

**INDEX OF ACTS
RELATED TO COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

2025 EDITION



County Technical Assistance Service
INSTITUTE *for* PUBLIC SERVICE
...a service of The University of Tennessee

**Prepared by
CTAS Legal Staff**

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These summaries are intended for information only and should not be relied upon for implementation purposes. The full text of all acts summarized in this publication can be viewed on the Secretary of State's website.

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PART I - PUBLIC ACTS OF GENERAL APPLICATION

COUNTY CLERKS

Public Chapter 112
SB 119 - HB 1142

Manufactured Homes

Amends 47-9-102 (secured transactions), 55-1-105 (motor vehicle titling and registration), and 68-126-202 (Uniform Standard Code for Manufactured Homes Act) to revise the definition of “manufactured home” to align with 42 USC § 5402(6) which defines “manufactured home” as “a structure, transportable in one or more sections, which, in the traveling mode, is eight body feet or more in width or forty body feet or more in length, or, when erected on site, is three hundred twenty or more square feet, and which is built on a permanent chassis and designed to be used as a dwelling with or without a permanent foundation when connected to the required utilities, and includes the plumbing, heating, air-conditioning, and electrical systems contained therein; except that such term shall include any structure which meets all the requirements of this paragraph except the size requirements and with respect to which the manufacturer voluntarily files a certification required by the Secretary and complies with the standards established under this chapter; and except that such term shall not include any self-propelled recreational vehicle.”

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 124
SB 1051 - HB 1340

Online Notaries Public

Amends 8-16-306 to require a person applying to become an online notary to complete a course in notarial laws, technology procedures of online notarization, and ethical requirements of online notaries; and pass an examination administered by the course provider. Requires the person applying to become an online notary to certify that the applicant has reviewed, understands, and will comply with the requirements of 8-16-301 *et seq.* and the rules promulgated by the secretary of state.

Effective January 1, 2026.

Public Chapter 143
SB 620 - HB 442

Antique Emergency Vehicles

Amends Title 55, Chapters 4 and 9 to allow antique emergency vehicles to be used for participation in, or transportation to and from, community educational events, including displays at fairs, festivals, and schools. Emergency lights and sirens may be installed and operated on privately owned antique motor vehicles under certain circumstances.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 148
SB 780 - HB 790

Driver's License

Amends 55-50-354 to provide that honorably discharged members of the national guard are authorized to receive a veteran designation on their driver's license. Requires documentation that indicates an honorable discharge characterization.

Effective April 3, 2025.

Public Chapter 193
SB 660 - HB 737

Title and Registration During Emergencies

Amends 55-4-101 to allow a county clerk to request assistance with vehicle registration, renewal of registrations, and services pursuant to 55-6-104(a)(1) from a neighboring county clerk in the event of an emergency, natural disaster, or similar event. The request must be in writing and can be sent by regular mail, email, or fax. The aiding county clerk shall not collect county specific privilege taxes. The aiding county clerk shall provide the requesting county clerk with a report of vehicles registered during the period of assistance if such report is requested for tax collection purposes. The aiding county clerk shall collect any local sales and use taxes, and remit such taxes to the department in accordance with 55-6-105. Subject to 67-6-710(b)(2) and upon request by the aiding county clerk, the department shall designate proceeds of the taxes collected to the aiding county clerk. The aiding county clerk is authorized to charge a fee of \$2.50 for providing the services described above.

Effective April 11, 2025.

Public Chapter 216
SB 1140 – HB 918

Hunting License for Disabled Veterans

Amends 70-2-104 to provide that the executive director, or designee, shall issue a temporary group hunting event permit to a nonprofit organization that pays for a hunting experience at no costs to disabled veterans. The permit is valid only during the event and for no more than seven days. No part of the cost of the permit shall be paid by a disabled veteran. The executive director or designee shall accept evidence of the service related disability.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 255
SB 728 – HB 810

Utility Terrain Vehicles

Amends Title 55 to allow utility terrain vehicles to operate on county roads and state highways under certain conditions and restrictions. Exempts certain utility terrain vehicles from restrictions. Requires registration of such utility terrain vehicles.

Effective April 24, 2025.

Public Chapter 288
SB 1085 – HB 749

Driver's License

Amends Title 55, Chapter 50, Part 3 by requiring the department to publish a list of out-of-state classes of driver's license issued to illegal aliens that are invalid in this state by December 1, 2025. Provides that it is a Class B misdemeanor for a person with an invalid driver's license as described in this part to operate a motor vehicle in this state.

Section 1 became effective on April 24, 2025. All remaining sections take effect on January 1, 2026.

Public Chapter 297
SB 1297 – HB 1316

Driver's License

Amends 2-7-112(c) and Title 55 to exempt drivers that are 18 years or older from licensing requirements when the person is operating a non-commercial vehicle and is accompanied by a department of safety employee for a driving test. Provides that neither the department nor the contracting entity shall charge a fee for a person to participate in the digital driver license system. Individuals who participate in the digital driver license system may provide their driver's license in a digital format upon the request of law enforcement, to a seller or alcoholic beverages, or any other person, except

when voting. A physical driver's license must be presented when voting. Data obtained from the digital driver's license must not be retained longer than three days or be sold or provided to entity other than law enforcement, a government entity entitled to information, or pursuant to a subpoena. A contracting entity of the department shall not capture or retain biometric information other than a photograph to confirm the person seeking a digital driver's license is the same person who holds the physical driver's license. Neither the department nor the contracting entity shall capture geolocation data. The department shall disable, suspend, or terminate a person's participation in the digital driver's license system if the driver's license has been canceled, revoked, or suspended, or reported lost or stolen. Revises other provisions related to driver's licenses.

Effective April 24, 2025.

Public Chapter 326
SB 876 – HB 624

County Clerks' Fees

Amends 55-4-105 to increase the fee for service of handling mail orders of plates and decals from \$5.00 to \$7.00, and the fee for service of handling of decals from \$2.00 to \$3.00.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 349
SB 1038 – HB 1060

Game and Fish License Fees

Amends 70-2-105(b)(1) to increase the fee county clerks and other agents are entitled to for the purchase of an annual hunting and fishing license from \$1.00 to \$3.00. Increases the fee county clerks and other agents are entitled to for the purchase of a temporary hunting and fishing license from \$0.50 to \$3.00.

Effective May 2, 2025.

Public Chapter 444
SB 869 – HB 938

Bait Privilege Licenses

Amends 70-4-113 to require all hunters using bait for whitetail deer hunting to purchase a deer bait privilege license. The initial fee for obtaining a deer bait fishing license is \$50 for a resident and \$100 for a non-resident and may be adjusted by the commission from time to time. The commission shall promulgate to effectuate this section no later than August 1, 2026. These rules

shall establish what constitutes acceptable bait, the amount of bait that may be used, and other conditions of use of the license.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 469
SB 469 – HB 1378

Examination for Driver’s Licenses

Amends 55-50-322(a) to require written examinations for driver’s licenses that must include questions concerning hand signals used by bicycle operators to communicate turning, slowing, and stopping. The driver’s manual will contain information about the hand signals.

Effective January 1, 2026.

Public Chapter 479
SB 203 – HB 212

Special License Plates

Amends Title 55, Chapter 4 to create several new special license plates. Provides that an owner or lessee who is a resident of this state, follows state motor vehicle laws related to registration and licensing, and who pays all required fees shall be issued a special license plate. The plates must be an appropriate design or logo representative of the particular special plate. The funds generated from the sale of the specialty plates will be used for various purposes as provided in the act.

Effective July 1, 2025.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT

1st Extraordinary Session-2025

Public Chapter 001
SB 6002 - HB 6001

Immigration

Amends Title 4, Chapter 3, Part 20. Creates within the Department of Safety the centralized immigration enforcement division, to be administered by the chief immigration enforcement officer. The Commissioner of Safety, in consultation with the chief immigration enforcement officer, shall attempt to enter into the terms of an agreement between the state of Tennessee and the United States attorney general concerning the enforcement of federal immigration laws, detention and removals, and investigations in this state under the

287(g) program pursuant to the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. § 1357(9)).

Amends Title 7, Chapter 68. Subject to specific appropriation of funds by the general assembly, effective no later than July 1, 2025, there is created an immigration enforcement grant program to incentivize local governments and law enforcement agencies to enter into agreements between the respective local government or law enforcement agency and the United States attorney general under the 287(g) program pursuant to the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. § 1357(g)) concerning the enforcement of federal immigration laws, detentions and removals, and investigations in this state. Funds received for the grant program must be deposited into a special account in the state treasury to be known as the immigration enforcement fund, hereinafter known as the "fund."

The grant program and grants approved under the program are to be administered by the chief immigration enforcement officer (CIEO) and distributed from the fund.

To qualify for and receive a grant from the fund, a local government or law enforcement agency must have a valid, executed agreement between the local government or law enforcement agency and the United States attorney general under the 287(g) program pursuant to the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. § 1357(9)) and must: (1) Submit an application to the centralized immigration enforcement division, including a copy of such agreement; and (2) Execute a contract with the division on terms specified by the division, including the right of the division to claw back any remaining grant funding.

Grants under the grant program may be issued for the following purposes: (1) To fund training, operational expenses, and other resource needs for local governments and law enforcement agencies participating in immigration enforcement efforts; (2) To fund investments into or purchases of law enforcement equipment to be used in the enforcement of immigration laws; and (3) To fund other immigration

enforcement activities and programs as deemed appropriate by policies prescribed by the CIEO.

A local government or law enforcement agency that receives a grant under the grant program shall submit quarterly reports to the centralized immigration enforcement division no later than thirty (30) days after the end of the quarter in which the local government or law enforcement agency receives the grant, and for each quarter thereafter until all grant funding has been expended by the local government or law enforcement agency. Each report must specify: (1) The manner in which grant funds were expended, including an itemization of expenditures; (2) The remaining balance of grant funds, if any, and the proposed use of such funds; (3) The documented or projected impact of the grant funds in enforcing federal and state immigration laws; (4) Statistics relative to an increase or decrease in crime from illegal aliens within the jurisdiction of the local government, if any; and (5) Whether the amount of the grant was sufficient to meet the stated goals of the local government or law enforcement agency upon applying for the grant. The CIEO may require a local government or law enforcement agency that has been issued a grant under the grant program to provide an accounting of the grant funds at any time after issuance of the grant.

Amends 7-68-105(b). A law enforcement agency may negotiate the terms of an agreement between the law enforcement agency and the appropriate federal official under 8 U.S.C. § 1357(g), concerning the enforcement of federal immigration laws, without approval from the governing body of the local government that the agency serves.

Effective February 12, 2025. Expires on January 20, 2029, at 11:59 a.m., unless reauthorized by the general assembly prior to such time and date.

1st Extraordinary Session-2025

Public Chapter 002
SB 6003 – HB 6003

Hurricane Helene and Governor's Fund

Amends Title 9, Chapter 4, Part 2. Creates a fund within the state treasury to be known as the Hurricane Helene interest payment fund. The purpose of the Hurricane

Helene interest payment fund is to pay local governments' interest costs for up to 3 years on money borrowed to pay eligible disaster recovery costs related to Hurricane Helene; provided, that moneys from the fund must only pay interest costs up to 5% or the prime interest rate, whichever is lower; and provided further, that the local government is located in a county that was included in the federal disaster declaration resulting from Hurricane Helene.

Amends Title 9, Chapter 4, Part 2. Creates a fund within the state treasury to be known as the Governor's response and recovery fund. The purpose of the Governor's response and recovery fund is to respond to, or recover from, an emergency, as defined in 58-2-101, including, but not limited to, the following: (1) Agricultural recovery efforts related to an emergency; (2) Unemployment assistance related to an emergency; and (3) Business recovery assistance related to an emergency.

Effective February 12, 2025.

1st Extraordinary Session-2025

Public Chapter 003

SB 6004 - HB 6002

Emergencies

Amends 50-7-302 and 58-2-106. Authorizes TEMA to assist a political subdivision or local emergency management agency with recovery from disasters and emergencies on public property at the request of the political subdivision or agency; suspends certain eligibility requirements for unemployment benefits for persons in the area of a declared emergency.

Effective February 12, 2025.

1st Extraordinary Session-2025

Public Chapter 006

SB 6007 - HB 6007

Emergencies and Disasters

Amends 58-8-106. Subject to the approval of the chief executive officer of the governmental entity, an emergency management employee or official, or the chief executive officer of a governmental utility system, as defined in 58-8-115(c), as applicable, upon receiving a request for mutual aid in an occurrence or for assistance from a requesting party in a municipal,

county, state, or federal state of emergency, a participating governmental entity, may send its personnel and equipment outside its boundaries and into any other jurisdiction necessary to respond to the request.

Amends Title 67, Chapter 5, Part 6. Authorizes the Comptroller, in connection with a qualified disaster (subject to an appropriation by the general assembly), to disburse payments directly to owners of property: (1) Whose property: (A) Was destroyed or damaged by a qualified disaster, as determined by the assessor of property by January 28, 2025; and (B) Is located in a county included in the FEMA declaration; and (2) Who owned the affected property at the time of the qualified disaster. "Qualified disaster" means any disaster certified by FEMA occurring on or after September 26, 2024, and before September 30, 2024.

The payments disbursed must be in an amount equal to the total amount of the tax levied on the property for tax year 2024 plus thirty percent (30%).

By June 30, 2025, owners of property who are eligible for payment must provide to the Comptroller all information and correctly completed documentation necessary for payment disbursement, as determined by the Comptroller.

Payments may only be provided to one owner per property. If more than one owner seeks payment for the same property, the Comptroller shall disburse payment to the owner who first submits all necessary information and correctly completed documentation as required. This section applies regardless of whether the property was restored or replaced by December 31, 2024. This section is deleted on December 31, 2025.

Effective February 12, 2025.

Public Chapter 017
SB 114 - HB 136

Debt Reporting Requirements

Amends 9-21-134 to revise reporting requirements from the state funding board related to finance transactions involving public entities.

Effective March 12, 2025.

Public Chapter 069
SB 669- HB 1226

World Health Organization

Amends 7-51-209 and 68-2-611 to delete references to the World Health Organization.

Effective March 25, 2025.

Public Chapter 114
SB 480 – HB 444

Tennessee Property Rights Protection Act

Enacts the Tennessee Property Rights Protection Act. Amends 13-20-201 to revise the definition of “blighted area” to “blighted property” to make it more narrow and be on a property-by-property basis rather than a whole area. Also amends 13-20-202, 13-20-203, 13-20-209, 13-20-216 and 29-17-102.

Effective April 3, 2025.

Public Chapter 132
SB 39 - HB 56

Removal of Board or Commission Appointees

Enacts a new section at Title 5, Chapter 5, Part 1 to authorize county legislative bodies to remove any member of an appointed board or commission by a 2/3 vote if such removal is recommended by the appointing authority and the member is given at least five business days’ notice of the meeting at which the vote to remove will occur. Provides that the section does not apply in counties that have a charter provision addressing removal of appointed board or commission members prior to the effective date of the act.

Effected April 3, 2025.

Public Chapter 140
SB 988 – HB 375

Local Government Fees

Enacts a new section at Title 5, Chapter 1, Part 1 to require each department, agency or official of a county who assesses and collects a fee related to development in excess of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) to maintain documentation describing the justification and cost basis for such fee. Such documentation is also required upon the adoption of a new fee or for a change in the amount of an existing fee that is related to development and in excess of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250). Defines “cost basis” and “development.” Requires the documentation to be maintained and kept on file by the department, agency or official. Also provides that the documentation is a public record and subject to an annual audit by the comptroller. Also requires documentation for costs related to utility

connections be maintained and provided in accordance with Title 65, Chapter 5, Part 4. Enacts a similar section for cities at Title 6, Chapter 54, Part 1 and for metropolitan governments at Title 7, Chapter 1.

Effective July 1, 2026.

Public Chapter 174
SB 765 - HB 745

Garnishments

Amends 26-2-203 to provide that a garnishee must, within two (2) business days after the day the garnishee receives a garnishment, determine if the garnishee possesses or controls money or property of the judgment debtor, and furnish a copy of the garnishment summons and notice to judgment debtor as provided in subsection (c), but in no event shall a garnishee furnish the required information to the debtor prior to placing a hold on all available funds in the garnishee's possession or control.

Amends 26-2-405 to provide that a garnishee must be the only party to furnish a copy of the garnishment summons and notice to judgment debtor to the judgment debtor as provided for in 26-2-203.

Amends 26-2-406 to provide that a sheriff or other officer who summons a garnishee shall provide the garnishee with copies of the garnishment summons providing the completed notice required by 26-2-404 or by 26-2-216, whichever is applicable. Within two (2) business days after the day the garnishee receives the summons, the garnishee shall determine if such garnishee possesses or controls money or property of the judgment debtor; and if so, within that same time period the garnishee shall furnish a copy of the garnishment summons and notice by mailing them first class, postage prepaid, to the judgment debtor's last known address as shown by the garnishee's records, or by actual delivery to the judgment debtor, but in no event shall the garnishee furnish a copy of the garnishment and notice to judgment debtor prior to placing a hold on all available funds in the garnishee's possession or control. If the address as shown by the garnishee's records differs from that provided by the creditor as shown on the bottom of the completed notice, then the garnishee shall also mail a copy of the

garnishment and notice to judgment debtor at the latter address by first class mail, postage prepaid.

Effective April 11, 2025.

Public Chapter 208
SB 113 - HB 199

Subsurface Sewage Disposal Variances

Amends 68-221-402, -403 and -410. Provides that the commissioner may issue a variance for a subsurface sewage disposal system which shall supersede any more stringent local requirements. Provides that the commissioner may require the variance to be recorded with the register.

Effective April 15, 2025.

Public Chapter 218
SB 191 - HB 1338

Local Government Debt

Amends 9-21-133 relative to balloon indebtedness. Enacts a new section at Title 9, Chapter 21, Part 4, relative to "heightened risk debt," which is defined to include debt with a variable interest rate, an interest rate reset provision, or a put option allowing the holder to requirement repayment prior to the final maturity rate of the debt.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 250
SB 532 - HB 437

County Sheriff's Civil Service Law of 1974

Amends 8-8-402. Provides that a county that has adopted this part may rescind such adoption by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the county legislative body.

Effective April 24, 2025.

Public Chapter 253
SB 601 - HB 580

GPS Monitoring

Amends numerous sections relative to global positioning monitoring and the pretrial release of certain defendants.

Enacts 40-11-155 to provide that a qualified electronic monitoring provider must submit an application with certain information to the local government entity. If the local government entity approves the provider, the local government entity must then enter into a written agreement with the provider and notify the AOC. The

AOC shall keep a list of approved providers on its website.

Establishes several new administrative requirements to operate as a provider. Prohibits court personnel, probation officers, law enforcement, spouses of the previously listed individuals, and any bail bondsman from serving as a provider.

Amends 40-11-152 to provide that in addition to the information in subsection (d), the arresting officer shall provide to an alleged victim who participates in a global positioning monitoring system the name and telephone number of the appropriate emergency communications dispatch center and the arresting agency whom the victim may call to request immediate assistance if the defendant violates a condition of bond.

Provides the magistrate shall: (1) provide the qualified electronic monitoring provider with contact information for the appropriate emergency communications dispatch center and the arresting agency; and (2) order the qualified electronic monitoring provider to notify the appropriate entities pursuant to the written protocol with the court.

Provides that if a defendant fails to pay the costs associated with operating the defendant's global positioning monitoring system device or the costs associated with providing the victim with a cellular device application or an electronic receptor device, then the qualified electronic monitoring provider that provides monitoring services of defendants shall notify the court and the defendant in writing within five (5) days of the arrearage. The court shall, within ten (10) days of the qualified electronic monitoring provider's notice to the court, set a show cause hearing to be held within thirty (30) days. The clerk of the court shall notify the qualified electronic monitoring provider, the defendant, and the victim of the date and time of the show cause hearing. The victim must also be notified of the victim's right to be present and to present testimony at the hearing. The qualified electronic monitoring provider shall not discontinue the defendant's monitoring or victim alerts before the show cause hearing has been held. At the show cause hearing, the

court may: (1) schedule a bond hearing to determine whether to revoke the defendant's bond and incarcerate the defendant; (2) allow the defendant to immediately bring the payments current and continue the defendant's pretrial release; or (3) determine whether alternative funding sources are available to pay the costs associated with operating the defendant's global positioning monitoring system device and the costs associated with providing the victim with a cellular device application or an electronic receptor device and, if alternative funding sources are available, order the alternative funding sources to pay the arrearages and future costs associated with operating the defendant's global positioning monitoring system device and with providing the victim with a cellular device application or an electronic receptor device.

Unless a local government entity has established a fund for the purpose of paying the costs associated with a defendant's global positioning monitoring system device and the costs associated with providing a victim with a cellular device application or an electronic receptor device, "alternative funding sources" does not include the local sheriff's department or other local government entities.

After a show cause hearing has been held or if a show cause hearing has not been held within the thirty-day timeframe, a qualified electronic monitoring provider is not required to continue to provide monitoring services if the qualified electronic monitoring provider is not being compensated in accordance with the court's order for the costs associated with operating the defendant's global positioning monitoring system device or the costs associated with providing the victim with a cellular device application or an electronic receptor device.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 254
SB 718 - HB 797

Juvenile Detention Facilities

Enacts a new section in Title 37, Chapter 1, Part 1 to provide that in a county that has provided an approved detention facility to meet the needs for care of children under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court or detained by order of the juvenile court pending an investigation

or hearing and disposition, the juvenile court is required to use and assume direct supervision, control, and direction of the approved detention facility as the primary detention facility for detention of juveniles under the court's jurisdiction or arrange with a licensed institution, agency, or the department of children's services to manage the facility or to receive temporary care and custody of children within the jurisdiction of the court.

Defines an approved "detention facility" as a detention facility used for detention of juveniles, including a detention home or center for delinquent children that is under the control, direction, or supervision of the court or other public authority or private agency approved by the court. Any such detention center and operator must be approved, certified, or licensed by the department of children's services.

Provides that if a county has provided an approved detention facility and the approved detention facility contains a courtroom, then the juvenile court must use the dedicated courtroom for conducting any proceeding in a delinquency matter related to a youth detained at the approved detention facility as long as the courtroom substantially complies with the administrative office of the courts' minimum courtroom security requirements.

Provides for an exception if a juvenile court has entered into a written agreement with a licensed institution, other public authority or agency, or the department of children's services to manage the approved detention facility or to receive temporary care and custody of children within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court.

Effective October 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 260
SB 842 – HB 763

Governmental Tort Liability

Amends 29-20-407. Deletes "governmental entities representing cities and counties" and substitutes "cities, counties, or other governmental entities as contemplated by this part".

Effective April 24, 2025.

Public Chapter 272
SB 1146 – HB 1349

County Medical Examiner

Amends 38-7-109. Requires the medical examiner's office (or regional forensic center) to ascertain and document current drug use, including psychotropic drugs, by a deceased individual who committed a mass shooting. Directs the University of Tennessee's health science center to study drug interactions between the psychotropic drugs and any other drugs present in the deceased individual's system. The county medical examiner, regional forensic center, department of health, and the health science center must follow all relevant state and federal privacy laws related to the implementation of this law.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 281
SB 444 - HB 501

Juvenile Justice Review Commission

Enacts a new Part 9 in Title 37, Chapter 3 to establish the Tennessee Juvenile Justice Review Commission in order to review a sampling of juvenile justice cases and to review any critical incidents involving delinquent juveniles in the custody of the department of children's services for the purpose of providing the general assembly with findings and legislative recommendations that must address all stages of investigating and adjudicating juvenile justice cases.

Effective April 24, 2025.

Public Chapter 298
SB 407 - HB 445

Restoration of Citizenship Rights

Amends numerous sections to substantially revise the process for the restoration of citizenship rights.

Requires that a person convicted of an infamous crime after May 18, 1981, is not eligible to have the right of suffrage restored and vote in this state unless the person: (1) Has paid all restitution to the victim or victims of the offense ordered by the court as part of the sentence; (2) Beginning September 1, 2010, has paid all court costs (and taxes) assessed against the person at the conclusion of the person's trial, except where the court has made a finding at an evidentiary hearing that the person is indigent at the time of filing the petition for restoration of the right of suffrage; and (3) Is current in all child support obligations.

Provides that prior to the court acting on a petition for restoration, the court clerk shall notify: (1) The district attorney general in whose county the petitioner resides and each district attorney general of the county in which each conviction occurred that a petition for restoration of rights of citizenship has been filed by the petitioner. The notice must be sent at least thirty (30) days prior to any hearing on or disposition of the petition. Each district attorney general so notified may object to the restoration of the petitioner's citizenship rights either in person or in writing; and (2) The coordinator of elections and the attorney general and reporter. The notice must be sent at least thirty (30) days prior to any hearing on or disposition of the petition. The attorney general and reporter, as counsel for this state, may intervene either in person or in writing for the purpose of objecting to the petitioner's eligibility for restoration of citizenship rights.

If the petitioner was rendered infamous or deprived of citizenship rights by judgment of a federal court, then the circuit court shall give the notice required above to the United States attorney, the district attorney general in whose district the petitioner is currently residing, the coordinator of elections, and the attorney general and reporter. The United States attorney, the district attorney general in whose district the petitioner is currently residing, and the attorney general and reporter have the same right to object to the petition as is provided above.

Provides that the administrative office of the courts, in consultation with the secretary of state and other entities as deemed appropriate by the administrative office of the courts, shall develop a petition for restoration of citizenship rights form and an order granting restoration of citizenship rights form that complies with the requirements of this part. The petition and order forms must be made available to the clerks of court, the department of correction, the board of parole, the department of human services, and online for use by the public.

Effective May 2, 2025.

Public Chapter 310
SB 217 – HB 197

Clean Up of Highway Campsites

Enacts a new section at Title 54, Chapter 5, Part 1 directing TDOT to implement a policy regarding the removal of personal property used for camping on the shoulder, berm or right-of-way of highways under its jurisdiction. As part of the policy, municipal and county governments must enter into MOUs to outline roles and responsibilities when addressing a camping removal site. Provides that TDOT must notify the legislature if a county or municipality fails to comply with the requirements in the law.

Effective May 2, 2025.

Public Chapter 336
SB 1276 – HB 125

Local Parks Land Acquisition Fund

Amends 67-4-409(i)(4)(A) to reduce the local match requirement for grants to 25% for counties designated as distressed or at-risk by the Appalachian Regional Commission.

Effective October 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 357
SB 26 – HB 636

Real Estate Infrastructure Development Act of 2025

Enacts a new part at Title 7, Chapter 84 to authorize the establishment of infrastructure development districts as an alternative method to funding infrastructure improvements.

Effective May 5, 2025.

Public Chapter 360
SB 212 – HB 885

Meeting Agendas

Amends 8-44-110 to require local governmental bodies that have a website to publish their agendas on the website. Expands the agenda publication requirement to planning commissions, boards of zoning appeals, public utility boards, industrial development corporations, housing authorities, airport authorities, county election commissions, and county budget committees.

Effective May 5, 2025.

Public Chapter 373
SB 655 – HB 1010

Ouster - District Attorney General

Amends 8-7-106(b). Provides that the district attorney general may, upon the consent of the district attorney general of any other judicial district, specially appoint

another district attorney general, or an assistant to that district attorney general, to conduct specific proceedings under Title 8, Chapter 47, (ouster statutes), regarding removal of officers, which the district attorney general is authorized by law to conduct in that district.

Effective May 5, 2025.

Public Chapter 411
SB 136 – HB 152

Electronic Participation in Meetings

Amends 5-5-106 to authorize a county legislative body, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, to opt into the electronic meeting participation provisions of the section. Once a county legislative body opts into the section, members may participate in meetings by electronic means, including videoconferencing or other web-based media. Members may only participate electronically for the following reasons: family or medical emergencies, military service, or inclement weather. Provides that legislative bodies may opt out of the section in the same manner they opted in. Requires that a physical quorum of members be present at the location of the meeting and provides that no more than twenty percent (20%) of members, not to exceed three (3), may participate in a particular meeting electronically. Limits members' use of electronic participation to two (2) times per year.

Provides that all meetings of a legislative body conducted by electronic means under this section must remain open and accessible to the public by providing real-time, live audio or video access to the public. A clear audio or video recording of the meeting must be made available to the public as soon as practicable following the meeting, and in no event more than two (2) business days after the meeting. In the public notice required by § 8-44-103, the county legislative body must provide information regarding how the public can obtain real-time, live access to, or a broadcast of, the meeting, and the legislative body is strongly urged to provide an agenda for the meeting in such notice. County legislative bodies adopting this section must develop a policy for conducting meetings with electronic participation.

Enacts a new section at Title 6, Chapter 54, Part 1, applicable to municipalities.

Provides that both the county and municipal sections sunset July 1, 2028.

Effective May 9, 2025.

Public Chapter 458
SB 1084 – HB 923

Dismantling DEI Departments Act

Amends Titles 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 49 to dismantle DEI programs. Provides that a county, city, metropolitan government or public institute of higher education of this state shall not use a discriminatory preference in an effort to increase diversity, equity, or inclusion or maintain an office, division, or department for such purposes. “Discriminatory preference” means a policy, practice, or requirement that grants or withholds opportunities, advantages or disadvantages based on race, ethnicity, sex, age, or any other demographic characteristic, rather than merit or other lawful criteria. The section shall not apply to the governmental entities listed above that submit a notice to the comptroller that compliance of this act would result in loss of federal funds. After one calendar year from the date the comptroller exempts the governmental entity, the governmental entity shall submit a notice in writing of the need to have the exemption renewed for another year. The governmental entity shall notify the comptroller within 14 days if the need for the exemption no longer exists.

Effective May 9, 2025.

Public Chapter 491
SB 1245 - HB 576

Professional Bondsmen

Amends numerous sections relative to professional bondsmen, including, but not limited to, approval, suspension, and licensure.

Enacts a new 40-11-314 to create a state board of professional bondsmen. Requires all professional bondsmen to be licensed by the board by March 1, 2026. Authorizes the board to promulgate rules to regulate professional bondsmen.

Amends 40-11-124 to provide that the department of commerce and insurance shall provide the clerk, sheriff, municipal courts, and other inferior courts with a current approved list of professional bondsmen

licensed by the board of professional bondsmen. The clerk, sheriff, municipal courts, and other inferior courts shall have available a list of licensed professional bondsmen or other sureties approved and qualified as solvent by the courts of record with criminal jurisdiction within the county. The approved lists must be provided by the judges of those courts. An undertaking must not be accepted unless the professional bondsman or other surety is licensed under Part 3 of Title 40, Chapter 11 and approved and qualified as solvent by the courts of record with criminal jurisdiction within the county.

Amends 40-11-313 to provide that it is unlawful for a person to act as a professional bondsman, directly or indirectly, while: (1) Serving as a constitutionally elected peace officer, or as such officer's deputy, or any duly elected or appointed county official (besides a duly elected member of the county legislative body); or (2) Owning, operating, or being an employee of a qualified electronic monitoring provider, as defined in 40-11-152 (unless the person was a professional bondsman and owned a qualified electronic monitoring provider prior to January 1, 2025).

Amends 40-11-306 to provide that the court shall report any action taken under this section to the board of professional bondsmen for review to determine if additional disciplinary action is to be taken against the professional bondsman. Amends 40-11-317 to provide that if a court finds that a bondsman has individually or as a corporation owner been discharged in a bankruptcy proceeding leaving unsatisfied outstanding forfeitures with any court, then the court may order that the bondsman be prohibited from executing bonds, bail, or other undertakings as surety in the court, and must notify the board of professional bondsmen of the finding.

Effective January 1, 2026.

Public Chapter 500
SB 760 – HB 773

Legal Notices

Amends 1-3-120(f) to provide for the method of calculation of the rate for publication on the website. Further amends 1-3-120(f) to exempt legal notices required under 35-5-101 and 2-5-211.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 510
SB 1135 – HB 1050

Nuisances

Amends 29-3-101 to establish the conditions under which a prima facie nuisance per se is created. Amends 29-3-110 to add additional statutory damage provisions related to such nuisances. Amends 29-3-101 to add several additional definitions.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 514
SB 845 – HB 1097

AG Review of Local Government Action

Enacts a new section at Title 4, Chapter 1, Part 4, to authorize the Attorney General to review whether a local government action violates state law or the Constitution of Tennessee. Provides the process for resolution of the issue raised by the Attorney General or challenge of the Attorney General's determination. Authorizes the commissioner of finance and administration to withhold all state funds allotted to the local government if the issue is not resolved or if the court finds against the local government.

Effective July 1, 2025, the public welfare requiring it, and applies to local government actions taken on or after that date and funds allocated or appropriated during or after the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

Public Chapter 521
SB 646 - HB 1278

Hurricane Helene Interest Payment Fund

Amends 9-4-215(b). Provides that the purpose of the Hurricane Helene interest payment fund is to pay local governments' loan charges and, for up to three (3) years, interest costs on money borrowed to pay eligible disaster recovery costs related to Hurricane Helene; provided, that moneys from the fund that are used to pay interest costs must only be paid up to five percent (5%) or the prime interest rate, whichever is lower; provided, further, that the local government is located in a county that was included in the federal disaster declaration resulting from Hurricane Helene. As used in

this subsection (b), "loan charges" means charges, fees, and other costs associated with loan processing and servicing that are imposed by a lender, including origination fees, application fees, appraisal fees, payment processing fees, and brokerage fees.

Effective May 21, 2025.

COURTS & COURT CLERKS

Public Chapter 079 SB 1267 - HB 102

Adoption Records

Amends numerous sections relative to adoption records. Details who may receive sealed adoption records upon request. Reduces from 21 to 18 the age at which certain adoption records must be made available. Amends procedures and expands access relative to records when a party is deceased.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 101 SB 534 - HB 817

Trusts

Amends numerous sections relative to trusts, including, but not limited to, provisions relative to notices, expenses, duties and power, breaches, and electronic records.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 179 SB 992 - HB 1038

Juvenile Case Management System

Amends 16-3-822 to require the AOC to maintain a criminal justice information services (CJIS) compliant centralized statewide juvenile case management system that will be integrated into the system developed pursuant to present law. The juvenile case management system must be made available to all juvenile court clerks, and the clerks must adopt and convert to the new system on a schedule to be determined in consultation with the AOC.

Amends 37-1-153 to make open to inspection certain juvenile records of deceased individuals who commit a homicide on school grounds.

Effective April 11, 2025.

Public Chapter 246
SB 406 - HB 361

Domestic Relations Jurisdiction

Amends 36-3-601 to expand domestic relations jurisdiction under certain circumstances to a circuit court exercising criminal jurisdiction when the court is hearing a criminal matter involving a domestic abuse victim, sexual assault victim, or stalking victim.

Effective April 24, 2025.

Public Chapter 268
SB 1257 - HB 1055

Expungements

Amends numerous sections relative to expungement. Moves primary provisions relative to the expungement of dismissed offenses from 40-32-101 to 40-32-106. Moves primary provisions relative to the expungement of certain less serious convictions from 40-32-101 to 40-32-107 and 40-32-108.

Amends 40-32-102 to provide that the TBI shall develop a request for certification form to be completed by the court and submitted to the TBI prior to entering an order of expunction. The court is not required to submit a certificate to the TBI if the expungement is pursuant to 40-32-109 or 40-32-106, unless the expunction was the result of the successful completion of a pretrial diversion program, pursuant to 40-15-102 – 40-15-107 or judicial diversion program pursuant to 40-35-313. The certificate must contain the name of the person seeking expunction, the person's date of birth and social security number, the offense that the person is seeking to have expunged, the date of arrest, and the appropriate state control number as referenced in 8-4-115. The TBI shall provide access to the certificate to each clerk that accepts petitions for expunction. After receiving a request for certification, the TBI shall determine if the submitted offense is eligible for expunction pursuant to 40-32-107 or 40-32-105 and note the determination on the certificate. The TBI shall provide the court with a copy of the certificate containing the determination, or an explanation why a determination cannot be reached. An order of expunction must not be entered by the court unless a certificate is attached to the order of expunction. The certificate provided by the TBI is only a certification as to whether the submitted offense is eligible for expunction. The certification is not a certification that

the defendant is eligible for expunction, and the court continues to have the duty to determine eligibility.

A court ordering the expunction of a person's public records of a criminal offense shall send or cause to be sent a copy of the expunction order to the TBI within thirty (30) days from the date of the expunction order for entry into its expunged offender and pretrial diversion database. The order must contain the name of the person seeking expunction, the person's date of birth and social security number, the offense that was dismissed, the appropriate state control number as referenced in 8-4-115, the date and cause of the dismissal, and the date the order of expunction is entered.

The clerk of the court maintaining records expunged shall keep such records confidential. Release of confidential records or information contained therein other than to law enforcement agencies for law enforcement purposes is a Class A misdemeanor and is punishable as described in 40-32-104. A court entering an order of expunction may release a copy of the order of expunction to the petitioner.

Effective April 24, 2025.

Public Chapter 269
SB 1097 - HB 1343

Ignition Interlock and Alternative Devices

Amends 55-10-419 relative to functioning ignition interlock devices and alternative devices. Provides that the judicial test for indigency is applicable only to persons ordered to use an alternative device and adds the person's investments as a factor that the court must consider. For a person who is ordered to use a functioning ignition interlock device, the act requires the state treasurer to deem the person indigent if the person is either qualified to receive or is receiving funds on the date the person was ordered to use the device from SNAP, TANF, or the state Medicaid program.

Provides that the clerk of the court having jurisdiction over the person shall provide the state treasurer with proof that the person who has been ordered to use a functioning ignition interlock device qualifies for one (1) or more of the programs listed above, demonstrating the person is indigent. The person must

provide the clerk of the court with authorization and consent to obtain documentation demonstrating that, on the date that the person was ordered to use the device, the person is eligible to receive or is receiving funds from at least one (1) of the sources listed above.

Providers of alternative devices shall provide the respective local government with the affidavit of indigency, and any other information considered by the court to arrive at a determination that the person is indigent.

Effective April 24, 2025.

Public Chapter 292
SB 170 - HB 1025

Bullying

Amends 39-17-308 and 55-10-705 to provide that the punishment for bullying or cyberbullying includes the suspension of the minor's driving privileges. Provides for a restricted driver license under certain circumstances.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 322
SB 560 - HB 347

Economic Disadvantages

Amends 36-1-113 and 37-1-102 to provide that economic disadvantage alone is not a ground for termination of parental rights or the basis for a finding of neglect.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 369
SB 547 - HB 547

Optional Local DA Fee

Enacts 40-3-106 to provide that a county may, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, establish a new fee of twelve dollars and fifty cents (\$12.50) in criminal cases to be used for providing support services for the purpose of promoting public safety at the sole discretion of the district attorney general for that county's respective judicial district.

Effective May 5, 2025.

Public Chapter 386
SB 1005 - HB 1180

Adoption of Siblings

Amends 36-1-116 to provide that petitioners seeking to adopt siblings may include all the children in one petition to adopt and the court clerk shall only charge one filing fee.

Effective May 5, 2025.

Public Chapter 395
SB 1202 - HB 671

Accepting Bail Deposit

Amends 40-11-118 to provide that before accepting a bail deposit from a bondsman, the clerk must require the bondsman to initial each page of the bond order, indicating that the bondsman has read and is aware of any conditions of bond imposed on the defendant. The clerk must provide a copy of the initialed bond order to the bondsman and maintain a copy in the defendant's file.

Amends 40-11-204 relative to a surety petitioning the court for release.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 396
SB 1237 - HB 785

Quarterly Bond Reports

Enacts 40-11-314 to provide that beginning October 25, 2025, each clerk of a court that admits defendants to bail pursuant to Part 1 of Chapter 11 must file a quarterly report, not later than January 25, April 25, July 25, and October 25 of each year, with the department of revenue detailing the total number of bonds accepted by the clerk from bondsmen and the total amount of the bonds accepted from bondsmen in the preceding quarter.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 414
SB 221 - HB 34

Review of Juvenile Record When Setting Bond

Amends 37-1-133 to provide that the disposition of a child and evidence adduced in a hearing in juvenile court must not be used against such child in any proceeding in any court other than a juvenile court, whether before or after reaching majority, except in: (1) Pretrial reports used to set bonds, if the juvenile court adjudication occurred within the previous five (5) years; (2) Dispositional proceedings after conviction of a felony for the purposes of a presentence investigation

and report; (3) A proceeding pursuant to 39-17-1352; or (4) A criminal prosecution for a violation of the prohibition on purchasing or possessing firearm imposed under 37-1-190.

Amends 37-1-153 to provide that juvenile records are open to a court and its probation and other officials or professional staff and the attorney for the defendant for use in pretrial reports used to set bonds, as authorized by 37-1-133(b)(1), and preparing a presentence report in a criminal case in which the defendant is convicted and who prior thereto had been a party to the proceeding in juvenile court.

Amends 40-11-118 to provide that when determining the amount of bail, the magistrate shall consider the defendant's prior juvenile court record, as authorized by 37-1-133(b)(1), and prior criminal record and the likelihood that because of the records the defendant will pose a risk of danger to the community.

Effective May 9, 2025.

Public Chapter 417
SB 233 - HB 634

Conservatorship Management Task Force

Enacts a new section in Title 34, Chapter 3 to create the conservatorship management task force to study and report on conservatorships to the department of disability and aging and the AOC.

Effective May 9, 2025 for the purpose of appointing members.

Public Chapter 481
SB 300 - HB 371

Cognitive Behavioral Training Courses

Amends 40-32-302 to provide that a person convicted of a Class A misdemeanor in general sessions court shall be required to complete a cognitive behavioral training course unless the court deems such a requirement to be inappropriate. If incarceration is part of the person's sentence, then the cognitive behavioral training course must be completed after the period of incarceration is completed. The offender must pay the cost of the course and, regardless of whether the defendant is indigent, the county is not required to pay the cost of the course. The offender must provide proof of course completion to the court or the court's designee within the time period specified by the court. An offender who willfully

fails to complete the course or to provide proof of completion within the specified time period is in contempt of court and may be punished by confinement of up to ten (10) days. A county or municipality may provide an in-person cognitive behavioral training program; provided, however, that if such a program is offered, the county or municipality must also offer an online cognitive behavioral training program that complies with the requirements of the law.

Effective July 1, 2025 (applicable to offenses committed on or after that date).

Public Chapter 486
SB 409 - HB 487

Clerk Fee Increase and Training Funds Bill

Amends 8-21-401 to substantially revise and increase court clerk fees (primarily in civil cases). Increases civil fees each year for the next three years (generally flat fees per case around \$50 the first year and \$25 the following two years).

Amends 67-4-602 to create a new \$2 litigation tax in all civil and criminal cases (except juvenile cases) to be deposited in the court clerk continuing education account which may be expended by the state court clerks' conference in accordance with appropriations approved by the general assembly for the development and presentation of continuing education programs, courses, and conferences for court clerks.

Effective January 1, 2026.

Public Chapter 511
SB 944 - HB 1089

Mental Health Evaluations

Amends numerous statutes to provide that the department of mental health and substance abuse services shall establish a mental health evaluation process to evaluate a defendant convicted of certain crimes. Provides that the court in which a person is convicted of any such offense is to order the offender to undergo a mental health evaluation prior to the sentencing hearing.

Primarily effective January 1, 2026.

Public Chapter 515
SB 727 - HB 1127

Judicial Sales

Amends several sections in Title 35, Chapter 5, Part 1 relative to required notices/advertisement prior to any

sale of land to foreclose a deed of trust, mortgage, or other lien securing the payment of money or other thing of value or under judicial orders. Along with other provisions, requires posting online by a third-party internet posting company.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 519
SB 963 - HB 1177

Incompetency

Amends 33-7-301 and 52-6-102 to increase to two years from the date of arrest the time within which misdemeanor charges against a defendant who has been found incompetent must be retired unless the defendant is restored to competency. Provides that when a defendant whose misdemeanor charges were retired due to a finding of incompetency is released into the community, the chief officer is required to: (1) Notify the court of the defendant's discharge; and (2) Provide the court and the sheriff with an outpatient treatment plan that accounts for the safety of the community.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 520
SB 324 - HB 1200

Savanna's Law

Enacts a new Part 4 in Title 40, Part 39 known as Savanna's Law. Creates within the TBI a registry of persistent domestic violence offenders. Provides that if available after reasonable inquiry, the court clerk shall provide the TBI with a copy of the persistent domestic violence offender's driver license, or other state or federal identification, and such other identifying data as the TBI determines is necessary to properly identify the persistent domestic violence offender and exclude innocent persons. If a court orders a defendant to register under this act, then the court clerk shall forward to the TBI a certified copy of the qualifying conviction and the date of birth of the defendant. The court clerk shall forward the information to the TBI within seven (7) days of the date of the conviction.

In addition to any other punishment that may be imposed for a conviction of the offense, a defendant required to register under this act must be assessed a registration fee in the amount of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150), which must be paid to the clerk of the

court imposing the sentence, who shall: (1) Retain fifty dollars (\$50.00) of the fee for the administration of this act, which must be reserved for the purposes authorized by this act at the end of each fiscal year; and (2) Remit one hundred dollars (\$100) of the fee to the department of finance and administration's office of criminal justice programs for the purpose of administering grants to fund family violence prevention and intervention services.

Effective January 1, 2026.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Public Chapter 353 SB 1271 – HB 1306

Industrial Development Projects

Amends 7-53-101 to revise the definition of a multifamily housing facility project and to add two additional "projects" to the definition—single family, condominium or townhome housing developments to be occupied in whole or in part by persons of low to moderate income, elderly, or handicapped persons and public infrastructure located within the municipality that created the industrial development corporation. Also amends 7-53-302(a)(4) to authorize projects for apartments for low to moderate income, elderly, or handicapped persons. Also amends 7-53-312 and 7-53-314 to authorize approval of amendments to economic impact plans and to specify that an additional public hearing for the amendment is not required. Also provides that minor amendments to clarify terms or correct errors may be approved by the corporation. Amends 7-53-316 relative to brownfield sites. Also amends 9-21-103 (balloon indebtedness) and 9-21-133 (tax increment financing).

Effective May 2, 2025.

Public Chapter 379 SB 758 – HB 672

Industrial Development Corporations

Amends 7-53-317(a)(2) relative to transfers of environmental remediation sites.

Effective May 5, 2025.

Public Chapter 442
SB 857 – HB 930

Homebuyers’ Revolving Loan Program

Amends 13-23-310 to add a new subsection providing that any participating county having made loans more than the amount of funds in the initial capitalization of the loan fund pool for the county may terminate its participation with notice to THDA and may retain all funds, including any funds used for initial capitalization or interest earnings on repayments.

Effective July 1, 2025.

EDUCATION

1st Extraordinary Session-2025

Public Chapter 007
SB 6001 - HB 6004

Education Freedom Scholarship Act

Amends Title 49, Chapter 6, to create the Education Freedom Scholarship Act which will be administered by the department of education. Provides a scholarship program for eligible students. With some exceptions, an eligible student is a resident of Tennessee who is entitled to attend public school. There are some income limitations. To be eligible, a family household income cannot exceed 300% of the income level to qualify for free or reduced lunches (about \$175,000 for a family of four). For the 2025-2026 school year, the department will award a maximum of 20,000 scholarships with the proposed amount being \$7,295. Scholarship funds may be used for tuition and fees for private schools; textbooks and other instructional materials; fees for transportation to and from school; fees for post-secondary opportunities or examinations; and educational therapy services. Unspent funds will remain in the recipient's account from one school year to another unless certain events occur as described in the act. As a condition to receiving a scholarship under this act, recipients in grades three through eleven must be tested with a nationally standardized achievement test that is aligned with the private school’s instructional plan, or the Tennessee comprehensive assessment program (TCAP). A private school that enrolls recipients is autonomous and is not an agent of the state. A scholarship awarded under this act is not paid directly to the recipient or recipient’s parent. Funds received under this act do not constitute taxable income of the

parent or recipient. Scholarships will be denied to students that cannot establish lawful permanent residence in the United States. The state's budget includes recurring funding for these scholarships.

Amends 49-3-108 to provide that beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, with some exceptions, if a LEA's Tennessee Investment in Student Achievement (TISA) allocation for the current school year is less than the LEA's TISA allocation for the previous school year, and if the LEA experiences disenrollment, then the department will allocate additional funds to the LEA so the LEA receives funds that are equal to the LEA's TISA allocation for the previous school year.

Section 4 of the act provides the department will award a one-time bonus of at least \$2,000 to each teacher employed in a K-12 public school or public charter school for the 2024-2025 school year. To receive the funds, the LEA or public charter school must first adopt a resolution affirming the LEA or public charter school would like to participate in receiving the bonuses for teachers under section 4 of the act. The resolution must be adopted by June 1, 2025. Teachers who are members of the general assembly are not entitled to a bonus under Section 4 of the act.

Amends 4-49-104 to provide that 80% of the privilege tax collected from sports betting must be distributed to the state treasurer for use by LEAs for the construction and maintenance of public school buildings, with limits to make sure the Hope Scholarship account is fully funded. Subject to funds availability, and upon the LEAs submission of a completed application, the state treasurer shall disburse \$25.00 for each student enrolled in the LEA if the LEA is located in a county that is economically distressed or at risk; an LEA where 50% or more of the schools operated by the LEA received an "A" letter grade pursuant to 49-1-228; or an LEA that is eligible for a fast growth stipend pursuant to 49-3-107(b). Any remaining funds will be held by the state treasurer and made available for school systems that suffer an emergency or natural disaster, or that demonstrate the need for funds for construction and maintenance of public school buildings.

Sections 5 and 6 take effect on July 1, 2025. All other sections of the act became effective on February 12, 2025.

Public Chapter 163
SB 314 – HB 1150

Paid Family Leave for Eligible Education Employees
Amends 8-50-814 to authorize eligible education employees to take paid leave for up to six weeks for the adoption of a child. Adoption includes the period of time beginning with the filing of the adoption petition and initial placement of a minor child in the home of the adoptive parents until the final order of adoption by the court.

Effective April 11, 2025.

Public Chapter 215
SB 946 – HB 1088

Parental Notification Of Safety Concerns At School
Amends Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 27. An LEA that receives, from a threat assessment team or any other source, credible information regarding a threat of violence or significantly disruptive behavior directed toward, or occurring on the grounds of, a public school in the LEA, and that reports the threat or disruptive behavior to a state or local law enforcement agency, must also notify the parents and guardians of students enrolled in the public school of the same threat or disruptive behavior the LEA reported to law enforcement. The LEA shall notify parents and guardians within 48 hours of the LEA's report to a state or local law enforcement agency, and may be made using existing communication methods for providing information to parents and guardians.

A report made to a school resource officer or an off-duty law enforcement officer who is serving as an armed school security officer is not a report to a state or local law enforcement agency. If the school resource officer or armed school security officer subsequently reports the threat of violence or significantly disruptive behavior to the law enforcement agency that employs the school resource officer or armed school security officer or another law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the school for further investigation or for additional assistance in deescalating a situation occurring on the grounds of the public school or LEA, then the LEA or public charter school shall notify parents and guardians.

Each local board of education shall report at each quarterly meeting: (1) The total number of incidents reported to a state and local law enforcement agency requiring notice to parents and guardians for the respective quarter; and (2) The total number of incidents reported to a state and local law enforcement agency requiring notice to parents and guardians for the year to date.

Effective April 15, 2025.

Public Chapter 244
SB 0290 – HB 0764

Searches On School Property

Amends 49-6-4204 and 4205. Mandates that the search of lockers, vehicles, and other property, and the search of students may only be conducted by a: (A) School resource officer who is acting, for the purpose of the search, as a school official; (B) School security officer; or (C) School administrator who has completed training pursuant to 49-6-4212. If a student is under 18 years of age, then the principal must notify the student's parent or legal guardian within a reasonable time of the search. The amendment does not authorize a search that violates the fourth amendment to the United States Constitution or the Constitution of Tennessee, Article I, § 7; or restrict a law enforcement officer from conducting a lawful search on school property.

Amends 49-6-4212. Requires the department of education to establish and maintain an orientation and training program for LEAs to inform school administrators of the rights of students relative to searches. An LEA and a local law enforcement agency may establish and maintain an orientation and training program designed to familiarize school administrators with this part and with local policies and procedures for implementing and enforcing this part. A school administrator must complete the orientation and training developed by the department prior to conducting a search pursuant to 49-6-4204 or 49-6-4205.

Effective April 24, 2025, for the purpose of establishing the orientation and training program for LEAs.

Effective July 1, 2025, for all other purposes.

Public Chapter 256
SB 259 – HB 759

Merit Based Pay for Educators

Amends 49- 3-306 to allow a LEA to adopt and implement a merit-based pay structure for educators to reward high performers and to incentivize educators to meet and exceed expectations. A LEA may decline to award merit pay in any school year for which a LEA does not receive increased or additional state funds. A LEA is not required to supplement local expenditures for salaries in any year in order to continue merit pay an educator received in the prior year.

Effective April 24, 2025.

Public Chapter 288
SB 1410 – HB 1253

Substitute Teacher License and Paid Family Leave

Amends Title 49, Chapters 3 and 6, and 8-50-814 to provide that a substitute teacher substituting for a regular teacher on leave for less than 30 days is not required to have a teacher’s license. Requires each local board of education and public charter school governing bodies to adopt a policy that requires six weeks of paid leave. The leave must be taken consecutively, or non-consecutively under circumstances, but in increments no less than one week. The leave must be used within 12 months of the birth or stillbirth of the employee’s child or the employee’s adoption of a newly placed child.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 299
SB 408 – HB 534

School Bus Driver Contracts and Insurance

Amends 29-20-107(h) to provide that a governmental entity or board of education shall not extend immunity granted under this chapter to independent school bus contractors in performing school related transportation services. The contract between the board of education and school bus contractor must require sufficient limits of tort liability insurance. Evidence of such coverage may include a certificate of insurance that has the local board of education listed as an additional insured.

Effective May 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 315
SB 346 – HB 453

Fire Drills In Schools

Amends 68-102-137. Requires that fire drills requiring full evacuation in educational occupancies where such occupancies constitute the major occupancy of a

building must be conducted no more than once every 30 school days. Two fire drills requiring full evacuation in educational occupancies where such occupancies constitute the major occupancy of a building must be conducted during the first 30 full school days of the school year. No more than 2 fire drills requiring full evacuation may be conducted during the 30 full school days of the school year. In addition to fire drills requiring full evacuation, four fire safety educational announcements must be conducted throughout the school year. The LEA shall develop the content of the announcements. A local government shall not adopt or enforce any ordinance, resolution, policy, code, or regulation that establishes a schedule for fire drills in educational occupancies that conflicts with this statute. Fire drills requiring full evacuation must be held at least once every 2 months in institutional occupancies where such occupancies constitute the major occupancy of a building. A record of all fire drills, including the time and date each drill was conducted, must be kept in the respective school or institutional offices and must be made available upon request to the state fire marshal or the state fire marshal's deputies or assistants for inspection and review.

Effective May 2, 2025.

Public Chapter 388
SB 1018 – HB 997

Public Charter Schools

Amends Title 49, Chapters 6 and 13 to provide that a county LEA or public charter school operating in a county LEA shall not charge registration fees, enrollment fees, or tuition for a student who resides in the county and who transfers to a public charter school from another LEA located in the same county. A student who resides in the county in which there is more than one LEA shall not be considered an out-of-district student for purposes of enrollment in a public charter school in the same county.

Effective May 5, 2025.

Public Chapter 448
SB 899 – HB 964

School Safety - Window Film

Amends 49-6-818. Provides that (1) If a public school building, including a public charter school building, is constructed or remodeled after July 1, 2023, but prior to July 1, 2025, then the building must have installed a

clear entry-resistant film on the glass panel of each exterior entry or basement level window and door to prevent individuals from entering the school building without authorization by breaking the glass in an exterior entry or basement level window or door; and (2) If a public school building, including a public charter school building, is constructed or remodeled on or after July 1, 2025, then the building must have installed a clear window film or security glazing that meets a nationally recognized test standard for forced entry resistance, such as the ASTM F3561 test standard, for glazing systems of each exterior entry or door plus adjoining glazing and the secure interior vestibules serving as primary entrances to prevent individuals from entering the building without authorization.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 456
SB 456 – HB 1163

Education Funding for Public Charter Schools

Amends Title 49, Chapters 3 and 13 to provide that the funding a student generates from the Tennessee Investment in Student Achievement (TISA) Act must be allocated to the LEA except that the funding a student generates pursuant to subdivision (c)(3) of 49-3-105 must be maintained by the department, and the state share of funding a public charter school student generates for an LEA must be allocated to the LEA but must be disbursed directly to the public charter school by the department unless the public charter school is authorized by the commission or by the achievement school district in which case such funds must be disbursed to the commission or achievement school district. Payments of funds to the public charter school by the state must be recorded in the LEA's financial records.

A local board of education shall allocate to the public charter school an amount equal to 1) the local student-generated funds for member students in public charter schools for the prior year in alignment with TISA; 2) the average per pupil state and local funds received by the district in the current year above those required by TISA; 3) the per student state and local funds received by the LEA for the member students in the public charter school year beyond the prior year's

membership; and 4) all appropriate allocations under federal law, including IDEA and ESEA funds.

The department of education shall disburse directly to the public charter schools an amount equal to the state student-generated funds for member students in the public charter school. Federal funds received by the LEA must be disbursed to the public charter school by the LEA. Each LEA shall include as part of the budget submitted the per pupil local money it will pass through to the public charter schools during the upcoming school year.

Section 1 of the act became effective May 9, 2025. For rulemaking purposes, sections 2 and 3 became effective on May 9, 2025. For all other purposes, sections 2 and 3 become effective on July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 527
SB 1336 - HB 1383

Charter Counties

Amends 49-2-201 to provide that charter counties may require elections for the board of education to be held at the same time and on the same election cycle as elections for members of the county legislative body (and have the same successive terms/term limits).

Effective May 21, 2025.

ELECTIONS

Public Chapter 249
SB 249 - HB 525

Charter Amendments

Amends 20-18-101 to require a three-judge panel to hear any civil action in which it is alleged that a proposed charter amendment ordinance that is to be submitted to qualified voters at an election is in violation of the Constitution or state law.

Effective April 24, 2025.

Public Chapter 259
SB 799 - HB 855

Primary Elections

Amends 2-13-202 to provide that except as provided below and in Part 3 of Title 2, Chapter 13 (presidential preference primaries and convention delegates), statewide political parties shall nominate their candidates in primary elections for all offices for which partisan elections are held at the regular August or

regular November election. Provides that in a county in which a statewide political party nominated a candidate by a method other than a primary election for elections held in 2022 or 2024, the statewide political party in such county may continue to use such method, except for the following offices, which must be nominated by vote of the members of the party in primary elections at the regular August election: (A) Governor; (B) Members of the general assembly; (C) United States senator; and (D) Members of the United States house of representatives.

If in any year after the effective date of this act a statewide political party in a county does not nominate candidates by a method other than a primary election, then thereafter the statewide political party shall nominate its candidates by primary election.

Effective April 24, 2025.

Public Chapter 350
SB 1059 - HB 1073

Contributions

Amends 2-10-102 to revise the definition of contribution for purposes of financial disclosures under the state's campaign finance laws to include activity done independently of or in coordination with a candidate, candidate's political campaign committee, or agent, as described in 2-10-303(5), related to the development, production, and use of canvassing literature and scripts to be used in a door-knocking campaign for a candidate's election, including, but not limited to, the cost of paying canvassers to distribute the canvassing literature and reading the script at homes of potential voters, recording the answers to the scripted questions, and compiling and storing the data received as a result of the door-knocking campaign.

Effective May 2, 2025.

Public Chapter 371
SB 626 - HB 457

Votes and Voters

Amends numerous sections relative to elections, including, but not limited to, provisions relative to the counting of provisional ballots, voting machine requirements, voter address changes, supplemental registration, and the purging of registrations.

Effective May 5, 2025.

Public Chapter 394
SB 1143 - HB 1283

Temporary Forms of ID Training

Amends 2-4-108 to provide that the coordinator of elections shall include in the educational standards, created in subsection (a) of the statute, training on temporary forms of identification issued to non-United States citizens that may not be used as evidence of identification as set forth in 2-7-112(c).

Effective January 1, 2026.

Public Chapter 415
SB 229 - HB 653

Campaign Finance

Amends numerous sections relative to campaign finance, including, but not limited to, provisions relative to local elections that cover more than one county, political campaign committees, contribution exceptions, contribution statements and reports, investigation of campaign finance disclosures, acceptance of contributions after an election, removal of contribution limits on political campaign committees controlled by a political party, records of commission proceedings, and citizen complaints.

Primarily effective May 9, 2025.

Public Chapter 434
SB 621 - HB 456

Political Campaign Committees

Amends 2-10-132 to provide that a corporation that uses corporate funds, moneys, or credits for communications expressly supporting or opposing the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate or elected official, and such funds, moneys, or credits are not used with the cooperation or with the prior consent of, or in consultation with, or at the request of, or suggestion of, a candidate or elected official or any agent or authorized committee of the candidate or elected official, such corporation is considered a political campaign committee for purposes of reporting such expenditures.

Effective May 9, 2025.

Public Chapter 473
SB 133 - HB 69

Verification of Voter Eligibility

Enacts a new Part 4 in Title 2, Chapter 2 relative to verification of eligibility to vote. Provides for the creation of electronic portals through which the AOE may verify an applicant's eligibility to vote based on citizenship and felony convictions.

Effective May 21, 2025.

Public Chapter 506

SB 1060 - HB 888

Lawful Donors

Enacts a new Part 5 in Title 2, Chapter 10 relative to political campaign committees and contributions from prohibited sources/foreign nationals. Authorizes the registry of election finance to bring a civil action to enforce the law. Provides that lawful donors to a tax-exempt organization possess a right of privacy in their donations. An investigation of an alleged violation of this act or a lawful court order in an action brought under 2-10-505 must occur in a manner that shields the identity of lawful donors. A state or local governmental entity, court, or officer of the court shall not collect or require the submission of information on the identity of any donor to a tax-exempt organization other than those directly related to an alleged violation of this act. A state or local governmental entity, court, or officer of the court shall not disclose to the public, or another government official not directly involved in the investigation, information revealing the identity of any donor to a tax-exempt organization, unless the information is regarding the identity of a donor that engaged in conduct prohibited by this act after a final determination has been made that the donor violated this act (a knowing or willful violation is punishable as a Class A misdemeanor).

Effective May 21, 2025.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Public Chapter 106

SB 1374 – HB 1118

Vehicles – Emergency Communication District

Amends 55-9-402(d). Provides a motor vehicle operated by an emergency communication district that is marked as a mobile command vehicle or mobile communications vehicle may display flashing red or white lights or a combination of flashing red and white lights.

Effective March 28, 2025.

Public Chapter 153
SB 27 – HB 324

Emergency Powers of the Governor

Amends 58-2-107(a)(2) and (e)(1). Prohibits orders, proclamations, or rules issued by the governor under the governor's emergency management powers from contravening, suspending, or conflicting with a provision of the Tennessee Constitution; restricts governor's ability under such powers to suspend certain procedural provisions of a law, order, rule, or regulation.

Effective April 8, 2025.

Public Chapter 378
SB 747 – HB 171

Ground Ambulance Service Providers

Amends 71-5-1509. Extends the ground ambulance service annual assessment to June 30, 2026.

Effective May 5, 2025.

Public Chapter 413
SB 160 – HB 83

Ambulance Service – TACIR Study

Requires the Tennessee advisory commission on intergovernmental relations to study the economic impact on counties that are required to provide ambulance services, which counties provide services directly or franchise those services, which municipalities provide ambulance services, and whether policy changes may benefit the overall health and delivery of ambulance services in this state.

Effective May 9, 2025.

Public Chapter 422
SB 288 – HB 482

Firefighters - Cancer

Amends 7-51-201(d)(2)(A). Provides that Any firefighter desiring to utilize the presumption established in this law for prostate cancer, breast cancer, or pancreatic cancer, must obtain a physical medical examination after July 1, 2025, and the examination must include a cancer screening that fails to reveal any evidence of prostate cancer, breast cancer, or pancreatic cancer.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 475
SB 396 – HB 132

Emergency Management Powers Of The Governor

Amends 58-2-107. Provides that if the governor issues or extends an executive order or proclamation of a state of emergency under this section, then the general

assembly may terminate such state of emergency by joint resolution of both houses.

Effective May 21, 2025.

Public Chapter 480
SB 289 – HB 310

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder In First Responders
Amends 7-51-206. Creates a presumption that the diagnosis of a law enforcement officer or emergency medical responder with post-traumatic stress disorder as the result of responding to certain incidents was incurred in the line of duty for purposes of workers' compensation coverage.

Effective July 1, 2025.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Public Chapter 399
SB 1274 - HB 124

Regulatory Fees and Coal Ash
Amends numerous statutes relative to state fees associated with environmental regulatory programs, the regulation of coal ash disposal, and the disposal of coal combustion residuals.

Effective May 5, 2025.

Public Chapter 429
SB 438 - HB 667

Solid Waste Task Force
Enacts a new section in Title 68, Chapter 211, Part 1 to create the advisory task force on solid waste to examine and review issues related to solid waste. The task force is to focus its examination on innovative processes for the disposition of solid waste.

Effective May 9, 2025.

HIGHWAYS

Public Chapter 123
SB 954 – HB 975

Speed Limits
Amends 55-8-153 to authorize county legislative bodies to delegate the authority to lower speed limits on county roads to the chief administrative officer of the highway department (by resolution) if the highway department employs an engineer capable of completing engineering and traffic investigations and ensuring completion of the same. Requires engineering and

traffic investigations to be performed in compliance with established engineering practices and the MUTCD.

Effective April 3, 2025.

Public Chapter 438
SB 703 – HB 736

Transportation Funding Study

Directs TACIR to conduct a study and prepare a report on recommendations for establishing sustainable funding sources that meet this state's future, long-term transportation infrastructure needs. Provides that the report should be completed on or before September 30, 2026.

Effective May 9, 2025.

JAILS

Public Chapter 063
SB 371 – HB 341

Collection of Biological Specimens for DNA Analysis

Amends 40-35-321. Requires that the biological specimen must be gathered within 30 days of sentencing or, if the person's term of incarceration is less than 30 days, before completion of the person's term of incarceration. If a person convicted of any felony offense or any applicable misdemeanor offense and committed to the custody of the commissioner of correction for a term of imprisonment or sentenced to a period of confinement in a county jail or workhouse has not provided a biological specimen for the purpose of DNA analysis, then the commissioner or the chief administrative officer of a local jail shall order the person to provide a biological specimen for the purpose of DNA analysis within 30 days of sentencing or, if the person's term of incarceration is less than thirty 30 days, before completion of the person's term of imprisonment. The approved agency or entity collecting the biological specimen shall forward the biological specimen to the Tennessee bureau of investigation, which shall maintain it as provided in 38-6-113.

Further provides that a law enforcement agency, including the Tennessee department of correction, may submit to the Tennessee bureau of investigation any lawfully obtained biological specimen within its control from a deceased offender who was previously convicted of a qualifying offense, regardless of the date of

conviction. The Tennessee bureau of investigation shall maintain the specimen as provided in 38-6-113. If an offender's biological specimen has not previously been submitted, then a law enforcement agency, including the Tennessee department of correction, shall submit to the Tennessee bureau of investigation a biological specimen from an offender who dies while incarcerated and was previously convicted of a qualifying offense, regardless of the date of conviction. The Tennessee bureau of investigation shall maintain the specimen as provided in 38-6-113.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 077
SB 215 - HB 72

Sentencing - Hemp-Derived Cannabinoids

Amends 43-27-203(d). Establishes mandatory minimum penalties of 48 hours in jail and a \$500 fine for a person convicted of knowingly selling or distributing a product containing a hemp-derived cannabinoid to a person who is under 21; prohibits a retailer from knowingly allowing an employee younger than 21 to access, handle, or sell any product containing a hemp-derived cannabinoid on the premises of the retail establishment.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 320
SB 533 - HB 351

Electronic Monitoring For Work Release

Amends 41-2-152(b). If the prisoner is released for paid employment, then the cost of the electronic monitoring device must be deducted from the prisoner's wages by the sheriff and paid directly to the electronic monitoring device provider by the county or state, as applicable. If a prisoner is released for unpaid work, then the entity utilizing the prisoner for work shall pay the costs of the electronic monitoring device. Deletes the language "beginning January 1, 2024,".

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 418
SB 239 - HB 40

Juvenile Detention Centers - TACIR Study

Directs the Tennessee advisory commission on intergovernmental relations to study: (1) The current availability of local juvenile detention centers and other facilities for the housing and treatment of juveniles detained prior to an adjudicatory hearing, and whether

there is a need for additional local juvenile detention centers or other facilities for the housing and treatment of juvenile offenders detained prior to an adjudicatory hearing; and (2) The current availability of housing and other treatment facilities for juvenile offenders who have been adjudicated delinquent and committed to the custody of the department of children's services, and whether there is a need for additional housing or other treatment facilities for those juvenile offenders.

Effective May 9, 2025.

Public Chapter 531
SB 186 - HB 577

Housing State Prisoners - Reimbursement of Costs
Amends 41-8-106(i)(3)(A). Increases the accreditation stipend provided to eligible counties for each convicted felon housed by the county, as follows: (1) From \$3.00 per day to \$6.00 per day, if the county has achieved tier 1 accreditation from the Tennessee Corrections Institute; and (2) From \$6.00 per day to \$12.00 per day, if the county has achieved tier 2 accreditation from the Tennessee Corrections Institute.

Effective July 1, 2025.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Public Chapter 055
SB 296 - HB 300

License Plate Flippers
Amends 55-10-210. A motor vehicle that is found with an installed license plate flipper may be seized or impounded by a law enforcement officer as evidence; provided, that the owner or operator of the motor vehicle, if present, must be provided the opportunity to promptly remove the license plate flipper if it can be removed safely. A law enforcement officer, in the officer's discretion, may direct the owner or operator of the motor vehicle to move the vehicle to a location that the officer designates for the safe removal of the license plate flipper. If the license plate flipper is removed, then the law enforcement officer may seize only the license plate flipper as contraband. If the motor vehicle is impounded, then the owner of the vehicle is responsible for payment of towing and impounding fees and reasonable costs to remove the license plate flipper.

Effective March 26, 2025.

Public Chapter 090
SB 292 - HB 216

Eviction from Commercial Property

Amends Title 29, Chapter 18, Part 1. Creates a legal process through which a person may request the immediate removal of an unlawful occupant of the person's commercial real property by filing a complaint with the sheriff for the county in which the property is located.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 157
SB 228 - HB 537

LESTER Act

Amends 55-4-138. Enacts the "Law Enforcement's Safer Tennessee Electronic Registration (LESTER) Act.". Provides that if a person displays proof of registration in an electronic format then the evidence must be accepted by law enforcement as proof of registration, unless: (1) The image is not clear enough for the officer to determine the information; or (2) The officer believes the image or the information contained in the image is fraudulent or inaccurate. An officer may require additional information to verify the validity of the electronic registration. If an officer cannot verify the validity of the electronic registration, then the officer is not required to accept the electronic registration. If a person displays the evidence in an electronic format the display is not consent for law enforcement to access any other contents of the electronic device.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 160
SB 280 - HB 1020

Claims Against Law Enforcement Officers

Amends Title 29, Chapter 34, Part 2. Provides that a law enforcement officer who causes property damage to or inflicts personal injury upon a person during the course of the law enforcement officer's official duties is immune from civil liability for or the payment of monetary damages resulting from the officer's actions if at the time the damage or injury occurred, the person suffering the injury or damage was engaged in conduct that resulted in the person being convicted of an offense under 39-16-602 (resisting stop, frisk, halt, arrest or search). Does not apply if the law enforcement officer's actions were grossly negligent or willful misconduct; or extend to property damage caused or injury inflicted upon a bystander or other person who was not engaged in conduct that resulted in a conviction under

39-16-602 at the time the damage or injury occurred.

Effective April 11, 2025.

Public Chapter 162

SB 304 – HB 583

Child Forensic Interviews

Amends 24-7-123. Permits the introduction into evidence of a video recording of a child victim being interviewed by a forensic interviewer regarding sexual or physically violent contact with the child if the forensic interviewer confirms the accuracy of the recording and the child is available for cross examination; includes forensic interviews conducted by a forensic interviewer who is employed by a federal agency and conducted the forensic interview in the course of investigating a federal crime.

Effective April 11, 2025.

Public Chapter 327

SB 1166 – HB 1274

Reporting - DUI Arrests

Amends Title 38, Chapter 6, Part 1. Requires the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation to provide a report to the speakers of the senate and the house of representatives on or before January 1, 2026, and each January 1 thereafter, detailing the instances in the most recent year for which complete data is available in which a person who was arrested for driving under the influence under 55-10-401 but where no alcohol or other intoxicants are detected in the person's blood or breath. The report must include the law enforcement agency that made the arrest. This section is repealed on July 1, 2029.

Effective May 2, 2025.

Public Chapter 352

SB 1133 – HB 1256

Bail - List or Database of Fugitives

Amends 40-11-139(d). If a court issues a bench warrant or a capias due to a defendant's failure to appear on a felony or on a Class A or Class B misdemeanor that is violent or sexual in nature as determined by the court, or if a defendant is charged with a failure to appear, then the defendant shall be placed on any available state or federal list or database as a fugitive from justice, including the National Crime Information Center. If necessary, the judicial official must sign the bench warrant or capias by the end of the next business day after the defendant's failure to appear. The clerk

shall transmit the bench warrant or capias to the entering agency by the end of the next business day after issuance. The entering agency shall enter the bench warrant or capias into any available state or federal list or database, including the National Crime Information Center. A surety is not liable for any undertaking if the defendant has not been placed on the available state or federal list or database within 3 business days of the entering agency's receipt of the bench warrant or capias. If the defendant is apprehended outside the state by a law enforcement agency in a jurisdiction that is outside the limitation entered into the state or federal list or database, then the district attorney general must determine, within one business day of being notified of the apprehension, whether to initiate extradition proceedings for the defendant's return.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 354
SB 1314 – HB 1328

Criminal Proceedings Notification System

Amends 40-38-507 by deleting the language "as a pilot program". Deletes the sunset provision.

Effective May 2, 2025.

Public Chapter 391
SB 1090 – HB 1164

Military Decorations

Amends Title 38, Chapter 8, Part 1. Decorations or medals from the armed forces of the United States, the Tennessee national guard, or the state guard, or any service medals or badges awarded to the members of such forces, may be worn by uniformed law enforcement personnel during the week prior to Veterans Day and Memorial Day, the day of Veterans Day and Memorial Day, and the day immediately following Veterans Day and Memorial Day.

The employer of the uniformed law enforcement personnel may prohibit the wearing of military decorations pursuant to this section if the employer determines that wearing the military decorations poses a safety hazard to the uniformed law enforcement personnel or to the public.

Effective May 5, 2025.

Public Chapter 403
SB 1400 – HB 1204

DUI Breath and Blood Tests

Amends 55-10-406(d)(4). If the operator is placed under arrest, requested by a law enforcement officer to submit to breath tests, blood tests, or both tests, advised of the consequences for refusing to do so, and refuses to submit, the operator shall be charged with violating the implied consent law. The operator's refusal is a violation of the implied consent law, even if the operator's blood sample is obtained pursuant to a search warrant, court order, exigent circumstances, or other lawful means.

Amends 55-10-406(b) by adding the following as a new subdivision: Oral fluid tests may be administered under the following circumstances: (1) The operator's consent to submit to oral fluid tests; (2) A search warrant; (3) Incident to a lawful arrest for DUI, vehicular assault, or vehicular homicide; or (4) Without the consent of the operator if exigent circumstances to the search warrant requirement exist.

Effective May 5, 2025.

Public Chapter 409
SB 30 – HB 55

Refusing to Give Name to Law Enforcement Officer

Amends Title 39, Chapter 16, Part 6. A law enforcement officer may ask a person to identify themselves if the officer has reasonable suspicion to believe that the person has violated or is violating a state law or local ordinance. Pursuant to the law enforcement officer's reasonable suspicion, the officer may ask the suspect to provide the suspect's name verbally or to otherwise provide the suspect's name by other means. A person commits an offense who intentionally gives a false or fictitious name to a law enforcement officer who has lawfully detained or arrested the person. A violation of this law is a Class C misdemeanor. A person's failure or inability to produce a physical form of identification or driver license to a police or peace officer requesting identification is not a violation.

Amends Title 39, Chapter 16, Part 6, by adding the following new section: A person commits an offense who intentionally approaches, within twenty-five feet, a law enforcement officer after the officer has ordered the person to stop approaching or to retreat and the officer is lawfully engaged in the execution of official duties

involving: (1) A lawful traffic stop; (2) An active investigation of the scene of an alleged crime; or (3) An ongoing and immediate threat to public safety. It is an affirmative defense to a violation of this law that the lawful order was not received or understood by the person and was not capable of being received or understood under the conditions and circumstances that existed at the time of the issuance of the order. A is a Class B misdemeanor.

Amends Title 55, Chapter 8, Part 2, by adding the following new section: A person commits an offense who, on the streets of any municipality, roads of any county, or the highways of this state, transports another in the cargo area of a box truck. A violation of this law is a Class B misdemeanor. As used in this section, "box truck" means a moving van or other vehicle that is manufactured with an enclosed cargo area that is connected to the passenger area with a one-piece design or attached to the chassis with two-piece construction, and the cargo area: (1) Is designed primarily for the transportation of property; and (2) Does not have seats or safety belts designed to accommodate a passenger.

Amends Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 3, by adding the following new section: It is an offense to place a sign, signal, or marking over a highway or to affix or attach a sign, signal, or marking to a bridge, overpass, or tunnel without written authorization from the entity that maintains the highway, bridge, overpass, or tunnel. A violation is a Class B misdemeanor.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 424
SB 392 – HB 322

Human Smuggling

Amends Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 1, by adding the following as a new section, 39-17-118. Creates the offense of human smuggling.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 428
SB 433 – HB 76

Animal Cruelty

Amends 39-14-202(a)(3) to provide that intentionally or knowingly abandoning an animal constitutes animal cruelty and it is not a defense to prosecution that the

person abandoned the animal at or near an animal shelter, veterinary clinic, or other place of shelter if the person did not make reasonable arrangements for the care of the animal.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 462
SB 1233 – HB 1232

Removing Or Disturbing Body At Scene Of Death
Amends 38-1-102, by adding when a person appears to have died as the result of a drug overdose.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 466
SB 1346 – HB 1299

Preventing Deepfake Images Act
Amends Title 39, Chapter 1. Enacts the "Preventing Deepfake Images Act." In addition to criminal penalties creates a civil cause of action.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 468
SB 1399 – HB 1353

Retaliation
Amends 39-16-510. Provides that a person commits an offense who harms or threatens to harm an individual involved in the judicial process or a family member of such person with the intent to impede, intimidate, interfere with, or retaliate against the individual in connection with the individual's participation in the judicial process.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 491
SB 1245 – HB 576

Board of Professional Bondsmen - Lists
Amends Title 40, Chapter 11, Part 3. Creates the Board of Professional Bondsmen. One member will be a sheriff.

Amends 40-11-124. The department of commerce and insurance shall provide the clerk, sheriff, municipal courts, and other inferior courts with a current approved list of professional bondsmen licensed by the board of professional bondsmen. The clerk, sheriff, municipal courts, and other inferior courts shall have available a list of licensed professional bondsmen or other sureties approved and qualified as solvent by the courts of record with criminal jurisdiction within the county. The approved lists must be provided by the

judges of those courts. An undertaking must not be accepted unless the professional bondsman or other surety is licensed under Title 40, Chapter 11, Part 3, and approved and qualified as solvent by the courts of record with criminal jurisdiction within the county. Notwithstanding the issuance by an association of a guaranteed arrest or bail bond certificate, as defined in 40-11-145, a professional bondsman licensed by the board of professional bondsmen, pursuant to Title 40, Chapter 11, Part 3, shall provide proof of such licensure to all courts of this state having jurisdiction and authorized to admit to bail when appearing before such courts.

Amends 40-11-313(a). Provides that it is unlawful for a person to act as a professional bondsman, directly or indirectly, while: (1) Serving as a constitutionally elected peace officer, or as such officer's deputy, or any duly elected or appointed county official; or (2) Owning, operating, or being an employee of a qualified electronic monitoring provider, as defined in 40-11-152(a). This does not apply to any duly elected member of the county legislative body. Also, does not apply to a person who was a professional bondsman and owned a qualified electronic monitoring provider prior to January 1, 2025.

Effective January 1, 2026.

Public Chapter 516
SB 1065 – HB 1128

Constables – In-Service Training

Amends 8-10-104. Provides that a constable shall not exercise any law enforcement powers and authority conferred upon the constable by 8-10-108, 39-17-1315, 39-17-1350, 40-6-210, 40-6-212, 55-8-152, 57-9-101, 57-9-103, and 57-9-201, if the constable fails to complete the in-service education requirements described in Title 8, Chapter 10, Part 2. A constable who violates this law commits a Class C misdemeanor, subject to a fine only. Each day of a violation of this section constitutes a separate offense.

Each constable newly elected or appointed on or after July 1, 2025, must complete 128 hours of training in law enforcement duties approved by the Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission. This training must

be accomplished during the first year following election or appointment.

Prior to completing the required training, the constable must be paired with another constable who has completed all training requirements or a POST-certified law enforcement officer while performing the constable's official duties. This requirement does not apply to a constable who is elected or appointed within five years of having served as a full-time, POST-certified law enforcement officer.

The one hundred twenty-eight-hour training requirement may be waived if the constable successfully completes a comparable basic law enforcement course within one year of the date of election or appointment.

Effective May 21, 2025.

Public Chapter 522
SB 1296 – HB 1314

Mass Violence

Amends Title 39, Chapter 13, Part 8. Creates the criminal offense of threatening to commit an act of mass violence.

Effective July 1, 2025.

PERSONNEL

Public Chapter 194
SB 1127 – HB 755

Payment of Wages of Deceased Employee

Amends 30-2-103(b) to require an employer to pay any wages owed to a deceased employee directly to the surviving spouse of a decedent or to the surviving children. All sums paid under subsection (b) must be charged against the elective share, homestead allowance, and year's support allowance as applicable. If a minor is entitled to receive payment under subsection (b), the payment must be made to the guardian/custodian for the child's benefit.

Effective April 11, 2025.

Public Chapter 243
SB 279 – HB 344

Employees in Military Service

Amends 8-33-101 by adding the following new definition: "Working day" means the number of hours

an employee is scheduled to work in a twenty-four-hour period.

Effective April 24, 2025.

Public Chapter 471
SB 861 – HB 910

Discrimination Complaints and Investigations
Amends Titles 4, 8, and 68 to transfer the investigation of discrimination complaints related to employment, housing, and public accommodation from the Tennessee Human Rights Commission to the Attorney General. Abolishes the Tennessee Human Rights Commission effective July 1, 2025.

Effective May 12, 2025.

Public Chapter 494
SB 1083 – HB 622

Dismantle DEI and Hiring Practices
Amends Titles 5, 6, 7, 8, and 49 to dismantle DEI hiring practices. Provides that a county, city, metropolitan government, local education agency, public institution of higher education and state shall not base a hiring decision on race, ethnicity, sex, age, or any other similar demographic characteristic rather than on individual merit, veteran status, or lawful eligibility criteria. The section shall not apply to the governmental entities listed above that submit a notice to the comptroller that compliance of this act would result in loss of federal funds. After one calendar year from the date the comptroller exempts the governmental entity, the governmental entity shall submit a notice in writing of the need to have the exemption renewed for another year. The governmental entity shall notify the comptroller within 14 days if the need for the exemption no longer exists.

Employment decision means any action related to hiring, firing, retention, promotion, demotion, discipline, evaluation, compensation, training, reassignment, or any other term, condition, or privilege of employment; and does not include actions required under applicable state or federal employment laws.

Effective May 21, 2025.

PLANNING AND ZONING

Public Chapter 230

SB 915 – HB 1129

Regulation of Borrow Pits

Enacts a new subsection at 54-1-128 to provide that the restrictions on borrow pits under subdivisions (b)(1)(A), (D) and (E) do not apply to temporary borrow pits used for a road work construction project performed in a FEMA-certified county under a contract for construction work entered into with the state that is part of a state or local Hurricane Helene recovery effort. Defines “FEMA-certified county” as a county included in a declaration made on or after September 26, 2024, and prior to October 3, 2024, for a disaster certified by the federal emergency management agency (FEMA). Provides that the new subsection (e) expires on June 30, 2039.

Effective April 21, 2025.

Public Chapter 332

SB 751 – HB 35

Development Districts

Amends 13-14-111 to provide for a per capita assessment and corresponding state funding level for each of the nine development districts.

May 2, 2025.

Public Chapter 363

SB 365 – HB 317

Boards of Zoning Appeals

Amends 13-7-106(b)(5) to add property rights and constitutional rights to the list of subjects for training and continuing education. Amends 13-7-106(b)(9) to remove the option for legislative bodies to opt out of the continuing education requirements for boards of zoning appeals. Also amends 13-7-107 to provide for specific rules of procedure that must be adopted for boards of zoning appeals. Also amends 13-7-108 to require grants or denial of a building permit be in writing and include information of the right to appeal the decision to the board of zoning appeals. Amends 13-7-109 to enact a new subsection requiring the board to inform parties of their right to seek judicial review of the board’s decisions pursuant to Title 27, Chapter 9. Also amends various sections in Title 13, Chapter 7, Part 2, relative to municipal zoning.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 440
SB 773 – HB 735

Vested Rights

Amends 13-3-401 and 13-4-301 to add a definition of “submission.” Also amends 13-3-413 and 13-4-310 to provide the vesting period applicable to development plans approved by local governments or building permits issued by local governments must not expire earlier than three (3) years following the later of the date on which the appeal period for challenging such approval or issuance has expired or the date on which all appeals of such approval or issuance have been exhausted.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 465
SB 1313 – HB 1326

Vested Rights

Amends 13-3-413(b) to provide that a vested property right is established upon submission of a complete application rather than approval of the application. Provides that to acquire a vested right under this subsection, the applicant’s plan or building permit must substantially comply with the requirements set forth in the local development ordinances and regulations. Also amends 13-3-413(c) relative to the vesting period for building permits and development plans. Amends 13-3-413(d) and (f) to replace “approval” with “submission.” Amends 13-3-413(e) to provide that if a local government has not adopted an ordinance or resolution pursuant to this section specifying substantial compliance that would trigger a vested property right, then rights shall vest upon the submission of any plan, plat, drawing, or sketch, however denominated, that is substantially similar to any plan, plat, drawing, or sketch described in subdivision (k)(5) or (k)(6). Amends 13-4-310 to make similar changes for municipal planning.

Also amends 13-7-109 and 13-7-207 to authorize local governments, by ordinance, to delegate initial jurisdiction over specified special exceptions, for interpretation of the map, or for decisions upon other special questions upon which the board of appeals is authorized by such ordinance to pass, to the local building commissioner or other administrative official. Sets forth the criteria for review and procedure for decisions and appeals.

Effective July 1, 2025.

PURCHASING

Public Chapter 098
SB 509 - HB 546

Out-of-State Cooperative Purchasing

Amends 12-3-1205(b)(4)(B). Allows a county to enter into an out-of-state cooperative agreement for the purchase of materials used in the operation of a county utility system; and materials, labor, and services used for maintenance, operations, component replacement, or repairs of existing facilities and grounds owned or operated by a local education agency or by a local government agency.

Effective March 28, 2025.

Public Chapter 260
SB 842 – HB 763

Purchase of Insurance

Amends 29-20-407 to authorize any governmental entity to purchase insurance authorized by Title 29, Chapter, 20, Part 4, without public bidding if the insurance is purchased through a plan authorized by any organization of cities, counties, or other governmental entities.

Effective April 24, 2025.

Public Chapter 381
SB 848 – HB 935

Brokerage Services in 1957 Counties

Amends Titles 5 and 12 to authorize a county legislative body in a 1957 county to use the competitive bid process for insurance brokerage services if the county self-insures.

Effective May 5, 2025.

RECORDS

Public Chapter 280
SB 425 – HB 66

Additional Residential Information

Prior to this act, the residential address of a county employee held by the county in its capacity as an employer was confidential. This act amends 10-7-504 to provide that in addition to the residential address held by the county in its capacity as an employer, the city,

state and zip code for the employee shall also be confidential.

Effective April 24, 2025.

Public Chapter 392
SB 1114 – HB 1293

Public Record Exception Sunset

Amends 10-7-503 to remove the sunset on the existing provision that allows a records custodian under certain circumstances to petition a court of record for an order to temporarily enjoin a person from making records requests if the person is making multiple requests to view or copy a public record with the intent to disrupt government operations.

Effective May 5, 2025.

REGISTER OF DEEDS

Public Chapter 104
SB 1230 – HB 1039

Electronic Recordings

Amends 47-10-118, 66-24-203, and 66-24-204 to restrict electronic recordings in the registers of deeds office to certain persons, including licensed attorneys, banks, savings and loans associations, credit unions, federally chartered lending institutions, instrumentalities of the federal government, persons licensed to make regulated loans, licensed title insurance companies or agents, or governmental entities. Provides that the register may refuse electronic documents submitted by persons other than those authorized to submit such documents. Provides that compliance is the responsibility of the electronic filing vendor. Also provides that electronic filing vendors are responsible for any damages resulting from noncompliance.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 171
SB 544 – HB 1342

UCC Financing Statements

Amends 47-9-513(e), relative to petitions to challenge financing statements filed against public officials, to revise certain procedures required to be undertaken by the filing office (which could be the register of deeds or the secretary of state).

Effective April 11, 2025.

Public Chapter 178
SB 980 – HB 480

Legal Descriptions by Surveyors

Enacts a new section at Title 66, Chapter 5, Part 1, to require legal descriptions of property contained within a deed of conveyance of property not previously described in a recorded instrument to be prepared by a registered land surveyor. Exempts deeds of conveyance prepared by or for a governmental department or agency.

Effective April 11, 2025.

RETIREMENT

Public Chapter 159
SB 251 – HB 313

Separation of Service

Amends 8-36-805 to require a bona fide separation of service prior to a retiree returning to a position covered by the retirement service. Provides that for a member whose effective date of retirement was in fiscal years 2022-2023, 2023-2024, or 2024-2025, with the state fiscal year being from July 1 to June 30, if the retirement system discovers that the member did not have a bona fide separation of service, then the member must be treated as receiving an in-service distribution and the retirement system must make any required tax reporting changes to reflect the in-service distribution in prior years. After July 1, 2025, the identified members may be temporarily reemployed after a bona fide separation of service.

Amends 8-36-809 to require the same (bona fide separation of service) for other retirement systems and provides other conditions for a retiree to return to service.

Clarifies 8-36-801 to add provisions relative to law enforcement (8-36-809 and 8-36-820) to the exception in subsection (c) of the statute relative to reenrollment as an active member upon a return to employment.

Amends several provisions relative to teachers returning to service.

Effective July 1, 2025 (provisions relative to teachers effective January 1, 2025).

Public Chapter 289
SB 542 – HB 805

China

Enacts 9-4-1501 and -1502 to require a local government to divest its political subdivision pension plan from investments it has in a company known to be majority-owned by China.

Effective April 24, 2025.

Public Chapter 341
SB 8 – HB 550

Fairness in Benefits Act

Enacts a new section in Title 8, Chapter 36, Part 1 to require an employer participating in TCRS to allow the dissemination of materials by a private entity regarding the entity's alternative retirement plans and life contracts.

Effective May 2, 2025.

Public Chapter 367
SB 510 – HB 535

Retirement/Benefit Changes

Amends numerous sections relative to retirement and benefits, including, but not limited to, provisions relative to employer matches, part-time employment, teachers, becoming a member as a condition of employment, excluded programs, deferred compensation plans, contributions, prior-credit, school boards, purchasing agents, administrator of elections, hybrid plans, overpayments, optional retirement allowances, mandatory distributions, and rollover eligibility.

Provides generally for mandatory enrollment in the system for those assuming office after July 1, 2025 if the county is participating in the retirement system (unless previously making an irrevocable election to not participate).

Provides additional options for payment of retirement allowances to a beneficiary and changing beneficiaries.

Effective May 5, 2025.

Public Chapter 383
SB 953 – HB 977

Supplemental Bridge Benefits

Amends 8-36-211 to authorize the adoption of a supplemental bridge benefit for members covered by mandatory retirement provisions.

Effective May 5, 2025.

TAXES

Public Chapter 285

SB 889 – HB 695

Mineral Severance Tax

Amends 67-7-203(a) to authorize the county legislative body to enact a tax on the severance of sand, gravel, sandstone, chert, or limestone from the earth within the jurisdiction at the following rates: (1) For a tax period that begins prior to July 1, 2025, fifteen cents (15¢) per ton; (2) For a tax period that begins on or after July 1, 2025, and prior to July 1, 2030, twenty cents (20¢) per ton; (3) For a tax period that begins on or after July 1, 2030, and prior to July 1, 2035, twenty-five cents (25¢) per ton; and (4) For a tax period that begins on or after July 1, 2035, and for subsequent tax periods, thirty cents (30¢) per ton. Deletes 67-7-201(b).

Amends 67-7-207(b) to provide that not less than thirty (30) days after the end of a county's fiscal year, each county that receives revenue from a tax levied pursuant to this part must provide an annual written report to the comptroller of the treasury, the commissioner of transportation, the chair of the transportation and safety committee of the senate, and the chair of the committee of the house of representatives having jurisdiction over transportation issues, detailing the amount of revenue deposited into the county road fund during the previous fiscal year, the amount of revenue spent by the county, and how those expenditures have been designated and used for construction, maintenance, and repair of the county system pursuant to subdivision (b)(1).

Amends 67-7-212 to provide a county legislative body that has authorized a tax under this part may increase the tax rate in accordance with 67-7-203(a) by adopting a resolution by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote. The presiding officer of the county legislative body shall deliver a certified copy of the resolution increasing the tax rate to the department of revenue. The new tax rate must not be collected by the department of revenue pursuant to the county legislative action until the first day of a month occurring at least sixty (60) days after the receipt of a certified copy of such action by the department.

Effective April 24, 2025.

Public Chapter 501
SB 875 – HB 780

Population Estimates for Tax Distributions

Amends numerous statutes to provide that the department of economic and community development shall revise and certify the population of each county and municipality, and the aggregate population of the state, prior to July 1 each year during the interim between the regular decennial federal census for purposes of ensuring equitable allocation and distribution of moneys to counties and municipalities (including certain taxes under Title 4, Title 54, Title 55, Title 57 and Title 67). The Boyd Center for Business and Economic Research at the University of Tennessee, through the Tennessee state data center, shall generate annual population estimates for each county and municipality and provide the estimates to the department of economic and community development for review and certification.

Effective January 1, 2026.

TAXATION – HOTEL/MOTEL

Public Chapter 364
SB 384 – HB 405

Hotel/Motel Tax

Amends 67-4-1404(b) to provide that when a person has maintained occupancy for more than 30 continuous days, the operator shall remit the tax for such time to the city or county, and stop collecting the tax from the person for the remainder of their stay. The act applies to rental agreements entered into, renewed, or amended on or after July 1, 2025.

Effective May 5, 2025.

Public Chapter 372
SB 629- HB 627

Hotel/Motel Tax

Defines tourism development, tourism promotion, and tourist. Taxes collected cannot be used for general government expenditure unless approved through a memorandum of understanding between the governing body and the marketing entity. Requires a county to provide an annual written report that details expenditures of the tax and how those expenditures were used for tourism promotion and tourism development to the department of tourism. If an audit finds that hotel/motel tax has been used for a purpose other than tourism promotion or tourism development,

then the county shall appropriate an amount equal to the amount spent for tourism promotion and tourism development from the general fund. After the effective date of this act, the tax shall not exceed 8% in the incorporated area of the county. Subject to 67-4-1414, a hotel/motel levied or authorized before May 1, 2025, that exceeds the tax limit of 8% remains in full-force and effect.

Effective May 5, 2025.

TAXATION – PROPERTY

Public Chapter 138 SB 247 – HB 297

Agricultural, Forest and Open Space Land Act

Amends 67-5-1005(a)(1). Provides that property that is qualified as agricultural, owned by two (2) individuals, and held under the titles of tenancy by the entireties or of joint tenancy with right of survivorship, is deemed to have unchanged ownership upon the death of an owner if the property is retained by the other owner through a right of survivorship or upon the divorce of the owners if the property is retained by either owner through division and distribution of property in the divorce proceeding.

Amends 67-5-1006(a)(1). Provides that property that is qualified as forest land, owned by two (2) individuals, and held under the titles of tenancy by the entireties or of joint tenancy with right of survivorship, is deemed to have unchanged ownership upon the death of an owner if the property is retained by the other owner through a right of survivorship or upon the divorce of the owners if the property is retained by either owner through division and distribution of property in the divorce proceeding.

Amends 67-5-1007(b)(1). Provides that property that is qualified as open space land, owned by two (2) individuals, and held under the titles of tenancy by the entireties or of joint tenancy with right of survivorship, is deemed to have unchanged ownership upon the death of an owner if the property is retained by the other owner through a right of survivorship or upon the

divorce of the owners if the property is retained by either owner through division and distribution of property in the divorce proceeding.

Effective April 3, 2025.

Public Chapter 498
SB 782 – HB 726

Emergencies and Disasters

Amends Title 67, Chapter 5, Part 6. Extends from January 28, 2025, to April 15, 2025, the date by which an assessor must have determined that property was destroyed or damaged by a qualified disaster in order for the owner to be eligible for a direct payment from the Comptroller of the Treasury.

Reappraisal - On-Site Review or Photo Review

Amends 67-5-1601(a)(3). Changes the present law by authorizing an alternate reappraisal plan specifying a schedule for continuous on-site review or photo review to be implemented with or without, rather than in lieu of, indexing.

Amends 67-5-1601 (b)(3). Deletes the present law requirement that the Division of Property Assessments supervise and direct all reappraisals and revaluation programs, to the cost of which the state of Tennessee contributes.

Effective May 21, 2025.

UTILITIES

Public Chapter 078
SB 772 – HB 100

Municipal Energy Authorities

Amends 7-36-110 relative to compensation of board members.

Effective March 28, 2025.

Public Chapter 166
SB 380 – HB 421

Training and Continuing Education

Amends 7-82-307 to provide for a reinstatement process for utility district commissioners who become ineligible due to failing to meet training and education requirements. Amends several sections to reduce training and education requirements.

Effective April 11, 2025.

Public Chapter 170
SB 518 – HB 561

Borrowing

Amends numerous sections to authorize several utilizes/authorities to borrow money in anticipation of the collection of revenues and issue negotiable notes to evidence such borrowing for the purpose of providing emergency cash flow under certain conditions. Amends 7-82-307 relative to removal of a member of a governing body.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 205
SB 884 – HB 1143

Clean Energy

Amends several sections relative to green energy and energy projects. Amends 7-51-2403 to provide that a political subdivision that through ordinance, resolution, or other regulation imposes requirements or expectations related to the source of clean or green energy or renewable energy used by a public utility must include certain sources of energy as permissible sources.

Effective July 1, 2025.

Public Chapter 229
SB 883 – HB 1137

Subsurface Sewage Disposal Application Review

Amends 68-211-403 to provide that certain applications be reviewed no later than ten (10) business days after receipt.

Effective April 21, 2025.

Public Chapter 283
SB 970 – HB 660

Municipal Energy Authority

Amends 7-36-107 to provide that except to the extent modified by the authority's certificate of incorporation, the board of directors of the authority may, as part of the transfer of a water and wastewater system or at any time thereafter, adopt and assume all or any portion of such regulatory powers, authority, duties, obligations, and oversight over the water and wastewater operations as were applicable to the municipal water and wastewater system pursuant to ordinances, resolutions, or other rules or policies that were in effect immediately prior to the transfer of such system to the authority. The board of directors of the authority may later amend such rules, regulations, and requirements from time to time; provided, that such amendments are just and reasonable.

Effective April 24, 2025.

Public Chapter 461
SB 1138 – HB 543

Sewerage Service Outside Cities

Amends Title 7, Chapters 35 and 82 to provide that a city/town or utility district that has operated a sewerage system outside of the corporate boundaries of the city/town (or for a utility district in the unincorporated territory of the county) for twenty-five (25) years or more shall not cease operating the sewerage system in such areas so long as the sewerage system maintains sufficient capacity to continue to provide sewerage service in such areas, as determined by a study, report, or other information and evidence presented to the Tennessee board of utility regulation.

Amends Title 7, Chapter 82, Part 7 relative to connections to a wastewater service when the utility system has an existing gravity sewer line on the property.

Effective May 9, 2025.

Public Chapter 490
SB 1139 – HB 542

Installation of Utility Infrastructure

Enacts a new Part 26 in Title 7, Chapter 51 to allow a customer of utility or person submitting a plan of development to the utility the option to use an approved contractor or approved contractors of the customer's choosing for the installation of the utility infrastructure.

Effective July 1, 2025.

PART II - PUBLIC ACTS OF LOCAL APPLICATION

DAVIDSON

Public Chapter 120
SB 734 – HB 824

Hotel/Motel Tax

Amends 7-4-202 to provide that Davidson County may continue to charge an additional \$0.50 in hotel/motel tax until May 21, 2026. Extends the term of committee members that oversee the funds derived from the additional \$0.50 to May 21, 2026.

Effective March 24, 2025.

HAMBLEN

Public Chapter 384
SB 981 – HB 620

Convenience Voting

Amends 2-3-302 to authorize participation in the convenience voting center pilot project.

Effective May 5, 2025.

HAMILTON

Public Chapter 061
SB 320 – HB 823

Sports Authority – Alcoholic Beverages

Amends 57-4-102(37)(A)(iv). Prohibits a facility located in Hamilton County from being issued a license after March 1, 2030, and requires the law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction over a sports authority facility located in Hamilton County to provide an annual report to the general assembly, on or before January 1, detailing any public safety issues related to the facility, including instances of driving under the influence, public intoxication, and vandalism.

Effective March 25, 2025.

Public Chapter 503
SB 1381 – HB 783

Regulation of Sober Living Homes

Enacts a new part at Title 7, Chapter 51, to authorize Hamilton County to enact certain regulations for sober living homes.

Effective May 21, 2025.

KNOX

Public Chapter 221
SB 274 – HB 307

Charter Counties – Constitutional Officers

Amends 5-1-202. Revises the provision that provides that the offices of sheriff, register, county clerk, trustee, and assessor of property are constitutional officers of the county to also provide that such offices may also be charter officers of the county. Sets forth duties of the sheriff, register, county clerk, trustee, and assessor of property.

Provides that the sheriff is responsible for maintaining the county's jails.

Effective April 21, 2025.

LAKE

Public Chapter 443
SB 863 – HB 799

Reelfoot Lake Guide Licenses

Amends Title 11 and 70 to require the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission to create and issue a waterfowl guide license for guides at Reelfoot Lake, located in Lake and Obion Counties and promulgate rules in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act.

Effective May 9, 2025.

MONTGOMERY

Public Chapter 489
SB 505 – HB 524

Veterans Treatment Court Transfer

Enacts a new section in Title 16, Chapter 6, Part 1 to authorize a defendant in a contiguous county to file a motion to transfer the defendant's criminal case to the veterans treatment court program in Montgomery County.

Effective May 21, 2025.

OBION

Public Chapter 443
SB 863 – HB 799

Reelfoot Lake Guide Licenses

Amends Title 11 and 70 to require the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission to create and issue a waterfowl guide license for guides at Reelfoot Lake, located in Lake and Obion Counties and promulgate rules in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act.

Effective May 9, 2025.

SHELBY

Public Chapter 221
SB 274 – HB 307

Charter Counties – Constitutional Officers

Amends 5-1-202. Revises the provision that provides that the offices of sheriff, register, county clerk, trustee, and assessor of property are constitutional officers of the county to also provide that such offices may also be charter officers of the county. Sets forth duties of the sheriff, register, county clerk, trustee, and assessor of property.

Provides that the sheriff is responsible for maintaining the county's jails.

Effective April 21, 2025.

SULLIVAN

Public Chapter 316
SB 357 – HB 335

Utility Districts
Amends 7-82-308 relative to payments to utility district board members.

Effective July 1, 2025.

PART III - PRIVATE ACTS

BEDFORD

Private Chapter 3
SB 1427 - HB 1405

Highway Department
Enacts Private Acts of 2025, Chapter 3. Abolishes the Bedford County road board after the expiration of the members' current terms.

Effective upon approval by a 2/3 vote of the county legislative body.

CHESTER

Private Chapter 8
SB 1438 - HB 1415

Motor Vehicle Privilege Tax
Enacts Private Acts of 2025, Chapter 8. Repeals Private Acts of 1972, Chapter 234. Enacts a motor vehicle privilege tax in the amount of \$65.35 per motor vehicle per year.

Effective upon approval by a 2/3 vote of the county legislative body.

FAYETTE

Private Chapter 7
SB 1428 - HB 1406

Motor Vehicle Privilege Tax
Amends Private Acts of 2000, Chapter 116. Requires the county clerk rather than the county court clerk to collect the county wheel tax and keep the fee associated

with the issuance of the motor vehicle license upon payment of the tax.

Effective upon approval by a 2/3 vote of the county legislative body.

HARDEMAN

Private Chapter 11 SB 1437 - HB 1411

Budget System

Amends Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 68. Provides that it is the duty of the School Board on or before the first Monday in May of each year to prepare and file with the Budget Committee an itemized statement of budget.

Effective upon approval by a 2/3 vote of the county legislative body.

Private Chapter 25 SB 1456 - HB 1434

Budget System

Amends Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 68. Increases, from 85 percent to 92 percent, the assumed property tax collection rate in setting the general tax rate for the county general fund and creating a county budget that covers expenditures for the next appropriation year.

Effective upon approval by a 2/3 vote of the county legislative body.

HENRY

Private Chapter 4 SB 1433 - HB 1412

Nursing Home

Repeals Private Acts of 1961, Chapter 158. Repeals the authority of Henry County to operate a nursing home.

Effective upon approval by a 2/3 vote of the county legislative body.

Private Chapter 5 SB 1436 - HB 1414

Henry County Hospital District

Amends Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 176. Authorizes the county commission to appoint a minimum of three and a maximum of seven members to the board of trustees for the Henry County Hospital District and reduces the frequency of regular meetings of the board of trustees from monthly to quarterly.

Effective upon approval by a 2/3 vote of the county legislative body.

KNOX

Private Chapter 6
SB 1434 - HB 1410

Tenn Technology Corridor Development Authority
Repeals Private Acts of 1983, Chapter 148. Repeals the Tennessee Technology Development Authority Act.

Effective upon approval by a 2/3 vote of the county legislative body.

LAUDERDALE

Private Chapter 16
SB 1446 - HB 1423

Probate and Juvenile Court
Amends Private Acts of 1982, Chapter 313. Requires the county commission of Lauderdale County to take such steps as necessary and appropriate for the orderly relocation of the probate and juvenile court of Lauderdale County to the justice complex.

Effective upon approval by a 2/3 vote of the county legislative body.

MONTGOMERY

Private Chapter 14
SB 1441 - HB 1419

General Sessions Court
Enacts Private Acts of 2025, Chapter 14. Creates a fifth division of the General Sessions and Juvenile Courts of Montgomery County.

Effective upon approval by a 2/3 vote of the county legislative body.

MORGAN

Private Chapter 10
SB 1463 - HB 1440

County Attorney
Amends Private Acts of 1951, Chapter 467. Establishes that the county attorney shall be a licensed practicing attorney who is appointed or hired subject to a vote of the Morgan County Commission to serve a term of four years. The County Attorney does not need to be a resident of Morgan County to serve as county attorney.

Effective upon approval by a 2/3 vote of the county legislative body.

PUTNAM

Private Chapter 19

SB 1447 - HB 1427

General Sessions Court

Amends Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 125. Sets the salary of general session court judges at an amount equal to the amount received annually by the circuit court judges and chancellors as of September 1, 2030.

Effective upon approval by a 2/3 vote of the county legislative body.

TIPTON

Private Chapter 15

SB 1442 - HB 1421

Litter Abatement

Enacts Private Acts of 2025, Chapter 15. Establishes requirements for litter abatement and control in Tipton County.

Effective upon approval by a 2/3 vote of the county legislative body.

WAYNE

Private Chapter 24

SB 1449 - HB 1433

Motor Vehicle Privilege Tax

Repeals Private Acts of 2004, Chapter 75. Repeals the Wayne County wheel tax.

Effective upon approval by a 2/3 vote of the county legislative body.

WILSON

Private Chapter 9

SB 1444 - HB 1418

Tenth School District of Wilson County

Amends Private Acts of 1901, Chapter 99. Transfers control and governance of the Tenth Special School District of Wilson County from a board of directors and commissioners composed of three members to a Board of Education composed of five members.

Effective upon approval by a 2/3 vote of the county legislative body.