Democracy must be learned by each generation.
TENNESSEE YMCA
MIDDLE SCHOOL
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
Sponsored by the YMCA Center for Civic Engagement

April 20 2021
CONFERENCE AGENDA

9:00 – 9:15AM  Orientation and Training
9:15 – 12:00PM  House & Senate Committees
12:00 – 1:00PM  Lunch
1:00 – 3:45PM  House & Senate Sessions
3:45 – 4:00PM  Closing Ceremony
Tennessee YMCA Middle School Youth In Government

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MIDDLE SCHOOL

YIG ROSTER
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UNDERSTANDING THE COMMITTEE PROCESS

What should delegates do during committee?

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

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

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

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

*Outside of this guide, consult additional TN YMCA CCE supplements and Robert’s Rules of Order
*Script is written with the assumption of more than one patron for the bill. If there is only one presenting patron, change statements to the singular (i.e. “Does the Patron” instead of “Do the Patrons”).

Overview

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

Asking Technical Questions (after being recognized by the chair)

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

Con/Pro Debate (after being recognized)

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

To Ask A Series of Questions

Speaker:  Do the Patrons yield to a possible series of questions? (Not: “a series of possible questions,” or “a question.”)
Chair:  They do so yield
Speaker:  (To Patrons) (Asks Questions and receives answers for up to two minutes, depending on the committee/house’s time structure).
*It is important to note that questions asked as a Con speech should seek to criticize, or at least show skepticism for, the given bill. Those asked as a Pro speech should do the opposite, emphasizing the positive aspects of the bill.

To Address the Assembly

Speaker:  May I address the floor?
Chair:  That is your right.
Speaker:  (Speaks to fellow delegates, not the patrons, for the allotted amount of time either in favor of (pro speech) or against (con speech) the bill).
*You should never use the words “Con” or “Pro” in your speech unless referring to “a previous con speaker,” etc. Con and Pro are not nouns or verbs that can be used to show your support or dislike of a bill (so do not say “I con this bill”).

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

Speaker:  May I yield the remainder of my time to a fellow delegate?
Chair:  That is your right. Please specify a delegate.
Speaker:  [Names the delegate to be yielded to (refer to him/her by last name)]
(Takes first action)
*Delegates being yielded to should have the same opinion (pro or con) on the bill as the speakers that yield to them.

Motions (must be made before the last con speech)

Speaker:  (Shouts) Motion!
Chair:  Rise and state your motion.
Speaker:  (States Name, States School, States Motion—see table of motions in delegate manual)
Chair:  [Takes it from there (decides if the motion is in order or not, asks for a second to the motion, and conducts a vote, usually by voice acclamation)]
FORMAT FOR DEBATE

I. Committee
   Two minutes – Introduction
   Two minutes – Technical Questions
   +/- Five minutes – Con/pro debate
   One minute – Summation

Amendments
   One minute – Introduction
   Three rounds – Con/pro debate
   One minute – Summation

II. House/Senate
   Two minutes – Introduction
   Two minutes – Technical Questions
   Five rounds – Con/pro debate
   One minute – Summation

SAMPLE COMMITTEE RANKING FORM

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YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT
RULES OF PROCEDURE

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

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

II. Amendments to Bills
   A. Patrons of bills may submit minor amendments to their bills immediately prior to presenting their bill to their appointed committee. These amendments should be limited to simple corrections and should not change the substance or intent of the bill. Once the patrons have begun their presentation, they may not submit amendments to their bill for the duration of the conference.
   B. The title of a bill may not be amended. Delegates must make every effort to ensure that proposed amendments do not make a bill omnibus.
   C. Any amendments must be written on the appropriate form, be legible, and be germane.
   D. Amendments must be recognized by the chair before the final round of debate on the bill, i.e. before the chair has recognized the last “pro” speaker.
   E. The patrons of the resolution must declare any amendment “friendly” (if they agree with the proposed amendment) or “unfriendly” (if they disagree).
1. Friendly amendments may be passed without debate through voice acclamation.
2. Unfriendly amendments are debated in the appropriate format. The amendment’s sponsor acts as the patron of the amendment, and the patrons of the resolution have the right to be the first con speaker in the debate.

F. In chambers, the chair may recognize a maximum of two (2) amendments to any bill.

G. Amendments must be in one of three forms:
   1. TO DELETE... You must be specific about what part of the bill you are deleting.
   2. TO INSERT... You must be give specific wording to be inserting and the specific location of where it is to be inserted.
   3. TO SUBSTITUTE... A combination of the above.

H. If a bill is adopted in the first chamber and amended in the second chamber, it must return to the first chamber for consideration of the amendments. When the bill is returned to the first chamber, the patron should make one of two motions below. Both motions are debatable and require a simple majority for adoption. Rejecting the amendments of the other chamber removes the bill from the docket.
   1. “I move that the amendments be adopted and the bill be made to conform to the Senate/House version.”
   2. “I move that the amendments be rejected.”

III. Debating Bills, Amendments, and other Motions:
A. Delegates to the General Assembly may speak when recognized by the chair. Delegates’ remarks must be relevant to the items on the agenda at any given time. Delegates from other components (Governor’s Cabinet, Supreme Court) may only speak with permission of the CCE staff.

B. Once recognized, delegates must identify themselves to the session with their name and school.

C. Delegates recognized as speakers in debate have the right to do two of the following things with their speaker’s time. Speakers must inform the chair of their intentions before continuing to:
   1. Address the floor/session
   2. Ask the patrons of the bill a series of questions
   3. Yield the remainder of their time to another delegate in the session
   4. Make a motion. Motions should be made after one of the previous actions.

D. Speaker’s time: unless otherwise indicated by the chair, each speaker shall have one minute to address the floor. Speakers who have been yielded time by another delegate may not yield any further time. Unused speakers’ time is yielded to the chair.
E. Should delegates wish to debate a debatable motion other than the main motion, debate is limited to two rounds; each speaker shall have 20 seconds of speaking time; the delegate who originally made the motion has the right to be the first ‘pro’ speaker.

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

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

IV. Conducting Business

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

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

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

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

V. Motions

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

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

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

**TABLE OF MOTIONS**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Point of Order**: these points are questions directed to the chair asking for clarification of rules of procedure.
An act to provide treatment for Schizophrenics.

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

SECTION I - PURPOSE:

This bill aims to fund schizophrenia treatment for people in Tennessee. It will provide coverage of 4 C.B.T. sessions, equal to or less than one-hundred (100) dollars each, annually to any uninsured victim under the age of sixty (60).

SECTION II - JUSTIFICATION

Schizophrenia is a significant disorder that affects people heavily, regardless of age. However, the age that Schizophrenia most commonly comes into effect is eighteen (18) to twenty-five (25) years of age. These couple of years are a significant time in most people’s lives. If someone of these ages happened to have Schizophrenia, they would be unable to work as well, if at all, without treatment. This circumstance, in turn, decreases productivity and therefore creates less revenue and profit for companies that these individuals work at, especially for labor-intensive jobs. This, overall in the nation, causes less trade and less economic prosperity. More importantly, Schizophrenia affects people of all ages, which is much worse than just a specific age group. If one who could not afford medication or treatment for Schizophrenia, especially C.B.T., happened to be diagnosed with it, it could negatively affect them and the country. However, it does not have to be this way. If that person were able to afford treatment, or, say, get it for free, they would also be able to cope with it in the workplace and work, go into the army, or be a productive member of society.

SECTION III - DEFINITIONS

Let “schizophrenia” be defined as a mental disorder that causes the person to misjudge thought, emotion, and behavior, which leads to inappropriate actions and feelings, withdrawal from reality and personal relationships into fantasy and delusion.

Let “C.B.T.” be defined as Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, a type of psychotherapeutic treatment that helps people learn how to identify and
change destructive or disturbing thought patterns that negatively influence behavior and emotions.

Let “Psychiatric hospitals” be defined as hospitals or wards specializing in treating severe mental disorders, such as major depressive disorder, Schizophrenia, and bipolar disorder.

SECTION IV - FUNDING

The state of Tennessee will increase the tax on cigarettes from sixty-two (62) cents to seventy (70) cents. This will provide the state of Tennessee with more than enough funding to provide treatment for Schizophrenic people.

SECTION V - PENALTIES/ENFORCEMENT

Non-Compliant individuals, who have been diagnosed with Schizophrenia, will be admitted to the closest Public Psychiatric Hospital.

SECTION VI - EFFECTIVE DATE

In effect, December 31, 2021.

All laws and acts in conflict with this law are hereby repealed.
An Act to Provide Paid Parental Leave for a New Child

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT that parents are eligible for paid parental leave upon the birth or adoption of a new child.

Section 1: Terms in this act are to be defined as follows:
Parental leave- temporary leave from a job due to parental obligations
Employer- a person or company that provides a job paying wages or a salary to one or more people
Salary- fixed compensation paid regularly for services

Section 2: Starting January 1, 2021 one parent may take a paid six month leave during a confirmed pregnancy or after the birth of a child, OR during/after an adoption of a new child. During these 6 months, employers must pay at least 50 percent of the individual’s salary. Furthermore, the individual will be entitled to the same position upon return.

Section 3: There will be no funding needed for the enactment of this bill.

Section 4: Non compliance to this law will result in fines up to $100,000 per individual.

Section 5: This act shall take effect on January 1, 2022.
HB-1-3

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

Sponsors: Gracie Magdanz, Lilly Nelson
School: Jo Byrns Middle School

An Act to Legalize Medical Usage of Marijuana

Be It Enacted By the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government

Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:
a. Medical Marijuana: Marijuana as recommended by a doctor in the
treatment of a medical condition.
b. HIV/AIDS: HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) is a virus that attacks the
body's immune system. If HIV is not treated, it can lead to AIDS (acquired
immunodeficiency syndrome).
c. Cancer: A disease caused by an uncontrolled division of abnormal cells in a
part of the body.
d. Alzheimer’s Disease: A type of dementia that affects memory, thinking
and behavior.
e. Crohn’s Disease: A type of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD).
f. Epilepsy: A neurological disorder marked by sudden recurrent episodes of
sensory disturbance, loss of consciousness, or convulsions, associated with
abnormal electrical activity in the brain.
g. Glaucoma: A condition of increased pressure within the eyeball, causing
gradual loss of sight.
h. Chronic: (of an illness) persisting for a long time or constantly recurring.

Section 2: This act seeks to make marijuana accessible for medical use in
Tennessee. In 2018, 67% of doctors and 85% of American adults approved
of medical marijuana use. The use of medical marijuana can relieve the
symptoms of are HIV/AIDS, cancer, Alzheimer's disease, Crohn's disease,
epilepsy and glaucoma. This act would allow medical practitioners licensed in
the state of Tennessee to prescribe marijuana to patient's suffering from
chronic pain associated with but not limited to the above chronic illnesses.
Patients who are prescribed marijuana for medical use would be issued an
identification card through their medical provider to verify proof that their
possession of marijuana is legal and obtained through legal means.

Section 3: This act establishes the criteria that must be met in order to
legally possess medical marijuana. This criterion includes that the patient
must be diagnosed with a chronic illness which causes chronic pain. The
patient must have also tried other over the counter and medically prescribed
painkillers that haven’t worked to relieve their chronic pain. In addition, the
patient would be required to take part in a state sponsored research study to test the effectiveness of medically prescribed marijuana as a painkiller.

Section 4: This act will cost the state of Tennessee only the cost of the state sponsored research study in the amount of 120,000. This cost will cover the time reimbursement of 100 research study participants with varying degrees of health issues to be paid $100.00 each month for a year to see if their use of medically prescribed marijuana improves their chronic pain level. During this study, they will be tested regularly to see if their chronic condition is getting better or worse, to see if they are not in as much pain as they were before. The state would contract with pharmaceuticals in Tennessee to cultivate marijuana to be used in the research study as a control group. The state would allow the Tennessee Department of Agriculture to test the safety of the cultivated medical marijuana.

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

Section 6: This act shall take effect June 1, 2021, the public welfare requiring it.
An Act Changing School Start Times for Middle and High School
Public Schools in TN

Section 1:  Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth LEGISLATURE that
public middle and high schools in TN cannot begin before 8:30AM.

Section 2: Definitions
Public school: any school that receives federal funding
Middle school - a school intermediate between an elementary school and a
high school, typically for children in the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades
High school - a school that typically comprises grades 9 through 12, attended
after primary school or middle school

Section 3:  Starting in the school year 2021/22, all public middle and high schools in
Tennessee can start no earlier than 8:30AM.

Section 4:  Schools may have early care programs but these need to be
voluntary.

Section 5:  Should a school be found not to be in compliance with these new
start times, the school will be fined $25,000.
An Act to Legalize Medical and Recreational Marijuana

Be It Enacted By the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government

Section 1: Terms in this act will be defined as follows:
b. Recreational Marijuana: Marijuana used by an individual solely for recreational purposes.
c. Chronic: An illness constantly recurring.

Section 2: This act seeks to make marijuana accessible for medical and recreational use in Tennessee. The use of medical marijuana can relieve symptoms of many chronic illnesses such as cancer, Alzheimer's disease, glaucoma, ADD/ADHD, and Multiple Sclerosis. This act would allow medical professionals in Tennessee to prescribe marijuana to patient's suffering from chronic medical issues. This act would also allow for the use of recreational marijuana solely for recreational purposes with the requirement that purchasers of recreational marijuana pay a tax rate of 20 percent for every dollar spent on recreational marijuana.

Section 3: This act addresses the requirements that must be met in order to legally possess medical and or recreational marijuana. This includes that the patient must be diagnosed with a chronic illness. Individuals who use and purchase marijuana for recreational purposes must show proof of purchase with a date of receipt showing that the required 20 percent tax was paid if an individual is approached by law enforcement.

Section 4: This act will not cost the state of Tennessee any expenses related to prescribing medical marijuana. As for the use of recreational marijuana, the state of Tennessee will acquire additional revenue in the form of the 20 percent tax placed on recreational marijuana purchases.

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

Section 6: This act shall take effect June 1, 2021, the public welfare requiring it.
AN ACT TO REQUIRE FACE COVERINGS FOR THE PEOPLE OF TENNESSEE

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE

Section 1: Terms in the act will be defined as follows:
Face covering– something worn over part of the face, such as a mask
Public space– an area or place that is open and accessible to all peoples, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, age or socio-economic level; a place where many people pass through and gather frequently
Indoors– within a building or closed structure with no direct outside air flow
People of Tennessee–a inhabitant of the state of Tennessee

Section 2: This law will require all persons in Tennessee above the age of 5 to wear a face covering in all public, indoor, spaces.

Section 3: This law will go into effect by the declaration of a pandemic or a U.S. area epidemic by the WHO.

Section 4: This law will remain in effect until the WHO officially declares a pandemic over; the law will then go out of effect.

Section 5: Public signs, alerting and reminding the public about this mandate, must be visible in all indoor, public places.

Section 6: All indoor, public places must contain extra face coverings for those who do not have them.

Section 7: No exceptions will be made for those that have been vaccinated or have underlying medical conditions.

Section 6: Funds needed for the enforcement of this bill will be provided by the Tennessee Department of Health.

Section 7: All people disobeying this law will be fined $100 for the first offense, and $500 for each subsequent offense.

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

Section 9: This act shall take effect immediately upon becoming a law with public welfare requiring it.
An Act to Mandate Physical Education in all TN Public Schools

Section 1: Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth LEGISLATURE that all TN public schools, K-12, provide at least one period of physical activity per day.

Section 2: Definitions
Public School: any school that receives federal funding
Physical Education (PE): a period during the day when students participate in a physical activity class
Class: a period of time during the day when students receive specific instruction on a particular topic.

Section 3:
Starting in the school year 2021-2022, every K-12 public school must provide one physical activity class per school day. Such a class must be at least 30 minutes in length and students need to be engaging in physical activity during this time. PE classes may be held in classrooms if gym space is not feasible.

Section 4:
The TN Department of Education will provide schools the necessary funds to hire more PE teachers if necessary.
An act to improve the quality of food in school cafeterias across the state of Tennessee.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

Section 1: Terms used in this act shall be defined as follows:
Nutritional guidelines- The nutritional requirements mandated by state and federal regulations.
Cafeteria staff- The personnel who work in the cafeteria.
Online survey- Survey from all middle school students regarding their personal food preferences.

Section 2: This act will reduce food waste in the school cafeterias. This act will also improve student’s physical and dietary health. According to the Natural Resources Defense Council, about 40% of food made in the U.S. is wasted, resulting in a loss of $160 billion per year. This act will reduce food waste and increase student physical health.

Section 3: Currently, Nutritional deficiencies in zinc, B vitamins, Omega-3 fatty acids and protein have been shown to affect the cognitive development of children. Under this act, the reduction of trans and saturated fats will cause cognitive performance to improve. This improvement in menu items will produce increased content mastery and an increase in students’ grades.

Section 4: Under this act, students will be required to complete an online survey regarding their preferred choices of; meats, fruits vegetables, grains, and dairy products. Students will vote on items ranging from best to worst preferences. The online survey will also consist of food items that will fall within the nutritional guidelines and that students may prefer to eat. The results of online survey will be turned into the cafeteria staff.

Section 5: Under this act, the results of TCAP tests and EasyCBM scores will be compared to previous year’s test results. This measurement will occur for a 3-year time period. This will either prove or disprove the efficacy of this act and its actions.

Section 6: Under this act, school morale will increase as students look forward to eating their own choices from the school cafeteria.
Section 7: Under this act, students’ stakeholder investment will increase due to the students’ choices being recognized and adopted.

Section 8: This act will not require funding from local and/or state budgets.

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

Section 10: This act will take effect on August 1st, 2021 in time for the 2021-2022 school year.
An Act to Switch the Drinking and Driving Ages in the State of TN

Section 1: Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth LEGISLATURE: that in the State of TN, the drinking age will be 16 and the driving age will be 21.

Section 2: Definitions
- drinking age- the age you are legally allowed to consume alcoholic beverages.
- alcoholic beverage - any beverage in liquid form which contains not less than one-half of one percent of alcohol by volume.
- driving age- the age at which you are allowed to operate a motor vehicle.

Section 3:
Starting January 1, 2022 in the state of Tennessee the drinking age will be 16 and the driving age will be 21.

Section 4:
Anyone who has already attained their license, and is under the age of 21, will remain allowed to drive, as long as they have no record of drinking and driving.
MIDDLE SCHOOL
YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

HOUSE
COMMITTEE 2
HB-2-1

68th General Assembly of the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sponsors: Katherine Thomas, Abigail Hodges
School: Harding Academy

An Act to Overturn HB 836

Section 1: Be it enacted by the Tennessee LEGISLATURE:
that this act will overturn HB 836, an act signed by Governor Bill Lee on

Section 2: Definitions:
sexuality - a person's sexual orientation or preference
sexual orientation - a person's sexual identity in relation to the gender to
which they are attracted.
LGBTQ - refers to individuals who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender,
and questioning their sexuality/sexual preference, and is often seen as
LGBTQ+
divorce - the legal dissolution of a marriage by a court or other competent
body

Section 3:
HB 836 allows adoption and foster care agencies in Tennessee to discriminate
against qualified prospective parents because of their religious beliefs or
sexuality. It also lets adoption agencies prohibit couples in which one parent
has previously been divorced, or single parents, from adopting and fostering
children. HB 836 gives any adoption agency license to keep children they
choose from their programs and care for any reason they want, which leaves
LGBTQ+ and other minority children at risk.

Section 4: This bill will void HB 836 and ensure equity and justice in the TN
foster care system. Furthermore, it will ensure equity in both TN taxpayer-
funded adoption agencies as well as private adoption agencies. Under this
bill, more children in need of fostering or adoptive parents will be placed in
happy homes.
A resolution to allot Bereavement days for students

Be it enacted by the 2021 TN YMCA youth in government

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

A) Bereavement (n.) - the action or condition of being bereaved
B) Bereaved-be deprived of a loved one through a profound absence, especially due to the loved one's death.
C) deprived-suffering a severe and damaging lack of basic material and cultural benefits.
D) ash scattering- Letting go.
E) close friends-consider part of your inner circle and with whom you share some similar life goals and values
F) close family-Close knit means that the family members stay in contact with each other and share problems, happiness and resources.
G) Funeral-the ceremonies honoring a dead person, typically involving burial or cremation.
H) Deathbed visits-end-of-life experiences
I) Parent-a father or mother
J) Guardian-a defender, protector, or keeper
K) Principal-the head of a school, college, or other educational institution.
L) Guidance counselor-a professional who works in primary schools or secondary schools to provide academic, career, college access/affordability/admission, and social-emotional competencies to all students through a school counseling program
M) Absence- the state of being away from a place or person.
N) discretion- the freedom to decide what should be done in a particular situation,

Section 2) this act will only provide bereavement days for students who need to attend a funeral, deathbed visit, or ash scattering ceremonies,

Section 3) bereavement absences limited to close friends or close family members,

Section 4) the school will require communication with its parent or guardian prior to the absence,
Sections 5) this act can be adjusted at the discretion of the school board or administrative body,

Section 6) This act will not require funding from the state budget,

Section 7) All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed,

Section 8) this act will be enacted by the state upon passage on August 1, 2021.
An Act to Eliminate Police Brutality

Section 1: To be enacted by the Tennessee Legislature that the State of TN condemns police brutality and puts into place measures to end it.

Section 2: Definitions

police brutality: the excessive and unwarranted use of force by law enforcement; an extreme form of police misconduct or violence; a civil rights violation; a situation where officers exercise undue or excessive force against a person.

Section 3: Effective immediately, the TN Legislature will issue a declaration stating that police brutality is banned and condemned, and that any officers, if found guilty of police brutality, will be prosecuted to the highest degree of the law.

Section 4: Starting on June 1, 2021, the state of TN will convene a TN Police Betterment Committee (PBC) made up of civilians. This committee will be made up of a diverse group of people, with at least 50 percent being people of color. The PBC will be responsible for responding to complaints filed by citizens about police misconduct, and to ensure that each complaint is investigated thoroughly. This committee will advise the TN Justice Department on whether officers should be held legally responsible for complaints.

Section 5: In addition, starting on January 1, 2022, all TN police cars AND TN State police officers will be equipped with, and required to use/wear visual and audio recording cameras. These cameras must be transmitting at all times, and must record all of the actions and conversations of officers on duty. The videos will be reviewed by the PBC and questionable behavior will be investigated and appropriate charges will be filed.
An act to reduce drug abuse in public high schools

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

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

a) Drug Abuse- illegal drugs/substances in use or possessed by anyone on school grounds

b) School Grounds- property owned by the school including: buses, parking lots, playgrounds.

c) School Resource Officers- The United States Department of Justice defines school resource officers as "sworn law enforcement officers responsible for safety and crime prevention in schools.

Section 2: This act will focus on reducing the amount of illegal drug use in school, and it will focus on educating students about the harm of drug abuse. All School Resource Officers as defined in this act must be a certified police officer under Tennessee law. All teachers as defined in this act must have their teaching credentials.

Section 4: This act will employ 2 additional School Resource Officers in each public high school in Tennessee. It is a full time position with a yearly salary of 45,000 dollars per year per Student Resource Officer.

Section 5: This act will also employ 1 additional teacher in each public high school, and he/she will be educated on Drug Abuse. They will teach classes about the dangers of Drug Abuse and will mentally help students with drug problems. This is a full time position with a yearly salary of 48,000 dollars per year per teacher.

Section 6: A School Resource Officer has permission to temporarily detain a student if they have violated a law. Depending on the charge the defendant can face charges up to one year in adult jail.

Section 7: This plan will cost about 80 million dollars in total, paid by the Tennessee Department of Education budget.

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

Section 9: This act shall take effect on January 1st, 2023, to provide time to hire enough personnel for our proposed act.
Sponsors: Neko Mannes, Lexie Lampa
School: Harding Academy

An Act to Mandate Restorative Justice in Juvenile Corrections

Section 1: Be it enacted by the Tennessee LEGISLATURE:
This bill would mandate a restorative justice program in TN juvenile
corrections programs and facilities.

Section 2: Terms used in this act shall be defined as follows:
a) restorative justice: a system of criminal justice which focuses on the
rehabilitation of offenders through reconciliation with victims and the
community at large
b) corrections - an umbrella term describing a variety of functions involving
the punishment, treatment, and supervision of persons who have been
convicted of crimes. These functions commonly include imprisonment, parole,
and probation.
c) recidivism: the tendency of a convicted criminal to reoffend

Section 3:
Starting January 1, 2022, the state of TN will initiate a Restorative Justice
Program for all juveniles that are serving sentences in TN corrections
programs or facilities. This program will be overseen by a Restorative Justice
Initiative Board, made up of experts in the fields of corrections and
restorative justice. This Board will be responsible for educating, training,
and facilitating restorative justice within all juvenile corrections
programs/facilities. This Board will have the authority to mandate
restorative justice in juvenile cases.

Section 4:
Police officers and offenders will be required to participate in any state
mandated restorative justice. At times, the victim will be asked to
participate in a restorative session but will have the choice to abstain. The
same will be true for members of the larger community.

Section 5:
Funding for this bill will come from the TN Department of Justice.
An act to improve the quality of food in school cafeterias across the state of Tennessee.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

Section 1: Terms used in this act shall be defined as follows:
1. Nutritional guidelines: The nutritional requirements mandated by state and federal regulations.
2. Cafeteria staff: The personnel who work in the cafeteria.
3. Online survey: Survey from all middle school students regarding their personal food preferences.

Section 2: This act will reduce food waste in the school cafeterias. This act will also improve student’s physical and dietary health. According to the Natural Resources Defense Council, about 40% of food made in the U.S. is wasted, resulting in a loss of $160 billion per year. This act will reduce food waste and increase student physical health.

Section 3: Currently, Nutritional deficiencies in zinc, B vitamins, Omega-3 fatty acids and protein have been shown to affect the cognitive development of children. Under this act, the reduction of trans and saturated fats will cause cognitive performance to improve. This improvement in menu items will produce increased content mastery and students’ grades.

Section 4: Under this act, students will complete an online survey regarding past school cafeteria items. Students will vote on items ranging from best to worst preferences. The online survey will also consist of food items that will fall within the nutritional guidelines and that students may prefer to eat.

Section 5: Under this act, the results of TCAP tests and EasyCBM scores will be compared to previous year’s test results. This measurement will occur for a 3-year time period. This will either prove or disprove the efficacy of this act and its actions.

Section 6: Under this act, school morale will increase as students look forward to eating their own choices from the school cafeteria.
Section 7: Under this act, students’ stakeholder investment will increase due to the students’ choices being recognized and adopted.

Section 8: This act will not require funding from local and/or state budgets.

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

Section 10: This act will take effect on August 1st, 2021 in time for the 2021-2022 school year.
Sponsors: Susan McCarley, Eleanor Lampley  
School: Harding Academy  

An Act to Ban Homework in TN Public Schools  

Section 1: Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth LEGISLATURE that public schools in the state of TN are banned from assigning homework.

Section 2: Definitions  
Homework- any school work designed to be mostly completed at home including essays, worksheets, projects etc.

Section 3:  
Starting in the school year 2021-22, public schools in the state of Tennessee cannot assign homework (see definition above). Studying for tests will still be permitted and expected.

Section 4:  
Exceptions can be made by teachers for long term assignments, as long as there has been ample time devoted for the assignment in school (at least 75 percent).

Section 5:  
Furthermore, exceptions can be made, per teachers' discretion, if a student has not been on task, and thus has wasted given time. Additionally, students and parents may opt to complete certain assignments at home in order to provide additional support; this will also be at the discretion of teachers/
HB-2-8

Sponsors: Drew McDonald, J.D. Codispoti
School: Harding Academy

A Bill Legalizing the Medicinal Use of Marijuana

Section 1: Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth LEGISLATURE:
that the prescription and use of marijuana be permitted for certain medical
uses in the State of TN.

Section 2: Definitions
Marijuana: the psychoactive dried resinous flower buds and leaves of the
female hemp or cannabis plant; contains high levels of THC that are
smoked, vaped, or ingested
Medical marijuana: as recommended by a doctor in the treatment of a
medical condition.
Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)

Section 3:
Starting in January, 2022, TN licensed physicians may prescribe the use of
medical marijuana for the following conditions: AIDS, Alzheimer's Disease,
Cachexia, wasting syndrome, Cancer, Chronic Pain, Crohn's Disease, Chronic
Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE), Epilepsy, Fibromyalgia, Glaucoma, HIV,
Hepatitis C, Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD), Multiple Sclerosis,
Parkinson’s Disease, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Sickle Cell
Anemia, Spinal Cord Injury, Tourette Syndrome, Traumatic Brain Injury
(TBI), Ulcerative Colitis

Section 4:
Refills will be not permitted on any marijuana prescriptions; instead patients
will need to meet with their physicians in person to obtain a refill.

Section 5:
All prescriptions must be filled at TN regulated dispensaries.
An Act to End Plastics Pollution in the Tennessee River

Be it enacted by the Tennessee State Legislature that a fee of 5 cents will be imposed on every plastic bag used by consumers.

Definitions:
Plastic bag: a disposable plastic bag that is provided to the consumer to carry their purchases

Sections:
Section II: A consumer purchasing something from a store will be required to pay a fee of $0.05 for each plastic bag used. The plastic bag fees will go to the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation.

Section III: The state of Tennessee will collect the fees. It will be used by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation.

Section IV: Wholesale consumers will not pay this tax (i.e. grocery stores) but will be required to charge 5 cents per plastic bag given to each customer.

Section V: All laws or parts of laws conflicting will be repealed.

Section VI: This act will take effect on August 1, 2021, the public welfare requiring it.
An Act to Require Additional Animal Adoption Criteria within the State of Tennessee

Be it Enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth and Government

Section 1: Terms in this act with be defined as follows:
Companion — An animal that shares the adopters’ house and family. This subject matter would consist of mainly dogs and cats but may also include horses, birds, and other adoptable animals.
Low Income — The amount of money that an individual receives when paid, which cannot supply an adopted animal’s necessities.

Section 2: This act will require additional criteria for individuals wanting to adopt companion animals from shelters to not only require that individuals who have been convicted of animal abuse within the last two years not be allowed to adopt companion pets but that individuals who apply to adopt a companion pet meet additional income requirements, residency requirements and the individuals history of adopting pets be placed into a state registry online system that tracks individuals adoption history to help prevent animal hoarding that leads to animal malnutrition, neglect, and abuse. Since a high percentage of animals adopted within the state are either abused, abandoned, malnourished, or all the above, this act is important to the welfare of adoptable animals within the state.

Section 3: Under this act, Tennessee animal shelters would require proof of residency, proof of the past six months of weekly/bi-weekly/monthly income, and be registered within a state registry that tracks the adoptee’s animal adoption history. These three requirements would be in addition to the current requirement that the adoptee not be registered as an animal abuser on the current Tennessee animal abuse registry. This act seeks to reduce the percentage of abuse, abandonment, and malnutrition of companion animals within the state of Tennessee.

Section 4: This act will cost the state of Tennessee 500,000 dollars to create the Tennessee Animal Adoption Registry online system to track adoptees’ animal adoption history in an effort to reduce animal hoarding which leads to abuse, abandonment, and malnutrition of adoptable companion animals. No
other costs would be associated with the additional income verification and proof of residency requirements.

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

Section 6: This act shall take effect June 1, 2021, the public welfare requiring it.
An Act to Reform the Permitless Open Carry Law and Reduce the Magazine Size for Open Carry Weapons

Section 1: Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth LEGISLATURE that any adult with an open or concealed weapon must have a permit to carry that weapon, and that all pistol magazine sizes must be reduced to a maximum of six bullets per magazine.

Section 2: Definitions
open carry- carrying a loaded handgun that is visible to the casual observer
concealed carry- an unloaded weapon that is not visible to the casual observer

Section 3:
Effective immediately, the Permitless Carry Act is null and void.

Section 4:
Effective immediately, in public spaces, a magazine may not hold more than six bullets except for special cases such as law enforcement.
SB-1-4

68th General Assembly
of the
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government

SENATE

Sponsors: Anna Brooke Carlisle, Micah Haimes, Whitten Matthews,
Peyton Williams
School: Tipton Christian Academy

An Act to Require Students in Grades K-12 to get Hearing and Vision Screening Along with Their Required Immunizations

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

Section 1) Terms in this act are defined as follows:
Immunization: A process by which a person becomes protected against disease through vaccination.
Vaccination: The act of introducing a vaccine into the body to produce immunity to a specific disease.
Vaccine: A substance used to stimulate the production of antibodies and provide immunity against one or several diseases prepared from the causative agent of a disease, its products, or a synthetic substitute, treated to act as an antigen without inducing the disease.
Vision screening: In a vision screening, also called an eye test, you are asked to identify different letters of the alphabet printed on a chart or screen.
Hearing screening: At a hearing test, you put on headphones connected to an audiometer that plays a series of tones. Your doctor controls the volume, the sound gets lowered until you can’t hear it anymore,

Section 2) All K-12 students would have a hearing and vision screening along with their required immunizations,

Section 3) The nurse who administers your immunizations (also known as your booster shots) will also administer your hearing and vision screening,

Section 4) The Tennessee Department of Health would maintain the Hearing and Vision screening records, along with your immunization records, because these records would be required to attend school,

Section 5) There is no additional cost for the state as the cost is covered by the individual and the individual’s insurance during the same appointment,

Section 6) This act will take effect on August 1, 2021, but there will be a six month grace period to reach compliance.
An Act to Restore Rights to Former Felons

Section 1: Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth LEGISLATURE that felons will have restored to them all constitutional rights one year after completing their sentence.

Section 2: Definitions
felony - a crime, typically one involving violence, regarded as more serious than a misdemeanor, and usually punishable by imprisonment for more than one year
felon- someone who has committed a felony.
completed sentence - a criminal sentence that has been fully completed, including parole

Section 3:
Starting in January 2022, former felons who have fully completed their given sentence (including parole) will regain all of their Constitutional rights after 12 months of release. Said rights include the right to vote, to live in public housing, to serve on jury, and to utilize food stamps.

Section 4:
This bill will not shorten the sentences of felons. It will solely apply to residents of TN who have established residency for at least 12 months.
AN ACT TO PROTECT INDIANA BATS FROM EXTINCTION

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

Section I: Terms in this article will be defined as follows:
Indiana Bat — an endangered species of bat native to Tennessee.
Human Disturbance — the tampering of bats, bats’ habitats, bats’ food sources, and/or caves.
Cave Commercialization — allowing visitors to tour caves during bat hibernation and bring foreign products or substances to the cave.
Pesticides — a substance used for the elimination of insects and/or other organisms.
TWRA — Tennessee Wildfire Resources Agency

Section II: Currently, Indiana bats are an endangered species native to Tennessee. Indiana bats play a vital role in our ecosystem and agriculture industry by consuming insects that are both harmful to people and crops. The diminishing population of Indiana bats is a great concern to our ecosystem and agriculture industry.

Section III: Currently, there are no protective policies for Indiana bats in the state of Tennessee. These bats only hibernate in seven caves across the entire state of Tennessee.

Section IV: If enacted, the state of Tennessee will institute strict regulations on human disturbance, cave commercialization, and the use of pesticides immediately around the seven caves in which the Indiana bats hibernate.

Section V: If enacted, the TWRA will initiate a public education campaign to educate the public and landowners about the Indiana bat and the new regulations regarding the species. The public education program will include but is not limited to public service announcements, print media, and individual landowner education. This education campaign is not to exceed fifty-thousand dollars out of the TWRA’s budget.

Section VI: If enacted, this law will include fines determined, distributed, and collected by the TWRA and those fines will repay the initial cost of education mentioned above.
Section VII: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

Section VIII: This act shall take effect after the public education is completed at a date to be determined by the TWRA, but not to exceed one year from the beginning of the public education program.
An Act to Create a TN Senior Care Interpreter Virtual Center

Section 1: Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth LEGISLATURE that the state of TN create a TN Senior Care Interpreter Virtual Center, where seniors in health care facilities and/or senior care workers can receive support services for language translation.

Section 2: Definitions
Senior - a person 65 years of age or older
Senior health care facility - applies to individual buildings and campuses of buildings that house and provide care and assistance for elderly residents
Interpreter - a person who interprets, usually foreign languages or American Sign Language

Section 3:
Starting in January 2022, the state of TN will launch a TN Senior Care Interpreter Virtual Center. This Center will be staffed by full time employees who will connect callers to interpreters. These interpreters will be paid by the hour.

Section 4:
The Center will attempt to provide interpreters for all languages spoken in TN and will constantly evaluate the need for additional languages and/or interpreters.
An Act to increase traffic safety by requiring citizens older than 65 years of age to renew their driver's license every 3 years.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:

Section 1: Terms used in this act shall be defined as follows:
Driving test- an official test of competence which must be passed in order to get a driver's license.
Elder- A person (man or woman) who is 65 years of age or older.
DMV- Department of Motor Vehicles

Section 2: All elderly individuals residing in the state of Tennessee will be required to take and pass the state driving test every four years in order to maintain a valid driver's license.

Section 3: Currently, the majority of vehicle crashes for the age group of 65 through 85 involves failure to properly obey traffic signals and signage.

Section 4: Elderly drivers are more likely to be injured or killed in traffic crashes due to age-related vulnerabilities, such as more fragile bones. Medical conditions like heart disease, diabetes and other illnesses also make it more difficult for older drivers to recover from any injuries. Except for teen drivers, seniors have the highest crash death rate per mile driven, even though they drive fewer miles than younger people.

Section 5: Under this act, individuals within the state of Tennessee ages 65 and over will be notified of the need to retake both the driver's knowledge and performance test administered by the DMV.

Section 6: Under this act, notification of eligible individuals, will occur via variety of methods including email, traditional mail, and text messages informing individuals of the need to come take both driver's knowledge and performance as administered by the DMV.

Section 7: This act will not require funding from the state budget. but may generate revenue resulting from fines.

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

Section 9: This act shall take effect immediately upon becoming a law with public welfare requiring it.
An Act to Confront the Sexual Harassment of Women

Be in enacted by the TN State Legislature that the state establish a committee to investigate and report accusations of sexual harassment.

Definition
Forms of sexual harassment: physical acts of sexual assault; requests for sexual favors; verbal harassment of a sexual nature; including jokes referring to sexual acts or sexual orientation; making conditions dependent on sexual favors, either explicitly or implicitly; discussing sexual relations/stories/ at work, school, or in other inappropriate places; feeling pressured to engage with someone sexually; unwanted sexually explicit photos, emails, or text messages; legal counsel for prosecution: a lawyer who helps to prosecute

Section 1:
Effectively immediately, the TN Department of Justice will establish the Committee to Investigate Accusations of Sexual Harassment. This committee will provide a 24 hour manned hotline, counseling, and free legal counsel for anyone wanting to prosecute.

Section 2: This committee will be funded indefinitely by the Tennessee Department of Justice.
Sponsors: Sid Seigle, Landon Roberts
School: Springfield Middle School

An act to Give Authority to Principals, Sports Directors and Officials
to Remove Unruly Misbehaved and Unsportsmanlike Spectators from
School Sports

Be it enacted by the Tennessee's YMCA YOUTH IN Government

Definitions
Unruly: Consistently fails to follow proper rules of protocol at ball games, fields or matches. This can include, but is not limited to: Physical confrontation with another fan or player, verbal taunting and harassing, throwing of objects, obvious drug, or alcohol impairment.

Misbehaved: Consistently exhibits behavior inconsistent with the required student behavior. This can include, but is not limited to cursing, wearing, or throwing gang signs, disrespect of official or authority figures at the game, disrespect of the school guidelines for dress, social expectations, or behaviors,

Unsportsmanlike: Consistently fails to follow the code of sportsman ethics which includes taunting or teasing of coaches, players, or officials, taunting, or teasing the other team, coach, fans, or players

Spectators: Anyone watching the game or match

Sections
A. in order to maintain a suitable environment FOR A SCHOOL sports events Spectators shall follow all rules of the school remain behaved and show sportsmanship.

B. Any spectator behaving improperly shall depart at the request of any school principals, sport directors and or officials of the game.

C. A violation of subsection A or B is a class A misdemeanor

D. In addition to any criminal penalty provided by law, there is created a civil cause of action for any intentional harassment upon any player, coach, educational personnel, or other spectator by any person during school hours or during school functions, if the parties are on school grounds or in vehicles owned, leased or under contract by the LEA and used for transporting students or faculty. A person who commits such harassment shall be liable to the victim for all damages resulting from the verbal abuse, including mental
or emotional damages. Furthermore, the person or persons may be banned
permanently from school sporting events.

The enactment of this law will have no cost.

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

This act shall take affect June 1, 2021, the public welfare requiring it.
Section 1: Be it enacted by the TN LEGISLATURE that TN residents, 70 years and older, must undergo and pass specialized driving tests to renew their TN State Driver's Licenses.

Section 2: Definitions:
- driver's license: a state issued document permitting a person to drive a motor vehicle
- specialized driving tests: see below

Section 3: Starting on January 1, 2022, TN residents that are 70 years of age or older must undergo the following new requirements to obtain their driver's licenses:
- 70 to 80 years old: individuals must renew their licenses every five years by passing a TN State Driving Test AND by passing the TN State Written Driver's Test
- 80 years old and above: same as above, but individuals must renew their driver's licenses every 2 years.

Section 4: In addition to the above requirements, a TN resident over the age of 80 must obtain a signed release from his/her primary care physician stating that the individual is of sound mind and health to operate a motor vehicle.
An act to create a mandatory ASL program in public high schools throughout the state.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:

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

ASL — American Sign Language: a visually perceived language based on a naturally evolved system of articulated hand gestures and their placement relative to the body, along with non-manual markers such as facial expressions, head movements, shoulder raises, mouth morphemes, and movements of the body.

Mandatory — This means that the ½ credit course is required by law or rules; and it is compulsory.

Section 2: All public high schools will be required to offer a course on American Sign Language. Currently, there are no sign language courses offered in public high schools in the state of Tennessee. Hearing impaired individuals require a sign language specialist to accompany them all day during school hours. Deaf people are often overwhelmed and ostracized by other high school students due to their hearing disability.

Section 3: The standards for that course will be set by the Tennessee Department of Education.

Section 4: Under this act, ASL class will be a ½ credit encompassing 9 weeks in a block schedule, or 18 weeks in a period schedule.

Section 5: Under this act, the instructor for the class will be a certified teacher in the state of Tennessee that will be required to pass the national ASL praxis requirements. The salary teachers will be commensurate with all local education association salary schedules.

Section 6: The addition of the curriculum coursework will cost $3,000,000 and will be funded through the Tennessee Department of Education budget.

Section 7: This bill will increase the local education association payroll for hiring of said ASL teachers. This increase will be less than an approximate .035% increase to the local school budgets.
Section 8: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

Section 9: This bill will take effect June 2022, to allow time for local education associations to meet the criteria and fulfill these positions.
An Act to Ban Conversion Therapy in the State of TN

Section 1:
Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth LEGISLATURE that the practice of conversion therapy be henceforth banned in the State of TN.

Section 2: Definitions:
sexual orientation - an inherent or immutable enduring emotional, romantic or sexual attraction to other people
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
transgender - an umbrella term for people whose gender identity and/or expression is different from cultural expectations based on the sex they were assigned at birth
homophobia - the fear and hatred of or discomfort with people who are attracted to members of the same sex
LGBTQ - an acronym for “lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer.”
conversion therapy - any attempt to change a person’s sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression through physical aversion therapy or talk therapy

Section 3:
Effective immediately, all forms of conversion therapy will be banned in the state of TN.

Section 4:
Any organization found to be practicing conversion therapy or any kind of therapy aimed at changing a minor’s sexual orientation or gender identity, will be fined up to 20 thousand dollars per infraction and will be forced to shut down and cease all operations.
Be it enacted by the 2021 Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government:

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

a) Viable- usable
b) Unprepared- not prepared for customer consumption
c) Food Waste- any food product ( fresh, frozen, canned, or otherwise packaged ) that is still safe for consumption, but that the restaurant is planning on throwing out,

Section 2: This act stands to require at least ten restaurants per county to donate unprepared food ( waste ) to people in need,

Section 3: The food from each participating restaurant will be inspected for quality prior to consumption,

Section 4: The food will be collected by a delivery truck every two weeks,

Section 5: This act will be implemented at a maximum cost of $15,000 per county for the delivery truck plus an annual cost of $500 for gas, repairs, and maintenance,

Section 6: All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed,

Section 7: This act will take effect February 1, 2022.
An Act to Prevent Deadly School Shootings

Section 1: Be in enacted by the Tennessee Legislature:
that all TN public school teachers have the option to carry a concealed
weapon (with permit) while also requiring all public schools to have an armed
guard on campus during school hours.

Section 2: Definitions:
armed guard: a certified security guard, or trained policeman, with a
registered weapon
permit - a TN registered weapons permit that allows one to legally carry a
concealed weapon in public spaces

Section 3:
Starting in the school year 2021-2022, any TN public school teacher, or
administrative staff member, will have the option of carrying a concealed
weapon if he/she has an up-to-date TN licensed weapons permit.

Section 4:
School employees must notify their supervisor if they are carrying a
concealed weapon at the beginning of each school year. A copy of the permit
must be kept on file with the school administrator.

Section 5:
In addition, all public schools are required to have at least one armed guard,
with a concealed weapon, on campus during school hours and school
sponsored events.
AN ACT TO INCREASE BEP FUNDS FOR TEACHERS IN LOW SOCIOECONOMIC SCHOOLS

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH LEGISLATURE

Section 1: Terms in this are defined as follows:

a) BEP- The Basic Education Program is an organization where state education dollars are generated and distributed to Tennessee states schools.

b) Low socioeconomic schools- free breakfast and lunch, also commonly known as Title 1 schools.

c) High socioeconomic schools — schools that do not qualify for free and reduced lunch

d) BEP Funds — The funds given to teachers in order to purchase consumables or instructional supplies for students.

Section 2: The money received from the BEP is currently based upon the number of students rather than the socioeconomic status of the students in the school. Research shows teachers in low socioeconomic status schools spend significantly more on instructional supplies for school than teachers in high socioeconomic schools.

Section 3: Teachers at low socioeconomic schools shall receive up to $600 on a sliding scale based on the average income for the students at the school.

Section 4: This bill will reformulate the BEP funding for teachers in Tennessee state schools based on their socioeconomic status.

Section 5: No additional cost as the money will be redistributed based on socioeconomic status of the school.

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

Section 7: This act will take effect immediately with the public welfare requiring it.
An Act to put Term Limits on TN State Laws

Section 1: Be it enacted by the Tennessee LEGISLATURE that all TN State laws have to be renewed every ten years.

Section 2: Definitions:
term limit: point or level beyond which something does not or may not extend or pass; a restriction on the amount of time

Section 3:
Starting in January 2022, all new TN laws will have a term limit of 10 years.

Section 4:
At the end of a law’s term limit, the law must be passed by a majority in the joint House and Senate Renewal Committee (new committee). If the law fails in this committee, it will move to a direct vote in the House and Senate where a majority will be needed to renew the law. In order to expedite this process, any law voted on directly in the House and Senate will have limited debate.

Section 5: If a law was passed prior to 2022, Congress shall have 6 months to conduct the process outlined above in order to renew it.