

Tennessee Firearms Association

2020 State Legislative Candidate Survey

This survey is being sent to all candidates for Tennessee State House and State Senate. This survey is to be completed by the candidate personally. Any candidate who does not return a survey, or returns an incomplete survey, will be assumed to have answered in the negative on any questions where there was not a written affirmative response. **The deadline to return the survey to the TFA is May 22, 2020.** Surveys may be returned via e-mail: survey2020@tennesseefirearms.com or via direct mail postmarked by the deadline to: TFA, c/o John Harris, 3310 West End Avenue, Suite 460, Nashville, TN 37203.

SURVEY QUESTIONS

1) Approximately 30 states allow citizens to openly carry firearms without any state required training, fee, permit or license. Approximately 17 states do not impose state training, fees, permits, or licenses on citizens to carry firearms either openly or concealed.

Will you support and vote for legislation in Tennessee to recognize the existence of a constitutionally protected right of individuals to carry a legally possessed firearm openly or concealed without a government required training course, background check, fee or permit?

YES _____ NO _____ I will sponsor this legislation _____

2) Tennessee has a presumption in TCA Section 39-17-1307(a) that it is a crime for a citizen to carry a legally possessed firearm "with the intent to go armed."

Will you support and vote for legislation in Tennessee which removes this presumption and only makes it a crime to use a weapon in the commission of a violent crime?

YES _____ NO _____ I will sponsor this legislation _____

3) Tennessee local governments can under some circumstances ban firearms possession in locally owned or managed parks, greenways, campgrounds, outdoor facilities, nature areas and recreational facilities.

Will you support and vote for legislation to eliminate all local regulation of firearms possession on public property?

YES _____ NO _____ I will sponsor this legislation _____

4) Some states have laws which protect individuals who have responded in self-defense from being sued for damages by their attackers and to prohibit such lawsuits if any criminal investigation is pending.

Will you support and vote for legislation to prohibit damage lawsuits against individuals who use self-defense against an attacker?

YES _____ NO _____ I will sponsor this legislation _____

5) Will you support and vote for legislation to allow citizens to carry lawfully possessed firearms into the state capitol?

YES _____ NO _____ I will sponsor this legislation _____

6) Will you support and vote for legislation to allow citizens to carry lawfully possessed firearms into the state legislative facilities?

YES _____ NO _____ I will sponsor this legislation _____

7) Will you support and vote for legislation to allow citizens to carry lawfully possessed firearms into the local government offices and meeting places?

YES _____ NO _____ I will sponsor this legislation _____

8) Will you support and vote for legislation to allow citizens, including educators, students and visitors, to carry lawfully possessed firearms on all college campuses in Tennessee?

YES _____ NO _____ I will sponsor this legislation _____

9) Will you support and vote for legislation to allow law abiding citizens, including educators and visitors, to carry lawfully possessed firearms on K-12 school grounds?

YES _____ NO _____ I will sponsor this legislation _____

10) Will you support and vote for legislation that would fully restore the right to keep and bear arms to individuals who have been convicted of any misdemeanors or non-violent felonies once the individual's sentence has been fully completed?

YES _____ NO _____ I will sponsor this legislation _____

11) Will you support and vote for legislation to prohibit a local government from regulating any aspect of civilian firearms ownership, purchase, carry, use or possession, on publicly owned properties that are made available for the use or rental of non-government entities (such as meeting centers, convention centers and fairgrounds)?

YES _____ NO _____ I will sponsor this legislation _____

12) Will you support and vote for legislation to prohibit the administrative branch of state government from regulating any aspect of civilian firearms ownership, purchase, carry, use or possession, including the legal possession of firearms in public buildings or on public property?

YES _____ NO _____ I will sponsor this legislation _____

13) Current state law (TCA 39-11-1309) prohibits possession of firearms on school grounds. That statute defines school grounds to include any land that is "used" by a school and could even apply to an individual's home or farm land when being "used" by a school for a party, event or class.

Will you support and vote for legislation to limit the term "school grounds" to a specific and clearly defined school campus?

YES _____ NO _____ I will sponsor this legislation _____

14) Will you support and vote for legislation requiring a commercial private property owner who elects to prohibit citizens who enter their property from carrying firearms to provide adequate security to guarantee the safety of those individuals and to make them liable for any harm or damage occurring while disarmed?

YES _____ NO _____ I will sponsor this legislation _____

15) Will you support and vote for legislation that requires that the US Constitution, the Bill of Rights and the State Constitution to be taught in schools?

YES _____ NO _____ I will sponsor this legislation _____

16) Will you support and vote for legislation that requires that firearms use and marksmanship be taught in schools?

YES _____ NO _____ I will sponsor this legislation _____

17) Will you support and vote for legislation or a rule change in both Houses that provides that all subcommittees and committees must have roll call votes on each bill?

YES _____ NO _____ I will sponsor this legislation _____

18) Will you support and vote for legislation or a rule change in both Houses that provides that all proposed amendments to bills must be posted on the state website at least 72 hours before being voted upon in any subcommittee and committee?

YES _____ NO _____ I will sponsor this legislation _____

19) Will you support and vote for legislation that provides for an elected state Attorney General?

YES _____ NO _____ I will sponsor this legislation _____

20) Will you support and vote for legislation that would allow the citizens to remove permanently any individual from the office of speaker of the respective legislative bodies by state wide referendum?

YES _____ NO _____ I will sponsor this legislation _____

21) Will you support and vote for legislation that restores the right of the people to vote for all general sessions, trial and appellate judges?

YES _____ NO _____ I will sponsor this legislation _____

Comments: _____

CANDIDATE CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing statements are true and correct. I certify under penalty of perjury that I have individually responded to each such question and that I am solely responsible for my survey response.

Candidate signature _____

Date _____

Candidate Name (print) _____

Office sought (district) _____

Party Affiliation (if any) _____

Email address _____

Phone number _____

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Tennessee Firerams Association

Tennessee Firearms Association 2020 Legislative Leadership Pledge

To the Tennessee Firearms Association and its members:

I am a candidate for the Tennessee General Assembly. I pledge to you that I will uphold both the Tennessee Constitution and United States Constitution and will take no action that might have the effect of infringing on the rights of the citizens of this state.

I make this solemn pledge to you:

- I will do everything in my power as a legislator to obtain recorded committee and floor votes on all bills related to permitless open carry, permitless concealed carry and the elimination of gun free zones in Tennessee. This includes supporting recall motions to bring bills on these topics directly to the floor of the respective Houses.
- I will introduce or co-sponsor and diligently work toward the passage of at least one piece of pro-gun legislation that is prioritized by the TFA as "key" legislation each year.
- I will cosponsor and support pro-gun legislation that is introduced by my fellow legislators and supported by TFA.
- I will work to reform the committee system so that bills that have more sponsors than "no votes" in a committee will continue to move forward toward the floor of each House.
- I pledge that I will ONLY support individuals for party leadership who have a solid pro-gun voting record and whose priorities as leaders are based first on the State and federal constitutions.

Candidate signature _____

Date _____

Candidate Name (print) _____

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