June 20 2018.

42



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Trinity Burleson, Jack Stinson  
School: Lookout Valley Middle School**

**An Act to Allow the Dispersing of Human Ashes upon the Resting Places  
of Persons already Interred in the State of Tennessee by Permit**

1 Whereas many people wish to be cremated upon death and to have their  
2 ashes sprinkled over the resting place of a loved one  
3

4 Be it enacted by the TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT  
5

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

7 Ashes- the particles that remain after the cremation of a person

8 Cemetery- any location where the remains of a deceased person are  
9 interred or laid to rest in any legal way

10 Dispersing of ashes- the distributing of the remains of a cremated person.  
11

12 Section 2: This act will allow persons with the proper permit to disperse  
13 the ashes of cremated persons upon the grounds of cemeteries where the  
14 remains of previously deceased persons are interred.  
15

16 Section 3: This act will require the following;

17 The state to allow members of the public to apply for permits at a fee of \$35

18 The permit to sanction only the dispersal of human ashes

19 The permit to sanction the ashes being dispersed only in cemeteries  
20 where other human remains are buried

21 The permits to be available at all municipal city halls in the state

22 The applicants to produce a certificate from the crematorium

23 At least one authorized cemetery employee to be present in order to  
24 ensure that proper respect is paid to all other graves in the cemetery  
25

26 Section 4: This act will generate revenue for the state by the fee for the  
27 application for permits. Revenues from this bill shall be allocated to the  
28 discretionary fund for the state legislature.  
29

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

32 Section 6: This act will take effect January 1st, 2020, the welfare of the  
33 Tennessee public requiring it.



32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**SENATE**



**Sponsors: Kyla Keenan, Mia Moore**  
**School: East Hamilton Middle**

**An Act to Imprison Convicted Bullies Who's Direct Physical or  
Verbal Actions Resulted in One's Attempted Suicide**

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) Accused- a person or group of people who are charged with or on trial  
5 for a crime.  
6 b) Bullying- the intentions of purposely hurting another with verbal or  
7 physical force.  
8 c) Convicted- declare (someone) to be guilty of a criminal offense by the  
9 verdict of a jury or the decision of a judge in a court of law.  
10 d) Cyberbullying- a direct threat or purposeful attack as a post, comment,  
11 or direct messages to a person.  
12 e) Juvenile- of, for, or relating to young people.  
13 f) Mandatory- required by law or rules; compulsory.  
14 g) Malicious Intent- refers to the person's purpose, without just cause or  
15 reason, to commit a wrongful act that will result in harm to another. It is  
16 the person's purposefully harm or do some evil purpose.  
17 h) Prison- a building in which people are legally held as a punishment for  
18 a crime they have committed  
19 i) Require- need for a particular purpose.  
20 j) Sentenced- declare the punishment decided for (an offender).  
21 k) Suicide- the act or an instance of taking one's own life voluntarily and  
22 intentionally.  
23 l) Verbal abuse - when a person forcefully criticizes, insults, or  
24 denounces someone else. Characterized by underlying anger and hostility,  
25 it is a destructive form of communication intended to harm the self-  
26 concept of the other person and produce negative emotions.  
27  
28 Section 2: This act requires mandatory prison time for the convicted of  
29 bullying others into attempting suicide. The accused can only be convicted  
30 if they bullied and/or told the victim to commit suicide six (6) months  
31 previous to the attempt. The three levels of offenses will make for  
32 different jail time. The first offense: six (6) months and five hundred

33 dollar (500) fine, second offense: ten (10) months and seven hundred  
34 and fifty (750) dollar fine, and third offense: eighteen (18) months and a  
35 thousand (1,000) dollar fine. Twenty five (25) percent of the fine will be  
36 donated to the family of the victim. The remaining seventy five (75)  
37 percent of the fine, will proceed as usual. If the accused is under age they  
38 will attend juvenile prison.

39

40 Section 3: This bill will give punishments to any person who is convicted  
41 of verbally or physically harming another with malicious intent leading  
42 another to attempt suicide. The levels of bullying will determine how  
43 much time spent by the bully in jail. The first offense would include  
44 continuous verbal harassment or cyberbullying. The second offense  
45 include occasional physical abuse, intermittent threats and/or persistent  
46 verbal abuse. The third offense would include persistent physical abuse,  
47 repeated threats, and/or continuous verbal abuse. This bill will not take  
48 place unless the family of the victim or the victim who attempted sees it  
49 to court.

50

51 Section 4: The trial will be held by the family of the sufferer or the victim  
52 who attempted, only if they see it necessary or needed. The evidence  
53 would only be taken by notes or clues left by the victim, a victim's phone  
54 with screenshots or saved evidence of bullying, or an adult witness to  
55 harsh bullying towards the victim, which would include teachers, parents,  
56 or personal friends. With out this evidence there can be no real trial.

57

58 Section 5: There would be no direct deduction to the state's budget.

59

60 Section 6: Upon passage, the bill will become effective January 1, 2020.

61

62 Section 7: All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby  
63 repealed.



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Acadia Phillips, Siyeon Mun  
School: Center for Creative Arts**

**An act to amend TCA 49-6-1016 by requiring a gun safety course to be taught to students in the 5th, 8th, and 12th grade in Tennessee public schools.**

- 1 Be it enacted by the TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT.  
2  
3 Section 1: This act will amend TCA 49-6-1016 by changing a non  
4 compulsory class can be offered to students to a compulsory class is  
5 required for students.  
6  
7 Section 2: This act requires students in 5th, 8th, and 12th grades to  
8 spend at least 10 hours a year for each grade in a gun safety program  
9 using gun safety curriculum.  
10  
11 Section 3: This bill will require a yearly assessment, given to all students,  
12 to evaluate progression on knowledge of gun safety and the effectiveness  
13 of the required course.  
14  
15 Section 4: The curriculum will be created by the Tennessee government  
16 and be age appropriate.  
17  
18 Section 5: The state requires school districts to partner with the local law  
19 enforcement for the gun safety course.  
20  
21 Section 6: Each school will be provided 50 dollars for supplies if needed.  
22  
23 Section 7: This bill will cost the state of Tennessee approximately  
24 \$90,850 dollars per year. It will be paid for by the Tennessee  
25 Department of Education. This money will come from the Tennessee  
26 Department of Education Surplus.  
27  
28 Section 8: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.  
29  
30 Section 9: This act shall take effect August 1st, 2021, the public welfare  
31 requiring it.





**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Wyeth Long, Clayton McFarland  
School: Loftis Middle School**

**AN ACT TO ALLOW MORE FARMERS TO GROW HEMP**

1 Section 1: Certain words are required to be defined to avoid confusion of  
2 the substance that is referred to throughout the bill:

3 Hemp: A variety of Cannabis that is used in a number of common  
4 products that contains less than 1 percent of the psychoactive chemical  
5 THC. This act specifically refers to the industrial variety.

6 THC: Also known as tetrahydrocannabinol is the psychoactive chemical in  
7 marijuana.

8

9 Section 2: This act allows the common person to purchase industrial  
10 hemp seeds from a licensed govern. Any felons or people charged with  
11 possession of illegal substances will be prevented from purchasing hemp  
12 seeds.

13

14 Section 3: Any not cultivating industrial hemp are subject to being  
15 charged for possession of illegal substances. Hemp cannot contain  
16 anymore than 0.3 percent of the substance, THC. Hemp fields are subject  
17 to inspection and a sample of the plant may be taken for testing by an  
18 agricultural inspector before the harvest.

19

20 Section 4: Any selling or distributing hemp seeds without receiving a  
21 license from the state are subject to a fine and restrictions from  
22 purchasing hemp seeds. Hemp growers must register with a local  
23 agricultural commissioner. If registration/applications are lacking answers  
24 to the questions they will automatically be denied.

25

26 Section 5: The cost likely won't change for operations relating to this  
27 substance. The Department of Agriculture will continue paying for any  
28 additional government projects.

29

30 Section 6: This act shall take effect May 1, 2019

31



32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
SENATE



Sponsors: Tyler Hyatt  
School: East Hamilton Middle

**AN ACT TO DELEGATE A 30-MINUTE CLASS IN SCHOOLS ONCE EVERY WEEK TO TAXES, BUDGETING, AND MONEY MANAGEMENT.**

1 WHEREAS, Most teenagers in college and high school don't know how to do taxes.

2

3 WHEREAS, Most teenagers in college and high school have jobs and pay taxes.

4

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

6

7 Section 1) Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, shall  
8 be defined as follows:

9 Taxes: A compulsory contribution to state revenue, levied by the  
10 government on workers' income and business profits or added to the cost  
11 of some goods, services, and transactions.

12 File: Submit (a legal document, application, or charge) to be placed on  
13 record by the appropriate authority.

14 Manage: Administer and regulate (resources under one's control).

15 Period: A length or portion of time.

16 Student: A person who is studying at a school or college.

17

18 Section 2) This acts requires a 30-minute online class period, once every  
19 week, to teach students how to [effectively] file taxes, budget their  
20 spending, and manage money properly. The intensity of what students  
21 learn will increase over time as they advance in grades.

22

23 Section 3) Schools in Tennessee will be required to implement this class.  
24 Any school (or district) refusing to implement this class shall be fined an  
25 amount starting at \$1500, increasing by \$500 for each year.

26

27 Section 4) Teachers will receive necessary funding and time-and-a-half  
28 pay for teaching these classes.

29

30 Section 5) This bill would cost the state of Tennessee \$1,095,699.

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 August 1, 2019.



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Brandi Tate, Brooklynn Lucas  
School: Lookout Valley Middle School**

**An Act To Prohibit The Use and Disposal of Tobacco Products In  
Public Areas Within 100 Feet Of Any Entrance Or Exit**

1 Whereas people with asthma and other respiratory illnesses should be  
2 protected from harmful second hand smoke in the entrance or exit of a  
3 public area,  
4

5 Be It Enacted By The TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT  
6

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

8 Public areas: a place that is generally open to the public

9 Tobacco: nicotine rich leaves which can be used for smoking and chewing  
10

11 Section 2: This act will prohibit smoking or use of any other tobacco  
12 product within 100 feet of an entrance or exit of a public area.  
13

14 Section 3: This act will prohibit the disposal of tobacco or cigarette butts  
15 anywhere in public area except in waste bins.  
16

17 Section 4: This act will have no financial effect upon the state budget  
18

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

22 Section 6: This act shall take effect May 1, 2019 the public welfare  
23 requiring it.  
24



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Aubrey Emery, Sophia Luker  
School: East Hamilton Middle**

**AN ACT TO LIMIT THE AMOUNT OF SHELTER ANIMALS  
EUTHANIZED MONTHLY IN TENNESSEE**

1 BE ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2

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

4 euthanized- killed or put down

5 limit - a point or level beyond which something does not or may not  
6 extend or pass.

7

8 Section 2: All animal shelters in Tennessee will be limited to 55% of the  
9 original number of animals put down per month. Then to deal with the  
10 ever present issue of overpopulation limiting the amount of animals  
11 produced by puppy mills causing the amount of abandoned and  
12 overpopulated dogs to decrease.

13

14 Section 3: Animals must be over the age of 12 to be put down or must be  
15 terminally ill, having no will to live, enduring extreme, inhumane amounts  
16 of pain and suffering.

17

18 Section 4: \$5,000,000 will be put away to building new kennels in animal  
19 shelters in Tennessee to prevent animal killings. This money will be raised  
20 through fundraisers and if needed taxes. No extra taxes will be required  
21 the money will be taken out of unused and unutilized preexisting taxes.

22

23 Section 5: If a shelter goes over this monthly kill amount punishment will  
24 be administered according to how many animals over the limit were put  
25 down. This includes fines, the amount depending on how many animals  
26 were euthanized over the limit. Loss of government funding may be  
27 administered.

28

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

31

32 Section 7: This act shall take place January 1, 2020.

# MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT



# HOUSE COMMITTEE 1



32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Ayania Hunter, Isabella Glover**  
**School: East Hamilton Middle**

**An Act To Require All High Schools In The State Of Tennessee To Offer A Driver's Education Class**

1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth Legislature:

2

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

5 Driver's Education: a formal class that prepares students for driving

6 High School: a school that offers classes for grades nine through twelve (9-12)

7 High School Credit: a method used to document and determine if  
8 students have met academic requirements; credits are awarded upon  
9 completing and passing a required program or course

10

11 Section 2: This class will be the duration of 9 weeks (one quarter) in order to  
12 maximize the number of students that will be able to attend the class.

13

14 Section 3: One to two (1-2) teachers will need to be employed or trained  
15 per school. The number of teachers per school will be based on the  
16 number of students that volunteer to take the class.

17

18 Section 4: Teachers that are currently employed will be able to take the training  
19 course and become certified driver's education teachers. This will prevent schools  
20 from having to hire new teachers if they already have a teacher available.

21

22 Section 5: The training for teachers to become certified will be the same  
23 as the training that DMV's require to hire driver's education teachers.

24

25 Section 6: The class will be offered for all high school grades including  
26 freshman, sophomore, juniors, and seniors.

27

28 Section 7: This class would count as half (½) of a high school credit.

29

30 Section 8: The budget for this bill is \$18,260,000 - 36,520,000 to pay the  
31 teachers needed to instruct this class.

32

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

34

35 Section 10: This act shall take effect August 1, 2020.



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Cambree Smith  
School: Lookout Valley Middle School**

**An Act to Allow Tennessee Citizens to Own and Care for  
Tennessee Native wild Animals as Pets**

1 Whereas many wildlife rehabilitation centers are overcrowded and many  
2 Tennessee citizens are willing to take care of injured wildlife

3

4 Be it enacted by the TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT

5

6 Section 1: This act will allow Tennessee Citizens to own and care for  
7 Tennessee native wild animals as pets. Only animals native to Tennessee  
8 will be allowed as pets and limited to the following:

9 Birds

10 Coyotes

11 Deer

12 Fox

13 Opossum

14 Rodents

15

16 Section 2: A State permit will be required for the animal to remain with  
17 the owner if it stays more than a period of 7 days

18 A) The permit will cost \$40.00 US dollars

19 B) The permit will be provided by the state and can be purchased at the  
20 Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency

21 C) Applicants with a criminal record will not be able to purchase a permit

22

23 Section 3: Revenues from the enactment of this bill shall be allocated to  
24 the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency

25

26 Section 4: All laws or parts of a law will conflict with this are hereby  
27 repealed

28

29 Section 5: This act shall take effect on May 1st, 2020



32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Katie Bacon, Olivia Sanders, Olivia Sharp**  
**School: Loftis Middle School**

**AN ACT TO CHANGE CURRICULUM SO THAT ENRICHMENT AND  
REMEDICATION LESSONS ARE PREDOMINANTLY COMPUTER BASED  
IN A WAY THAT STUDENTS AHEAD OR BEHIND IN THEIR CLASSES  
CAN MASTER THE LEARNING STANDARDS.**

1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth Legislature:

2

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

4 Enrichment: provides students with the chance to acquire mastery of  
5 standards at a deeper level than what is outlined in the required curriculum

6 Remediation: Lessons that help students bridge gaps in their learning.

7

8 Section 2: The bill stipulates that the bulk of the enrichment and  
9 remediation lessons will be computer generated. This will streamline the  
10 teaching process while allowing for creativity, exploration and  
11 reinforcement. Students who are ahead in the classroom will have the  
12 option to move on to the next topic at their appropriate level or explore the  
13 current topic in greater depth. Students who are behind in the classroom  
14 will stay on their current level until able to demonstrate mastery.

15

16 Section 3: Those who disobey this bill will be fined \$7,000 , and they will be  
17 monitored by a law enforcement official for a period of 5 days. Any further  
18 ignorance of following this law will result in a \$5,000 increase in the fine,  
19 and a 3 day increase in monitoring.

20

21 Section 4: The implementation of this bill will cost approximately  
22 \$4,000,000. The State of Tennessee plans to spend approximately \$  
23 5,107,571,400 on K-12 education in 2018-2019. This bill will be funded by  
24 the TN Department of Education.

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 June 1, 2019, the public welfare  
29 requiring it.





32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Katelyn Evans, Evie Carruthers**  
**School: East Hamilton Middle**

**AN ACT TO REQUIRE A MINIMUM OF TWO METAL DETECTORS IN  
EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL IN TENNESSEE**

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  
4 defined as follows:

5 Gun- A weapon incorporating a metal tube from which bullets, shells, or  
6 missiles are propelled by an explosive force, typically making a loud pop or  
7 sharp noise

8 School- An institution for educating children

9 Weapon- An object designed or used for inflicting bodily harm or physical  
10 damage

11 Metal Detector- A machine designed to detect and alert of metal

12 Entrance- An opening that allows access and passage to a place

13

14 Section 2: This act will require all public schools in the state of Tennessee to  
15 install a minimum of two metal detectors in their school entrances. This act  
16 will require students and staff members to only enter through entrances  
17 installed with metal detectors, and to be checked frequently for weapons. This  
18 act will prevent students from bringing weapons and other harmful metal  
19 items.

20

21 Section 3: If a school does not comply with this act they will be fined \$8,000.  
22 Each year the fine will increase by \$1,000 until the minimum of two metal  
23 detectors are installed.

24

25 Section 4: The installation of at least two metal detectors per school will cost  
26 the state of Tennessee \$14,536,000. This act will be paid for by the Tennessee  
27 Department of Education.

28

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

30

31 Section 6: This act will take effect August 1, 2019, the public welfare requiring  
32 it.



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Caleb Tanis  
School: Center for Creative Arts**

**An Act to have the Failure to Correctly Utilize Turn Signals While  
Operating a Vehicle be Classified as a Class C Misdemeanor**

1 Whereas the failure to use turn signals has the potential to cause car accidents.

2

3 Be it enacted by the TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

4

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

6 turn signal - A flashing light or physical motion indicating which direction a car  
7 is about to turn.

8 Class C misdemeanor - A misdemeanor which can carry up to \$50 in fines (plus  
9 fees and court costs) and/ or a maximum of 30 days of prison time. Also adds a  
10 demerit point to a motorist's driving record.

11 demerit point - A point added to one's driver's licence when convicted with  
12 breaking road traffic laws. Demerit points can be added or removed, depending  
13 on the system in use.

14

15 Section 2: A turn signal violation will be attributed to a driver if the driver fails  
16 to use turn signals as stated in §§ 55-8-143 and 55-8-144 in the event that any  
17 other traffic may be affected by this movement.

18

19 Section 3: A turn signal violation will be automatically considered a class C  
20 misdemeanor.

21

22 Section 4: Jail time will only be the result of severe violations, and will be at the  
23 judge's discretion.

24

25 Section 5: The enactment of this bill will bring in revenue into the state budget.  
26 Fines resulting from the enactment of this bill shall be allocated to the  
27 Tennessee Department of Transportation.

28

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

30

31 Section 7: The act shall take place on January 1, 2020, the public welfare  
32 requiring it.



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Grace Hixson, Laila Ankar, Emmy Holliday  
School: East Hamilton Middle**

**AN ACT TO Provide All Active Law Enforcement Agencies With  
Narcan In The State Of Tennessee.**

- 1 Section 1: Terms in this bill are defined as the follows -
- 2 Law Enforcement Agencies: A Government agency that is responsible for
- 3 the enforcement of the laws.
- 4 Narcan: A substance that reverses the damage partially of an Opioid
- 5 overdose
- 6 Working Officer: An officer who is on the streets working at a certain
- 7 time.
- 8
- 9 Section 2: Each active police officer will receive 8 mg of Narcan to use for
- 10 emergency purposes only.
- 11
- 12 Section 3: Each dose of Narcan is \$10, and each officer will be provided
- 13 with 2 doses.
- 14
- 15 Section 4: The money will be provided from taxes, which we will raise
- 16 \$0.07
- 17
- 18 Section 5: The budget for this bill is \$660,000.
- 19
- 20 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby
- 21 repealed.
- 22
- 23 Section 7: This act shall take effect on June 1, 2019.
- 24



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Daniel Rodriguez Cruz  
School: Center for Creative Arts**

**An act to change the documentation required for obtaining motor  
vehicle operators' licenses**

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) Primary proof of identity: means documentation indicating the identity of  
5 an applicant for a motor vehicle operator's license in the form of (A) a valid  
6 foreign passport issued by an applicant's country of citizenship that is  
7 unexpired or expired for less than three years before an application for such a  
8 motor vehicle operator's license, (B) a valid marriage license and or  
9 certificate that includes the applicant's full name and date of birth, or (C) a  
10 consular report of an applicant's birth in a foreign country.

11 (b) Secondary proof of identity: (A) a certified school transcript, (B) a  
12 baptismal certificate or any similar document, (C) a work ID, or (D) a health  
13 insurance card.

14 (c) Proof of residency: means a piece of mail or electronic mail that includes  
15 an applicant's name and address indicates that such applicant resides in the  
16 state and is dated unless otherwise indicated, not earlier than ninety days  
17 before an application for a motor vehicle operator's license.

18

19 Section 2: All applications for a motor vehicle drivers licenses will require  
20 either at least one form of a primary proof of identity or second proof of  
21 identity and proof of residency.

22

23 Section 3: Legal US Status will not be required in the application for a motor  
24 vehicle drivers license.

25

26 Section 4: This change in requirements for a motor vehicle license will cost  
27 \$45 due to the fact of a change in documentation required

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 February 6, 2018, the undocumented  
32 people's welfare requiring it.



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Brannon Smith, John Kirk  
School: East Hamilton Middle**

**AN ACT TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF SRO'S (SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS) IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT  
2  
3 Terms in this act unless the context requires otherwise, shall be defined  
4 as:  
5 SRO (School Resource Officer) - a safety officer that is sent by the state  
6 to protect students and staff while they are at school.  
7 Budget - an estimate of income and expenditure for a set period of time.  
8 Fiscal Year - a year as reckoned for taxing or accounting purposes.  
9 This act makes it certain that all public schools in the state of Tennessee  
10 receive an extra SRO for every 750 students.  
11  
12 This act will apply to all public schools in the premises of the state of  
13 Tennessee  
14  
15 This bill will cost the Tennessee state government approximately  
16 82,444,558 dollars (.222%) of the annual budget of 37.5 billion dollars  
17 spent on average by the Tennessee state government. It will be taken  
18 from the 6,000,000,000 dollars of educational funding which will leave  
19 5,917,555,442 dollars to go towards education.  
20  
21 Any school that fails to abide by this bill will just be required to obtain the  
22 correct amount of SRO's.  
23  
24 Upon passage, the bill will become effective July 1, 2019.  
25  
26 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Arysa Kayasit, Charis Huff  
School: Loftis Middle School**

**AN ACT TO ensure that all intellectually gifted students in  
Tennessee receive at least one hour of services per week.**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2

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

4 Intellectually gifted: A child has intellectual abilities, creativity, & potential  
5 so great that it exceeds the normal standard.

6 Least restrictive environment: This means that a child with certain  
7 disabilities, such as giftedness, would be able to learn in a way that best  
8 suits their needs.

9

10 Section 2: The gifted children should be given at least 1 hour per week to  
11 associate with one another and work individually. In a group they can  
12 apply their skills and complete projects and assignments that utilize their  
13 gifted talents.

14

15 Section 3: The gifted classroom provides the social and emotional support  
16 every gifted child needs. All gifted children should be given comfort in the  
17 world and understand the positive and challenging qualities inherent in  
18 their giftedness.

19

20 Section 4: Our bill may cost around 71.2 million dollars, equaling \$60,000  
21 per school in Tennessee, which is only about 1% of Tennessee's education  
22 budget. The Department of Education will fund this.

23

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

26

27 Section 6: This act shall take effect July 21, 2019, the public welfare  
28 requiring it.



32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Sofiia Skrypkar, Zora Schierling, Jonah Hodes**  
**School: East Hamilton Middle**

**AN ACT TO REQUIRE ALL MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS IN THE  
STATE OF TENNESSEE TO USE AND LEARN THE "RUN. HIDE.  
FIGHT." METHOD FOR ACTIVE SHOOTER SAFETY.**

1 WHEREAS, the current active shooter safety method used in school is  
2 inadequate in protecting teachers, students, and faculty.

3  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:

5  
6 SECTION 1: Terms in this bill are defined as follows:

7 a) Run. Hide. Fight.- Method for active shooter defense (see below).

8 b) (Step 1 of this method) Run- When you hear gunshots and know it is safe to  
9 run away, run. Leave all belongings behind, then call 911 once you are safe.

10 c) (Step 2 of this method) Hide- If running is not an option, hide. Use what you  
11 can to prevent the shooter from entering your hiding place.

12 d) (Step 3 of this method) Fight- If the shooter is close, use this as a last  
13 resort. Grab what you can to defend yourself and disarm the shooter.

14 e) Active Shooter- A person who is actively using a firearm in the intent to harm  
15 people or cause fatalities.

16  
17 SECTION 2: The aim of this bill is to ultimately protect students, teachers, and  
18 staff from an active shooter. An in-depth video will be provided to the schools to  
19 present to students. Teachers will be trained separately on how to educate the  
20 students about this method, and how to respond in an active shooter situation.

21  
22 SECTION 3: This bill will be applied to all public middle and high schools in the  
23 state of Tennessee.

24  
25 SECTION 4: This bill does not require any direct funding from the state of  
26 Tennessee's budget.

27  
28 SECTION 5: Upon passage, this bill will become effective immediately.

29  
30 SECTION 6: All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby  
31 repealed.



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Aiden Matheny  
School: Center for Creative Arts**

**An Act to Require All Students in Tennessee Public Middle and High Schools have a minimum of 30 minutes of Physical Education instruction at least Every Other school Day.**

1 Whereas doctors recommend 1 to 2 hours of physical education every  
2 week

3  
4 To be enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government:

5  
6 Section 1: Terms in this act define as follows:

7 Physical education: Instruction in physical exercise and games provided in  
8 public schools.

9  
10 Section 2: This act requires all middle and high schools in Tennessee to  
11 have a minimum of 30 minutes of physical education instruction at least  
12 every other school day for every student.

13  
14 Section 3: This act will require the following each public school:

15 A physical education teacher to teach the students  
16 An allotment of required time in each student's weekly schedule for  
17 physical education.

18  
19 Section 4: This won't cost anything for the state because we will use  
20 already payed teachers.

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

24  
25 Section 6: This act will begin on the 2020-2021 school year.

26



# MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT



# HOUSE COMMITTEE 2



32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Morgan Floyd, Solana Pound**  
**School: Center for Creative Arts**

**An Act to Allow a Person who is 13 years of age or over to apply for immediate admission to a private or public hospital for diagnosis and treatment of a mental illness or serious emotional disturbance and be kept in a safe place until they get consent fr**

1 Whereas no matter how old someone is, they should have the right to get  
2 the treatment they need.

3

4 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government

5

6 Section 1: Terms in this act will include

7 a. Disturbance- A disruption of healthy functioning

8 b. Mental Illness- Disorders that affect your mood, thinking, and behavior

9 c. Diagnosis- The identification of the nature of an illness or other

10 problem by examination of the symptoms

11

12 Section 2: People ages of thirteen or over are permitted to hospitalize  
13 themselves without the consent of a parent or legal guardian.

14

15 Section 3: Once admitted to the hospital the child will kept kept in a safe  
16 environment for up to three days while waiting to get consent from a  
17 legal guardian to continue with the necessary analysis and procedures.

18

19 Section 4: The child is allowed to be admitted into a private or public  
20 mental institution for diagnosis and treatment of a mental illness or  
21 serious emotional disturbance.

22

23 Section 5: This act will not require any state funding.

24

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

27

28 Section 7: This act will take effect on June 1, 2019, the public welfare  
29 requiring it.



32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Jack Whitener, Charlotte Carruthers**  
**School: East Hamilton Middle**

**AN ACT TO REQUIRE WARNING LABELS ON ALL SPICY UNHEALTHY CHIPS**

1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth In Legislature.

2

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

5 a) Spicy- Any comestible marinated in and/or which may contain chili  
6 peppers, mustard, or any other spices that may provoke a intraoral  
7 sensation or desire.

8 b) Unhealthy- not conducive to health; harmful to healthy desire

9

10 Section 2: The coating powder that blankets spicy snack unhealthy foods,  
11 when eaten in a large quantity or regularly, can easily cause Gastritis,  
12 Macular Degeneration, and digestive issues. As a result, we will require all  
13 bags of spicy unhealthy chips to have a warning label.

14

15 Section 3: The warning label must include, what is possible to happen as  
16 a result of consuming too much of the unhealthy chips, and a suggested,  
17 healthy serving amount.

18

19 Section 4: The failure to meet this bill will result in a fine of up to 50,000  
20 dollars

21

22 Section 5: This act will require a limit of 5,000 dollars.

23

24 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws conflicting with this bill are hereby  
25 repealed.

26

27 Section 7: This act shall take effect upon the beginning of the 2022 year.

28



32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Brody Smith, Bryce Coln, Asa Casteel**  
**School: Loftis Middle School**

**An ACT TO STOP THE ABORTION OF AN UNBORN CHILD BY ANY  
MEANS OR REASONS AND BE CLASSIFIED AS HOMICIDE IN ALL  
INSTANCES.**

1 Section 1: The terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise,  
2 will be defined as follows:

3 Abortion- the deliberate termination of a human pregnancy, often  
4 performed in the first trimester of the person's pregnancy.

5 Trimester: A period of 9 weeks.

6 Homicide: The deliberate and unlawful killing of one person by another;  
7 murder.

8

9 Section 2: The abortion of an unborn child will be made illegal and  
10 classified as murder.

11

12 Section 3: The degree and level of punishment will be determined by the  
13 Tennessee Department of Corrections.

14

15 Section 4: The addition of this law could cost up to \$4 million and the  
16 Department of Health would fund the bill.

17

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

20

21 Section 6: This act shall take effect July 1, 2019, the public welfare  
22 requiring it.

23



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Connor Lloyd, Sarah Graham, Jax Sternberg  
School: East Hamilton Middle**

**AN ACT TO REDUCE CLASSROOM SIZES IN MIDDLE SCHOOL TO NO  
MORE THAN 18 PEOPLE**

1 Section 1 : Terms in this act will be defined as follows:  
2 Salary- a fixed regular payment made by an employer to an employee.  
3 Classroom- a room in a school in which students are taught.  
4 Reduce- to make smaller or to minimize.  
5 Funded- provide with money for a particular purpose.  
6 Finance- the management of large amounts of money.  
7 Tax- a compulsory contribution to state revenue that is added to the cost  
8 of some goods, services, and transactions.

9  
10 Section 2 : This act will reduce the classroom sizes allowing kids to get  
11 more one on one time with their teacher and having a better learning  
12 experience.

13  
14 Section 3 : The addition of this course will set aside \$1,120,000 per  
15 school in Tennessee which means the teachers would make \$56,000 per  
16 year. The Tennessee Department of Education will enforce this bill, and  
17 to pay for this act a tax will be given. This tax will add an extra cent to  
18 every item purchased at any stores.

19  
20 Section 4 : For this bill you also have to cover the school expenses  
21 including new classrooms, desks, and chairs. The amount of money  
22 needed to make new classrooms would cost \$3,518,750. The amount of  
23 money needed to get 1800 chairs per school would cost \$1,013,400. The  
24 amount of money needed to get 3,450 desks for a school it would cost  
25 \$1,942,350. The total amount of money needed for this act is about  
26 \$630,560,000.

27  
28 Section 5 : All laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

29  
30 Section 6 : Upon passing this act, it will go into effect on August 8, 2020



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Aria Cochran, Will Tutor  
School: Center for Creative Arts**

**An Act to require Clean and Healthy Standards as will be  
established by The Tennessee Department of Environment and  
Conservation**

1 Whereas the state parks of Tennessee are often unkempt and dirty,

2

3 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA youth in government,

4

5 Section 1: Terms in this resolution will be defined as follows:

6 a. Park- includes any and all areas of land heretofore or hereafter acquired by  
7 the state, which by reason of having natural and historic features, scenic beauty  
8 or location, possess natural or potential physical, aesthetic, scientific, creative,  
9 social or other recreational values, and are dedicated to and forever reserved  
10 and administered by the state for the recreational and cultural use and  
11 enjoyment of the people,

12 b. The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation- The Tennessee  
13 Department of Environment and Conservation exists to enhance the quality of  
14 life for citizens of Tennessee and to be stewards of our natural environment

15

16 Section 2: This Act requires that all state parks meet the requirements as will  
17 be decided by The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation,

18

19 Section 3: This Act will require the following,

20 A yearly inspection of all Tennessee state parks conducted by members of The  
21 Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation,

22 A monthly cleanup effort done by volunteer workers for each park, organized by  
23 The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation,

24

25 Section 4: Any cost for the enactment of this resolution will be funded through  
26 the collection of park entrance fees,

27

28 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this resolution are hereby  
29 repealed,

30

31 Section 6: This resolution will take effect starting on January 1st, 2020.



32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Lucien Young**  
**School: East Hamilton Middle**

**AN ACT TO REPLACE ALL HARMFUL FUELS WITH WASTE/GREEN ENERGY.**

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

2 Waste-to-Energy Plants: Waste-to-Energy plants (WTE's) generate energy  
3 in the form of electricity and/or heat from the incineration of waste  
4 (manufactured waste, non perishables, etc)

5 Green Energy: Any natural waste products such as feces

6 Fossil Fuels: Any natural fuels (gas or coal), formed by the earth in the past

7 Energy Transfer Methods (ETM): Incinerators, decomposition, WTE plants, etc

8 Flue Gases: Flue gas is the gas exiting to the atmosphere via a flue  
9 (chimney).

10

11 Section ii: TVA electric will start by decommissioning any harmful energy  
12 plants (for ex. fossil fuel, nuclear fuel...), then take the land from shut  
13 down power plants to build WTE's. All waste types will be incinerated  
14 separately in different designated facilities. Ash will be transported to  
15 garbage dumps. Waste incineration products (smoke and gases) will be  
16 filtered and emitted into the air as water vapor and flue gases.

17

18 Section iii: The state of Tennessee will put a 25% tax on fossil fuel energy  
19 and put aside that sum in addition to \$2,500,000 a year to fund WTE's  
20 and related expenses.

21

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

24

25 Section v: This act will take effect January 1, 2020.



32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Kelsey Beaty, Afsheen Abdulkadir**  
**School: Loftis Middle School**

**AN ACT TO INSURE THAT THE COST OF MEDICAL CARE FOR  
INMATES IN TENNESSEE JAILS AND PRISONS DOES NOT EXCEED  
THE COST TO COVER LAW ABIDING TENNESSEANS WHO RECEIVE  
TENNCARE MEDICAL BENEFITS.**

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 Inmate - A person confined to an institution such as a prison or jail.

6 Medication - A substance used for medical treatment, especially a medicine  
7 or drug.

8 Exceed - Be greater than in number or size

9 TennCare - The state of Tennessee’s Medicaid program. It provides  
10 healthcare for approximately 1.3 million Tennesseans and operates with an  
11 annual budget of approximately \$12 billion. TennCare members are  
12 predominantly low income pregnant women, children and individuals who are  
13 elderly or have a disability. TennCare covers approximately 20% of the  
14 state’s population, 50% of the state’s births, and 50% of the state’s children.

15

16 Section 2: The State of Tennessee shall require some of the medication  
17 funds used for prisoners to be transferred to public medical care. The state  
18 government spends an average of \$6,001 per inmate, but only spends  
19 \$3,376 on TennCare recipients. With the new plan, the government will  
20 transfer around \$2,000 from inmate medical care into the TennCare budget  
21 for law abiding citizens.

22

23 Section 3: This act will not require any additional funding from the  
24 government and will actually save the approximately \$2,000 from the budget  
25 for the Department of Corrections.

26

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

28

29 Section 5: This act shall take effect July 1, 2019, the public welfare requiring  
30 it.





32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



Sponsors: Kripa Patel, Marissa Scott, Isabelle Sorensen  
School: East Hamilton Middle

**An act to require additional screening for underlying conditions that could preclude high school students from participating from strenuous sports that could prove to be fatal and require pediatric healthcare professionals to be aware of and be able to pe**

1 The goal in this act is to decrease the rate of young athlete fatality due to  
2 known diseases that might not be seen during a routine physical and  
3 require pediatric professionals to be aware of and have the ability to  
4 perform the required screening.

5

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

7

8 Section 1: Terms in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, should  
9 be defined as follows:

- 10 A) Fatality - the occurrence of death by accident, war, or disease
- 11 B) Strenuous Sports - any activity that requires a person to use great  
12 exertion
- 13 C) Screening - a test(s) for the presence or absence of a disease or  
14 contaminant
- 15 D) Underlying Condition - a condition(s) that is not found during regular  
16 screenings but may show signs or symptoms
- 17 E) Adolescents - a young person in the process of developing from a child  
18 into an adult
- 19 F) Magnetic Resonance Imaging Machine (MRI) - a test that makes  
20 detailed pictures inside your body using powerful magnets, radio waves,  
21 and a computer but does not use radiation
- 22 G) Electrocardiogram (EKG) - the test/process of recording the electrical  
23 activity of your heart over a period of time using electrodes placed over  
24 the skin
- 25 H) Blood work - the examination of one or more blood samples
- 26 I) Pediatric Doctor - a medical professional that specializes in infants,  
27 children, and adolescents

28

29 Section 2: Any minor under the age of eighteen that is considered to  
30 participate in any strenuous sport(s) must be screened for underlying

31 medical conditions caused by heart or brain related diseases and/or  
32 conditions. These tests shall be enforced by the school district before any  
33 child and/or adolescent joins the team of a strenuous sport. The specific  
34 tests include: MRIs, EKGs, extensive blood work testing, etc. All pediatric  
35 doctors must also be taught and able to perform the tests mentioned  
36 above or be able to recommend the family to a place where the tests can  
37 be administered. Pediatricians must also have the knowledge to identify  
38 and diagnose all medical issues that do arise from said testing. These  
39 tests are required to be administered only once in adolescent life.

40

41 Section 3: All school districts that do not require all children to have these  
42 tests administered before they join the team of a sport will be fined  
43 \$3,000. The superintendent of the school district will also be suspended of  
44 their license for 3 months.

45

46 Section 4: The passing of this bill will affect any medical facility in the  
47 state of Tennessee that specializes in the welfare and/or treatment of  
48 children and adolescents. This bill will also affect any guardian of a child  
49 who is considered to play any strenuous sport(s). In addition, this bill will  
50 affect all school districts in Tennessee.

51

52 Section 5: The costs to treat each child and/or adolescent will range from  
53 \$2,055 to \$4,336. This includes EKGs, stress tests, and MRIs. All medical  
54 costs that are a result of these tests will be funded for by the state.

55

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

58

59 Section 7: This act shall take effect July 5, 2019, the public welfare  
60 requiring it.

61



32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Sean Tudor**  
**School: Center for Creative Arts**

**An Act to Require Tennessee Law Enforcement Officers to Follow  
all Traffic Laws Except when Responding to an Emergency  
Situation**

1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee Youth in Government:

2

3 Section 1: This act will require all Tennessee Law Enforcement Officers to  
4 strictly abide by traffic laws except when responding to an emergency  
5 situation and emergency lights and/or sirens are activated.

6

7 Section 2: All Tennessee law enforcement officers must have a speed  
8 tracking device in their car as well as a video camera that activates when  
9 the vehicle is in motion.

10

11 Section 3: This act will cost the Tennessee State Government  
12 approximately \$5,000,000 and will be funded through an increase in sales  
13 tax.

14

15 Section 4: Sales Taxes are to be increased to 10% until the the act is  
16 funded, afterwards, it will be return to 7.25%

17

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

20

21 Section 6: This act will take effect on January 1, 2020.

22



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Trent Lewis, Dylan Davenport  
School: East Hamilton Middle**

**AN ACT TO BAN THE USE AND RESPONSIBILITY OF TECHNOLOGY  
GIVEN TO STUDENTS BY THE DISTRICT IN GRADES K-8TH 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  
4 defined as follows:  
5 A) Provided Technology - technology (tablets, laptops, etc.) that are  
6 given to people free of cost, with all necessary equipment provided  
7 (charger, etc.).  
8 B) Counterpart - a thing holding a position or performing a function that  
9 corresponds to that of another thing in another place.  
10 C) District - an area of a country or city, especially one regarded as a  
11 distinct unit because of a particular characteristic.  
12  
13 Section 2: This act would prohibit the use and responsibility of technology  
14 provided by the school systems in the state of Tennessee.  
15  
16 Section 3: Any school that has previously been enacting this will  
17 immediately request all students to return technologies and counterparts  
18 of the sorts to the school. After all of the technology has been acquired,  
19 the chromebooks or tablets will be given back to the district for other  
20 practical uses.  
21  
22 Section 4: This bill will not need any funding from the state of  
23 Tennessee's budget.  
24  
25 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this bill are hereby  
26 repealed.  
27  
28 Section 6: This act shall take effect June 1, 2019, the public welfare  
29 requiring it.

# MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT



# HOUSE COMMITTEE 3



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Lauren Waddell, Julia Murphy  
School: East Hamilton Middle**

**An Act To Raise The Age To Obtain Or Use Tobacco Products,  
Cigarettes, Or E-cigarettes From 18 Years Of Age To 21**

- 1 Section 1: Terms In This Bill Are Defined As Follows-  
2 Raise- increase in the amount, level, or strength of  
3 Cigarette- a thin cylinder of finely cut tobacco rolled in paper for smoking  
4 E-Cigarette- a cigarette-shaped device containing a nicotine-based liquid  
5 that is vaporized and inhaled, used to simulate the experience of smoking  
6 a cigarette  
7 Tobacco Product- any product containing tobacco, such as cigarettes,  
8 vapes, e-cigarettes, and tobacco dip.  
9  
10 Section 2: This bill requires the minimum age for purchasing tobacco  
11 products in the state of Tennessee to be raised from 18 to 21 years of  
12 age.  
13  
14 Section 3: This act would apply to any person that would like to purchase,  
15 sell, or use tobacco products.  
16  
17 Section 4: This act would not require any direct funding from the state of  
18 Tennessee's budget. Persons under the age of 21 may be penalized if  
19 they are caught in the act of using or selling such products.  
20  
21 Section 5: Upon passage, the bill will become effective January 1, 2020.  
22  
23 Section 6: All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby  
24 repealed.  
25



32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Tia Brantley, Bree Newbille**  
**School: Center for Creative Arts**

**AN ACT TO CHANGE THE REQUIREMENT FOR ENTERING  
KINDERGARTEN FROM BEING FIVE YEARS OF AGE TO ENTERING  
ACCORDING TO READINESS IF UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE BY  
AMENDING TCA 49-6-201**

- 1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT  
2  
3 Section 1) Terms in this act will be defined as followed:  
4 a) Mental readiness-a student's entry point relative to a particular concept  
5 or skill at a given time  
6 b) Emotional maturity- how well a student is able to respond to  
7 situations, control their emotions, and behave in the correct and  
8 necessary manner  
9  
10 Section 2) This act will allow children under the age of five to enter  
11 kindergarten through an evaluation.  
12 a) This evaluation will assess both mental readiness and emotional  
13 maturity  
14 b) The Tennessee Department of Education will be responsible for  
15 providing this assessment.  
16  
17 Section 3) This act will have no financial effect on the state government  
18  
19 Section 4) All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby  
20 repealed.  
21  
22 Section 5) This act shall take effect July 1, 2020, the public welfare  
23 requiring it.  
24



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Ja'niah Cooper, Kaylee Moore  
School: East Hamilton Middle**

**An Act To Place All Biological Siblings in Tennessee From The  
Same Family In the Same Foster Home**

- 1 Section 1: Terms In This Bill Are Defined As Follows:  
2 Biological: Connected by direct genetic relationship rather than by  
3 adoption  
4 Foster Home: The raising or supervision of foster children, as orphans or  
5 delinquents, in an institution, group home, or private home, usually  
6 arranged through a government or social service agency  
7 Family: A social unit consisting of one or more adults together with the  
8 children they care for  
9 Sibling: Each of two or more children or offspring having one or both  
10 parents in common; a brother or sister.  
11  
12 Section 2: This act will require all Tennessee foster care companies and  
13 organizations to keep siblings that are in the foster care system together.  
14  
15 Section 3: All foster care companies and organizations will be required to  
16 place biological siblings from the same family in the same foster home or  
17 location. As of now, only 3 states (Washington, Massachusetts, and  
18 Maine) have laws to place sibling groups in the same home. This act  
19 would require Tennessee to place siblings together, wherever that may  
20 be.  
21  
22 Section 4: This act will not require any additional funding from state or  
23 local governments.  
24  
25 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict are hereby repealed  
26  
27 Section 6: Upon passage, this act shall take effect on January 1, 2019.





32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Kennedy Gienapp, Seth Artrip**  
**School: Lookout Valley Middle School**

**An Act to Require All Tennessee School Districts to offer  
Vocational Programs to High School 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 Vocational Programs- Programs that prepare students to work in various  
5 jobs, such as a trade, a craft, or technician. They are also referred to as  
6 career or technical education.

7

8 Section 2: This act will require all high schools in Tennessee to:

9 a) Allow student access to at least 1 vocational program.

10 b) Allow students from any school zone within the district to attend the  
11 high school of their choice in order to enroll in a preferred vocational  
12 program.

13 c) Allow students to earn credit toward graduation in lieu of one advanced  
14 math and/or science credit.

15

16 Section 3: Students must provide their own mode of transportation if they  
17 wish to attend a vocational program outside of their zone.

18

19 Section 4: Funding for the enactment of this bill will be provided by the  
20 Tennessee Department of Education budget.

21

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

24

25 Section 6: This act shall take effect on August 1st, 2020.

26



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Aarav Patel, Het Patel, Shivam Patel  
School: East Hamilton Middle**

**An Act to Establish Solar Fridges with Food for the Poor or  
Homeless in Downtown Communities 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. Allergy - a substance that a person's body cannot come in contact with,  
5 and if he or she does come in contact with it, then he or she will have a  
6 possibly dangerous reaction.

7 b. Disabled - a person that has a condition that limits his or her abilities.

8 c. Downtown Communities - a populated area of business.

9 d. Drug - a substance that has a physiological effect on the body when  
10 consumed.

11 e. Food - nutritional substances needed by humans and any other animals  
12 to survive.

13 f. Fundraiser - an event that is held to collect money for a certain cause.

14 g. Jail sentence - an amount of time that a person has to serve in a  
15 closed chamber where they are locked up and given limited access to  
16 space and are prevented from seeing civilization outside of the facility.

17 h. Poison - a substance that causes sickness or sometimes death when  
18 consumed.

19 i. Police officer - a person who protects citizens and property by arresting  
20 people who break the law.

21 j. Poor/Homeless people - people who don't have the resources needed to  
22 survive such as shelter, food, etc.

23 k. Solar cameras - a machine powered by solar energy that is used to  
24 record events, it also allows a person to look at the recording.

25 l. Solar energy - energy provided from the Sun that is converted into  
26 electrical energy for machines or appliances to use.

27 m. Solar fridges - a type of appliance that preserves food by cooling it  
28 using solar energy, or energy provided from the Sun converted into  
29 electrical energy.

30 n. Taxpayers - a person who must pay a fee given to the government for  
31 any public uses or projects.

32

33 Section 2: This act will require the state of Tennessee to enforce the  
34 monitoring of the Food In Fridges for The Homeless (FIFTH) act, which  
35 ensures that people who are poor or homeless get food from solar fridges,  
36 and this is an effort to decrease the number of hungry people in  
37 Tennessee.

38

39 Section 3: People will voluntarily put leftover food in the fridges for the  
40 poor and homeless to consume. The food will have the date it was put in  
41 the solar fridge so that the people who receive it can see if it is still fresh  
42 or not.

43

44 Section 4: For security, solar-powered cameras will be looking for who  
45 puts food in the fridge and takes food out of the solar fridge. There will be  
46 one camera per solar fridge. Every so often, a police officer will drive by a  
47 solar fridge and check on it, if it is damaged, the police officer will check  
48 the camera footage, and they will try to find out who destroyed the  
49 fridge. Then, the police department will punish the person or people who  
50 were tampering with the fridge.

51

52 Section 5: If a person or people tampers with the solar fridge, they will be  
53 punished as follows:

54

a) 1st offense: \$3,000 fine.

55

b) 2nd offense: \$5,000 fine and a one-month jail sentence.

56

c) 3rd offense: \$10,000 fine and a one-year jail sentence.

57

58 Section 6: Only disabled people can access these solar fridges, and  
59 volunteers will give cards to mental health facilities or other places that  
60 house disabled people. The cards will have a long string of numbers on  
61 them, and if the people want to take food from the fridge, they have to  
62 present their card to the person who is at the fridge. The cards will be  
63 printed by Staples for about thirteen cents per page of cards, and the  
64 cards will have a person's allergies on it so that the worker at the fridge  
65 can help the person who needs the food. The person at the fridge will  
66 document the person's number and make sure he or she takes two  
67 pounds of food or less from the fridge. If the person who took food from  
68 the fridge comes again and presents their card when they already took  
69 two pounds of food the same day, then they cannot take any more food  
70 from the fridge since the maximum amount of food that a person can  
71 take is two pounds per day. That means the cards will add about \$30 to  
72 the cost of enforcing this bill.

73

74 Section 7: Any person that exceeds the limit of food per day and/or does  
75 not qualify as poor or hungry who takes food from the fridge will be  
76 charged as follows:

77

a) 1st offense: Jail sentence for one month.

78

b) 2nd offense: \$25 fine and a jail sentence for two months.

79

c) 3rd offense: A one-year jail sentence.

80

81 Section 8: There will be fifty-eight solar fridges throughout downtown  
82 communities in Tennessee, and they will cost about \$75,400 total for the  
83 state to pay a one-time investment. The solar fridges will be supplied by  
84 EcoSolarCool, a business that sells solar-powered refrigerators and  
85 freezers. The solar security cameras will be supplied by Reolink, a  
86 company that sells cameras. One camera costs about \$125.09, so for all  
87 fifty-eight, it would cost around \$7,300. The fifty-eight solar cameras and  
88 solar fridges will cost \$82,700. The fridges and cameras will be paid by  
89 fundraisers and, if needed, taxpayers.

90  
91 Section 9: There will be a person in the fridge at all times. He or she will  
92 be paid at \$140 per week. There will be fifty-eight of these people, so the  
93 total will be \$8,120 per week. Overall, this bill will cost about \$82,750  
94 with an additional \$8,120 per week.

95  
96 Section 10: If someone dies from consuming the food and people find  
97 traces of drugs or poison, the person or company that put the food in the  
98 fridge will be punished.

99  
100 Section 11: Any person or company that purposely kills a person will be  
101 charged as follows:

- 102 a) 1st offense: \$50,000 fine.
- 103 b) 2nd offense: \$100,000 fine.

104  
105 Section 12: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby  
106 repealed.

107  
108 Section 13: This act shall take effect starting May 15th, 2020 and will be  
109 enforced by the Tennessee Department of Human Services.



32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Abi Davis, Morgan Kocincki, Lorelei Tinney**  
**School: Loftis Middle School**

**AN ACT TO INCREASE THE BUDGET TO HIRE MORE CASE WORKERS  
AS WELL AS HOUSING CHILDREN IN ADEQUATE SETTINGS FOR  
EXTENDED PERIODS OF TIME TO PROVIDE STABILITY FOR THE  
CHILDREN AND ALLEVIATE TRAUMA.**

- 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  
4 be defined as follows:  
5 A) School year: The months in the calendar year in which students are  
6 required to go to school  
7 B) Sound foster care homes: Foster care homes in which the child is  
8 adequately cared for and safe  
9 C) Stability: Less frequent change; Consistent safety and well being  
10 D) Trauma: Distressing situations or experiences  
11  
12 Section 2: The budget for Child Services will be increased so as to hire  
13 174 additional caseworkers spread across the state based on the  
14 population of foster children per county.  
15  
16 Section 3: Children in sound foster care homes will be required to stay  
17 there for at least one (1) school year in total as welfare allows.  
18  
19 Section 4: The budget shall be increased by 10,992,972 and will be paid  
20 for by the Department of Child Services.  
21  
22 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby  
23 repealed.  
24  
25 Section 6: This act shall take effect July 1, 2019, the public welfare  
26 requiring it.



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Ethan Janes, Sebastian D'Alessio, Michael Killingsworth  
School: East Hamilton Middle**

**An Act to Change Tennessee's Current Grading Scale From A 7  
Point Grading Scale To A 10 Point Grading Scale**

1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth Legislature:

2

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

5 a. Grading Scale- Letter grades have a grade point assigned that is used to  
6 calculate your GPA (Grade Point Average).

7 b. 10 point grading scale: A grading scale with the following guidelines:

8 A = 90-100

9 B = 80-89

10 C = 70-79

11 D = 60-69

12 F = Below 60

13 c. Current Grading Scale: A grading scale with the following guidelines:

14 A = 93-100

15 B = 85-92

16 C = 84-75

17 D = 76-70

18 F =Below 70

19

20 Section 2: This act ensures that all elementary schools, middle schools, and  
21 high schools use a 10 point grading scale.

22

23 Section 3: The weighting of assignments will be decided by the individual  
24 schools.

25

26 Section 4: This bill will require no additional funding from the Tennessee  
27 Department of Education.

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 as of July 21, 2019.

32



32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Jared Guadarrama, Luke Todd, Reagan Forgey**  
**School: Loftis Middle School**

**AN ACT TO LOWER PRISON FUNDS AND TO PUT A CERTAIN PERCENTAGE OF THE EXCESS FUNDS TOWARD REIMBURSING VICTIMS OF CRIMES**

1 WHEREAS, The Penal System requires funds for comforting objects like  
2 media, furniture, luxurious food, and items that surpass the quality of  
3 what a poor person can afford.

4  
5 WHEREAS, The Penal System does not need these luxuries, for serving  
6 time in prison should not be better than living with little money or none at  
7 all, for prison should be a punishment for wrong doings and not a  
8 desirable place for the poor.

9  
10 WHEREAS, The people have no obligation to pay for such luxuries.

11  
12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

13  
14 Section 1: All unnecessary and excess funds towards the Department of  
15 Corrections will be put toward reimbursing victims of crimes.

16  
17 Section 2: The percentage of money put aside for these crime victims will  
18 be decided by The Department of Corrections.

19  
20 Section 3: Victims of crimes (or their families if they were killed because  
21 of the crime) will be reimbursed by the Department of Corrections. The  
22 Department of Corrections will use 100% of the excess funds set aside to  
23 care for the prisoner, connecting with the victim with the perpetrator.

24  
25 Section 4: The money put towards reimbursing crime victims will mainly  
26 come from the excess funds that would have been put toward the  
27 prisoners that commit the crime.

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 August 1, 2019, the public welfare  
32 requiring it.



**32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Benjamin Rodriguez Cruz  
School: Center for Creative Arts**

**An Act to Repeal TCA 7-68-105 in order to Protect the Rights of  
Immigrants**

1 Be enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government

2

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

4 Immigrant : A person who decides to live permanently in a foreign  
5 country.

6

7 Section 2. This act requires the following:

8 a) The unauthorization of Tennessee's state law enforcement officers to  
9 report to the federal government any information regarding immigration  
10 status.

11

12 Section 3. This act will not require any state funding.

13

14 Section 4. All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby  
15 repealed.

16

17 Section 5. This bill will take effect immediately upon passage.

18





32<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly  
of the  
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Mya Houston, Siya Patel, Teagan Tobias**  
**School: East Hamilton Middle**

**An Act To Require All Elementary, Middle, and High School Buses  
In The State Of Tennessee To Acquire Seat Belts.**

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  
4 be defined as follows:

5 School buses~ a bus that provides a mode of transportation for students  
6 from home to school, school to home, or to a school-sponsored event.

7 Seat belts~ a strap of belt that secures a person to possibly prevent an  
8 injury in a vehicle.

9

10 Section 2: Buses with seat belts included can ensure safety for the  
11 children who ride the bus and prevent major injuries from occurring.

12

13 Section 3: Adding seat belts can make the buses safer for kids. Seat belts  
14 can prevent minor and major injuries. When children get injuries, their  
15 injuries can be more severe then the same injury caused to an adult. Seat  
16 belts will provide protection and safety for children who ride the bus.

17

18 Section 4: The addition of seat belts will approximately cost \$5.6 million  
19 per year. Majority of the funds will be paid through the school districts.  
20 Partial expenses will be paid by the state.

21

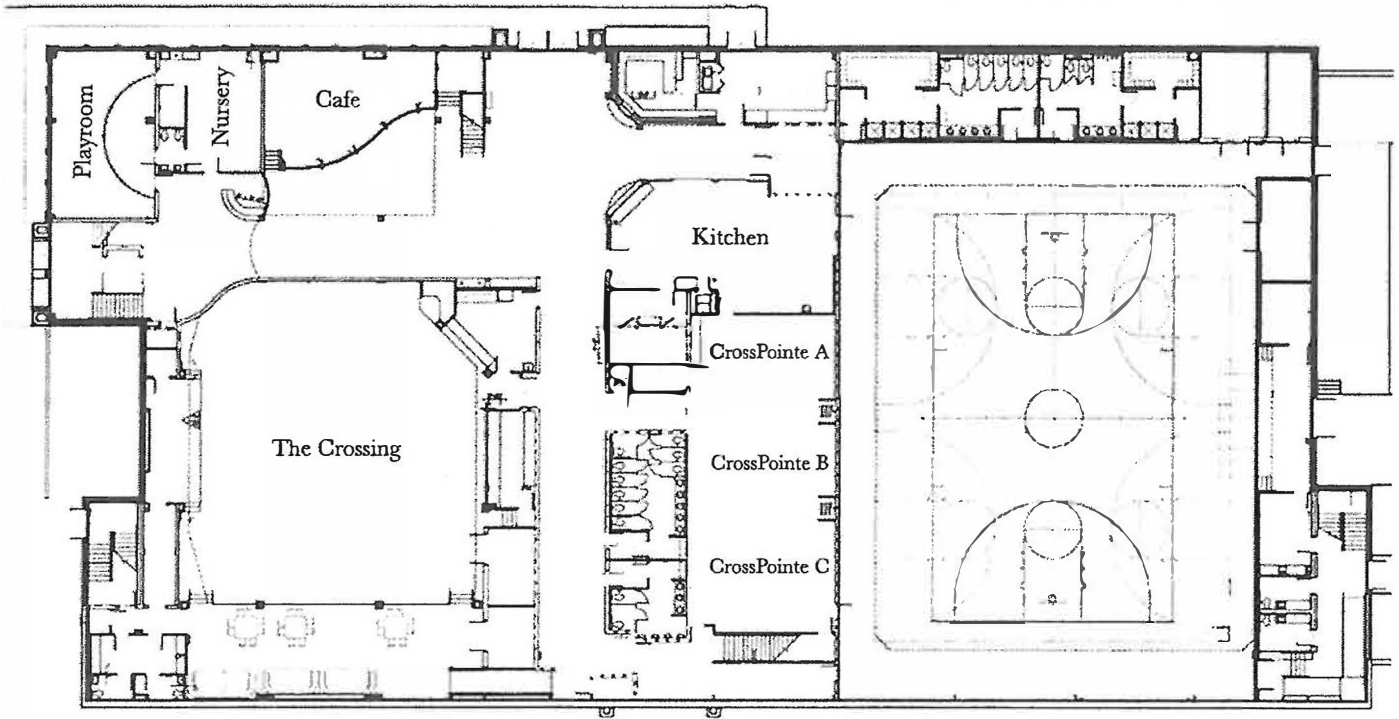
22 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby  
23 repealed.

24

25 Section 6: This act will take effect August 1st, 2022.

26

# BX Lower Level



# BX Upper Level

