



## Legislative Recap: Week of January 18<sup>th</sup>

After adjourning from regular session until February 8<sup>th</sup>, last week, the General Assembly convened for an extraordinary session, at the request of the Governor. The scope of the special session was limited exclusively to considering education centric legislation, specifically addressing learning loss, accountability, literacy, and funding, including teacher compensation. Although minor alterations were made to the administration's bills as they moved through the chambers' committees, the Governor's proposed legislation was passed by both chambers, and the extraordinary session adjourned Friday morning. While the legislature will not formally convene next week, state agencies are scheduled to present their proposed budgets throughout the week.

The 112<sup>th</sup> General Assembly will resume regular session on February 8<sup>th</sup>, and the Senate has set their bill filing deadline for close of business on February 11<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, the Governor will deliver his annual State of the State Address on February 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:45 p.m. Central Time.

### Recent Headlines:

[WJHL](#): **Local Lawmakers Discuss Tuesday's Special Session on Education** One day before the Tennessee General Assembly convenes in a special session dedicated to education, local state lawmakers spoke about what will take place during the upcoming session. Gov. Bill Lee called the special session to address learning losses caused by the pandemic, improving students' reading skills, and preventing students, teachers, and schools from seeing negative impacts associated with student assessments.

[Tennessean](#): **Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee pushes for all schools to return in-person as legislature begins special session** Gov. Bill Lee and the Tennessee General Assembly have a narrow focus this week: Quickly passing bills aimed at helping schools navigate the coronavirus pandemic and allowing them to prepare for the next academic year following 10 months of significant learning disruptions.

[DailyPostAthenian.com](#): **Lee announces legislative ideas regarding COVID-19 learning loss** On Thursday, Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee announced special session legislation addressing K-12 student learning loss and the adverse effects on Tennessee students' proficiency in reading and math after extended time away from the classroom due to COVID-19.

[Tullahoma News](#): **Learning loss, literacy bills advance through Tennessee Senate, House committees** Bills aimed at curbing pandemic-related learning loss and boosting literacy rates are advancing through the Tennessee Legislature at a rapid pace, as lawmakers continue a week-long special session on education. A bill to limit COVID-19-related learning loss advanced through three committees Wednesday and is scheduled to be considered in both chambers' finance committees Thursday.

[Tennessean](#): **In whirlwind special session, Tennessee lawmakers approve \$160M package of education bills aimed at learning loss, literacy** The Tennessee General Assembly approved a \$160 million package of bills Thursday night and Friday morning, legislation aimed at tackling student learning loss during the pandemic, the state's stagnant literacy rates and how schools will handle standardized testing after a year of academic disruptions.

## Your 2021 Tracked Legislation:

<b>SB100/HB112</b>	<b>Creates model employer program for qualified individuals with disabilities.</b>
Sponsors	Sen. Massey, Becky; Rep. Moody, Debra
Category	Labor Law
Summary	Establishes the state as a model employer program. Ensures state agencies and departments implement the best policies for the recruitment, hiring, advancement, and retention of qualified individuals with disabilities
Senate Status	01/12/21 - Introduced in the Senate
House Status	01/13/21 - Held on House clerk's desk.
Caption	AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4 and Title 50, relative to employment.
<b>SB115/HB116</b>	<b>Disqualification from driving commercial motor vehicles after conviction for trafficking offense.</b>
Sponsors	Sen. Haile, Ferrell; Rep. Garrett, Johnny
Category	Transportation Vehicles
Summary	Suspends for life a commercial motor vehicle operator who has been convicted of the offense of trafficking for a commercial sex act or an equivalent offense in another jurisdiction. Disqualifies for life persons convicted of trafficking for a commercial sex act from obtaining a commercial driver license.
Fiscal Note	(Dated January 12, 2021) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status	01/13/21 - Introduced in the Senate
House Status	01/13/21 - Held on House clerk's desk.
Caption	AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 13, Part 3 and Title 55, Chapter 50, relative to lifetime disqualification from driving commercial motor vehicles after conviction for trafficking offense.
<b>SB139/HB127</b>	<b>Number of days used in calculating the penalty for a business entity's delinquency.</b>
Sponsors	Sen. Massey, Becky; Rep. Howell, Dan
Category	Transportation Vehicles
Summary	Changes the number of days, from 30 to 45, used in calculating the penalty for a business entity's delinquency in forwarding required contract documents related to fleet vehicles to the department of revenue. Broadly captioned.
Senate Status	01/14/21 - Introduced in the Senate
House Status	01/13/21 - Introduced in the House
Caption	AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 5; Title 6; Title 7; Title 8; Title 54; Title 55; Title 65 and Title 67, relative to transportation.

<b>SB140/HB125</b>	<b>Veteran designation on driver license.</b>
Sponsors	Sen. Massey, Becky; Rep. Howell, Dan
Category	Transportation Vehicles
Summary	States that any department of defense or military branch form that shows the dates of service and indicates the applicant received an honorable discharge may be submitted by an applicant to have a veteran designation on his or her driver license. Broadly captioned.
Fiscal Note	(Dated January 13, 2021) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status	01/14/21 - Introduced in the Senate
House Status	01/13/21 - Introduced in the House
Caption	AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 54; Title 55; Title 65 and Title 67, relative to transportation.
<b>SB141/HB126</b>	<b>Definition of disabled driver revised.</b>
Sponsors	Sen. Massey, Becky; Rep. Howell, Dan
Category	Transportation Vehicles
Summary	Deletes references to ambulatory disability certifications being made by Christian Science practitioners from the definition of "disabled driver." Broadly captioned.
Fiscal Note	(Dated January 12, 2021) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status	01/14/21 - Introduced in the Senate
House Status	01/13/21 - Introduced in the House
Caption	AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 54; Title 55; Title 65 and Title 67, relative to transportation.
<b>SB154/HB101</b>	<b>Clarifies that a motorized wheelchair is not a motor vehicle for purposes of the rules of the road.</b>
Sponsors	Sen. Briggs, Richard; Rep. Jernigan, Darren
Category	Transportation Vehicles
Summary	Clarifies that a motorized wheelchair is not a motor vehicle for purposes of the rules of the road, accidents, and crimes involving motor vehicles. Broadly captioned.
Fiscal Note	(Dated January 8, 2021) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status	01/14/21 - Filed for Introduction
House Status	01/13/21 - Held on House clerk's desk.
Caption	AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, relative to motor vehicles.
<b>SB175/HB58</b>	<b>Changes holding period for properties held by banks.</b>
Sponsors	Sen. Lundberg, Jon; Rep. Haston, Kirk
Category	Banking & Credit
Summary	Changes the permitted holding period by a bank for non-real-property acquired in satisfaction of a loan from six months to twelve months.
Fiscal Note	(Dated January 12, 2021) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status	01/14/21 - Filed for Introduction
House Status	01/13/21 - Held on House clerk's desk.
Caption	AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 45, relative to property held by banks.

**SB183**      **TDOT report on placards issued to transporters of manufactured homes.**  
Sponsors      Sen. Massey, Becky  
Category      Transportation Vehicles  
Summary      Requires the department of transportation to submit a brief written summary to the transportation committee of the house of representatives and the transportation and safety committee of the senate no later than March 15 annually concerning placards issued to transporters of manufactured homes, including data on unsafe and erratic driving reported to the department using the telephone number that appears on the placards. Broadly captioned.  
Senate Status      01/15/21 - Filed for Introduction  
Caption      AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55; Title 62; Title 67 and Title 68, relative to manufactured homes.

**SB186/HB172**      **Vaccinations as a condition of employment.**  
Sponsors      Sen. Bowling, Janice; Rep. Hulse, Bud  
Category      Labor Law  
Summary      Prohibits state and local government entities from requiring vaccinations as a condition of employment. Provides unemployment benefits to a claimant who voluntarily leaves employment because the employer requires vaccination and the claimant refused to be vaccinated.  
Senate Status      01/15/21 - Filed for Introduction  
House Status      01/14/21 - Introduced in the House  
Caption      AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 30; Title 8, Chapter 50; Title 50, Chapter 1 and Title 50, Chapter 7, relative to vaccinations.

**SB195**      **Increases minimum wage to \$12.00 per hour.**  
Sponsors      Sen. Robinson, Katrina  
Category      Labor Law  
Summary      Increases the minimum hourly wage for employees within the state from \$7.25 to \$12.00 per hour.  
Senate Status      01/15/21 - Filed for Introduction  
Caption      AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 50, Chapter 2, relative to the minimum wage.

**SB200**      **Removes prohibition on local governments enacting rent control and inclusionary zoning regulations.**  
Sponsors      Sen. Gilmore, Brenda  
Category      Local Government  
Summary      Removes the statewide prohibition on local governments enacting rent control and inclusionary zoning regulations.  
Fiscal Note      (Dated January 20, 2021) NOT SIGNIFICANT  
Senate Status      01/15/21 - Filed for Introduction  
Caption      AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 66, Chapter 35, relative to local housing regulations.

<b>SB215/HB131</b>	<b>Definition of tangible personal property.</b>
Sponsors	Sen. Watson, Bo; Rep. Hazlewood, Patsy
Category	Taxes Sales
Summary	Clarifies that the definition of "tangible personal property" does not include mains, pipes, pipelines, or tanks after they have become attached to a building, or other structure, or installed underground for conducting steam, heat, water, wastewater, oil, electricity, gas, or any property, substance, or product capable of transportation or conveyance therein or that is protected thereby, except for propane tanks for residential use and above ground storage tanks that can be moved without disassembly and are not affixed.
Senate Status	01/19/21 - Filed for Introduction
House Status	01/13/21 - Introduced in the House
Caption	AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 67, relative to taxes.
<b>SB221/HB370</b>	<b>Quarantine procedures - creation of new committee to handle implementation.</b>
Sponsors	Sen. Hensley, Joey; Rep. Casada, Glen
Category	Health Care
Summary	Requires the department of health to establish a committee to determine when and how quarantine and disease communication tracking procedures should be implemented within 24 hours of a state of emergency being declared. Removes quarantine authority from health commissioner and county health officer. Requires county health departments to publish data regarding epidemic testing.
Senate Status	01/19/21 - Filed for Introduction
House Status	01/21/21 - Filed for Introduction
Caption	AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4 and Title 68, relative to quarantine procedures.
<b>SB237</b>	<b>Filing dates for campaign finance disclosures.</b>
Sponsors	Sen. Gardenhire, Todd
Category	Campaigns & Lobbying
Summary	Expands requirements for reporting all contributions and expenditures in detail. Reduces the number of filing dates for campaign finance disclosures to quarterly in election years and semiannually in non-election years.
Senate Status	01/19/21 - Filed for Introduction
Caption	AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2, Chapter 10, relative to campaign financial disclosures.
<b>SB239</b>	<b>Filing of pre-primary and pre-general election statements.</b>
Sponsors	Sen. Gardenhire, Todd
Category	Campaigns & Lobbying
Summary	Removes requirement to file pre-primary and pre-general election statements for candidates for state public office and political campaign committees for state elections. Broadly captioned.
Fiscal Note	(Dated January 19, 2021) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status	01/19/21 - Filed for Introduction
Caption	AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2, Chapter 10, relative to campaign finance.

**SB247/HB236**      **Fees charged for driver license issuance.**  
Sponsors      Sen. Massey, Becky; Rep. Littleton, Mary  
Category      Transportation Vehicles  
Summary      Authorizes entities contracting with the department of safety for the issuance of driver licenses to charge an additional \$1.00 fee per driver license issued. Requires the department to distribute to contracting entities \$3.00 per each REAL ID compliant driver license issued by the entity until June 30, 2022. Specifies that all fees received by contracting entities for issuing licenses are to be retained by the contracting entity for administrative costs and shall not revert to the general fund at the end of the fiscal year.  
Senate Status      01/19/21 - Filed for Introduction  
House Status      01/19/21 - Filed for Introduction  
Caption      AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-50-331, relative to issuance of driver licenses.

**SB261**      **Requires compensation of accrued vacation for former employees of certain private employers.**  
Sponsors      Sen. Niceley, Frank  
Category      Labor Law  
Summary      Requires certain private employers to include in the final wages of a former employee accrued vacation pay or other compensatory time. Voids a provision in a company policy or labor agreement providing to the contrary.  
Senate Status      01/20/21 - Filed for Introduction  
Caption      AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 5; Title 6; Title 7; Title 8 and Title 50, relative to employment.

**SB284**      **Penalty for a third or subsequent conviction of driving on a license that is suspended or revoked.**  
Sponsors      Sen. Rose, Paul  
Category      Transportation Vehicles  
Summary      increases the penalty for a third or subsequent conviction of driving on a license that is canceled, suspended, or revoked to a Class E felony. Current law specifies that the penalty is a Class A misdemeanor.  
Senate Status      01/21/21 - Filed for Introduction  
Caption      AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 13 and Title 55, relative to driver licenses.

**SB288/HB344**     **Revises the definition of "blighted area" for purposes of redevelopment projects by housing authorities.**

Sponsors     Sen. Niceley, Frank; Rep. Carr, Dale  
Category     Property & Housing  
Summary     Revises the definition of "blighted area" for purposes of redevelopment projects by housing authorities. Clarifies that housing authorities may acquire real property through a negotiated sale, without the use of eminent domain. Authorizes housing authorities to pay more than fair market value for properties that are not blighted but that are in a blighted area.

Senate Status     01/21/21 - Filed for Introduction  
House Status     01/20/21 - Filed for Introduction  
Caption     AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 13, Chapter 20; Title 13, Chapter 21 and Title 29, Chapter 17, relative to housing authorities.

**HB34**     **Authorizes THDA to provide affordable housing to displaced tenants.**

Sponsors     Rep. Cooper, Barbara  
Category     Property & Housing  
Summary     Authorizes the THDA to provide eligible displaced tenants who have been denied requests for housing or housing repairs by local governmental entities with affordable housing and services. Broadly captioned.

House Status     01/13/21 - Held on House clerk's desk.  
Caption     AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 21; Title 5; Title 6; Title 7; Title 13, Chapter 23 and Title 66, Chapter 7, relative to displaced tenants.

**HB77**     **Request by state bank for waiver or modification of terms and conditions applicable to a national bank.**

Sponsors     Rep. Lamberth, William  
Category     Banking & Credit  
Summary     Authorizes a state bank to request from the commissioner a waiver or modification of the terms and conditions applicable to a national bank. Authorizes a state bank to request the authority to exercise any incidental power or engage in any incidental activity that is reasonably necessary. Requires the commissioner to publish a summary of applications submitted for waiver, modification, or authorization.

Fiscal Note     (Dated January 12, 2021) NOT SIGNIFICANT  
House Status     01/13/21 - Held on House clerk's desk.  
Caption     AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 45-2-601, relative to banking.

**HB84**                    **Statute of limitations for tax collection.**  
Sponsors            Rep. Lamberth, William  
Category              Taxes General  
Summary               Tolls the statute of limitations for collection of taxes upon the imposition of a bankruptcy stay or upon the filing of a probate, receivership, or assignment for benefit of creditors proceeding. Allows statute of limitations to begin running 30 days after the stay is lifted or the proceeding prohibiting collection ends.  
Fiscal Note           (Dated January 7, 2021) NOT SIGNIFICANT  
House                   01/13/21 - Held on House clerk's desk.  
Status  
Caption                AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 67-1-1429, relative to the statute of limitations for tax collection.

**HB86**                    **Reduces the lower gross weight threshold for freight vehicles that are required to pay the registration tax.**  
Sponsors            Rep. Lamberth, William  
Category              Transportation Vehicles  
Summary               Reduces the lower gross weight threshold for freight vehicles that are required to pay the registration tax of \$1,019 from 56,000 pounds to 55,000 pounds. Removes authority for nonresidents to apply directly to department of revenue for off-highway vehicle permits. Authorizes issuance of decals instead of new plates upon expiration of special purpose plates for manufacturers, dealers, transporters, and nonprofit organizations.  
House                   01/13/21 - Held on House clerk's desk.  
Status  
Caption                AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, relative to vehicle registration.

**HB94**                    **Disputes concerning employer's failure to provide medical care and treatment.**  
Sponsors            Rep. Lamberth, William  
Category              Workers Compensation  
Summary               Requires disputes concerning an employer's failure to provide medical care and treatment, medical services or medical benefits, or both, to meet certain requirements. Deletes requirement that all compensation be paid prior to an employee qualifying for vocational recovery assistance. Extends current provisions, as amended, for four years. Authorizes workers' compensation judges to conduct judicial settlement conferences.  
House                   01/13/21 - Held on House clerk's desk.  
Status  
Caption                AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 50, Chapter 6, Part 2, relative to workers' compensation.



**HB122**      **Report submitted by the governing committee of the TN automobile insurance plan.**

Sponsors      Rep. Whitson, Sam  
Category      Transportation General  
Summary      Extends from September 30 to October 15, the annual date by which the governing committee of the Tennessee automobile insurance plan must submit to the department of commerce and insurance a financial report for the preceding calendar year in a form approved by the commissioner. Broadly captioned.  
  
House Status      01/13/21 - Introduced in the House  
Caption      AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 6; Title 7; Title 12; Title 42; Title 47, Chapter 18; Title 54; Title 55; Title 56; Title 65 and Title 67, relative to transportation.

**HB157**      **State tax revenue pertaining to National Hockey League franchises.**

Sponsors      Rep. Beck, Bill  
Category      Taxes Sales  
Summary      Extends provisions related to the apportionment and distribution of state tax revenue as they pertain to National Hockey League franchises until June 30, 2049.  
  
House Status      01/14/21 - Introduced in the House  
Caption      AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 67, relative to taxes.

**HB168**      **Valuation of property.**

Sponsors      Rep. Lamar, London  
Category      Taxes Property  
Summary      Requires residential property to be valued for ad valorem tax purposes on the basis of the most recent sale, lease, mortgage, or other transfer of an interest in the property for which unrelated parties with competing interests agreed to a valuation of the property. Broadly captioned.  
  
House Status      01/14/21 - Introduced in the House  
Caption      AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 67, relative to taxation.

**HB177**      **Property managers bringing suit or testifying against tenants.**

Sponsors      Rep. Russell, Lowell  
Category      Property & Housing  
Summary      Authorizes property managers to bring suit or testify against tenants in the same manner as landlords or owners of rental property. Defines "manager" to mean an individual, group, business, or organization hired by a landlord or owner to oversee the day-to-day operations of a premises.  
  
House Status      01/14/21 - Introduced in the House  
Caption      AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 16; Title 29 and Title 66, relative to rental property.

<b>HB356</b>	<b>Written notice by employer regarding appeal of an alleged violation of TN Lawful Employment Act.</b>
Sponsors	Rep. Bricken, Rush
Category	Labor Law
Summary	Changes the number of days, from 30 days to 45, in which an employer must provide the commissioner of labor and workforce development with written notice to maintain its right to appeal an alleged violation of the Tennessee Lawful Employment Act. Broadly captioned.
House Status	01/21/21 - Filed for Introduction
Caption	AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 50, relative to employment.