

# Tennessee Firearms Association

## 2024 State Legislative Candidate Survey

This survey is being sent to all candidates in 2024 for the Tennessee State House and the State Senate. This survey must 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 response. **The deadline to return the survey to the TFA is Friday May 10, 2024.** Surveys must be sent by mail and postmarked by the deadline to: John Harris, Attn: TFA 2024 Survey, 3310 West End Avenue, Suite 460, Nashville, TN 37203.

### SURVEY QUESTIONS

**1) The United States Supreme Court held in *New York State Rifle and Pistol Association v. Bruen*, No. 20-843 in June 2022 that any law, order, rule or regulation that impairs any right within the scope of the Second Amendment's protections is unconstitutional. The Court further held that the government bears the burden to show that any existing law or proposed legislation is consistent with the "nation's historical tradition" for firearms regulation as of 1791. **Will you vote for legislation to repeal any restriction on the right of citizens to keep, bear and wear arms that did not exist as of 1791 as part of the nation's historical tradition?****

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ I will sponsor this legislation \_\_\_\_\_

**2) A constitutional amendment has been proposed in House Joint Resolution 38 (SJR904) that would amend the state's constitution to delete the existing language from Article I, Section 26 and to substitute this declaration: "*That the citizens of this State have a right to keep and to bear arms for their defense.*" **Will you vote to place this constitutional amendment on the ballot for a public vote in 2026?****

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ I will sponsor this legislation \_\_\_\_\_

**3) Tennessee Code Annotated § 39-17-1307(a) makes it is a crime for a citizen to possess a firearm "with the intent to go armed" even if doing so in their own home. **Will you vote for legislation to repeal entirely the "intent to go armed" presumption of criminal activity?****

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ I will sponsor this legislation \_\_\_\_\_

**4) In Tennessee the issue of self-defense is an affirmative defense to a criminal charge and is only required to be decided by a jury in a full criminal trial. Tennessee Code Annotated § 39-11-611. **Will you vote for legislation that protects individuals who have used justifiable self-defense from being criminally prosecuted in circumstances where the district attorney lacks sufficient evidence to negate the self-defense issue at trial (such as with Kyle Rittenhouse)?****

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ I will sponsor this legislation \_\_\_\_\_

**5) Will you vote for legislation requiring commercial property owners who post their properties as “gun free” zones to be responsible for the safety and security of guests on the property?**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ I will sponsor this legislation \_\_\_\_\_

**6) Will you vote for legislation requiring government properties that are “gun free” zones to provide secure storage for individuals to store their weapons while at the property?**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ I will sponsor this legislation \_\_\_\_\_

**7) Tennessee local governments can ban firearms possession in locally owned or managed parks, greenways, campgrounds, outdoor facilities, nature areas and recreational facilities. Will you vote for legislation to eliminate all local regulation of firearms possession on public property?**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ I will sponsor this legislation \_\_\_\_\_

**8) Will you vote for legislation to allow individuals to carry lawfully possessed firearms into the state capitol?**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ I will sponsor this legislation \_\_\_\_\_

**9) Will you vote for legislation to allow individuals to carry lawfully possessed firearms into local government offices and government operated meeting places?**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ I will sponsor this legislation \_\_\_\_\_

**10) Will you vote for legislation to allow individuals to carry lawfully possessed firearms on college campuses?**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ I will sponsor this legislation \_\_\_\_\_

**11) Will you vote for legislation to allow individuals to carry lawfully possessed firearms on K-12 school grounds?**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ I will sponsor this legislation \_\_\_\_\_

**12) Will you vote for legislation to fully and completely restore the right to keep and bear arms to individuals who have been convicted of any misdemeanor criminal acts once the individual’s sentence has been fully completed?**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ I will sponsor this legislation \_\_\_\_\_

**13) Will you vote for legislation to fully restore the right to keep and bear arms to individuals who have been convicted of non-violent felonies once the individual’s sentence has been fully completed?**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ I will sponsor this legislation \_\_\_\_\_

**14) Nashville and some other local governments refuse to rent public space to entities that want to have “gun shows” or other events featuring firearms. Will you vote for legislation to prohibit a local government from discriminating against individuals or entities who want to rent public facilities for firearms related events (e.g., renting convention centers, fairgrounds facilities, civic centers, etc., for “gun shows”, hunting shows, etc.)?**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ I will sponsor this legislation \_\_\_\_\_

**15) Will you 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ I will sponsor this legislation \_\_\_\_\_

**17) Will you vote for legislation that eliminates the \$10 per transaction Tennessee Instant Check fee charged by TBI for firearms purchases (note: the FBI will perform these at no cost)?**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ I will sponsor this legislation \_\_\_\_\_

**18) Will you vote for legislation that eliminates the option for TBI to issue a “conditional proceed” as opposed to either an “approved” or “denied” when running background checks for firearms purchases?**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ I will sponsor this legislation \_\_\_\_\_

**19) Will you vote for legislation that requires that Legislative subcommittees and committees must have roll call votes on each bill that is moved by the sponsor?**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ I will sponsor this legislation \_\_\_\_\_

**20) Will you vote for legislation that requires that all proposed amendments to proposed legislation must be posted on the state website and publicly available at least 72 hours before being voted upon in any subcommittee or committee?**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ I will sponsor this legislation \_\_\_\_\_

**21) Will you vote for legislation that prohibits 501(c)(3) entities (which are restricted by the IRS from general lobbying activities) like the Tennessee Sheriffs Association from lobbying related to Second Amendment issues?**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ I will sponsor this legislation \_\_\_\_\_

**22) Will you vote for legislation that prohibits representatives from the administration from lobbying related to issues that pertain to rights that are protected by the Second Amendment?**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ I will sponsor this legislation \_\_\_\_\_

**23) Will you vote for legislation that establishes an elected attorney general?**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ I will sponsor this legislation \_\_\_\_\_

**24) With Federal overreach by agencies such as the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF) and others setting rules and changing rules to satisfy the Administration and threatening to make hundreds of thousands of Tennesseans overnight criminals, will you vote for legislation that establishes a Second Amendment Preservation Act that would prohibit the use of any state or tax-funded agency or officer from assisting with federal firearms investigations and provides recourse for citizens that are impacted by any violations of such prohibition (See Wyoming and Michigan for example)?**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ I will sponsor this legislation \_\_\_\_\_

**25) What other legislation that may be relevant to the Second Amendment do you intend to sponsor as a legislator?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTICE - The deadline to return the survey is May 10, 2024**

**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 (including district) \_\_\_\_\_

Party Affiliation (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate cell phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Campaign Manager and contact \_\_\_\_\_