

29th ANNUAL TENNESSEE YMCA

MIDDLE SCHOOL

YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

SPONSORED BY THE YMCA CENTER FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT



NASHVILLE

MAY 13, 2016

Democracy must be learned by each generation.

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TENNESSEE YMCA

MIDDLE SCHOOL

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YMCA CENTER FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

May 13, 2016

Tennessee State Capitol

NASHVILLE, TN

CONFERENCE AGENDA

8:30 – 9:30 AM	Registration	Legislative Plaza Entrance
9:30 – 12:00 PM	Committee Meetings	
H-1	House Committee 1	Legislative Plaza 12
H-2	House Committee 2	Legislative Plaza 16
H-3	House Committee 3	Legislative Plaza 29
H-4	House Committee 4	Legislative Plaza 30
S-1	Senate Committee 1	Senate Chambers
S-2	Senate Committee 2	House Chambers
12:00 – 1:00 PM	Lunch	See Advisor
1:00 PM	All Meetings Convene	
1:00 – 4:00 PM	House Senate	House Chambers Senate Chambers
4:00 PM	Closing Ceremony	House Chambers

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WELCOME *from the* GOVERNOR

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the great of State of Tennessee, it is my pleasure to welcome delegates and guests to the 63rd Annual YMCA Youth in Government Conference. We certainly are pleased you're here and hope that you enjoy your time in Nashville, especially our beautiful State Capitol.

I hope you find inspiration as you listen to your peers, participate in debates, and interact with others who care about making Tennessee the best it can be. I trust that you will use this experience to become respectful and engaged citizens in your respective communities. You are the leaders of tomorrow, and I am certain that you will make our great state proud.

Again, welcome to Nashville. Enjoy this weekend full of fascinating conversations, good friends, and fun. Crissy and I send our very best wishes and hope that your future endeavors are filled with joy and success.

Warmest regards,

**NASHVILLE A
MIDDLE SCHOOL
YIG ROSTER**

Last	First	School	Component	Comm. #	Bill Number
Adegoke	Femi	Woodland	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-3
Alvarado	Gabriela	South Lawrence	House	H-1	HB/16-1-6
Armad	Cameron	Rucker Stewart	House	H-2	HB/16-2-9
Arnold	Mason	Portland West	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-9
Arthur	Stella	Brentwood Academy	House	H-4	HB/16-4-7
Bailey	Chase	Rucker Stewart	House	H-2	HB/16-2-6
Barnes	Joel	Sunset	House	H-1	HB/16-1-4
Beckman	Mattie Ray	South Lawrence	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-2
Benson	Andrew	South Lawrence	House	H-4	HB/16-4-5
Betancourt	Leo	Rucker Stewart	House	H-2	HB/16-2-6
Biggs	Josie	White House	House	H-3	HB/16-3-7
Birdwell	Jordan	Rucker Stewart	House	H-3	HB/16-3-8
Bitting	Emma	South Lawrence	House	H-4	HB/16-4-8
Bixby	Skylar	Heritage	House	H-4	HB/16-4-1
Bolinger	Lucas	Rucker Stewart	House	H-1	HB/16-1-10
Boualaphanh	Elliot	Sunset	House	H-4	HB/16-4-10
Bovill	Catalina	Heritage	House	H-2	HB/16-2-7
Brake	Griffin	White House	House	H-4	HB/16-4-6
Brawner	Brooksie	Rucker Stewart	House	H-3	HB/16-3-9
Brown	Andrew	Rucker Stewart	House	H-2	HB/16-2-9
Buchanan	Anna	White House	House	H-2	HB/16-2-10
Burns	Samuel	Rucker Stewart	House	H-1	HB/16-1-10
Busby	Addison	South Lawrence	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-7
Butler	Madison	Rucker Stewart	House	H-4	HB/16-4-11
Buttrum	Autumn	South Lawrence	House	H-3	HB/16-3-6
Cardoza	Cade	Rucker Stewart	House	H-3	HB/16-3-8
Carney	Isabelle	Rucker Stewart	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-5
Cary	Reagan	Woodland	House	H-2	HB/16-2-5
Cassidy	Madi	White House	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-4
Chaney	Courtney	Heritage	House	H-4	HB/16-4-1
Chichester	Sarah	Rucker Stewart	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-5
Coil	Collin	Heritage	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-8
Coil	Sydney	Heritage	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-8
Collignon	Caroline	Brentwood Academy	House	H-2	HB/16-2-8
Comer	Abigail	Brentwood Academy	House	H-4	HB/16-4-7
Conyer	Emmaline	Rucker Stewart	House	H-3	HB/16-3-8
Cook	Sadie	Heritage	House	H-1	HB/16-1-7
Copley	Rowan	Portland West	House	H-3	HB/16-3-11
Cozart	Jessica	South Lawrence	House	H-2	HB/16-2-3
Cozart	Katelyn	South Lawrence	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-6
Csaki	Amy	Heritage	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-8
Curd	Zach	Rucker Stewart	House	H-3	HB/16-3-9
Dakin	Kayla	Heritage	House	H-2	HB/16-2-7
Daniels	Dominick	Sunset	House	H-2	HB/16-2-1
Daughtry	Savannah	Rucker Stewart	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-10
Dias	Sydni	Rucker Stewart	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-8

Diaz	Victor	Rucker Stewart	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-8
Donoho	Olivia	Rucker Stewart	House	H-4	HB/16-4-11
Dreussi	Samantha	Heritage	House	H-2	HB/16-2-7
Dye	Kate	Davidson Academy	House	H-2	HB/16-2-11
Estes	Gracie	Rucker Stewart	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-3
Etienne	Abigail	South Lawrence	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-2
Fantine	Mikayla	Spring Station	House	H-3	HB/16-3-10
Ferguson	Cheyla	White House	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-4
Ferrara	Brianna	Heritage	House	H-2	HB/16-2-7
Ficarro	James	Davidson Academy	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-1
Fiechtl	William	Sunset	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-1
Finucane	Rylee	Brentwood Academy	House	H-1	HB/16-1-1
Fisher	Shelby	South Lawrence	House	H-1	HB/16-1-6
Ford	Zoe	Rucker Stewart	House	H-4	HB/16-4-3
Fox	Will	Brentwood Academy	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-6
Freeman	Madison	White House	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-9
Fulks	Jessica	South Lawrence	House	H-4	HB/16-4-5
Gamble	Alexis	South Lawrence	House	H-2	HB/16-2-3
Gatlin	Ian	Sunset	House	H-4	HB/16-4-4
Gee	Alicen	Rucker Stewart	House	H-3	HB/16-3-9
Gershtovich	Cole	Spring Station	House	H-2	HB/16-2-4
Ghosh	Tuneer	Sunset	House	H-4	HB/16-4-10
Gonas	Eli	Brentwood Academy	House	H-1	HB/16-1-1
Gonzalez	Katarina	Rucker Stewart	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-3
Gower	Mary Grace	Brentwood Academy	House	H-4	HB/16-4-7
Groves	Tate	Rucker Stewart	House	H-3	HB/16-3-1
Hagewood	Mathias	White House	House	H-4	HB/16-4-6
Hamblen	Jaydryan	South Lawrence	House	H-4	HB/16-4-5
Hancock	Mark	Woodland	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-4
Harvey	Kathryn	White House	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-4
Hayes	Elliott	Brentwood Academy	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-6
Hiatt	Evan	Sunset	House	H-1	HB/16-1-4
Hiett	Gracie	Rucker Stewart	House	H-4	HB/16-4-2
Hollmann	Ally	South Lawrence	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-10
Holmes	Clay	Brentwood Academy	House	H-1	HB/16-1-5
Hummel	Sydney	Sunset	House	H-1	HB/16-1-9
Hunter	Katelen	Rucker Stewart	House	H-4	HB/16-4-3
Jaisinghani	Rohan	Woodland	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-4
Jarrett	Alexis	Rucker Stewart	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-10
Jenkins	Jazmyn	Sunset	House	H-3	HB/16-3-5
Jethwani	Reva	Woodland	House	H-4	HB/16-4-9
Johnson	Skylar	Rucker Stewart	House	H-2	HB/16-2-2
Jones	Mary Hannah	Davidson Academy	House	H-3	HB/16-3-2
Kalasikam	Min	Sunset	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-5
Kirby	Tamyra	Sunset	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-5
Kress	Tessa	South Lawrence	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-7
Kuper	Jacob	Rucker Stewart	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-2

Lambreth	Matthew	Brentwood Academy	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-6
Langford	Rebekah	White House	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-9
Laughner	Madilyn	South Lawrence	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-10
Lee	Jackson	Davidson Academy	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-1
Leigh	Nora	Spring Station	House	H-2	HB/16-2-4
Link	Lauren	Woodland	House	H-1	HB/16-1-3
Maddox	Kamden	Sunset	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-1
Madole	Katie	Davidson Academy	House	H-3	HB/16-3-2
Makemson	Ingle	Heritage	House	H-1	HB/16-1-7
May	Rebekah	Heritage	House	H-4	HB/16-4-1
Mazumdar	Trisha	Sunset	House	H-3	HB/16-3-5
McBee	Margaret	South Lawrence	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-7
McBride	Mahaley	Rucker Stewart	House	H-3	HB/16-3-1
Mckiness	Pete	Rucker Stewart	House	H-1	HB/16-1-8
McVay	Brianna	Sunset	House	H-2	HB/16-2-1
Mehta	Hemani	Woodland	House	H-1	HB/16-1-11
Moore	Zachary	Davidson Academy	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-1
Myers	Emma Grace	Brentwood Academy	House	H-3	HB/16-3-3
Neff	Christian	Heritage	House	H-1	HB/16-1-7
Passmore	Eli	Brentwood Academy	House	H-2	HB/16-2-8
Pearson	Shane	Rucker Stewart	House	H-4	HB/16-4-3
Perry	Paxton	Brentwood Academy	House	H-1	HB/16-1-1
Pettit	Summer	Portland West	House	H-3	HB/16-3-11
Phillippi	Sarah	Woodland	House	H-1	HB/16-1-3
Phillips	Helen	Brentwood Academy	House	H-3	HB/16-3-3
Pillai	Rishi	Sunset	House	H-4	HB/16-4-4
Plantinga	Ross	Sunset	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-1
Potts	Lauren	South Lawrence	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-2
Pradeep	Keerthana	Woodland	House	H-4	HB/16-4-9
Prince	Kailee	South Lawrence	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-6
Rappuhn	Danielle	White House	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-4
Rees	Michelle	White House	House	H-2	HB/16-2-10
Remillard	Joshua	Spring Station	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-7
Ring	Lilly	White House	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-9
Robertson	Joia	Davidson Academy	House	H-3	HB/16-3-2
Rogers	Kaylee	White House	House	H-3	HB/16-3-7
Rosenblatt	Parker	Rucker Stewart	House	H-1	HB/16-1-8
Rouse	Caleb	Rucker Stewart	House	H-2	HB/16-2-2
Sabo	Sean	White House	House	H-4	HB/16-4-6
Samudrala	Savitha	Woodland	House	H-3	HB/16-3-4
Sanford	Owen	Woodland	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-4
Santiago	Kody	Rucker Stewart	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-2
Say	Griffin	Rucker Stewart	House	H-4	HB/16-4-2
Schuch	Dylan	Rucker Stewart	House	H-1	HB/16-1-10
Schuch	Natalie	Rucker Stewart	House	H-2	HB/16-2-2
Scott	Carson	Davidson Academy	House	H-2	HB/16-2-11
Siemen	Erin	Spring Station	House	H-3	HB/16-3-10

Simbeck	AmyBeth	South Lawrence	House	H-1	HB/16-1-2
Smith	Jasmine	Rucker Stewart	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-3
Smith	Serena	Spring Station	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-7
Soni	Aayushi	Woodland	House	H-1	HB/16-1-11
Stearns	Andrew	Rucker Stewart	House	H-4	HB/16-4-2
Stults	Ashton	South Lawrence	House	H-4	HB/16-4-8
Subramanian	Varshinee	Woodland	House	H-4	HB/16-4-9
Suscha	Connor	Sunset	House	H-4	HB/16-4-10
Taylor	David	Sunset	House	H-4	HB/16-4-4
Terakawa	Lauren Alexandra	Woodland	House	H-3	HB/16-3-4
Thongmanivong	Ethan	Rucker Stewart	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-2
Tidwell	Madelinn	South Lawrence	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-10
Troutt	Timothy	Rucker Stewart	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-8
Tummala	Rithika	Sunset	House	H-1	HB/16-1-9
Tyner	Chase	Brentwood Academy	House	H-1	HB/16-1-5
Uko-Abasi	Jessica	Rucker Stewart	House	H-4	HB/16-4-11
Vasilevskis	Jasper	Woodland	House	H-2	HB/16-2-5
Viarengo	Samantha	Sunset	House	H-3	HB/16-3-5
Vinson	Ellie	Spring Station	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-7
Wallace	Mae	Spring Station	House	H-3	HB/16-3-10
Weathers	Kensley	South Lawrence	House	H-1	HB/16-1-2
Weathers	Karly	South Lawrence	House	H-3	HB/16-3-6
Wepking	Trystan	Sunset	House	H-1	HB/16-1-9
West	Natalie	Portland West	House	H-3	HB/16-3-11
Wilber	Emma	Rucker Stewart	Senate	S-1	SB/16-1-5
Williams	Wade	Brentwood Academy	House	H-1	HB/16-1-5
Williams	Logan	Rucker Stewart	House	H-2	HB/16-2-9
Williams	Elizabeth	White House	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-4
Williams	Ashton	Rucker Stewart	House	H-4	HB/16-4-2
Woods	Parker	Sunset	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-5
Woodside	Grace	Woodland	Senate	S-2	SB/16-2-3
Wright	Christopher	Rucker Stewart	House	H-2	HB/16-2-6
Young	Jason	Spring Station	House	H-2	HB/16-2-4
Zentz	Gracie	Heritage	House	H-1	HB/16-1-7

UNDERSTANDING THE COMMITTEE PROCESS

What should delegates do during committee?

1. Evaluate Bills

- Evaluate bills using the criteria on the ranking form, i.e., Debate Potential, Feasibility, Statewide Impact & Correct Form
- 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. **DO NOT** write on the original bill.
- **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 directly after the bill's patrons have presented the bill and moved for passage.

3. Debate (The rules for debate are listed in the Committee Guidelines.)

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 forms provided, based upon the instructions given by the Chair. (This means each team will fill out only ONE ranking per bill.)
- 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

This is the outline for debate procedure in committees, Senate, and House. Keep these rules in mind when practicing presentations of your bill prior to the conference.

Committee Procedure:

Patrons' Introduction	2 Minutes
Technical Questions	2 Minutes
Con/Pro Debate	+/- 5 Minutes
Patrons' Summation	1 Minute

Amendments:

Amendment Sponsor's Introduction	1 Minute
Con/Pro Debate	1 Round
Amendment Sponsor's Summation	1 Minute

Once the General Assembly convenes, time for technical questions and con/pro debate will likely be extended, at the discretion of the officers.

LEGISLATIVE GLOSSARY OF TERMS

- **Act**

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

Private: Application to a limited area and subdivision of government.

Public: Application to the entire state or of a general nature with local application.

- **Adjournment**

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

- **Amendment**

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

- **Appropriations Act**

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

- **Appropriations Bill**

A bill which appropriates money from the state treasury during a fiscal year to implement the state operating budget. Money may provided for other items of expenditure, such as local projects, through amendments to this bill.

Bill

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

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

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

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

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

- **Budget**

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

- **Calendar**

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

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

- **Caption**

Brief description of a bill's contents appearing on a bill and the bill's jacket. A bill's content cannot be any broader than its caption.

- **Chief Clerk**

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

- **Committee**

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

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

Joint: A committee composed of members of both houses.

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

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

- **Companion Bill**

Identical copies of a bill introduced in both the Senate and House.

- **Executive Order**

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

- **Fiscal Note**

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

- **Fiscal Year**

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

- **Item Veto**

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

- **Journal**

A daily published record of the proceedings of each house. The journal of the entire session is printed after the close of each session.

- **Legislative Intent**

The purpose for which a measure is introduced and/or passed.

- **Majority**

A constitutional majority in the Senate is 17 votes; in the House, 50 votes.

- **Resolution**

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

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

- **Session**

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

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

- **Sine die Adjournment**

Final adjournment at the completion of a session.

- **Suspension of the Rules**

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

- **Vote**

Formal expression of will or decision by the legislative body.

- **Yield**

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

RULES OF PROCEDURE

Introductory Note: The YMCA Youth in Government is modeled after the Tennessee General Assembly. The circumstances of the Youth in Government have required some 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 the rules of the General Assembly or to Robert's Rules of Order for clarification or guidance.

I. Rank of Motions

Motions shall be ranked as follows:

- Adjourn
- Recess
- Lay on the Table
- Previous Question
- Amend an Amendment
- Amend the Bill
- Postpone Indefinitely
- Adopt a Bill

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.

All of these motions require a second.

1. **Adjourn:** A motion to adjourn must be made by the floor leader. It is non-debatable and shall be voted on immediately. It takes a simple majority for passage.
It should include the time the house is adjourning to, except for the final motion to adjourn, which shall specify no time (adjourn sine die).
2. **Recess:** A motion to recess should be expressed in terms of recessing for a specified length of time (e.g. recess for one hour for lunch). Or, you may recess at the call of the Speaker. A motion to recess is non-debatable and takes a simple majority for passage.
3. **Previous Question:** This is the method for ending debate immediately. As soon as this motion is made and seconded, it is voted on. It requires a two-thirds majority for adoption. If the motion fails, debate resumes as before. The previous question may be moved on any of the motions that rank below it. However, if more than one motion is pending, the person moving the previous question should specify which motion the previous question applies to. For instance, if there is a motion to amend a bill, the previous question may be moved on the motion to amend or the motion to adopt the bill. If it is moved on the motion to adopt the bill, it implicitly includes the motion to amend. If the previous question is adopted, the house will first vote on the amendment and then on the motion to adopt the bill. If the previous question applies only to the amendment, the house will vote on the amendment then continue debating the bill. Note: moving the previous question ends debate. The sponsors' summation is not part of the formal debate, so a successful previous question motion will

begin the sponsors' summation. Should the chamber wish to forego the summation, then a motion to suspend the rules to that effect is in order.

4. **Postpone to a certain time:** This is a method for delaying consideration of a bill for a specified length of time (as opposed to tabling, which postpones at the discretion of the house). The motion is debatable and requires a simple majority for adoption. It can be amended. The motion may be expressed in terms of a specific time (e.g. 3 p.m.) or in terms of a relative time (e.g. the first bill tomorrow).

If a bill is postponed to a certain time, it automatically has the highest priority for consideration at that time. No motion is necessary to bring back before the house.

5. **Amendment:** An amendment is a method of changing details within a motion to eliminate flaws, clear ambiguities, etc. It is debatable, may be amended, and takes a simple majority for adoption. In order for an amendment to be a considered it must be germane to the bill without changing its intent.

An amendment must be written and submitted to the Clerk on an amendment form before it may be considered.

After a delegate has filed an amendment with the Clerk, the Clerk shall notify the Speaker, and the Speaker shall recognize the sponsor of the amendment as soon as possible. The speaker shall then ask the Clerk to read the amendment and following its reading, the Speaker shall ask the patron of the bill whether or not it is friendly amendment. If it is friendly, it may be passed by acclamation. If it is not, and is ruled germane, debate must ensue; with the sponsor of the amendment starting debate with introductory remarks on said amendment. The sponsor of the bill or resolution has the right to be the first speaker against the unfriendly amendment in debate.

An amendment must be in one of three forms:

TO DELETE... You must be specific about what part of the bill you are deleting.

TO INSERT...You must be give specific wording to be inserting and the specific location of where it is to be inserted.

TO SUBSTITUTE... A combination of the above.

6. **Under no circumstances may the title of a bill be amended.**

If a bill is adopted in the first house and amended in the second house, it must return to the first house for consideration of the amendments. When the bill is returned to the first house, the sponsor should make one of two motions.

1) "I move that the amendments be adopted and the bill be made to

conform to the Senate/House version."

" I move that the amendments be rejected."

Neither of these amendments may be amended. They are both debatable and both require a simple majority for adoption.

7. **Postpone Indefinitely:** This is method of “freezing” a bill. It is debatable, may not be amended, and requires a simple majority for passage. If adopted, all consideration of the bill ceases and the house proceeds to consider the next bill. The only way the house can return to considering the ‘frozen’ bill is a successful motion to reconsider.
8. **Main Motion:** This is the actual consideration and vote on whether or not to adopt a bill as presented to the house by its sponsors. The bill is debatable and is subject to all motions listed above.

II. INCIDENTAL MOTIONS

9. **Incidental Motions:** Incidental motions are matters which need to be brought before the house immediately. They must pertain to the business before the house. They have no rank among themselves and outrank all other motions, except to recess or adjourn. Only one incidental motion may be pending at a time. The incidental motions are covered in rules 12-15.
10. **Point of Order:** If a delegate feels the rules of order are being breached, he/she may make a point of order, requesting the Speaker to make a ruling on the question involved. If the speaker fails to recognize the infraction, he/she may ask the delegate to explain his/her complaint. This motion does not require a second. This motion should be used with discretion and in a constructive manner.
11. **Appeals:** After the Speaker has made a ruling on a matter, such as a point of order, the house can review his/her decision. The appeal is subject to the general rule of debate, and the speaker may explain his/her decision. The Speaker does not have to relinquish the chair during the discussion. It takes a simple majority to overrule the Speaker’s decision and pass the appeal.
12. **Suspend the Rules:** When the house desires to consider a motion or do something that would violate these rules, it can suspend the Rules. A motion to suspend the rules requires a second, is subject to limited debate (one speaker for and one against), and requires a two-thirds majority for passage. A motion to suspend must include the purpose for suspending the rules. Once that purpose has been accomplished, the rules are automatically back in effect. No motion or action is necessary to reinstate the rules.
13. **Division of the House:** Immediately after a vote by acclamation, any three members of the Senate or any five members of the House may demand a placard or roll call vote. Delegates desiring a roll call vote should remember that roll call votes are time-consuming and prevent the chamber from moving on to other business. Delegates calling for division should raise their hand and call for division of the house between the first and second rap of the gavel.

REQUESTS AND INQUIRES

14. **Point of Personal Privilege:** A request to make the debate surrounding more comfortable (ex. If a delegate is not speaking loud enough, the room is too hot or too cold, etc.) This point should be used with discretion.
15. **Requests and Inquires** require no motion, second, or vote and are the prerogative of any members. They are proper at any time, but may not interrupt a speaker.

16. **Parliamentary Inquiry:** A request for the Speaker's opinion on a matter concerning the rules of procedure. This is not a request for a ruling.
17. **Point of Information:** A request for facts affecting the business at hand – directed at the chair or another member. This point should be used with discretion.

III. COMMITTEES

18. **Committees to be established:** Standing committees will be established by the YMCA Center for Civic Engagement.
19. **Officer:** There shall be a Chairperson and Co-Chairperson for each committee, who will be appointed by the YMCA Center for Civic Engagement.
20. Each delegate may serve on a committee. All delegates, including committee officers, shall be assigned to the same committee as their bill.
21. **Introductory remarks, questions, debate:** When a bill comes up in committee, the Sponsors will be given time for introductory remarks about the bill followed by a period for technical questions, after which limited debate will begin. When debate is concluded, the sponsors will be given time for closing remarks.
22. **Patrons' Rights** – Patrons' Rights may only be invoked twice during debate and only for the purpose of correcting the information or statements made by a speaker. When Patrons' Rights are invoked they do not take up a pro speech and are limited to thirty seconds. If Patrons' Rights are used incorrectly the chair reserves the right to interrupt the patron.
23. **Majority Vote:** In the final vote on any bill, a constitutional majority is necessary for passage. Otherwise, a majority of those present and voting shall decide any question, unless a two-thirds majority is specified in the rules. Persons who abstain from voting shall not be counted for either side when deciding the outcome of a vote. For the purposes of Youth in Government, a constitutional majority shall be a majority of voting members seated in the chamber. In the Red Senate, this number should be 18 (34 seats); in the Red House, this number should be 51 (100 seats). In the Blue chambers, this number will be determined by the YMCA Center for Civic Engagement.
24. **Sponsors:** The sponsors of a bill or resolution before a committee or in chambers may vote on any and all motions brought before the body, including the main motion on their bill or resolution. The sponsors may not be recognized as speakers during the formal debate unless another member of the body asks them to yield to questions or points of information.
25. **Quorum:** Two-thirds of any given body (committee or chamber) shall constitute a quorum in which to do business, including the ranking or passage or failure of bills or resolutions. Officers and delegates alike should make every effort to ensure a quorum during conference sessions.
26. **Companion Bills:** The CCE Office may, at its discretion, appoint as Companion Bills any bills submitted to different chambers of the Youth in Government by different sponsors that have the same intent and content. In such cases, should each chamber pass its Companion Bill, both bills shall be sent to the Governor's Cabinet without being sent to the other chamber for its approval.

TENNESSEE YMCA CENTER FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

TABLE OF MOTIONS

Motion	When Another has the Floor	Second	Debatable	Amendable	Vote	Reconsider
Main Motion (Bill)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes
Adjourn	No	Yes	No	No	Majority	No
Amend	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes-N
Appeal	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Majority	Yes
Lay on the Table	No	Yes	No	No	2/3	No
Postpone to a certain time	No	Yes	Yes	No	Majority	Yes
Previous Question	No	Yes	No	No	2/3	No
Recess	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority	No
Reconsider	When Another has been assigned the floor	Yes	If motion to be reconsidered is debatable	No	Majority	No
Point of Personal Priv.	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Suspend the Rules	No	Yes	No	Yes	2/3	No
Withdraw Motions	No	No	No	No	Majority	Yes-N
Division	Yes	No	No	No	One	No
Point of Information	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Parliamentary Procedure Point	Yes	No	No	No	No	No

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT



SENATE COMMITTEE 1



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
SENATE**



**Sponsors: William Fiechtl, Kamden Maddox, Ross Plantinga
School: Sunset Middle School**

**AN ACT TO CREATE A SYRINGE EXCHANGE PROGRAM IN THE
STATE OF TENNESSEE**

Be it enacted by the TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT as follows:

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

DEFINITION of SYRINGE: a tube with a nozzle and piston or bulb for sucking in and ejecting liquid in a thin stream, used for cleaning wounds or body cavities, or fitted with a hollow needle for injecting or withdrawing fluids.

DEFINITION of STATE MEDICAL INSTITUTION: state institution where sick or injured people are given medical or surgical care

DEFINITION of LEGAL EVIDENCE: Confirmed evidence supported by government documents or officials, such as tax forms, mortgage payments, etc.

Section 2: People will be eligible if they show legal evidence of residence in the state of Tennessee such as tax forms, mortgage payments, etc. Failure to present documents of the sort will result in expulsion from the station at which the participant attempted to exchange and qualification will be unavailable until adequate proof has been made available.

Section 3: Syringes that have been used may be exchanged for a clean syringe and 25 cents. These will be available immediately following papers of qualification are shown.

Section 4: Medical stations where syringes will be exchanged shall be constructed in major state medical institutions. These stations will be staffed by at least one person.

Section 5: Necessary funds for the construction and staffing of these medical stations will come from federal funds designated for syringe exchange programs. However, the funds for syringes cannot come from these federal funds. The funds for the syringes will have a budget of

100,000 dollars coming from the Health budget, specifically the funds for care of HIV and hepatitis A. B, or C patients.

Section 6: All acts and bills in conflict with this act shall be repealed.

Section 7: The stations will begin construction immediately after this bill is passed. The syringe exchange program will begin on January 1st, 2018.



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Abigail Etienne, Lauren Potts, Mattie Ray Beckman
School: South Lawrence School**

**AN ACT TO REQUIRE DRONES TO BE FLOWN ON YOUR OWN
PROPERTY**

1 Be it enacted by the state of Tennessee YMCA youth legislature:

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

4 Drones: an unmanned aircraft or ship that can navigate autonomously,
5 without human control or beyond line of sight

6 Privacy: The state of being apart from other people or concealed from
7 their view, solitude; seclusion

8
9 SECTION 2: This act is proposing to keep drones on your own property.

10
11 SECTION 3: This bill should be passed to provide citizens privacy on their
12 own property.

13
14 SECTION 4: This act will keep Tennessee's citizens with drones and
15 people who interact with drones safe.

16
17 SECTION 5: No additional funding is needed to enact this bill. If someone
18 if found flying their drone over an area that is not their property, they will
19 be fined \$100 on first offense and \$200 on 2nd and subsequent offenses.

20
21 SECTION 6: All current laws or part of laws that lie in conflict with this act
22 shall be repealed upon enactment of this bill.

23
24 SECTION 7: If enacted, this bill will take effect January 1, 2017.

25



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Gracie Estes, Katarina Gonzalez, Jasmyn Smith
School: Rucker Stewart Middle School**

**AN ACT TO EXTEND THE TERM OF ELIGIBILITY FOR HOPE
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS BY TWELVE (12) MONTHS**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE 2016 YMCA Youth Legislature:

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

4 a) Hope Scholarship - A scholarship granted to Tennessee high school
5 graduates that must be used within 16 months of high school graduation.

6 b) Extension of 28 months considers the 4 month summer period

7 c) Eligible- To be eligible for the Hope Scholarship, the applicant must be
8 a resident of Tennessee for more than 1 year and must continue living in
9 Tennessee, have a GPA >3.0, either an ACT score of 21 or an SAT score
10 of 980.

11 d) ACT- American College Testing

12 e) SAT- Scholastic Assessment Test

13 f) Only Tennessee state public colleges, universities, or private colleges
14 are eligible to receive funding from the Hope Scholarship.

15
16 Section 2: This act allows an eligible recipient of the Hope Scholarship to
17 wait up to 28 months before using it.

18
19 Section 3: This act merges brain based research findings by extending the
20 time limit that the Hope Scholarship must be utilized, so that graduates'
21 brains can develop to maturity level.

22
23 Section 4: There is no additional cost to the state by passing this bill.

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

27
28 Section 6: This act will go into effect upon passage, the public welfare
29 requiring it.

30



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Mark Hancock, Owen Sanford, Rohan Jaisinghani
School: Woodland Middle School**

Human Trafficking

Be it enabled by the Tennessee YMCA youth Legislature:

Section 1: Let us define these key terms:

Human Trafficking- The illegal buying and selling of people, typically for the purposes of forced labor or commercial sexual exploitation.

Prosecution: The institution and conducting of legal proceedings against someone in respect of a criminal charge.

Felony- A crime, typically one involving violence, regarded as more serious than a misdemeanor, and usually punishable by imprisonment for more than one year or by death.

Section 2: Acknowledging human trafficking is a serious problem throughout Tennessee.

Mindful of the ongoing human trafficking, we ask not for money, but for the laws for human trafficking to be changed.

This bill is to raise the punishment for breaking human trafficking laws.

Noting that any non-minor today is open to a class C to A felony but after this bill, it will be raised to an A felony of life sentence after the enactment of this bill.

Section 3: This act will require that minors under the age of 18, shall be sentenced a class B or C Felony.

Under this act, minors under the age of 18 can be sentenced to 8-60 years in prison. They shall also be fined to at least 25,000 dollars, with a maximum fine of to 65,000 dollars. These are class C to B felonies.

Today, minors are open to class E felonies, the lowest felony, with no prosecution. This will change after this bill passes.

Section 4: Recognizing that as of 2014, Tennessee is one of the top 10 states with human trafficking occurrence, but by changing the felonies, human trafficking will drastically reduce.

33 Section 5: Be advised, this act shall go into effect exactly one year from
34 the time this becomes a law requiring no money.

35

36 All bills that rebut this bill are hereby repealed.

37



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Isabelle Carney, Sarah Chichester, Emma Wilber
School: Rucker Stewart Middle School**

**AN ACT TO ADD SEXUAL ORIENTATION AND GENDER
IDENTIFICATION TO THE LIST OF CHARACTERISTICS PROTECTED
FROM DISCRIMINATION OR HARASSMENT**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE 2016 YMCA Youth Legislature:

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

a) Gender Identity- One's innermost concept of self as male, female, a blend of both or neither-how individuals perceive themselves and what they call themselves. One's gender identity can be the same or different from their sex assigned at birth.

b) Gender Expression- External appearance of one's gender identity, usually expressed through behavior, clothing, haircut or voice, and which may or may not conform to socially defined behaviors and characteristics typically associated with being either masculine or feminine.

c) Sexual Orientation-An inherent or immutable enduring emotional, romantic or sexual attraction to other people. (For Instance: Bisexual, Asexual, Pansexual, Homosexual, Demisexual, etc.)

d) Discrimination-the unjust or prejudicial treatment of different categories of people or things, especially on the grounds of race, age, or sex

e) Harassment-aggressive pressure or intimidation

f) Public Accommodation- facilities, both public and private, that are used by the public.

g) Public Utilities-an organization supplying a community with electricity, gas, water, or sewage.

h) TCA- Tennessee Code Annotated, the laws for the state of Tennessee

i) Punitive Damage- damages exceeding simple compensation and awarded to punish the defendant

Section 2: This act amends TCA §4-21-406, §4-21-502, and §4-21-701 to include, but not be limited to, transgender, pansexual, and homosexual persons to be protected from discrimination and/or harassment, whether it be physical, verbal, or mental.

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Section 3: This act negates bias against transgender, pansexual, and homosexual persons to eliminate discrimination and harassment.

Section 4: There are no costs associated with this bill.

Section 5: All enforcement shall comply with TCA 4-21-701, where the persons or person who committed such act is liable for any and all special and general damages, including but not limited to damages for emotional distress, reasonable attorney's fees and costs, and punitive damages

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

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



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Matthew Lambreth, Will Fox, Elliott Hayes
School: Brentwood Academy**

An Act to Establish a School Voucher Program

- 1 Section I: Terms in this bill are defined as follows:
- 2 a. voucher- money that would be spent on a child in public school that is
- 3 given to the family.
- 4 b. income- yearly earnings.
- 5 c. misuses- spends money on things not related to school.
- 6 d. discretion- the last word or final call.
- 7
- 8 Section II: A family earning at or below these incomes shall have the
- 9 ability to withdraw their child from their current school, and put the
- 10 voucher money towards a school that may better fit their child's needs.
- 11
- 12 Section III: The voucher money shall only be spent on school.
- 13
- 14 Section IV: Anyone who misuses the voucher money shall be fined the
- 15 money that was given, and may not be offered a voucher the next year,
- 16 at the judge's discretion.
- 17
- 18 Section V: The voucher payments shall be as follows:
- 19 - A family that has a total income under \$20,090 will have access to
- 20 \$9,123 per student.
- 21 - A family that has a total income under \$24,250 will have access to
- 22 \$6,500 per student.
- 23 - A family that has a total income under \$32,520 will have access to
- 24 \$4,000 per student.
- 25
- 26 Section VI: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby
- 27 repealed.
- 28
- 29 Section VII: This bill will take effect June 1, 2016, the public welfare
- 30 requiring it.
- 31



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Addison Busby, Tessa Kress, Margaret McBee
School: South Lawrence School**

An Act to Reduce The Effects of Smoking In Cars With Minors

1 Be it enacted by the state of Tennessee YMCA youth legislature :

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

3 Secondhand smoke: smoke from burning tobacco products, such as:
4 cigarettes, cigars, pipes, also smoke exhaled by smokers.

5 Birth defect: a physical or biochemical abnormality that is present at birth
6 and that may be inherited or the result of an environmental influence.

7 Minor: a person under the age of full legal responsibility.
8 (under the age of 18)

9
10 Section 2: We want to reduce the amount of secondhand smoke in cars
11 that transport minors in the state of Tennessee.

12
13 Section 3: This bill should be enacted so that we can reduce the number
14 of birth defects and other effects minor children suffer due to secondhand
15 smoking in cars.

16
17 Section 4: Secondhand smoke in cars with minors can cause health
18 issues and birth defects. Neighboring states have also enacted similar bills
19 involving this subject

20
21 Section 5: Being pulled over and caught for smoking in a car with minors
22 would result in a fine and community service. The community service
23 must be done at a school in the area where the offender lives. The
24 offender has one month to finish his or her community service. For the
25 first offense, the offender will pay a fine of \$100.00 and five hours of
26 community service. For the second offense, the offender will pay a
27 \$175.00 fine and seven hours of community service. For the third offense,
28 the offender will pay a fine of \$250.00 and nine hours of community
29 service.

30
31 Section 6: All current laws or parts of laws that lie in conflict with this act
32 shall be repealed upon enactment of this bill.

33
34 Section 7: If enacted, this bill will take effect January 1, 2017.



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Collin Coil, Sydney Coil, Amy Csaki
School: Heritage Middle School**

**AN ACT TO SHORTEN A DAY OF THE SCHOOL WEEK OF PUBLIC
SCHOOLS**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE 2016 TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
that one school day of the county's choice be shortened by two hours and
an extra thirty minutes will be added to the other school days.

WHEREAS the current school schedule causes large amounts of stress to
be placed upon students.

WHEREAS there is not enough time provided for students to allow them to
finish homework, do extracurricular activities, and spend time with friends
and family.

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

NSLP- National School Lunch Program

TCA- Tennessee Code Annotated

USD- United States Dollars

SACC- School Age Child Care

Section 2: We will require all public metro, elementary, middle, and high
schools to shorten one school day of the county's choice by two hours.
This reduction of a school day will not apply to private and church-related
schools.

Section 3: To make up for this time to conform to regulations set by TCA
§ 49-6-3004, we will lengthen each other school day by a half hour. By
adding a half hour to each other regular school day, the weekly school
hours will add up to thirty two and one half hours. This half hour will be
used as a study hall or the schools may use the time to lengthen class
periods.

Section 4: After school childcare will be provided for families in need of
other child care options. SACC will be available for the parents at a cost of
7,200 USD per school year.

33 Section 5: On a shortened school day not caused by weather, an optional
34 school lunch will be provided by the NSLP. In lieu of a school lunch, a
35 study hall will be conducted by teachers who will get a raise of 41 and
36 two thirds dollars per month.

37
38 Section 6: The cost of pay for study hall teachers will be 8,465,000 USD.
39 This number is an average of pay for ten teachers per public school in
40 Tennessee. If a teacher conducts a study hall for an entire year, s/he will
41 get 500 USD per year.

42
43 Section 7: To make enough money to cover the costs of pay, the
44 Tennessee State Tobacco tax will be increased from 6.6% to 20%. The
45 tax will apply to all smoked and smokeless tobacco products. The increase
46 in tax will raise the tax of average cigarette packs by one dollar and
47 seven cents to a total of 3.25 USD. Around 32.3% of Tennessee
48 population smokes or uses smokeless tobacco. That will create an income
49 of about 2,115,327 USD per day. Per year, approximately 772,094,355
50 USD will be made.

51
52 Section 8: An average of 2,500 USD are spent on school lunch per week.
53 In a recently conducted study, around 90 percent of students would eat
54 an off campus lunch or home lunch rather than a school lunch on a half
55 day. With this, an average of 450 USD per school can be saved weekly.
56 The state will save about 27,426,600 USD a year off of school lunches.
57 The average revenue made by school lunches will be decreased by about
58 18% weekly. The state will make 125,705,250 USD off of school lunches.
59 Overall, the state will save 128,188,450 USD per year when the food cost
60 is deducted.

61
62 Section 9: In total this plan will make about 900,282,805 USD with all
63 costs deducted. Extra funds will be used for the purposes of the school. If
64 the school does not use all funds produced in one year, the state can do
65 whatever it wants with it.

66
67 Section 10: Any school not conforming to this regulation will be forced
68 have the adaptation to the schedule for the next school year.

69
70 Section 11: Any laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby
71 repealed unless stated in this bill.

72
73 Section 12: This act shall take effect July 1, 2016 and will affect the
74 2016-2019 school years. This plan will act for three years as an
75 experimental new school schedule. If this plan is successful after three
76 years, this will become a permanent model.



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Lily Ring, Rebekah Langford, Madison Freeman
School: White House Middle School**

**An Act to implement an emergency texting communication
service.**

Section 1:

a. Texting communication service —a service which allows individuals with an emergency to text 911

b. Emergency —situation that might require immediate response from all
Examples: house fires, kidnappings, shootings, etc.

Section 2: This act shall allow an individual to contact all when an emergency occurs through texting.

Section 3: This act shall provide quick and broader access to emergency services through more current technology.

Section 4: Tennessee emergency response budget shall be restructured to balance into the new program and the emergency all program.

Section 5: If any person texts 911 and it is not an actual emergency they shall be given a warning for the first offense, fined \$25 for the second offense and \$50 for the third offense.

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

Section 7: This act shall take effect July 1, 2016, the public welfare requiring it.



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Savannah Daughtry, Alexis Jarrett
School: Rucker Stewart Middle School**

**AN ACT TO EXTEND THE CLASS C MISDEMEANOR OFFENSE OF CONSUMING
AN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE OR POSSESSING AN OPEN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE
CONTAINER IN AN OPERATING MOTOR VEHICLE TO PASSENGERS**

BE IT ENACTED BY:

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

Conviction-a formal declaration that someone is guilty of a criminal offense, made by the verdict of a jury or the decision of a judge in a court of law.

Misdemeanor- any "lesser" criminal act in some common law legal systems.

Alcohol-a colorless volatile flammable liquid that is produced by the natural fermentation of sugars and is the intoxicating constituent of wine, beer, spirits, and other drinks, and is also used as an industrial solvent and as fuel.

Open-container-regulate or prohibit the existence of open containers of alcohol in certain areas, as well as the active consumption of alcohol in those areas. "Public places" in this context refers to openly public places such as sidewalks, parks and vehicles.

Consecutive-following continuously

Section 2: This bill enforces the open container law, but will further enforce the consequences not only to the driver, but to the passenger as well.

Enforcing this law will help keep roads safer for a certain amount by preventing drunk drivers interfering with others or yourself.

Section 3: This bill re-enforces the current consequences for breaking the law:

a) A maximum fine up to \$70

b) A maximum of 30 consecutive days in your county jail

Section 4: This act will add in preventing drinking alcoholic beverages while driving.

Section 5: This bill will not require any funds from the state to enforce the already existing law.

Section 6: This act shall take effect upon passage, public welfare requiring it.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT



SENATE COMMITTEE 2



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
SENATE**



**Sponsors: James Ficarro, Zack Moore, Jackson Lee
School: Davidson Academy**

**AN ACT TO EXPUNGE CRIMINAL RECORDS OF REHABILITATED
OFFENDERS**

Section 1:

Definitions

Felony: In Tennessee, felonies are crimes punishable by one year or more in state prison. Tennessee lawmakers designate felonies as class A, B, C, D, or E.

Misdemeanor- an offense punishable by up to a year in jail and designated as class A, B, or C.

Sentence reduction credits- Each inmate who exhibits good institutional behavior or who exhibits satisfactory performance within a program may be awarded time credits toward the sentence imposed, varying between one (1) day and sixteen (16) days for each month served, with not more than eight (8) days for each month served for good institutional behavior and not more than eight (8) days for each month served for satisfactory program performance in accordance with the criteria established by the department.

Expungement: to blot out, erase and physically delete records or data, including criminal records.

Section 2:

Be it enacted by the State of Tennessee Youth in Government that inmates with Class D felonies may petition the parole board to have all misdemeanors and violations expunged from all public records after they have completed their sentences. An inmate must have earned a qualifying amount of sentence reduction credits and have only Class D or E felony classifications of an offense to request to have criminal records expunged. Inmates who do not have prior felonies or class A misdemeanor are eligible. Felony classifications for sex offences, crimes against children or the elderly, human trafficking and public corruption are not allowable for expungement.

31 Section 3: Class D felons with 250 days of sentence reduction credits and
32 class E felons with 150 days sentence reduction credits are eligible to ask
33 parole board for expungement
34

35 Section 4: Parole board will examine the conduct of the inmate through
36 prison records and determine if it would be in the best interest of
37 Tennessee to expunge criminal record.
38

39 Section 5: If 4 out of the 7 parole board members vote for expungement
40 of criminal records, the records will be expunged after the individual is
41 released from state custody.
42

43 Section 6: Expungement can be revoked if an individual breaks conditions
44 of parole
45

46 Funding for program will come from budget of the Department of
47 Corrections.
48



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Jacob Kuper, Ethan Thongmanivong, Kody Santiago
School: Rucker Stewart Middle School**

**AN ACT TO MANDATE A VEGETARIAN MEAL OPTION BE PROVIDED
FOR LUNCHES IN PUBLIC SCHOOL K-12**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE 2016 YMCA Youth Legislature:

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

- a)Vegetarian- A diet that does not contain meat. This includes anything with genuine animal meat. This does not include artificial flavor enhancers or seasonings as long as it does not contain animal parts or meat.
- b) Meal Option- The lunch choice provided by the school. This includes anything the school is serving.
- c) School lunch- The food served by the school. Does not apply to food brought from home.
- d)Lacto ovo vegetarian- a person who eats vegetables, eggs, and dairy products but does not eat meat.
- e)Meal- Any serving of food to be eaten.

Section 2: This bill will provide a "Lacto ovo vegetarian" diet meal option for students and adults purchasing meals at Public Schools K- 12. It will replace one of the two protein food options, and students and adults will still be able to choose a side of a vegetable and a fruit. This bill will not apply to private schools ,and not everyone will be required to buy a school lunch. Students may still bring their own meal.

Section 3: By providing a "Lacto ovo vegetarian" diet meal option, this bill will address religious practices concerning meat, childhood-obesity rates due to lower calories and nutritious meals, health reasons and benefits, and other various reasons. Many religions such as Jainism, Hinduism, and Sikhism are fully vegetarian, while other religions have followers doing practices they believe, like Christians. These foods are also better with nutrition because foods like nuts have a lot of protein and things like salads are vegetable based. They don't have unnecessary ingredients in them to make them worse, health-wise.

33 Section 4: The cost of this plan will lessen the budget spent on food. Most
34 vegetarian foods cost less than most of the meats and processed foods
35 the school serves. Vegetation, wheats and grains, nuts, and yogurts can
36 cost less than processed meats and other school foods. Since the
37 vegetarian option will replace one of the protein options, the cost of this
38 plan will cost the same as or less than the current budget. The cost will
39 be based on the amount of food needed.

40
41 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby
42 repealed

43
44 Section 5: This act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.
45



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Grace Woodside, Femi Adegoke
School: Woodland Middle School**

**AN ACT TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS TAKING 4
YEARS OF A FOREIGN LANGUAGE BY CREATING A NEW
SCHOLARSHIP**

Be it enacted by the 2016 Tennessee YMCA Youth Legislature:

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

A.) Tennessee International Language Study Scholarship (TILSS): a merit-based scholarship offered to high school seniors from a public high school in Tennessee planning to attend a Public Tennessee college who took four years of an international language; funded entirely by the state.

B.) Tennessee International Language Exam (TILE): An examination given (upon request) to qualified students; this determines eligibility for the Tennessee International Language Study Scholarship.

C.) Gpa: grade point average

Section 2: This act will create a scholarship program that will increase the number of high schoolers taking an international language every year of high school by offering a one year full tuition to any public Tennessee university.

The qualifications are as follows:

A.) Students must have completed four full courses of an approved language with at least a 3.0 gpa for all classes.

B.) Students must graduate from a Tennessee public high school.

C.) Students must plan to attend a Tennessee public university.

D.) Students must maintain a 3.0 gpa while enrolled in the specified Tennessee public university.

E.) Students must score within the 90th percentile on the TILE.

Section 3: Languages acceptable for the program are as follows:
Spanish, French, Japanese, Chinese, Italian, German, and Latin

Section 4: A total of 50 students will be selected yearly based upon the highest scores on the TILE, and average gpa.

32 Section 5: If enacted, this bill will require yearly funding by the Tennessee
33 State lottery.

34

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

37

38 Section 7: This act shall go into effect January 1, 2018

39



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Kathryn Harvey, Elizabeth Williams, Cheyla Ferguson,
Danielle Rappuhn
School: White House Middle School**

**AN ACT TO PROVIDE PARTIAL-PAID LEAVE FOR ANY EMPLOYEE
FOR DIRECT FAMILY EMERGENCIES**

1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA youth legislature:

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

5 Family emergencies - to care for a new child (new born, foster, or
6 adopted) or direct family members in the hospital or needing hospice
7 care.

8 Direct family members - parent, child, spouse, or domestic partner.

9 Partial paid leave —three quarters of the person's weekly salary per week.

10
11 Section 2: This act shall mandate up to 8 weeks of partial-paid time off
12 from a job to bond with a new child (including adopted or foster children),
13 or to care for an acutely ill direct family member.

14
15 Section 3: This will affect businesses with 100 or more employees and the
16 employees needing the partial-paid leave. This will benefit Tennessee
17 because it will assist the employees in allowing them to care for their
18 family without the worry of financial issues.

19
20 Section 4: This bill will cause the business owners to pay three quarters of
21 said employee's weekly salary for up to 8 weeks to the employees of
22 which are on leave. However, this bill will not cost the government any
23 money, nor will it raise taxes on the other citizens of Tennessee.

24
25 Section 5: If these businesses fail to comply with this act, the business
26 shall pay the employee the amount owed to the worker, plus an additional
27 \$50 to other Tennessee programs in need of funding. This bill will be
28 enforced by employees filing for incompetency of corporations.

29

30 Section 6: Businesses with less than a 5% profit margin for 12
31 consecutive fiscal months and businesses with less than 100 employees
32 are exempt.

33
34 Section 7: If a business wants to file for exemption, they must do so bi-
35 annually, regardless of financial need or employee count. The exemption
36 ceases to be valid after 6 months and must be refiled.

37
38 Section 8: Any employee wanting to take said leave must have been an
39 employee for a minimum of 90 days.

40
41 Section 9: This act shall take effect January 1, 2017, the public welfare
42 requiring it.

43
44 Section 10: All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby
45 repealed.



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Mrinmoyee Kalasikam, Tamyra Kirby, Parker Woods
School: Sunset Middle School**

**AN ACT TO PREVENT DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF
ALCOHOL**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

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

5 A) DUI: Driving Under the Influence is classified as the act or crime of
6 driving while affected by alcohol or other intoxicating controlled
7 substances.

8 B) Illegal Blood Alcohol concentration: In the State of Tennessee, it is
9 illegal to drive with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or above.
10 In Tennessee, the .08 limit is lower for commercial drivers (.04) and
11 drivers under the age of 21 (.02).

12 C) An Influenced Person: Someone who is, at the time of testing, affected
13 by the influence of alcohol or other controlled services with an Illegal
14 Blood Alcohol Concentration.

15 D) Breathalyzer: a device used to track the blood alcohol concentration of
16 influenced people(s)

17 E) ESTABLISHMENT: A place of commerce in which alcohol is a primary
18 method of revenue

19 F) Key storage: Any method of keeping the keys of a person who
20 purchases alcohol at the establishment that is organized and does not
21 permit the customer to receive their keys until they have passed the
22 blood alcohol concentration test

23 G) EMPLOYEE: Someone who is gainfully employed at the establishment.

24 H) Customer: a person who purchases alcohol at the ESTABLISHMENT

25 I) Offense: any transgression committed by the ESTABLISHMENT

26
27 Section 2) An EMPLOYEE is required to confiscate the keys of a customer
28 upon the entrance of the ESTABLISHMENT if they purchase alcohol. The
29 EMPLOYEE is also required to administer a breathalyzer test before they
30 may receive their keys from the ESTABLISHMENT. For a customer to be
31 eligible to receive their keys, they must not have an Illegal Blood Alcohol
32 Concentration.

33
34 Section 3) The bill becomes effective within two years of June 1, 2016 for
35 an ESTABLISHMENT with a revenue of 40% or greater from the sales of
36 alcohol. And must be implemented for all establishments with a 25% or
37 greater revenue by the date of June 1, 2020.

38
39 Section 4) If an ESTABLISHMENT that has a revenue from 40% or greater
40 on alcohol sales does not comply by the given time window, they will
41 fined 10,000 dollars per offense. If an ESTABLISHMENT that makes at a
42 minimum of 25% of revenue on alcohol sales does not comply within the
43 given time window, they will be fined 7,500 dollars per offense.

44
45 Section 5) If the ESTABLISHMENT complies by the first year the law is
46 enacted, they shall receive a one year tax exemption of no greater than
47 500 dollars.

48
49 Section 6) This act will not require funding from the state budget but may
50 generate revenue resulting from fines and overall fewer car accidents due
51 to DUI.

52
53 Section 7) All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby
54 repealed.

55
56 Section 8) This act will be enacted by the state on June 1, 2016.
57



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Katelyn Cozart, Kailee Prince
School: South Lawrence School**

**An Act to Require State Representatives and State Senators to
increase the time they spend in their districts.**

1 Be it enacted by the state of Tennessee YMCA youth legislature:

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

3 A) State Representative: a person elected by a state to be member a
4 member of the House of Representatives

5 B) State Senator: a member of the Senate who is elected to represent a
6 state

7 C) district: an area or section of a state
8

9 Section 2: This act is proposing state representatives and senators
10 should have to spend 12 hours per session in the district they are
11 representing.
12

13 Section 3: Senators and representatives should have knowledge about
14 what condition their district is in before funding, cutting funding, or
15 continuing to fund on specific projects and/or programs.
16

17 Section 4: Most decisions senators and representatives are making are
18 being made while they are in Nashville. Many of these officials don't even
19 know what condition the district is in because they are not there. This bill
20 is intended to increase the amount of time each representative and
21 senator spends in the district so they can be fully knowledgeable about
22 the situation their district is in.
23

24 Section 5: No money or taxes will be involved in the effects of the
25 enactment of this bill.
26

27 Section 6: All current laws or parts of laws that lie in conflict with this act
28 shall be repealed upon enactment of this bill.
29

30 Section 7: If enacted this bill will take effect with the General Assembly
31 Session beginning in January, 2017.
32



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Ellie Vinson, Serena Smith, Josh Remillard
School: Spring Station Middle School**

An Act to Establish Inclimate Weather Routes for Public School Buses

1 Preamble:

2 WHEREAS, the action of children in grades K-12's health is being put at
3 risk while waiting for the bus during unreasonable weather.

4

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE 2016 YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:

6 Section 1: Public school buses shall add extra stops during their route to
7 limit the amount of time spent exposed to the deemed risky weather.

8 Inclimate weather route shall be altered by the zoned school and their
9 driver.

10 The appropriate stops will be in attempt to drop the children off in
11 proximity to their homes.

12 The stops will not be at each individual child's house.

13

14 Section 2: Decisions will be made by the county's Operations Department,
15 and shall meet following requirements.

16 The wind chill is below 20°F.

17 The heat index is above 100°F

18 It is raining.

19

20 Section 3: Buses shall continue to deliver kids to school on time.

21 If arrive late, students shall be excused of tardy.

22

23 Section 4: Announcement of Inclimate weather route shall be made on
24 school website, and shall be easily accessible to all.

25

26 Section 5: All expenses shall continue to come from the county
27 commission.

28

29 Section 6: All laws or portions of laws that are in contrast with this act will
30 be hereby replaced.

31

32 Section 7: This act will take effect July 1, 2017.



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Victor Diaz, Timmothy Troutt, Sydni Dias
School: Rucker Stewart Middle School**

**AN ACT TO SAFEGUARD THE LEGALITY OF LOW SPEED VEHICLES
WHERE SPEED LIMITS ARE 35 AND UNDER**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:

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

A)Low Speed Vehicles: Any Four-wheeled vehicle that meets street regulations that meet a minimum speed limit of 20 miles per hour and a maximum of 25 miles per hour. As defined in TCA Title 55 Chapter 1 Part 122

B)Street Regulations: Requirements for vehicles to be legally driven. Ie brakes, muffler, etc

C)Jurisdiction: The extent of the power to make legal decisions.Ie. a city

SECTION 2: The bill ensures that usage of low speed vehicles on public roadways remains legal as pursuant to TCA Title 55 chapter 1 Part 122.

SECTION 3: The bill protects the rights to use low speed vehicles as transportation on public roadways with a speed limit of 35 and under, by preventing local jurisdictions from prosecuting citizens who drive a legal low speed vehicle.

SECTION 4: This bill maintains the current requirements of a driver license.

SECTION 5: The bill will require no funding.

SECTION 6: Any consequences for violation in a standard vehicle shall apply to low speed vehicles.

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

SECTION 8: This act shall take effect on immediately.



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Mason Arnold
School: Portland West Middle School**

**AN ACT TO REQUIRE SCHOOLS K-8 IN TENNESSEE TO PROVIDE AT
LEAST 30 MINUTES OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES FOR STUDENTS
DAILY.**

Section 1:

a. Physical Activities —a set aside scheduled time in which students engage in various forms of exercise such as recreational sports, running, walking, or other aerobic activities.

b. Physical Education —A formal class provided to students that teaches fundamentals of health, recreational sports and exercise physiology.

Section 2: This act shall require K-8 schools in Tennessee to provide at least 30 minutes of daily physical activity for students to improve student wellness.

Section 3: If a student is currently enrolled in physical education, the class day of physical education will count as the requirement of physical activity daily.

Section 4: This act shall not require additional state funding. Schools will be responsible for developing a structure and plan for physical activity.

Section 5: Daily physical activity shall be monitored as part of the current school district's state monitoring system. If non-compliant, state funding shall be decreased.

Section 6: If students are unable to participate in physical activity, a doctor's note is needed.

Section 7: This act shall take effect July 1, 2016, the public welfare requiring.

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



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
SENATE**



**Sponsors: Ally Hollmann, Madilyn Laughner, Madelinn Tidwell
School: South Lawrence School**

An Act to Ensure Children's Safety On Buses

1 Be it enacted by the state of Tennessee YMCA youth legislature:

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

4 Seatbelts: A safety device for securing an occupant in a vehicle.

5 Safety: the condition of being protected from danger or injury

6
7 Section 2: This act proposes that each school bus in the state of
8 Tennessee should be equipped with seatbelts to ensure children's safety,
9 and reduce the possibility of transportation related tragedies.

10
11 Section 3: Many accidents involving school buses have occurred over the
12 past few years. Buses with built in seatbelts will lessen the probability of
13 serious injuries occurring.

14
15 Section 4: Parents are hesitating to send their children on buses, even if
16 it is their only transportation option. These uncertainties are caused by
17 the recurring fact that their children could be harmed or put in danger on
18 the school bus.

19
20 Section 5: Because school systems are already required to purchase a
21 certain number of buses on average per year, this act would not be an
22 additional cost. Not all buses would be purchased in one year's budget.
23 All buses with seatbelts should be purchased by 2023. The purchase of
24 these buses will be added into their regular budget. No major differences
25 in money would be taking place.

26
27 Section 6: All current laws or part of laws that lie in conflict with this act
28 shall be repealed upon enactment of this bill.

29
30 Section 7: If enacted, this bill will take effect January 1, 2023.

31

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT



HOUSE COMMITTEE 1



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Paxton Perry, Eli Gonas, Rylee Finucane
School: Brentwood Academy**

An Act to Prohibit Removal of Trees Without Buying or Planting a New One

1 Section I: Terms used in this act are defined as follows:
2 a)Tree removal- removing three trees above eight inches per acre without
3 replanting at least one tree
4 b)incarcerate- imprison
5 c)class C misdemeanor- a criminal sentence that can be no greater than
6 thirty(30) days in jail or a fine not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00), or both
7 d)class B misdemeanor- a criminal sentence that can be no greater than
8 six(6) months in jail or a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars(\$500), or
9 both

10
11 Section II: The owner of any property that engages in removing trees
12 without replanting them will be guilty of the crime of "Tree Removal"

13
14 Section III: There will be a webpage through the Tennessee Department of
15 Agriculture website where landowners will be required to register their
16 property and the number of trees per acre.

17
18 Section IV: The Department of Agriculture will enforce the law through
19 sending agents out on random inspections. Agents will be responsible for
20 communicating those in violation of this law to the local police who will
21 handle further enforcement.

22
23 Section IV: Upon conviction in a competent court of law, the judge shall
24 sentence the owner of the property to one of the following punishments as
25 the court shall deem appropriate:

26 a)For the first offense, a class C misdemeanor.
27 b)For the second and subsequent offenses, a class B misdemeanor.

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

31
32 Section VI: This bill will take effect January 1, 2017, the public welfare
33 requiring it.



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: AmyBeth Simbeck, Kensey Weathers
School: South Lawrence School**

An Act to Allow School Nurses to Administer Over-the-counter Products

- 1 Section 1-Terms in this act will be defined as followed:
- 2 Over-the-counter - ordinary retail purchase with no need for a
- 3 prescription or license
- 4 Licenced - to permit the use of something or allow an activity to take
- 5 place
- 6
- 7 Section 2- This act is proposing to allow certified school nurses to give
- 8 students over-the-counter medications with parent approval. Parents will
- 9 be called prior to administration of these items.
- 10
- 11 Section 3- This act will enable that students will be taken better care of
- 12 while at school. Students shouldn't have to sit for hours for their parents
- 13 to come get them while they have a high fever, splinter, or other problem
- 14 that could be eased by the administration of a simple over-the-counter
- 15 medication.
- 16
- 17 Section 4- If this bill is enacted, nurses will be able to help students with
- 18 simple concerns that they are faced with daily. If these problems are
- 19 solved at school, parents will no longer have to worry about minor
- 20 concerns and the issue of having to leave work for a minor issue.
- 21
- 22 Section 5- The cost of these products will come out of the nurse's funding
- 23 at the beginning of the school.
- 24
- 25 Section 6- All current laws or part of laws that lie in conflict with this act
- 26 shall be repealed upon enactment of this bill.
- 27
- 28 Section 7- If enacted this bill will take effect in the 2016-2017 school
- 29 year.
- 30



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Lauren Link, Sarah Phillippi
School: Woodland Middle School**

**AN ACT TO REQUIRE ALL PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PERSONS
TO REGISTER INTO AN IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM AT THE
BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR**

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 a) id scanner- a device that captures a form of an id for any individual.
6 b) register-signing your name saying you are responsible for a child and
7 might be picking up the designated child at some point in the school year.
8 c) elementary school- a public school for grade levels K-5.

9
10 Section 2: This act will require all people responsible for their public
11 elementary school student to register at the start of the school year.

12
13 Section 3: This act will allow more safety in all public elementary schools
14 in Tennessee.

15
16 Section 4: This act will automatically ensure that all children are picked
17 up by a registered person of record.

18
19 Section 5: This act will put all registered persons in an id scanner system
20 at the beginning of the year. This list of people may be adjusted
21 accordingly.

22
23 Section 6: This act will require all registered persons to show their id
24 before entering the school building.

25
26 Section 7: This act will cost \$387,890.

27
28 Section 8: This act shall take effect on August 7, 2017.
29



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Evan Hiatt, Joel Barnes
School: Sunset Middle School**

**AN ACT TO DECREASE FOOD INSECURITY IN TENNESSEE BY
CREATING AN INCENTIVE PROGRAM FOR BUSINESSES TO
PROVIDE FOOD TO LOCAL FOOD BANKS**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE 2016 Tennessee YMCA Youth Legislature:

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

4 a) Food Insecurity: Any person(s) who make less than \$11,770 per year,
5 with an addition of \$4,160 for every extra person in a family

6 b) Extra food: Quality food that has not been prepared for sale

7 c) Government funded food service: Any government regulated service by
8 the state of Tennessee that provides food for those with food insecurity

9
10 Section 2: This law will pertain to restaurants and other businesses that
11 have a permit for the sale of food to the public in accordance to
12 Tennessee Codes 68-14-706, 68-14-707, 68-14-708, and 68-14-709.

13
14 Section 3: Any restaurant in participation this law will be given a .2% tax
15 break in the current fiscal session per 10000 pounds of food donated.

16
17 Section 4:

18 a) Any individual found to involved in the bribery of government officials
19 will be fined \$10,000,

20 and will be prosecuted according to Tennessee codes 39-16-102

21 b) The business that individual works at at will be excluded from the tax
22 break for 1 fiscal year, and will have to pay 1% more toward their state
23 business tax

24
25 Section 5: The food will be collected once a week by a representative of
26 each of these food services, and it will be used by the company to help
27 feed the persons without ready access to food.

28
29 Section 6: This act will save money for the state that would otherwise
30 used to feed low-wage and/or homeless people and families.

31

32 Section 7: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby
33 repealed.
34
35 Section 8: This act will go into effect by January 1, 2018 to provide time
36 for companies to adjust to the law.
37



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Clay Holmes, Chase Tyner, Wade Williams
School: Brentwood Academy**

**An Act Authorizing Fantasy Sports games and Exempting Them
from Taxation**

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

- a) fantasy sport - a type of online game where participants assemble imaginary or virtual teams of real players of a professional sport. These teams compete based on the statistical performance of those players' players in actual games.
- b) Draft King - a daily fantasy sports contest provider. The company allows users to enter daily and weekly fantasy sports-related contests and win money based on individual players and teams.
- c) Fan Duel - a web-based fantasy sports game and the largest daily fantasy sports company (as measured by entry fees) in the daily fantasy sports industry. The model consists of traditional season-long fantasy sports leagues being compressed into a free and/or paid daily, and occasionally weekly, game of skill.

Section II: The winner of any Fantasy Sports games will have their earned winnings given to them without a Sales, State, or Federal taxation will take effect on them. And will become legal to the public.

Section III: The winner of any Fantasy sports game will automatically have his or her winnings given to them without taxation.

Section IV: Upon money transferred to the competitors winnings given to them they will be given

- a) The money they win will be given tax free.
- b) The Fantasy sports games will be authorized and legal.

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

Section VI: This bill will take effect July 1, 2016, the public welfare requiring it.



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Gabriela Alvarado, Shelby Fisher
School: South Lawrence School**

An Act to Require Foreign Language for K-8 Tennessee Schools

1 Be it enacted by the state of Tennessee YMCA youth legislature:

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

4 Adapt: make suitable for a new use or purpose.

5 Foreign Language: a language other than one spoken language by the
6 individual.

7 Required: officially, compulsory.
8

9 Section 2: This act is prosing public schools to teach foreign languages
10 in K-8 school in Tennessee.
11

12 Section 3: This act will allow students to learn a foreign language when it
13 is easiest to learn it - when they are young. These students will also be
14 able to communicate with students that come from foreign countries. It
15 will also help students get a well rounded education.
16

17 Section 4: Students need to learn a foreign language at a young age in
18 order to be a well rounded student that can adapt and learn new things.
19 These students will be required to learn foreign languages in high school
20 and college, so this early education will help them be more prepared for
21 that later education.
22

23 Section 5: The extra funds required to teach a foreign language for K-8
24 schools will mostly occur in the cost of buying textbooks or programs to
25 teach the foreign language. These textbooks will be bought over the
26 course of several years as other textbooks are normally bought. Each
27 individual school system must budget into their textbook budget for these
28 new texts or programs as they do with other subject areas.
29

30 Section 6: All current laws with this act should be replaced upon an
31 enactment of this bill.
32

33 Section 7: This bill will take place 2021-2022 school year.



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Christian Neff, Gracie Zentz, Sadie Cook, Ingle
Makemson
School: Heritage Middle School**

**AN ACT TO SUPPLY THE POLICE OFFICERS OF TENNESSE WITH
BODY CAMERAS**

Be it enacted by the TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT that
the police forces of the state be provided with PatrolEyes 1080p police
body cameras.

WHEREAS, Tennessee has the 3rd highest crime rate in the United States
according to 247wallstreet, wbir.com, and worldatlas, there is an average
of 608.4 violent crimes per a hundred thousand people.

WHEREAS, the courts are not provided with enough evidence to accuse
someone, if police are provided with body cameras they will have this
confirmation.

WHEREAS, supplying body cameras for these police will better supply the
courts of Tennessee with the much needed footage of what occurred at
the scene of the crime.

Section I. DEFINITIONS:

Police Body Camera- A camera strapped or clipped on to a police's body.
It is used to show footage of what the policeman is doing.

Fiscal Year- is a period that a company or government uses for
accounting purposes and preparing financial statements. The fiscal year
may or may not be the same as a calendar year. For tax purposes,
companies can choose to be calendar-year taxpayers or fiscal year
taxpayers.

Section II. PROVISIONS:

This act will cost a total of \$1,600,380.79 initially, and if it succeeds will
cost another \$3,591,020.41. The money will come from the State's sales
tax, it will be increased by 1% for one fiscal year. The cameras will first
be given to the police officers of Memphis, Chattanooga, Knoxville,
Nashville, and Clarksville. Once this is proven successful the cameras will
then be supplied to the rest of the cops in Tennessee.

32 Section III. PENALTIES:

33 If the officers intentionally remove, block, turn off these cameras, or
34 interrupt the signal or sound, while on duty, they shall be removed from
35 their force immediately.

36 If they committed a crime while they sabotaged the body cameras, they
37 shall go to court and face the consequences alongside the set fine of
38 \$5,000.

39 If the police station(or person in charge) does not provide the police
40 officers with the cameras that they have been given there will be
41 punishment. This punishment will be the firing the one in charge of
42 distributing these cameras.

43
44 Section IV. REPEALING CLAUSE:

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

46
47 Section V. EFFECTIVE DATE: This act shall take effect July 1, 2017 public
48 welfare requiring it.



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Pete McKiness, Parker Rosenblatt
School: Rucker Stewart Middle School**

**AN ACT TO REQUIRE A PERSON CONVICTED OF THE OFFENSE OF
CRUELTY TO ANIMALS TO PAY THE COST OF HOUSING AND
REHABILITATIVE TRAINING FOR ANIMALS**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:

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

5 Rehabilitative training - an animal is trained to get back to it's normal
6 attitude.

7 Convicted- a person found guilty of a crime in a court of law

8 Offense- breaking a law or rule

9 Magistrate- the judge in a court of law

10
11 Section 2: This act mandates that abused animals will be receive
12 rehabilitative training and housing to be paid for by the convicted abuser.

13
14 Section 3: Convicted abuser will be charged with a class A misdemeanor,
15 with a possible jail sentence of 11 months and 29 days, with a maximum
16 fine of \$2,500 to be determined by the magistrate.

17
18 Section 4: The cost of rehabilitative training and housing for the abused
19 animals will be covered by the convicted abuser

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

23
24 Section 6: This act will be in effect August 15, 2016, public welfare
25 requiring it.

26



29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



Sponsors: Sydney Hummel, Rithika Tummala, Trystan Wepking
School: Sunset Middle School

**AN ACT TO INCREASE PHYSICAL FITNESS WITH THE USE OF A
MOBILE APP AND GETTING TAX REDEMPTIONS IN RETURN**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:

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

a) BMI- BMI stands for body mass index. Body Mass Index is a weight-to-height ratio, calculated by dividing one's weight in kilograms by the square of one's height in meters and used as an indicator of obesity and underweight.

b) App program- An application program is a computer program designed to perform a group of coordinated functions, tasks, or activities for the benefit of the user.

c) Physical Fitness- Physical Fitness is the ability of a human being to carry out tasks without undue fatigue.

d) iWork- iWork is the app in which this bill will be enacted through to record physical exercise of adults and determine the percentage of tax redemption for those who have it.

Section 2: This act will promote physical activity with rewards in return in order to reduce the rate of growing obesity in adults in Tennessee.

a) 68% of adults in Tennessee are obese, according to Get Fit Tennessee.

Section 3) Those who attempt to commit fraud by lying to the government and claiming they have used the provided mobile app for exercise which they have not done in order to get tax redemption will be fined \$20,000.

Section 4) This act will automatically qualify adults (18-80) to receive 2% tax redemption with a maximum of ten hours a week of physical exercise.

Section 5) This act will require an upfront payment of \$300,000 from the state budget. Obesity rates in Tennessee are higher in communities below the power line. These people often do not have health insurance, which

costs the government more money. In the long run, as the obesity rates decrease, less people will need assistance from hospitals, which in turn will require the government to pay for less health insurance. Also, the state may generate revenue from collected fines.

Section 6) All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section 7) This act will be enacted by the state upon passage immediately upon becoming a law.



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Lucas Bolinger, Sam Burns, Dylan Schuch
School: Rucker Stewart Middle School**

**AN ACT TO PERMIT PARENTS, GUARDIANS, AND/OR TEACHER TO
ACCESS HIS OR HER STUDENT'S ANSWERS ON THE MANDATED
STATE SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT**

1 Section 1. Terms in this act shall be defined as follows.

2 A) Permit-allow access to

3 B) Access-view examples of question types

4 C) State-Required Summative Assessment-a statewide test administered
5 by the state board of education; ie. TCAP, TNReady.

6
7 Section 2: This bill will allow parents, guardians, and teachers of
8 students to view the students' answers to the state-required summative
9 assessment via a website. This would allow parents and teachers to
10 review any commonly missed questions or subjects before the student
11 has to move on to the next grade or take the next section of the
12 assessment.

13
14 Section 3: This bill will supports findings by experts in the field of
15 education that when educators are able to see how questions are asked
16 and the area of questions the students miss on their state-required
17 summative assessment. Both teachers and students can benefit from this
18 bill. Most parents also support this bill because it will enable them to view
19 the new versions of the assessment.

20
21 Section 4: The Tennessee Department of Education is responsible for
22 providing this information through existing websites.

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

26
27 Section 6: This act shall be in effect July 23, 2016, public welfare
28 requiring it.

29



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Hemani Mehta, Aayushi Soni
School: Woodland Middle School**

AN ACT TO INCREASE SAFETY IN A HIGH VOLUME OF TRAFFIC

1 Be it Enacted by the 2016 TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:

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

- 5 a) Pedestrians- a person walking along a road or in a developed area
6 b) High traffic roads- over 1000 vehicles a day use a specific road
7

8 Section 2: We will increase the property tax going to new sidewalks, bike
9 routes, and paths to help make sure pedestrians will not be hit by cars.
10

11 Section 3: Tennessee has an average of 961 people per square mile.
12 Many high traffic roads are without sidewalks. This is hazardous for any
13 pedestrians trying to navigate their way around these roads.
14

15 Section 4: If enacted, this bill will be funded by increasing property tax by
16 \$1.00.
17

18 Section 5: These new sidewalks will be put on roads with a high volume
19 of traffic.
20

21 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby
22 repealed.
23

24 Section 7: This act will go into effect in August 7, 2017 upon becoming a
25 law.
26

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT



HOUSE COMMITTEE 2



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Dominick Daniels, Brianna Mcvay
School: Sunset Middle School**

**AN ACT TO FORGIVE THE STUDENT LOANS OF THOSE PURSUING A
CAREER IN THE FIELD OF CHILD PSYCHOLOGY AFTER 10 YEARS
OF SERVICE BY COMBINATION OF THEIR PSYCHOLOGY FACILITY
TAXES AND STATE TAXES**

1 Be it enacted by the TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:
2 Section 1) Terms used in this act, unless the context requires otherwise,
3 shall be defined as follows:
4 Child Psychologist - any individual who has mastered in the field of
5 psychology or child psychology
6 Student Loan - a loan given to a college student to allow him or her to
7 afford books, tuition, living expenses, etc., that must be paid off later in
8 life
9 State Tax - a tax whose finances go entirely to the state in which it is
10 imposed
11 Child Psychology Facility Taxes - a tax paid by any business to the state
12 in which it is imposed
13
14 Section 2) Those who are pursuing the career of child psychology and
15 have followed through with it for 10 years will be forgiven of their student
16 loans.
17
18 Section 3) A portion of the taxes paid to the state from the facility will be
19 redirected to paying the student loans of its staff.
20
21 Section 4) Student who has now gone into the field of child psychology
22 will have their student loans forgiven.
23
24 Section 5) This act will require funding from state taxes but may create
25 revenue to compensate
26
27 Section 6) All laws or sections of laws in conflict or against this act are
28 hereby repealed
29
30 Section 7) This act will be enacted by the state upon passage, and
31 businesses must comply with guidelines by June 1, 2017.



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Skylar Johnson, Caleb Rouse, Natalie Schuch
School: Rucker Stewart Middle School**

**AN ACT TO CREATE A CLASS A MISDEMEANOR FOR SERVING AN
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE TO A PREGNANT WOMAN FOR
CONSUMPTION ON THE PREMISES**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE 2016 YMCA Youth Legislature :

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

- 4 a) Class A Misdemeanor - A guideline for a judge to use for possible
5 sentencing. Class A Misdemeanor has limitations of 11 months and 29
6 days in jail, with a maximum fine of \$2,550.
7 b) Fetus - the young of an animal in the womb.
8 c) Alcoholic beverage - Any drink capable of being consumed containing
9 ethanol or ethyl alcohol.
10 d) Premises - A house or building, together with its land and out
11 buildings, occupied by a business or considered in an official content.
12 e) Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) - A full spectrum of birth
13 defects caused by prenatal alcohol exposure.
14 f) Consumption - The using up of a resource.

15
16 Section 2: This act creates the prohibition of the serving of an alcoholic
17 beverages to pregnant women on the premises of the restaurant
18 establishment.

19
20 Section 3: This act is to protect the pregnant woman and the child from
21 alcohol from being in endangerment of FASD.

22
23 Section 4: This is bill amends to TCA title 39-17-7, TCA title 40 Criminal
24 Procedures, TCA title 57-4-2, which include intoxicating liquors, criminal
25 charges and procedures, and consumption of alcoholic beverages on the
26 premises, by the prohibition of serving alcoholic beverages to pregnant
27 women.

28
29 Section 5: There are no costs associated with this act.
30

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

33

34 Section 7: This act shall take effect upon passage, public welfare
35 requiring it.

36



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Alexis Gamble, Jessica Cozart
School: South Lawrence School**

A Resolution to Encourage A Greenhouse or Garden In Tennessee Schools

1 Be it enacted by the state of Tennessee YMCA youth legislature:

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

4 Greenhouse: A building that is used to grow plants and is helping show visual
5 learning processes

6 Hands On Experience: learning by what you see and do

7 Communities: Surrounding areas around the school

8 Farmers Market: Place where crops/food is sold
9

10 Section 2: We propose that each school in Tennessee should have a greenhouse
11 or garden that gives back to the school and/or surrounding communities
12

13 Section 3: By enacting this bill, it will give back to the community and teach
14 students to work together and accomplish goals. Students will also be given an
15 opportunity to work hands-on in the garden and learn this knowledge first hand.
16

17 Section 4: Many students and schools do not have a regular hands on activities.
18 This act will provide students with an opportunity to learn from a hands on
19 activity which will increase their knowledge in many subjects. It will also provide
20 fresh fruits and vegetables for the students and people in the surrounding
21 areas.
22

23 Section 5: To pay for the greenhouse, the schools can set up fundraisers,
24 and/or ask for generous donations of money or supplies. The money that is
25 made from donations and fundraisers will be used to start the greenhouse or
26 garden. Then the food that is made, half can go to surrounding communities
27 and the other half can go to the farmers market to be sold. The money made
28 will be used to start off the next year's greenhouse or garden.
29

30 Section 6: All current laws or part of the laws that lie in conflict with this act
31 shall be repealed upon enactment of this bill.
32

33 Section 7: If enacted, this bill will take effect on April 15, 2018.



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Cole Gershkovich, Nora Leigh, Jason Young
School: Spring Station Middle School**

**An Act to Enable Public School Students to Choose Between a
Paper or Electronic Version of State-Mandated Standardized Test**

Preamble:

Acknowledging Tennessee switching from paper to electronic testing,
Worried about the effect on students' academic performance
Concerned about the impact on future education for all grade levels,
Determined to ensure that the current state testing system enables all
students to be able to display their knowledge of testing standards in the
best way possible to highlight their abilities,
Understanding that kids with paper testing will not be using electronic
testing, decreasing the chance of server malfunctions,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE 2016 YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:

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

- a) Paper test: a test in the form of a paper book/booklet; it is partnered
with a Scantron fill-in-the-bubble answer sheet.
- b) Electronic test: an online test; the questions are answered via a
computer.

Section 2: The State of Tennessee Department of Education will be
required to create any standardized tests in both paper and electronic
forms.

Section 3: If a state standardized test is mandated to a public school
student, that student will have two options regarding the test form:

- a) He/she may take the test as a paper test.
- b) He/she may take the test as an electronic test.

Section 4: This law will be enacted by August 7, 2017.

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



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Reagan Cary, Jasper Vasilevskis
School: Woodland Middle School**

Gun restrictions

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:

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

4 Let firearms be defined as: a rifle, pistol, and other portable guns

5 Let Identification be defined as: the action or process of identifying
6 someone or something or the fact of being identified.

7 Let Background checks be defined as: the process of looking up and
8 compiling criminal records, commercial records and financial records of an
9 individual or an organization.

10 Let wait time be defined as: a time in which a person must wait for any
11 specific reason

12 Let caliber be defined as: the internal diameter or bore of a gun barrel.

13 Through the purchasing of firearms, may it be enacted that a permit,
14 alongside training, be mandatory in the process of purchasing a firearm.

15 The amount of wait time and training be dependent on caliber and type of
16 firearm you wish to obtain.

17 All classified firearms need a permit to be eligible for purchase.

18 An identification (ID) shall be needed in the process of purchasing a
19 firearm.

20 Background checks will have to conducted to continue the process of
21 purchasing a firearm.

22 The number of people in training depends on the capacity of the facility
23 and the number of licensed trainers present.

24
25 Section 2: Background checks will be required dating back to the first
26 obtainment and possession of a firearm after the bill is in effect

27 If failing to meet the requirements of the background check, the owner
28 does not have eligibility to purchase any further firearms.

29
30 Section 3: This act will not cost any money but instead increase revenue
31 for the state of Tennessee.

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

33 This act shall take effect by December 1, 2016



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Chase Bailey, Leo Betancourt, Christopher Wright
School: Rucker Stewart Middle School**

**AN ACT TO REQUIRE EMPLOYERS TO PROVIDE EMPLOYEES FOUR
HOURS OF LEAVE, PAID OR UNPAID, EACH YEAR FOR PARENTAL
INVOLVEMENT IN SCHOOLS, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE

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

A. Private Cause of Action: Legal term for establishment of the right to bring a civil suit against a violator

B. Paid or Unpaid Hours of leave: it is the employer's choice to either pay or not pay the employee during the mandated leave time

C. Subject to certain conditions: Documentation provided from the school to the employee of a meeting related special education services, response to intervention, dropout prevention, truancy, disciplinary issues, and/ or parent teacher conferences.

D. Civil Court of Law: A suit heard in a court of law that is brought about by a civilian, not by the state

E. Right to work state: the state prohibits union security agreements

Section 2) This bill is an amendment to TCA Title 50, Chapter 1, because Tennessee is a right to work state, and this bill forces the employer to allow employees time off from work.

Section 3) This bill is subject to the conditions of documentation provided from the school to the employee of a meeting related special education services, response to intervention, dropout prevention, truancy, disciplinary issues, and parent teacher conferences.

Section 4) This bill establishes a private cause of action for employer violations, thus allowing employees the right to a hearing by a civil court of law.

Section 5) This bill will improve parental involvement in the school system by providing parents/ guardians time to participate in parent-

31 teacher conferences. This will benefit the child and his/ her education by
32 improving communication between educators and parents/guardians.

33
34 Section 6) All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby
35 repealed.

36
37 Section 7) This act will go into effect immediately upon becoming a law,
38 the public welfare requiring it.



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



Sponsors: Samantha Dreussi, Catalina Bovill, Kayla Dakin, Brianna Ferrara

School: Heritage Middle School

**AN ACT TO PUT AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE TRANSLATORS IN
HOSPITALS**

Be it enacted by the TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT to put two ASL translators in each hospital in Tennessee.

WHEREAS there are on average 103,809 hearing impaired people from the ages of 18-64 in Tennessee according to Gallaudet University and 27,450 children who are hearing impaired in Tennessee.

WHEREAS with adding translators in all hospitals in Tennessee, we will reduce the amount of medical tragedies and misunderstandings.

Section I. DEFINITIONS:

ASL- American Sign Language

Deaf- Not having the physical capability to hear

Mute- Not having the physical capability to speak

Section II. PROVISIONS:

Each hospital in Tennessee will be required to have two government certified ASL translators on hand at all work hours. If a person is in need of a translator, one will be provided for them.

For carrying out the terms of this bill, a sum of \$53,730,000 shall be authorized for three years, each translator being paid 80,000 per year, for having two translators in each of the 112 hospitals in Tennessee.

After the three years have expired, the hospital will be required to provide the translators with their own funds.

To fund this we will increase the cigarette tax from 6.6% to 7% for one year. The 0.4% increase will gain a revenue of \$126,690,405. All remaining funds will go to the State.

Section III. PENALTIES:

If this is not carried out, the offending hospital will be fined a sum of \$2,500 dollars. Further offences will increase the fine by \$500.

32 Section IV. REPEALING CLAUSE:

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

34

35 Section V. EFFECTIVE DATE: This act shall take effect on July 1st 2016,
36 the public welfare requiring it.

37



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Caroline Collignon, Eli Passmore
School: Brentwood Academy**

An Act to Ban All Hand-Held Cell Phone Use in Motor Vehicles

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

2 a) class C misdemeanor: a criminal sentence that can be no greater than
3 thirty (30) day in jail and a fine not exceeding fifty dollars (\$50.00), or
4 both.

5 b) license: a small document card that states a person is old and
6 regulated enough to legally drive a motor vehicle by themselves
7

8 Section II: If a driver is in use of a hand-held cell phone while a motor
9 vehicle is turned on the driver will be convicted of "Using a Hand-Held Cell
10 Phone While in Use of a Motor Vehicle."
11

12 Section III: The sheriff of any county passed by the driver may arrest the
13 drivers of said vehicles and incarcerate them in any county jail.
14

15 Section IV: Upon conviction in a competent court of law, the judge shall
16 sentence the driver to one of the following punishments as the court shall
17 deem appropriate:

18 a) for the first offense, a class C misdemeanor.

19 b) for the second offense, a driver may have their license suspended for a
20 short amount of time.
21

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

25 Section VI: This bill will take effect April 18, 2016, the public welfare
26 requiring it.
27



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Cameron Armad, Andrew Brown, Logan Williams
School: Rucker Stewart Middle School**

**AN ACT TO ELEVATE THE OFFENSE OF A HIT AND RUN WITH A
MOTOR VEHICLE WHERE THE DRIVER KNEW OR SHOULD HAVE
KNOWN THAT SERIOUS BODILY INJURY RESULTED FROM THE
ACCIDENT FROM A MISDEMEANOR TO A FELONY**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH IN
2 GOVERNMENT.

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

6 A) Class A Misdemeanor: punishable with up to one year in the county jail
7 and fines up to \$2500. The Misdemeanor does not go on the person's
8 record.

9 B) Class E Felony: punishable with up to six years in state prison and
10 \$3000. The Felony goes on a person's record and cannot be erased.

11 C) A Felony conviction over a Misdemeanor conviction will affect a driver's
12 individual future. Drivers will be required to notify employers of their
13 Felony conviction. Drivers will be striped of their voting rights,
14 experience social embarrassment, and experience the loss of family trust.

15 D) The judge or jury may infer that the person failing to stop knew or
16 reasonably should have known that the accident resulted in serious bodily
17 injury or death if the accident involved a "vulnerable highway user"

18 E) The term "vulnerable highway user "means a person who by right or
19 circumstance is lawfully on or near a highway, including a pedestrian,
20 child, runner, cyclist, or stranded motorist.

21 F) The term "vulnerable highway user " includes a person in the field of
22 construction, utility work, road maintenance ,stranded motorist repair,
23 emergency service, fire suppression, and law enforcement that is
24 engaged in official duties on or near a highway.

25
26 SECTION 2: This bill is to amends TCA 55-10-101 by increasing the
27 possible punishment of a hit and run where the driver knew or should
28 have known that serious bodily injury occurred, from a class A
29 Misdemeanor to a class E Felony.
30

31 SECTION 3: If convicted, the increase in fines will not cover the entire
32 expense to incarcerate the convicted offender in the state prison system.
33

34 SECTION 4: Any increase in cost caused by the punishment associated
35 with this bill, will come out of the judicial budget.
36

37 SECTION 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby
38 repealed.
39

40 SECTION 6: The act shall take place immediately upon passage
41

42 SECTION 7: This act shall take effect Public welfare requiring it.
43



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Michelle Rees, Anna Buchanan
School: White House Middle School**

**An Act to provide grants to organizations that can supply personal
supplies to homeless citizens**

Section 1:

a. Homeless citizen —a person with U.S. citizenship without a permanent place of residence.

b. Personal supplies —personal hygiene basic needs such as tooth paste, deodorant, tooth brush, first aid supplies, band aids, etc.

Section 2:

This act shall provide homeless citizens with personal supplies. The State of Tennessee will partner with various organizations to distribute supplies (e.g., Red Cross, United Way, etc.)

Section 3:

This will be affect U.S. citizens with a permanent place of residence by providing them with personal supplies. It will help raise awareness and draw attention to the homeless needs in the state of Tennessee.

Section 4:

The State of Tennessee will provide \$500,000 to supplement pre-existing organizations who help assist homeless citizens.

Section 5:

Each organization will provide a plan for the use of given money. This plan must conform to specifics in section 6. The money must be used by the end of any given 12 month period. Any money not sued in 365 days will be given back to t he city. The money from unapproved plans will also go back to the city organizations that do not comply with these standards and they will no longer be allowed to receive money from this program.

Section 6:

The plan in section 5 must
Distribute the money over a 12 month period.

33 Must be used for supplying homeless individuals with necessary personal
34 supplies
35

36 Section 7: All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby
37 repealed.
38

39 Section 8: This law shall take effect July 1, 2016, the public welfare
40 requiring it.
41



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Carson Scott, Kate Dye
School: Davidson Academy**

**AN ACT TO REQUIRE CHILDREN'S TOYS TO COMPLY WITH AN 80
DECIBEL NOISE LIMIT**

1 Definition of terms:

2 Decibel: a unit used to measure the intensity of a sound or the power
3 level of an electrical signal by comparing it with a given level on a
4 logarithmic scale.

5
6 The state of Tennessee will require that children's toys possessing noise
7 or audio features comply with a maximum noise level of 80 decibels.
8 Retail stores, manufacturers and distributors of toys in the state will
9 receive notification from the Department of Health and Human Services of
10 the 80 decibel requirement and will be expected to comply. Toys that do
11 not comply with the 80 decibel requirement shall be banned from sale in
12 Tennessee. The requirements for toy safety will be aligned with the
13 Tennessee Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2015. The
14 Tennessee Department of Health and Human Services will distribute
15 public service announcements for media, the Better Business Bureau,
16 children's advocacy groups, the YMCA, and others concerning safe levels
17 of noise for children's toys. Retail stores, manufacturers or others who
18 market toys that fail to comply with the noise level requirement are
19 subject to fines of up to \$500.00 depending on the level of inventory of
20 offending toy. This noise level requirement will go into effect June 1,
21 2016.

22
23 Funding for this toy noise level safety act will originate with the
24 Department of Health and Human Resources and the Department of
25 Public Safety budgets.

26

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT



HOUSE COMMITTEE 3



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Benjamin Groves, Mahaley McBride
School: Rucker Stewart Middle School**

**AN ACT TO MANDATE A MINIMUM 12-HOUR HOLDING PERIOD
FOR PERSONS CHARGED WITH DOMESTIC VIOLENCE UNLESS THE
MAGISTRATE DOES NOT FIND THE OFFENDER A THREAT TO THE
ALLEGED VICTIM**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE 2016 YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE

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

4 A.Domestic Violence-Domestic violence and emotional abuse are
5 behaviors used by one person in a relationship to control the other.

6 Partners may be married or not married; heterosexual, gay, or lesbian;
7 living together, separated or dating

8 B.Offender- the perpetrator of the crime

9 C.Alleged Victim- (of an incident or a person) said, without proof, to have
10 taken place or to have a specified illegal or undesirable quality

11 D.Magistrate- civil officer or lay judge who administers the law, especially
12 one who conducts a court that deals with minor offenses and holds
13 preliminary hearings for more serious ones

14 E.TCA- Tennessee Code Annotated houses the laws of the state of
15 Tennessee

16
17 Section 2: This act amends TCA Title 40, Chapter 11, Part 1, by
18 mandating a minimum holding period of 12 hours.

19
20 Section 3: In order for the accused perpetrator to be released prior to the
21 mandatory minimum 12 hour holding period, a duly authorized magistrate
22 of the courts must sign a release.

23
24 Section 4: This act establishes the minimum 12 hour holding period for
25 two reasons. First, the majority of domestic violence cases involve the
26 consumption of alcohol, and it takes about 12 hours for body to eliminate
27 the effects of the alcohol. Second, when the prefrontal cortex of the brain
28 is in a state of emotional rage, time is the only solution to relaxing the
29 heightened state of emotion.

31 Section 5: The costs associated with this act are the responsibility of the
32 judicial branch. Variables include housing facilities, population, and
33 occurrence of domestic violence.

34
35 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby
36 repealed.

37
38 Section 7: This act will go into effect immediately upon becoming a law,
39 the public welfare requiring it.

40
41



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Mary Hannah Jones, Katie Madole, Joia Robertson
School: Davidson Academy**

An Act To Ensure Safe Public Water

1 Definitions:

2 Municipality: A political unit, such as a city, town, or village, incorporated
3 for local self-government and providing public services such as water and
4 sewer.

5 Water Testing: a water analysis process to assure purity and absence of
6 contaminants such as bacteria, lead, and other harmful chemicals.

7

8 This bill is to ensure safe public water in the state of Tennessee.

9

10 The water will be tested quarterly and results reported to Tennessee
11 Department of Health and Human Resources as well as being posted
12 publicly in local news media and in newspapers quarterly, or four times a
13 year.

14

15 This will be required by the State of Tennessee Department of Health and
16 Human Resources.

17

18 This act will be enforced by the Tennessee Department of Health and
19 Human Resources guidelines for safe drinking water.

20

21 Each city will be required to test their water source. Resources and
22 specific instructions will be provided by the Department of Health and
23 Human Resources. All water testing results must be given to the state
24 immediately and received by a specific date four times yearly.

25 The state will have one week to process and publish all results via
26 Tennessee Health and Human Services website and all news sources for
27 that quarter. If results are bad, action will be taken by the Department of
28 Health and Human Resources immediately.

29

30 Failure to test water, turn in results, or publish results will result in an
31 immediate fine to the municipal government of five thousand dollars. This
32 bill goes into effect on June 1, 2016, with the first water testing required
33 results due June 31, 2016.



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Emma Grace Myers, Helen Phillips
School: Brentwood Academy**

An Act to Prohibit Any Use of Cell Phones while Driving

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

2 a)Cell phone —a portable device used for communication

3 b)Class C misdemeanor —a criminal sentence that can be no greater than
4 thirty (30) days in jail or a fine not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50), or both

5 c)Class B misdemeanor —a criminal sentence that can be no greater than
6 six (6) months in jail or a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500),
7 or both

8
9 Section II: Any person who engages in the act of using a cell phone while
10 driving a vehicle will be guilty of "Cell Phone Use While Driving"

11
12 Section III: The sheriff of any county where a person is found disobeying
13 this act may distribute a ticket not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50) or may
14 arrest the offender and imprison them for a period not to exceed thirty
15 (30) days.

16
17 Section IV: Upon conviction in a competent court of law, the judge shall
18 sentence the offender to one of the following punishments as the court
19 shall deem appropriate:

20 a)For the first offense, a Class C misdemeanor

21 b)For the second and subsequent offenses, a Class B misdemeanor

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

25
26 Section VI: This bill will take effect July 1, 2016, the public welfare
27 requiring it.

28



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Savitha Samudrala, Lauren Alexandra Terakawa
School: Woodland Middle School**

An Act to License Drone Owners

Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government:

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

- 1) "Drone" as an unmanned aircraft that is controlled with a remote.
- 2) "Commercial Drone" as an unmanned aircraft used for making profit. It has a maximum control radius of 500 meters to 20,000 meters and a maximum height range of 60 meters. It weighs more than 5 pounds.
- 3) "Recreational Drone" as an unmanned aircraft used for enjoyment. It has a maximum control radius of 30 meters to 11,000 meters and the maximum height range is 120 meters. It weighs usually less than 10 pounds.
- 4) "Film and Photography Drone" as a unmanned aircraft has the capability to capture photos or video recordings. It has a maximum control radius of 500 meters to 20,000 meters and a maximum height range of 60 meters. It weighs no more than 10 pounds. It can fall under the categories of recreational or commercial drones.

Section 2: Under this act:

- 1) An owner of Recreational or Film and Photography Drones may not fly their drone over another's property without their consent. Commercial Drones owned by a licensed company will be exempted from this rule.
- 2) Film and Photography Drones that have photo or video recording capabilities are not allowed to collect and gather personal information of any kind.
- 3) It will be mandatory for every drone owner to take an intensive course in drone aviation, safety, and privacy laws. After completing the drone course, the owner will require to take a state complied examination. The owner will be granted an official drone license with the completion of course and exam.

Section 3: Specifications of Drone Course, Examination, and License:

- 1) Every owner of a drone will be required to take five days, 40 hours, an intensive course about how to safely operate and control their drones with

34 implementing all privacy laws. This course will cover all legal aspects and
35 specifications of all currently regulating drones, which include:

- 36 a) Commercial uses
- 37 b) Recreational or hobby, includes racing
- 38 c) Film and Photography
- 39 d) Mapping and Surveying
- 40 e) Public Safety
- 41 f) Agriculture
- 42 g) Governmental objectives as stated in § 39-13-902.

43 2) The cost of drone course will be \$50, and the cost of examination will
44 be \$20.

45 3) Once the course and test are completed with at least 70% score, then
46 the drone owner will be officially licensed through the state of Tennessee.

47 a) The course and test will be conducted at the County Clerk's Office
48 once in every 2 months.

49
50 Section 4: Any violators of this law: .

51 1) First offense violators will be fined \$200 and charged with Class B
52 Misdemeanor.

53 2) Second offense violators would pay \$300, be sentenced to 2 months in
54 jail, and charged with Class B Misdemeanor.

55 3) Third offense violators will be fined \$500, be sentenced to 6 months in
56 jail, and charged with Class B Misdemeanor.

57
58 Section 5: This act will require monetary fund of \$45,000, which will aid
59 the creators and developers for this drone course and test. Secondly, it
60 also aid in salary for the administrators and instructors teaching this
61 course.

62
63 Section 6: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby
64 repealed.

65
66 Section 7: This act will go into effect August 12, 2016, the public welfare
67 requiring it.



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Jazmyn Jenkins, Trisha Mazumdar, Samantha Viarengo
School: Sunset Middle School**

**AN ACT RELATED TO IMPLEMENTING A TAX REBATE INCENTIVE
FOR PARENTS THAT HAVE THEIR INFANTS VACCINATED**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE

2
3 SECTION 1: Terms in this act with be defined as follows:

4 Tax rebate- a refund on taxes when the tax liability is less than the taxes
5 paid.

6 Infant- any child that is between the ages of one day to two years.

7 Tax incentive- A tax incentive is an aspect of a country's tax code
8 designed to incentivize, or encourage a particular economic activity.

9
10 SECTION 2: This act requires the parent's health care provider to provide
11 him/her with a \$200 tax rebate when said parent has his/her infant
12 vaccinated. These vaccinations include:

13 Chickenpox, Diphtheria, Hib, Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, Influenza (Flu),
14 Tetanus, Measles, Mumps, Pertussis, Polio, Pneumococcal, Rotavirus,
15 Rubella

16
17 SECTION 3: The state the parent lives in is not required to provide the
18 tax rebate after the first two years of the child's life if the parent has not
19 claimed it by then.

20
21 SECTION 4: If enacted, this bill will require the state to give the parent a
22 \$200 tax rebate per infant the parent has vaccinated. This will be taken
23 from the TennCare medical services budget, which is \$7,613,874,100 per
24 year. There are 152,763 preventable illnesses and 9,028 vaccine
25 preventable deaths in America each year. In addition, 90% of children
26 who did not get the recommended vaccinations died shortly after.

27
28 SECTION 5: All laws or parts or parts of laws in conflict with this act are
29 hereby repealed.

30
31 SECTION 6: This act will go into effect immediately on January 1, 2017,
32 after becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Karly Weathers, Autumn Buttrum
School: South Lawrence School**

An Act to Reduce the Public Viewing of Alcohol by Children

1 Be it enacted by the state of Tennessee YMCA youth legislature:

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

4 Exposed: Make something visible typically by uncovering it

5 D.A.R.E Association: Drug, Abuse, Resistance, Education

6
7 Section 2: This act is proposing to place alcohol behind the check-out
8 counter so it is not visible to children.

9
10 Section 3: Children should not be exposed to seeing alcohol on store
11 shelves because they will be exposed to inappropriate items and think
12 that it is okay for them to have them.

13
14 Section 4: Children are not allowed to have alcohol and it is inappropriate
15 for them to be exposed to it. We can't keep the children being exposed
16 to alcohol at their house, but we can keep them from seeing it in stores.
17 They should not think it is okay for them to have the alcohol on the shelf
18 that is sitting beside the sodas, candy, chips or other items that are okay
19 for them to have.

20
21 Section 5: Stores that sell alcohol will have two years to make a change
22 to their displays. If this action is not taken within two years, they will be
23 fined \$100 per month. These stores are responsible for paying for this
24 physical change. The fines that are taken will go toward the D.A.R.E
25 association to help in educating children about the dangers of drugs and
26 alcohol.

27
28 Section 6: All current laws or parts of laws that lie in conflict with this act
29 shall be repealed upon enactment of this bill.

30
31 Section 7: If enacted this bill will take effect on January 1, 2019.

32



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Josie Biggs, Kaylee Rogers
School: White House Middle School**

An act to allow guns to be carried with a permit in all private and public places with the exception of K-12 schools and airports.

1 An act to allow guns to be carried with a permit in all private and public
2 places with the exception of K-12 public schools and airports.

3 Section 1:

4 a. Gun Carrying Permit —a permit which the State of Tennessee in which
5 one may carry a gun.

6 b. K-12 Schools —A public school with grades kindergarten through the
7 12th grade.

8
9 Section 2: This act shall protect citizens in public and private locations
10 and allow citizens to carry guns and protect the people around them from
11 harm's way in everyplace with the exception of k-12 schools and airports.

12
13 Section 3: This act will benefit the state of Tennessee because public
14 shooting and robberies can now be prevented as citizens are allowed to
15 arm and protect themselves and others.

16
17 Section 4: This law will not cost money for the state. I will not raise
18 taxes. It will only need to be communicated to the general public.

19
20 Section 5: The penalty will be 6 years in prison. This will be monitored by
21 police officers and they can speculate someone with a gun and ask for a
22 permit.

23
24 Section 6: This will provide and promote public safety and personal
25 safety.

26
27 Section 7: All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby
28 repealed.

29
30 Section 8: This law shall take effect July 1, 2016, the public welfare
31 requiring it.



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Jordan Birdwell, Caden Cardoza, Emmaline Conyer
School: Rucker Stewart Middle School**

**AN ACT TO INCREASE THE INITIAL GENERAL TRAINING OF UNARMED
SECURITY GUARD BY FOUR HOURS AND FURTHER REQUIRES UNARMED
SECURITY GUARDS WHO HAVE BEEN REGISTERED FOR LESS THAN 10
CONTINUOUS YEARS TO COMPLETE TWO HOURS OF CONTINUING
EDUCATION TRAINING PRIOR TO RECEIVING RENEWAL OF THE
REGISTRATION CARD**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:

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

Unarmed security guard: a person who performs the functions of observing, detecting, reporting, or notifying of appropriate authorities or appointing agents regarding person or property on the premises they are contracted to protect, even though they do not carry any, nor have access to a firearm in the performance of their duties.

General Training: Any training that is required by the security guard commissioner prior to receiving a registration card

Registration card: The credentials or licence issued by the security guard commissioner, evidencing that the holder has met the qualifications required by this chapter to perform the duties of a security guard/officer in this state

Section 2: This act will increase general training hour requirements by four hours to eight hours prior to receiving his or her registration card.

Section 3: This act further requires unarmed security guards who have been registered for less than 10 continuous years to complete two hours of continuing education training prior to receiving renewal of the registration card of time from 4 hours to 8 hours for unarmed security guards.

Section 4: This act will mandates unarmed security guards to have a more thorough training. It will provide 2 hours instead of 1 hour of the following training topics; orientation, legal aspects and limitations, emergency procedures, and duty requirement.

29

30 Section 5: The continuing education training is to be provided by the
31 employing organization.

32

33 Section 6: The cost of general training is born by the unarmed security
34 guard candidates.

35

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

38



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Brooksie Brawner, Zach Curd, Alicen Gee
School: Rucker Stewart Middle School**

**AN ACT TO ADD SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF COLLEGE COURSES
TO THE MANDATES OF TN PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

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

2 A. TN Promise Scholarship Program: The Tennessee Promise Program is
3 both a scholarship and mentoring program focused on increasing the
4 number of students that attend college in the state of Tennessee. It
5 provides students a last-dollar scholarship, meaning the scholarship will
6 cover tuition and fees not covered by the Pell grant, the HOPE
7 scholarship, or state student assistance funds. Students may use the
8 scholarship at any of the state's 13 community colleges, 27 colleges of
9 applied technology.

10 B. Individual Guidance: Individual guidance is advice, strategy or planning
11 designed for a singular person or thing and their unique situation.

12 C. Mandatory Meetings: Required or commanded by authority; obligatory:
13 Attendance at the meeting is mandatory. Of, having the nature of, or
14 containing a mandate. Holding a League of Nations mandate over a
15 territory.

16 D. Community Service: Voluntary work intended to help people in a
17 particular area.

18 E. Satisfactory Academic Progress: 2.0 Grade Point Average (GPA)

19
20 Section 2: This bill continues to the promise of removing the financial
21 burden of college for thousands of scholars in the state of Tennessee
22 through TN Promise Scholarships.

23
24 Section 3: This bill continues the critical component of individual guidance
25 of participants and the mandatory meetings that scholarship recipients
26 must attend in order to remain eligible for the TN Promise Scholarship
27 Program.

28
29 Section 4: This bill continues to require all TN Promise scholarship
30 recipients must complete eight hours of community service per term
31 enrolled, as well as maintain satisfactory academic progress at their
32 institution.

33

34 Section 5: This bill adds a fine if the TN Promise scholarship recipients
35 does not stay in school and attend class during the semester that the
36 community college received its payment,

37

38 Section 6: The penalty for violating the new rule is \$1,800,

39

40 Section 7: Collection of fine: The recipients will have 3-5 months to pay
41 the fine by taking it to the courthouse or they will have to serve a month
42 of jail time and/or community service.

43

44 Section 8: This act shall take effect on July 1, 2016 the public welfare
45 requiring it.

46



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Erin Siemen, Mikayla Fantine, Mae Wallace
School: Spring Station Middle School**

An Act to Amend TCA 55-8-199: Texting While Driving

1 WHEREAS, texting and driving endangers other citizens driving on the
2 roads and could cause serious injury or death,
3 WHEREAS, the current penalty for texting while driving is at a maximum
4 of \$50.00 and court costs are not to exceed \$10.00,
5 WHEREAS, 1 in every 4 car accidents yearly in the United States are
6 caused by drivers texting while operating a motorized vehicle,
7

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE 2016 Tennessee YMCA Youth Legislature:
9

10 Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as followed:

11 Texting: The act of sending a text to another individual.

12 Driving: The act of controlling a motorized vehicle.

13 Fine: A sum of money imposed as a penalty for an offense or infraction.

14 Cellular device: A cellular, analog, wireless or digital device that provides
15 for voice communication and for data communication other than by voice.
16

17 Section 2: The purpose of this act is to:

18 Limit or eliminate the rate of cellular device (texting) use while operating
19 a motorized vehicle, in this case a car, truck, or bus.

20 Inform citizens that their behavior does have consequences. Texting while
21 driving is illegal in Tennessee and is a misdemeanor.

22 Change the misdemeanor from Class C to Class B. This increases the fine
23 to up to \$500 and adds the possibility of up to six months in jail. In some
24 serious cases, both a fine and jail may be administered.
25

26 Section 3: This act requires no additional state government funding. This
27 act only raises the fine.
28

29 Section 4: Henceforth, any persons found violating this legislature shall
30 be charged with a Class B misdemeanor.
31

32 Section 5: This act will go into effect July 1, 2016.
33



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Summer Pettit, Rowan Copley, Natalie West
School: Portland West Middle School**

**AN ACT TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR FINE ARTS EDUCATION IN ALL
K-12 PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN TENNESSEE**

Section 1:

a. Fine Art —classes that teach art, music, drama, acting, band and chorus

Section 2:

This act shall designate special funding (reappropriate from other existing funds —not raised from new taxes) for all K-8 schools in Tennessee to provide fine arts education for all K-12 students. The amount needed shall be designated according to district need as submitted by plans. This legislation will promote a broader educational experience above and beyond academics.

Section 3:

This act shall require:

- a.) K-5 schools must provide at least two hours of instruction related to music and/or visual/performing arts per week
- b.) 6-8 schools must provide at least three hours of instruction related to music and/or visual/performing arts per week
- c.) 9-12 schools must provide at least six hours of instruction related to music and/or visual/performing arts per week.

Section 4:

This act shall require the state of Tennessee to redistribute already existing funds from other areas so that every public school in Tennessee will have music/fine arts instruction weekly.

Section 5:

Weekly music/fine arts shall be monitored as a part of the current school district's state monitoring system. If non-compliant a fine a fine or state penalty will be enforced and funding could be reduced for other educational needs.

33 Section 6:
34 All students must have the choice to participate in the music/fine arts
35 education program.
36
37 Section 7:
38 This act shall take effect July 1, 2016, the public welfare requiring.
39
40 Section 8: All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby
41 repealed.
42

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT



HOUSE COMMITTEE 4



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Courtney Chaney, Skylar Bixby, Rebekah May
School: Heritage Middle School**

**AN ACT TO ADD ADDITIONAL BENEFITS TO SCHOOL
ADMINISTRATION AND EDUCATORS**

1 Be it enacted by the TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT to raise
2 administration and educator's salaries regarding public schools.

3
4 WHEREAS, teachers and education workers lack sufficient salaries to
5 pursue personal interests and provide for their families, and require
6 supplement for their excess time serving towards their eight-hour
7 workday.

8
9 Section I. DEFINITIONS:
10 Remuneration- salary
11 Municipal- metropolitan
12 Workforce- personnel
13 Amercement- fines; penalties

14
15 Section II. PROVISIONS:
16 The enactment of this bill will cost 30% of the average public school
17 teacher's remuneration per educator, and the funds will come from the
18 regulation of sales tax corresponding to the income average of a
19 particular county.

20
21 The entire public school workforce will be affected by this bill, including
22 the municipal personnel.
23 The source to fund the contents of this bill includes increasing in sales tax
24 according to the income of a particular region.
25 Only the exact amount required of the tax increase will be collected.
26 There will be no excess funds.
27 The amount of money that needs to be raised is \$957,493,963.
28 This bill does not include private schools and colleges.
29 Teachers will continue to be paid based on experience as they have been.

30
31 Section III. PENALTIES: Any persons neglecting this bill after its passage

32 shall pay amercement and be tried for prison time. Depending on the
33 outcome of the trial, amercement value and prison time will vary.
34 Prison time
35 Fines according to the amount of money held back from the staff
36
37 Section IV. REPEALING CLAUSE:
38 All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.
39
40 Section V. EFFECTIVE DATE:
41 This act shall take effect July, 1, 2016 the public welfare requiring it.
42



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Gracie Hiett, Griffin Say, Andrew Stearns, Ashton Williams
School: Rucker Stewart Middle School**

**AN ACT TO DECREASE THE MINIMUM TIME REQUIRED BEFORE
DISPOSAL OF DRY CLEANING OR LAUNDRY BY THE CLEANER**

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE.

2
3 SECTION 1: Terms

4 Dry Cleaning: dry cleaning of garments with a special machine

5 A) Laundry: articles of clothing to be washed traditionally

6 B) Cleaner: the owner/operator of a dry cleaning/ laundry facility

7 C) Unclaimed: abandoned items

8 D) Liability: Financial burden of payment

9 E) Registered Letter: legally certified letter by the government that is recorded

10 F) Last Known Address: address provided by the customer

11 G) Contact: the act of communicating with someone

12
13 Section 2: This act will decrease the minimum time that the cleaner has to
14 dispose of abandoned dry cleaning or laundry from 180 to 150 days, a decrease
15 of 30 days.

16
17 Section 3: The cleaner is required to send a registered letter to the last known
18 address of the owner of the abandoned dry cleaning/ laundry within 31 days
19 after 5 attempts by phone.

20
21 Section 4: Documentation of attempted phone calls and receipt of registered
22 letter, must be kept by the cleaner for a period of 7 year

23
24 Section 5: This bill will limit the minimum amount of days to 150 or
25 approximately 5 months, before a dry cleaner may, without liability, dispose of
26 unclaimed items.

27
28 Section 6: This act will not require any funding from the state budget, but will
29 also not generate any revenue

30
31 Section 7: All laws are parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed

32
33 Section 8: This bill is placed into effect on June 3, 2018



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Zoe Ford, Katelen Hunter, Shane Pearson
School: Rucker Stewart Middle School**

**AN ACT TO MANDATE ALL PERSONS 76 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER,
WHO APPLY FOR RENEWAL OF A DRIVER'S LICENSE TO UNDERGO
AND PASS A VISION TEST**

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 A) Mandate: compulsory, it must be done by law

6 B) Ophthalmologist: A specialist in the study and the treatment of the eye

7 C) Optometrist: One who practices optometry; the practice of examining
8 the eyes for visual problems and prescribing corrective lenses

9 D) Good Standing: A status assigned to a member of an organization
10 when he/she has remained current on organization dues and payments.

11
12 Section 2: In order to make the roads safer for all drivers, this act will
13 require all people 76 years or older to pass a vision test in order to renew
14 their driver's license.

15
16 Section 3: This act will require a written statement that indicates the
17 specifics of the person's vision and the need for any corrective lenses
18 within six months of the renewal from the licensed ophthalmologist or
19 optometrist in good standing.

20
21 Section 4: Liability for the vision testing will be placed on the licensee.
22 This act will not incur cost to the state of Tennessee.

23
24 Section 5: All laws or part of laws in conflict with this act are hereby
25 repealed

26
27 Section 6: This act will go into effect immediately upon becoming a law,
28 the public welfare requiring it.

29



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Ian Gatlin, Rishi Pillai, David Taylor
School: Sunset Middle School**

**AN ACT TO CREATE A SUSTAINABLE PASSENGER
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE:

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

- a) Major Cities of Tennessee- this group includes the metropolitan areas of Nashville, Memphis, Knoxville, and Chattanooga
- b) Center hub- located in Nashville not exceeding a budget of \$100 Million USD
- c) Passenger Rail- Commuter rail will be used for this project; costing \$2 Million USD per mile

Section 2: This act will be provide benefits for the population of the state as follows:

- a) Will provide more job opportunities due to the more economical travel around the state, allowing a larger hiring range.
- b) Will provide more efficient and faster transportation around the state's major cities
- c) Will reduce the amount of pollution in the air given off by one train holding a hundred passengers than one car holding four.
- d) Will increase tourism between the major cities of the state, which will bring in increased revenue for the state.

Section 3: The time frame will be carried out over a seven year plan as follows:

- a) Year 1 will contain construction of the central hub in Nashville as well as seeking employees for construction and maintenance.
- b) Years 2-7 will include the construction of locomotive tracks and stations along with the purchase of locomotives to run on the tracks.

Section 4: If enacted, this bill will have a total cost of 1.44 billion USD to be budgeted from the Transportation Department of Tennessee:

- a) This will be budgeted from the TDOT expenditure of 1.8 billion USD over a yearly increase. The first year will retain 7% and will retain 1%

33 more for the next 2 years. Then the retain rate will increase by 2% for
34 the remaining years of the project.

35
36 Section 5: No wildlife will be directly harmed by the construction and the
37 maintaining of the passenger railroad. The railroad are planned to run
38 along existing private railroads that have been established and successful
39 over the past several decades.

40
41 Section 6: This act will create an estimated 1100 permanent jobs and
42 more to come in the years following the completion.

43
44 Section 7: Any laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby
45 repealed.

46
47 Section 8: This act will go into effect on January 1st, 2017 upon being
48 passed, the public welfare requiring it.



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Andrew Benson, Jessica Fulks, Jaydryan Hamblen
School: South Lawrence School**

An Act to Reduce Second Hand Smoke from Electronic Cigarettes

1 Be it enacted by the state of Tennessee YMCA youth legislature:

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

4 E-SMOKER: devices that allow users to inhale an aerosol vapor containing
5 nicotine and other harmful substances.

6 SECOND HAND SMOKE: smoke that is exhaled by a smoker or is given off
7 by a vapor and is inhaled by other people nearby.

8
9 Section 2: This act will require non-smoking areas to be free of electronic
10 smokers along with regular cigarettes. No one will be allowed to use a e-
11 smoker in non-smoking areas.

12
13 Section 3: E- Smokers are just as harmful to surrounding individuals as
14 the regular cigarettes. Like tobacco cigarettes, e-cigarettes are harmful
15 and dangerous to people.

16
17 Section 4: Without Electronic smokers releasing chemicals in the air,
18 there will be a decline in second hand smoke. Although this is a different
19 form of cigarettes, it has a similar form of harm as a regular cigarette.

20
21 Section 5: No money or taxes will be involved in the effects of the
22 enactment of this bill.

23
24 Section 6: All current laws or part of laws that lie in conflict with this act
25 shall be repealed upon the enactment of this bill.

26
27 Section 7: If enacted, this bill will take effect June 1, 2017.
28



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Sean Sabo, Matthias Hagewood, Griffin Brake
School: White House Middle School**

**An act to require candidates running for office in the state of
Tennessee to keep their campaign promises (platform).**

Section 1:

a. Candidate —anyone running for public office in the State of Tennessee

b. Campaign Promises —anything the candidate promises to the public when running for public office in the State of Tennessee.

Section 2: This act shall require candidates running for public office in the State of Tennessee to keep their campaign promises.

Section 3: This act shall effect candidates by making them submit a platform check list that contains 5 major promises that the candidate needs to uphold. It will benefit Tennessee by allowing the common folk to know exactly what the candidate can and will do during the duration of his/her term.

Section 4: This bill should cost less than \$100,000. It shall be funded by already existing funds from the statewide budget. This law will not raise taxes or generate money.

Section 5: The candidate will be out of the race if he/she does not uphold a campaign promise before taking public office. The candidate will be sued if already in public office if this is violated.

Section 6:

Will not be held responsible for not keeping promises if there is an event of great destruction.

Will not be punished if population votes against the promise.

Will not be held responsible if their term is ended prematurely.

They must have completed all promises before ending their term purposely.

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

Section 8: This law shall take effect July 1, 2016, the public welfare requiring it.



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Mary Grace Gower, Stella Arthur, Abigail Comer
School: Brentwood Academy**

An Act to Base Community College Tuition on Family Income

- 1 Section I: Terms used in the act are defined as follows
- 2 a) community college- a non residential junior college offering courses to
- 3 people living in a particular area
- 4 b) Sliding scale- a scale of fees that will vary in accordance with variation
- 5 of yearly family or personal income
- 6
- 7 Section II: Any individual that is attending community college will pay a
- 8 tuition fee based on their or their family's income if their family chooses
- 9 to provide for the individual. Our law will set in place a sliding scale
- 10 between the numbers seen below. If a student or family's yearly salary is
- 11 in between the set numbers, the student or family will pay a certain
- 12 percentage of their tuition. For example, if a high school graduate was
- 13 making \$12,949 per year, they would get about an 83% discount on their
- 14 college tuition.
- 15
- 16 Section III: The guidelines for applying for the scholarship are as follows:
- 17 a) The student must have a 2.5 GPA or higher from a previous education
- 18 institution.
- 19 b) The student must receive a yearly income that is below or near the
- 20 poverty line.
- 21 c) Individuals with lower yearly incomes and/or higher GPAs will receive a
- 22 higher tuition discount
- 23 d) Individuals that have to provide for minors will be discounted
- 24 calculated on the number of minors in custody
- 25 e) The minimum amount of discount this law will provide will be 5% and
- 26 the maximum will be 90%
- 27 f) The sliding scale will be set between a yearly income of \$35,000 and
- 28 \$10,000
- 29 Sliding Scale Parameters for individuals:
- 30 Incomes between \$10,000 and \$14,999 will result in a discount between
- 31 90% and 80%.
- 32 Incomes between \$15,000 and 19,999 will result in a discount between
- 33 80% and 70%.

34 Incomes between \$20,000 and \$24,999 will result in a discount between
35 70% and 60%.
36 Incomes between \$25,000 and \$29,999 will result in a discount between
37 60% and 50%.
38 Incomes between \$30,000 and \$34,999 will result in a discount between
39 50% and 40%.
40 Incomes \$35,000 or above will receive a 40% to no discount.
41 g) The GPA of the student will factor into the scale depending on the
42 situation
43 h) Sliding scale factors may differ depending on the size of the
44 individual's family while they are in college
45
46 Section IV: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby
47 repealed
48
49 Section V: This bill will be in effect by July 1, 2016
50



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Emma Bitting, Ashton Stults
School: South Lawrence School**

**An Act to require Unemployed Citizens to perform Community
Service in order to Receive their Unemployment Check**

1 Be it enacted by the state of Tennessee YMCA youth legislature:

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

4 A) Community Service: Unpaid work, intended to be of social use. For example:
5 cleaning trash off the road sides.

6 B) Unemployment: to be without work

7 C) Non-profit: to do work without being paid.
8

9 Section 2: This act is proposing that people who collect unemployment benefits
10 from the government be required to work 24 hours of community service a
11 week while they are collecting a check.
12

13 Section 3: This act proposes that an unemployed worker should do something
14 to earn their unemployment check. If they have to do something to get their
15 money, then maybe they will try to find something that pays more.
16

17 Section 4: This bill should be enacted since many people do not actively seek
18 employment if they are receiving an unemployment check. These people should
19 do something to earn this check while they are seeking employment. This
20 system would encourage them to find other employment and not rely on the
21 government to pay them while they aren't working. In the meantime, they are
22 helping the community they live in by performing community service projects.
23

24 Section 5: No additional money is needed since the people who are unemployed
25 will not be paid any more than they already are getting. This money is funded
26 by employees who pay into the Tennessee Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund
27 and will continue to come from this fund.
28

29 Section 6: All current laws or parts of laws that lie in conflict with this act shall
30 be repealed upon enactment of this bill.
31

32 Section 7: If enacted, this bill will take effect January 1, 2017.



29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



Sponsors: Elliot Boualaphanh, Tuneer Ghosh, Connor Suscha
School: Sunset Middle School

**An Act To Allow an Option of a Restorative Justice for Criminals of
Age 17 or Younger**

1 Be it enacted by the State YMCA of Tennessee's 2016 Youth in
2 Government Legislature:

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

4 a) Restorative justice - a system of criminal justice that focuses on the
5 rehabilitation of offenders through reconciliation with victims and the
6 community at large.

7 b) Criminal - a person who has broken the law.

8 c) Vandalism - action involving deliberate destruction of or damage to
9 public or private property.

10 d) Judge - a public official appointed to decide cases in a court of law.

11
12 SECTION 2: An optional form of restorative justice shall be enacted for
13 criminals of the age 17 or younger whose crimes involve the vandalism of
14 property value \$500 or more; the availability of this option is the judge's
15 decision. The type of restorative justice enacted will be in the form of
16 money. In return for the criminal paying back the owner(s) property
17 value and a 5% tax fee, the criminal shall have a lessened criminal
18 sentence. The judge of the criminal's trial(s) shall decide what the
19 sentences for the criminal will be if the criminal decides to participate in
20 the restorative justice, and if not. Immediately after the judge states the
21 sentences, the criminal must decide whether or not he/she will participate
22 in the restorative justice.

23
24 SECTION 3: There will be no penalties if the criminal decides not to
25 participate in the restorative justice. Once the decision is made, it cannot
26 be changed. According to the decision, the judge shall assign the
27 sentence and the reduction at the time of the verdict.

28
29 SECTION 4: In 2015, 92 cases of vandalism by juveniles were reported in
30 one quarter of the year in Davidson County. At this rate, one year would
31 the 458th vandalism crime by juveniles in one county alone. If all of these
32 crimes barely made it past the Restorative Justice guidelines, with the

33 crimes including vandalism of over \$500, the government will profit over
34 \$11,450 due to the 5% tax fee in one year if they all partake in
35 restorative justice..

36
37 SECTION 5: As shown in the Section 4, this restorative justice, with the
38 5% tax fee, should bring the Tennessee government thousands of dollars
39 over the years; the bill has no cost but only

40
41 SECTION 6: This act will go into effect two months after becoming a law.
42



**29th General Assembly of the
Tennessee YMCA Middle School
Youth in Government
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



**Sponsors: Madison Butler, Olivia Donoho, Jessica Uko-Abasi
School: Rucker Stewart Middle School**

**AN ACT TO PERMIT LEAs TO INSTALL CAMERAS ON SCHOOL BUSES TO
RECORD VEHICLES THAT UNLAWFULLY PASS A STOPPED SCHOOL BUS**

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

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

5 A) LEA- Local Education Agencies authorized by law to make educational
6 decisions for their district.

7 B) Camera- A device for recording visual images in the form of
8 photographs, film, or video signals.

9 C) School bus- any motor vehicle used in transporting children from and
10 to school and required to be marked "School Bus."

11 D) TCA - Tennessee Codes Annotated houses all the laws in the state of
12 Tennessee

13 E) Non-moving Violation- a traffic violation that does not go on a driver's
14 record. Such as a parking ticket.

15 F) Citation- a ticket or court order for a traffic violation

16
17 Section 2) TCA Title 55 Chapter 8 Part 151 states all motor vehicles are
18 required to stop upon meeting or overtaking from either direction any
19 school bus that has stopped on the highway for the purpose of receiving
20 or discharging any school children, shall stop the vehicle before reaching
21 the school bus, and the driver shall not proceed until the school bus
22 resumes motion or is signaled by the school bus driver to proceed or the
23 visual signals are no longer actuated.

24
25 Section 3) This act simply gives authority for LEAs to install an additional
26 enforcement component, a camera to record vehicles that unlawfully pass
27 a stopped school bus.

28
29 Section 4) This act requires any evidence of violations to be reviewed by
30 law enforcement officers.
31

32 Section 5) This act specifies that citations for violations captured on such
33 cameras may not exceed \$50.00 and are nonmoving violations.

34
35 Section 6) The cost of a camera is approximately \$300.00 each. If the
36 LEAs chooses to install cameras, the local school board will supply the
37 funds.

38
39 Section 7) All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby
40 repealed.

41
42 Section 8) This act shall take effect on June 1, 2018. The state board of
43 education is directed to formulate rules and regulations governing school
44 transportation as needed to protect the lives and welfare of school
45 children.



Center for Civic Engagement