



Members returned to Nashville this week to resume the normal order of business after last weeks disjointed calendar due to the heavy winter storms across the state. Some procedural steps required of proposed legislation were delayed due to last week's storms, but now Members are back to work and all bills have been assigned to committee. Next week Members will continue to work through the bills allotted to their committees with eyes on adjournment at the end of April. House and Senate Committees have diligently worked through and heard testimony from the Departments regarding their proposed budget for the 2015-2016 fiscal year. Budget hearings will continue to be heard throughout session in development of the balanced budget required by the Tennessee Constitution.

The Senate and House Calendars for next week are attached to this report. As always, please contact us if you have any questions or concerns. You may reach us via email at: David McMahan david@mmwlobbyists.com; Beth Winstead beth@mmwlobbyists.com; Anna Richardson anna@mmwlobbyists.com; and Caroline Straight caroline@mmwlobbyists.com.

SB20 / HB20 Emergency workers- acquiring hepatitis C in the line of duty.

Category Public Employees
Sponsors [Sen. Bill Ketron](#) / [Rep. Curtis G. Johnson](#)
Description Adds hepatitis C to the list of infectious diseases that triggers presumptive disability when an infectious disease is acquired in the line of duty by an emergency worker.
Fiscal Note (Dated January 30, 2015) Increase Local Expenditures - Exceeds \$100,000
Senate Status 01/17/2015 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.
House Status 01/17/2015 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.
Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 7-51-209, relative to presumptive disabilities in acquiring certain infectious diseases in the line of duty by emergency rescue workers.
Cosponsors [Sen. Richard Briggs](#) ; [Sen. Mark Green](#) ; [Sen. Ferrell Haile](#) ; [Sen. Thelma Harper](#) ; [Sen. Becky Duncan Massey](#) ; [Rep. Jeremy Faison](#) ;

SB112 / HB101 Licensure of settings for home-based and community-based services.

Category Health Care
Sponsors [Sen. Mark S. Norris](#) / [Rep. Gerald McCormick](#)
Description Authorizes the board for licensing healthcare facilities and certain departments to amend licensure rules to be consistent with federal regulations pertaining to home-based and community-based settings. Part of Administration Package.
Fiscal Note (Dated February 16, 2015) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status 02/26/2015 - Set for Senate Health & Welfare Committee 03/04/15.
House Status 02/26/2015 - Set for House Health Subcommittee 03/03/15.
Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 33-2-404; Section 68-11-202 and Section 71-2-412, relative to promulgation of rules for licensure of settings for home-based and community-based services.

Cosponsors [Sen. Steven Dickerson](#) ; [Rep. Kevin Brooks](#) ;

[SB188](#) Emergency response vehicles exemption from license requirement.
Category Transportation Vehicles
Sponsors [Sen. Steven Dickerson](#)
Description Adds law enforcement emergency response vehicles operated by law enforcement personnel in course of duties to list of vehicles not considered commercial motor vehicles. Exempts paid and non-paid personnel from commercial license requirement when driving an emergency response vehicle to or from emergency calls, training exercises or courses, or other law enforcement duties.
Senate Status 02/11/2015 - Referred to Senate Transportation & Safety Committee.
House Status None
Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 50, relative to operation of emergency response vehicles.

[SB211 / HB393](#) Sunset - emergency communications board.
Category Government Organization
Sponsors [Sen. Mike Bell](#) / [Rep. Jeremy Faison](#)
Description Extends the emergency communications board to June 30, 2015.
Fiscal Note (Dated February 11, 2015) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Senate Status 02/11/2015 - Referred to Senate Government Operations Committee.
House Status 02/11/2015 - Referred to House Government Operations Committee.
Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 29, Part 2 and Title 7, Chapter 86, Part 3, relative to the emergency communications board.
Cosponsors [Rep. John Ragan](#) ;

[SB301 / HB613](#) Consultation of TennCare advisory commission.
Category TennCare
Sponsors [Sen. Ken Yager](#) / [Rep. Ron Travis](#)
Description Encourages the commissioner of finance and administration to consult the TennCare advisory commission when developing policies concerning the impact on providers in the medical assistance program for home- and community-based services. Broadly captioned.
Senate Status 02/11/2015 - Referred to Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.
House Status 02/18/2015 - Referred to House Health Subcommittee.
Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 33; Title 56; Title 63; Title 68 and Title 71, relative to providers participating in the TennCare program for medical assistance.

[SB320 / HB289](#) Post-mortem examinations act and medicolegal death investigators.
Category Cemetery & Funeral Services
Sponsors [Sen. Mark S. Norris](#) / [Rep. Gerald McCormick](#)
Description Restructures post-mortem examinations act effective January 1, 2017. Requires counties to appoint a medicolegal death investigator, specifies the duties of the medicolegal death investigator, and prohibits counties from appointing county medical examiner after January 1, 2017. Specifies when death investigations, external examinations, and ancillary testing can be conducted, and when the forensic pathologist must complete the cause of death on the death certificate. Specifies grounds for performing autopsy and procedure for handling body and scene when there are grounds to perform an autopsy. Requires certain medical records, reports, and images be kept confidential under the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). Specifies that law enforcement investigative reports are not public records. Specifies procedures for procurement of anatomical gifts by procurement organization. Makes various revisions to reflect change from county medical examiner to medicolegal death investigator. (17 pp.) Part of Administration Package.
Senate Status 02/11/2015 - Referred to Senate Health & Welfare Committee.
House Status 02/11/2015 - Referred to House Health Subcommittee.
Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 29, Part 2; Title 38, Chapter 7 and Title 68, Chapter 1, Part 11, relative to post-mortem examination.
Cosponsors [Rep. Kevin Brooks](#) ;

[SB371 / HB296](#) Prohibited discrimination - sexual orientation and gender identity.
Category Judiciary
Sponsors [Sen. Sara Kyle](#) / [Rep. Sherry Jones](#)
Description Adds sexual orientation and gender identity or expression to the list of characteristics protected from discrimination or harassment in employment, public accommodations,

housing, financing, insurance, education, in places where alcoholic beverages are consumed, real estate, public utilities, tax exemptions, the profession of healing arts, health facilities, and welfare in the state. Creates criminal violation of civil rights intimidation based on sexual orientation and gender identity or expression.

Senate Status 02/11/2015 - Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.

House Status 02/11/2015 - Referred to House Consumer & Human Resources Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 8; Title 12; Title 39; Title 49; Title 50; Title 56; Title 57; Title 62; Title 63; Title 65; Title 67; Title 68 and Title 71, relative to discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity or expression.

SB403 / HB804 Employment of military service members and family.

Category Labor Law

Sponsors [Sen. Mark Green](#) / [Rep. Joe Pitts](#)

Description Allows private employers to establish a preference policy for hiring certain veterans, spouses of veterans, and widows and widowers of veterans. Specifies required procedures for implementing preference policy.

Fiscal Note (Dated February 22, 2015) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status 02/11/2015 - Referred to Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.

House Status 02/25/2015 - Failed in House Consumer & Human Resources Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 12; Title 50 and Title 58, relative to employment policies with preferences in hiring certain persons connected to the military.

SB457 / HB582 Required medical examinations during elder abuse investigations.

Category Judiciary

Sponsors [Sen. Mike Bell](#) / [Rep. Jim Coley](#)

Description Gives law enforcement agencies, in addition to the department of human resources, the authority to require a medical examination of a person if the agency is not sure the adult is in imminent danger during the course of an elder abuse investigation. Broadly captioned.

Senate Status 02/12/2015 - Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.

House Status 02/12/2015 - Referred to House Health Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39; Title 40 and Title 71, relative to investigations, criminal offenses, criminal law, and criminal procedure.

Cosponsors [Rep. William G. Lamberth](#) ;

SB469 / HB395 Helmet exemption for motorcycle riders in funeral procession.

Category Transportation Vehicles

Sponsors [Sen. Mike Bell](#) / [Rep. Tilman Goins](#)

Description Exempts drivers and passengers who are 18 or older from wearing a helmet while riding a motorcycle in a funeral procession, memorial ride, or body escort detail.

Amendment House Transportation Subcommittee Amendment 1 (003603) makes helmet exemption only applicable to memorial rides under a police escort.

Fiscal Note (Dated February 21, 2015) Other Fiscal Impact "To the extent any person permitted to not wear a helmet as a result of this bill is involved in an accident, and that person either has medical insurance through TennCare or no medical insurance through another provider, there would be a significant increase in state and federal expenditures of an unknown amount based on factors specific to each accident. To the extent any such person incurs a severe head injury; a reasonable base amount is at least \$9,800 in federal expenditures and at least \$5,200 in state expenditures per accident. To the extent no accidents occur, or the individual involved in an accident has medical insurance through a private provider, the fiscal impact is considered not significant.

Senate Status 02/11/2015 - Referred to Senate Transportation & Safety Committee.

House Status 02/26/2015 - Set for House Transportation Committee 03/03/15.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-9-302, relative to crash helmet requirements for riders and passengers of motorcycles, motorized bicycles, and motor-driven cycles.

Cosponsors [Rep. Timothy Hill](#) ; [Rep. Kelly Keisling](#) ; [Rep. Mary Littleton](#) ; [Rep. Courtney Rogers](#) ; [Rep. Bill Sanderson](#) ;

SB504 / HB489 Authorizes transmission of nonprofit information electronically.

Category Government Regulation

Sponsors [Sen. Jack Johnson](#) / [Rep. Pat Marsh](#)

Description Authorizes the transmission and filing of nonprofit corporations' annual reports to the

secretary of state in an electronic format; authorizes the transmission of the secretary of state's list of new nonprofit corporations that were licensed or authorized to operate in the state during the preceding month and the secretary of state's list of nonprofit corporations that surrendered their charters, had charters revoked, or ceased to do business in this state, during the preceding month, to the commissioner of revenue in an electronic format.

Senate Status 02/12/2015 - Referred to Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.

House Status 02/18/2015 - Referred to House Business & Utilities Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 48, relative to corporations and associations.

SB568 / HB621 Nursing facility providers as vendors of TennCare.

Category TennCare

Sponsors [Sen. Doug Overbey](#) / [Rep. Andrew Farmer](#)

Description State Summary - As introduced, prohibits the bureau of TennCare from imposing certain requirements on nursing facility providers as vendors of the TennCare program unless certain conditions are met. - Amends TCA Title 4; Title 68 and Title 71.

Senate Status 02/12/2015 - Referred to Senate Health & Welfare Committee.

House Status 02/18/2015 - Referred to House Health Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 68 and Title 71, relative to vendor requirements.

SB570 / HB403 Reduces time period for TennCare applicants to mail changes.

Category Health Care

Sponsors [Sen. Doug Overbey](#) / [Rep. Bob Ramsey](#)

Description Reduces from 30 days to 15 days the period of time for an applicant for TennCare to mail documentation of a material change affecting the application. Broadly Captioned.

Fiscal Note (Dated February 23, 2015) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status 02/12/2015 - Referred to Senate Health & Welfare Committee.

House Status 02/11/2015 - Referred to House Health Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68 and Title 71, relative to TennCare.

SB602 / HB643 Taxation rate on HMOs.

Category Insurance Health

Sponsors [Sen. Mark S. Norris](#) / [Rep. Gerald McCormick](#)

Description State Summary - As introduced, increases, from five and one-half percent to six percent, the rate of tax imposed on health maintenance organizations (HMOs) doing business in this state on the gross amount of dollars collected from an enrollee or on an enrollee's behalf. - Amends TCA Section 56-32-124. Part of Administration Package.

Senate Status 02/12/2015 - Referred to Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.

House Status 02/12/2015 - Referred to House Insurance & Banking Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 56-32-124, relative to taxation of health maintenance organizations.

SB869 / HB1021 Orders issued - administrative hearing concerning a nursing home.

Category Judiciary

Sponsors [Sen. Sara Kyle](#) / [Rep. Mike Stewart](#)

Description State Summary - As introduced, changes time within which an order must be issued following an administrative hearing concerning a nursing home from 10 to 12 working days. - Amends TCA Title 68.

Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate Health & Welfare Committee.

House Status 02/24/2015 - Referred to House Health Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, relative to health.

SB889 / HB714 Healthcare liability action - prohibits evidence by public agencies.

Category Tort Liability

Sponsors [Sen. Brian K. Kelsey](#) / [Rep. Leigh Rosser Wilburn](#)

Description State Summary - As introduced, prohibits the use of a survey, inspection, or investigation of a healthcare provider that is conducted by a state or federal department or agency as evidence in a healthcare liability action, except to impeach a witness, or in an advertisement, unless certain criteria are met. - Amends TCA Title 29, Chapter 26, Part 1.

Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.

House Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to House Health Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 29, Chapter 26, Part 1, relative to health care liability actions.

SB892 / HB1003 Disclosure of protected medical information allowed in certain cases.

Category Health Care

Sponsors [Sen. Brian K. Kelsey](#) / [Rep. Jon Lundberg](#)

Description Specifies that in a healthcare liability action any healthcare provider's disclosure of protected health or other relevant information, including but not limited to, opinions as to the standard of care, compliance with or breach of the standard, causation of injury, or any other information relevant to the analysis and evaluation of the plaintiff's claim is subject to disclosure.

Senate Status 02/26/2015 - Set for Senate Judiciary Committee Regular Calendar 03/03/15.

House Status 02/24/2015 - Referred to House Civil Justice Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 29-26-121(f)(2), relative to qualified protective orders in healthcare liability actions.

SB899 / HB993 Rules for radiologic imaging and radio therapy equipment operators.

Category Health Care

Sponsors [Sen. Paul Bailey](#) / [Rep. Cameron Sexton](#)

Description State Summary - As introduced, amends the rules governing X-ray equipment operators to govern operators of all radiologic imaging and radiation therapy equipment. - Amends TCA Title 63, Chapter 6, Part 2.

Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate Health & Welfare Committee.

House Status 02/24/2015 - Referred to House Health Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 6, Part 2, relative to operators of medical equipment.

SB928 / HB933 Actuarial study - effect of reduction of payments to providers.

Category TennCare

Sponsors [Sen. Janice Bowling](#) / [Rep. Judd Matheny](#)

Description Requires the annual actuarial study of TennCare to include an analysis of the effect of reduction of payments to providers on the provision of care. Broadly captioned.

Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate Health & Welfare Committee.

House Status 02/24/2015 - Referred to House Health Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71, relative to TennCare.

SB941 / HB944 Changes certain duties of the commission on aging and disability.

Category Government Organization

Sponsors [Sen. Ken Yager](#) / [Rep. Mary Littleton](#)

Description Changes certain duties of the commission on aging and disability. Abolishes requirement of commission to initiate an outreach program to medicare-eligible Tennesseans to provide this group of Tennesseans information regarding how to obtain prescription drugs through different programs, ways in which older persons can get prescription drugs at discounted costs, and other obligations the commission has to inform and educate medicare-eligible Tennesseans. Abolishes requirement of commissioner to orchestrate congregate and home meal sites for older persons in the area.

Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate Health & Welfare Committee.

House Status 02/26/2015 - Set for House Health Subcommittee 03/03/15.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71, Chapter 2, relative to programs providing services for older Tennesseans and adults with disabilities.

SB961 / HB1324 Waiver to extend TennCare eligibility to veterans.

Category TennCare

Sponsors [Sen. Sara Kyle](#) / [Rep. Joe E. Armstrong](#)

Description Directs the commissioner of finance and administration to request an appropriate waiver to extend TennCare eligibility to veterans under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act on the basis of income on or before July 1, 2015.

Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate Health & Welfare Committee.

House Status 02/24/2015 - Referred to House Insurance & Banking Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71, relative to eligibility for medical assistance.

Cosponsors [Rep. Karen D. Camper](#) ;

SB962 / HB1028 Reasonable fees for copies of medical records.

Category Health Care

Sponsors [Sen. Sara Kyle](#) / [Rep. Mike Stewart](#)

Description Increases the cap on the amount healthcare providers can charge for copying medical records from \$20.00 for the first five pages and 50 cents per page for each page copied after the first five pages, to \$25.00 for the first five pages and 50 cents per page for each page copied after the first five pages. Excludes records involving workers' compensation cases. Broadly captioned.

Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate Health & Welfare Committee.

House Status 02/24/2015 - Referred to House Health Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63 and Title 68, relative to health.

SB992 / HB1106 Division of health related boards - directory of licensees on website.

Category Health Care

Sponsors [Sen. Mark S. Norris](#) / [Rep. Timothy Hill](#)

Description Requires the division of health related boards to make public its directory of licensees on the web site of the department of health. Broadly Captioned.

Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.

House Status 02/24/2015 - Referred to House Health Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 29; Title 33; Title 56; Title 63; Title 68 and Title 71, relative to health care.

SB994 / HB1146 Termination of hospital cooperative agreement - notice.

Category Health Care

Sponsors [Sen. Mark S. Norris](#) / [Rep. Jimmy A. Eldridge](#)

Description Increases, from 30 days to 45 days after termination, the time within which any party to a hospital cooperative agreement who terminates the agreement must file a notice of termination with the department of health.

Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate Health & Welfare Committee.

House Status 02/24/2015 - Referred to House Health Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 11, Part 13, relative to hospital cooperative agreements.

SB996 / HB1007 Deadline for study on 911 surcharge and next generation technology.

Category Government Organization

Sponsors [Sen. Todd Gardenhire](#) / [Rep. Ryan A. Haynes](#)

Description Extends the time deadline that TACIR must study and report to the joint committee on government operations on the 911 surcharge and implementation of IP-based next generation 911 technology from September 15, 2017, to September 15, 2018. Broadly captioned.

Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.

House Status 02/23/2015 - Referred to House State Government Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 6; Title 7; Title 9; Title 29; Title 47; Title 56; Title 58; Title 65 and Title 68, relative to emergency communications.

SB1016 / HB425 Report on status of emergency medical services for children.

Category Health Care

Sponsors [Sen. Steven Dickerson](#) / [Rep. Bryan Terry](#)

Description Requires the joint report on the current status of emergency medical services for children prepared by the board for licensing health care facilities and the emergency medical services board, in collaboration with the committee on pediatric emergency care, to be submitted to the civil and criminal justice committees of the house, in addition to the health and welfare committee of the senate, the health committee of the house of representatives and the judiciary committee of the senate.

Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.

House Status 02/18/2015 - Referred to House State Government Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63 and Title 68, relative to health care.

SB1057 / HB1149 Requirements for CON application.

Category Health Care

Sponsors [Sen. Mark Green](#) / [Rep. Bud Hulsey](#)

Description Requires that a free-standing emergency department be located no more than 50 miles from its sponsoring hospital for purposes of a certificate of need application.

Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate Health & Welfare Committee.

House Status 02/26/2015 - Set for House Health Subcommittee 03/03/15.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 11, relative to free-standing emergency departments.

Cosponsors [Rep. Jay D. Reedy](#) ;
SB1067 / HB555 Making Work Pay Act.
Category Labor Law
Sponsors [Sen. Lee Harris](#) / [Rep. Craig Fitzhugh](#)
Description State Summary - As introduced, enacts the "Making Work Pay Act." - Amends TCA Title 50.
Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.
House Status 02/18/2015 - Referred to House Consumer & Human Resources Subcommittee.
Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 50, relative to wages.
Cosponsors [Rep. Raumesh Akbari](#) ; [Rep. JoAnne Favors](#) ; [Rep. G.A. Hardaway](#) ; [Rep. Antonio Parkinson](#) ; [Rep. Johnny W. Shaw](#) ; [Rep. Joe Towns Jr.](#) ;

SB1070 / HB884 Appropriations - FY beginning July 1, 2014, and July 1, 2015.

Category Public Finance
Sponsors [Sen. Lee Harris](#) / [Rep. Craig Fitzhugh](#)
Description State Summary - As introduced, makes appropriations for the purpose of defraying the expenses of certain legislative enactments passed during the 2015 session of the 109th General Assembly. - Repeals I certain appropriations and any acts inconsistent herewith; to provide provisional continuing appropriations; and to establish certain provisions, limitations, and restrictions under which appropriations may be obligated and expended. This act makes appropriations for the purposes described above for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2014, and July 1, 2015.
Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate Finance, Ways & Means Committee.
House Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to House Finance Subcommittee.
Caption AN ACT to make appropriations for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the state government for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2014, and July 1, 2015, in the administration, operation, and maintenance of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of the various departments, institutions, offices, and agencies of the state; for certain state aid and obligations; for capital outlay, for the service of the public debt, for emergency and contingency; to repeal certain appropriations and any acts inconsistent herewith; to provide provisional continuing appropriations; and to establish certain provisions, limitations, and restrictions under which appropriations may be obligated and expended. This act makes appropriations for the purposes described above for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2014, and July 1, 2015.

SB1072 / HB885 Bond issuance.

Category Public Finance
Sponsors [Sen. Lee Harris](#) / [Rep. Craig Fitzhugh](#)
Description Authorizes the state of Tennessee, acting by resolution of its funding board, to issue and sell its interest-bearing bonds and bond anticipation notes to make necessary repairs of building facilities and other development costs, to provide funds for the state office buildings and support facilities revolving fund, and to provide for those funds.
Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate Finance, Ways & Means Committee.
House Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to House Finance Subcommittee.
Caption AN ACT to authorize the state of Tennessee, acting by resolution of its funding board, to issue and to sell its interest-bearing bonds and bond anticipation notes to provide for necessary repairs, replacements, additions, and betterments of buildings and facilities, expressly including the acquisition of real estate, site work, facility development, and other development costs, including equipment of facilities; to provide funds for the state office buildings and support facilities revolving fund, and to provide for the expenditure of said funds; to issue its debt in excess of previously stated amount to provide funds for capital outlay, and to fund discount and costs of issuance; to provide for the expenditure of said funds; and to amend certain public acts authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds and bond anticipation notes. This act makes appropriations for an indefinite period of time for the purpose of allocating the proceeds of the bonds and notes authorized by this act.

SB1073 / HB883 Administration of group insurance for state officials and employees.

Category Public Employees
Sponsors [Sen. Lee Harris](#) / [Rep. Craig Fitzhugh](#)
Description Assigns the state employee staff responsible for the administration of the group insurance for state officials and employees to the department of finance and administration. Authorizes grant payments under the grant assistance program for nursing home care to be made either monthly or quarterly. Broadly captioned.

Fiscal Note (Dated February 18, 2015) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate Finance, Ways & Means Committee.

House Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to House Finance Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 5; Title 6; Title 8; Title 9; Title 10; Title 11; Title 12; Title 13; Title 16; Title 17; Title 18; Title 29; Title 33; Title 37; Title 38; Title 39; Title 40; Title 41; Title 43; Title 45; Title 47; Title 48; Title 49; Title 50; Title 53; Title 54; Title 55; Title 56; Title 57; Title 58; Title 59; Title 60; Title 62; Title 63; Title 64; Title 65; Title 66; Title 67; Title 68; Title 69; Title 70 and Title 71, relative to statutory revisions required for implementation of the annual appropriations act.

SB1115 / HB1287 Volunteer drivers exempted from medical card and exam requirements.

Category Professions & Licensure

Sponsors [Sen. Jack Johnson](#) / [Rep. Jerry Sexton](#)

Description Exempts volunteer drivers from obtaining a medical examination and a medical examiner's certificate or similar documentation if the volunteer driver meets certain requirements.

Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate Transportation & Safety Committee.

House Status 02/24/2015 - Referred to House Transportation Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 50, relative to the transportation of passengers without compensation.

Cosponsors [Rep. Jeremy Durham](#);

SB1133 / HB1333 Emergency medical personnel killed in line of duty - compensation.

Category Public Employees

Sponsors [Sen. Janice Bowling](#) / [Rep. Antonio Parkinson](#)

Description Extends compensation paid to the estate of firefighters, police officers, and volunteer rescue squad workers killed in the line of duty to apply to emergency medical services personnel and 911 operators. Increase such compensation from \$25,000 to \$500,000 paid over the course of 10 years. Broadly captioned.

Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.

House Status 02/23/2015 - Referred to House State Government Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 7, Chapter 51, Part 2; Title 9 and Title 68, Chapter 140, relative to compensation for certain persons killed in the line of duty.

SB1202 / HB222 Privileged communication - emergency personnel and certain counselors.

Category Judiciary

Sponsors [Sen. Jeff Yarbro](#) / [Rep. Sherry Jones](#)

Description Establishes communications, made between certain emergency personnel and designated peer support group counselors, as privileged. Specifies that peer support counselors should not be compelled to testify in a proceeding without the consent of the personnel who received counseling. Specifies that privilege does not apply if a peer support counselor was an initial responding emergency personnel.

Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.

House Status 02/11/2015 - Referred to House Civil Justice Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 24, Chapter 1, Part 2, relative to privileged communications.

SB1230 / HB742 Allow county EMS provider to request background checks for employment.

Category Local Government

Sponsors [Sen. Mike Bell](#) / [Rep. Bud Hulsey](#)

Description State Summary - As introduced, authorizes county emergency medical services provider, volunteer fire department or rescue squad to request from the county's sheriff's office a criminal background check on any person applying to be an emergency medical services volunteer on or after July 1, 2015. - Amends TCA Title 5; Title 7, Chapter 86 and Title 68, Chapter 140.

Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.

House Status 02/18/2015 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 5; Title 7, Chapter 86 and Title 68, Chapter 140, relative to background checks for certain emergency medical services personnel.

SB1256 / HB1179 Orders issued after administrative hearing on nursing homes.

Category Health Care

Sponsors [Sen. Jeff Yarbrow](#) / [Rep. John Ray Clemmons](#)

Description Changes time within which an order must be issued following an administrative hearing concerning a nursing home from 10 working days to 12 working days.

Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate Health & Welfare Committee.

House Status 02/24/2015 - Referred to House Health Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, relative to health.

[SB1261 / HB1180](#) Cap on charging for copying medical records.

Category Health Care

Sponsors [Sen. Jeff Yarbrow](#) / [Rep. John Ray Clemmons](#)

Description Increases the cap on the amount healthcare providers can charge for copying medical records, from \$20.00 for the first five pages and 50 cents per page for each page copied after the first five pages, to \$24.00 for the first five pages and 50 cents per page for each page copied after the first five pages. Exempts records involving workers' compensation cases.

Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate Health & Welfare Committee.

House Status 02/24/2015 - Referred to House Health Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63 and Title 64, relative to health.

[SB1287 / HB1216](#) Explanations justifying amount of drugs prescribed.

Category Health Care

Sponsors [Sen. Joey Hensley](#) / [Rep. Barry Doss](#)

Description Extends the time in which the top 50 prescribers of controlled substances must provide an explanation to the department of health justifying the amount of controlled substances they prescribed from 15 business days to 30 business days.

Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate Health & Welfare Committee.

House Status 02/24/2015 - Referred to House Criminal Justice Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63 and Title 68, relative to the healing arts.

[SB1314 / HB503](#) Reimbursement rate for hospitals.

Category TennCare

Sponsors [Sen. Randy McNally](#) / [Rep. Jimmy Matlock](#)

Description State Summary - As introduced, caps the bureau of TennCare and any managed care organization's reimbursement to hospitals for providing healthcare services by creating a ceiling limiting reimbursement to 100 percent of the allowable charge under Medicare. - Amends TCA Title 71, Chapter 5.

Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate Health & Welfare Committee.

House Status 02/18/2015 - Referred to House Health Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 71, Chapter 5, relative to TennCare.

[SB1351 / HB1271](#) Medical assistance to existing TennCare II waiver population.

Category TennCare

Sponsors [Sen. Randy McNally](#) / [Rep. Eddie Smith](#)

Description Directs the commissioner of finance and administration to submit a waiver request to the federal centers for Medicare and Medicaid services to enable the state to provide medical assistance to the existing TennCare II waiver population and persons with incomes below 138 percent of the federal poverty line by means of a block grant of federal funds within 120 days of the effective date of this act. Specifies that the block grant authorized by this section shall convert the federal share of all medical assistance funding for this state into an allotment that is tailored to meet the needs of this state and that is indexed for inflation and population growth.

Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.

House Status 02/24/2015 - Referred to House Insurance & Banking Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 33; Title 56 and Title 71, relative to medical assistance.

Cosponsors [Rep. Ryan A. Haynes](#) ;

[SB1389 / HB1367](#) First responders have certain rights.

Category Health Care

Sponsors [Sen. John Stevens](#) / [Rep. Curtis Halford](#)

Description Establishes that first responders from emergency management shall have all rights, benefits, privileges, and protections available pursuant to state and local laws.

Senate Status 02/19/2015 - Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.

House Status 02/23/2015 - Referred to House State Government Subcommittee.

Caption AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 58, relative to emergency management personnel.

Cosponsors [Rep. Darren Jernigan](#) ;

SJR88 Waiver for implementation of TennCare Opt Out program.

Category TennCare

Sponsors [Sen. Mark Green](#)

Description Requests the governor to apply for an appropriate federal waiver in order to implement the TennCare Opt Out program as a small pilot project within the TennCare program.

Senate Status 02/12/2015 - Introduced in the Senate.

House Status *None*

Caption A RESOLUTION to request the Governor to seek a waiver from the federal government for Tennessee to administer a limited TennCare Opt Out pilot program.

SJR7001 Authorization of Insure Tennessee.

Category Insurance Health

Sponsors [Sen. Doug Overbey](#)

Description Authorizes implementation of Insure Tennessee substantially as described in TennCare Demonstration Amendment #25.

Senate Status 02/04/2015 - Failed in Senate Select Committee on Health and Welfare after a 7-4 vote. Voting No: Crowe, Bell, Bowling, Gardenhire, Kelsey, Niceley, Roberts. Voting Yes: Massey, Briggs, Jackson, Yarbro.

House Status *None*

Caption A RESOLUTION to authorize the Governor to do all that is necessary to implement Insure Tennessee substantially as described in TennCare Demonstration Amendment #25.