



# Bill Status Report

Tennessee Firearms Association Bill Status Report - April 11, 2025

## SB34/HB599 **CRIMINAL LAW: Offense of knowingly giving, selling, or transferring a firearm to prohibited person.**

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○○○○○○○○○○
 Sen. Campbell, Heidi  
 Rep. Freeman, Bob

*Summary:* Creates a Class A misdemeanor for knowingly giving, selling, lending, delivering, or otherwise transferring a firearm to a person when the transferor knows or reasonably should know that the person receiving the firearm is prohibited from purchasing or possessing a firearm under state or federal law.

*Amendment*

*Summary:*

*Subcommittee*

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated February 1, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

*Senate Status:* 04/08/25 - Senate Judiciary Committee deferred to the first calendar for 2026.

*House Status:* 04/01/25 - House Criminal Justice Subcommittee deferred to first calendar of 2026.

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 13, relative to firearms.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:*

*Position:* Oppose

*Priority:*

*Comment:* Proposal violates 2nd Amendment as applied by Bruen, Heller and McDonald.

**SB43/HB814 CRIMINAL LAW: Authorization of counties to not permit handgun permits.**

●●○○○○○○○○○ Sen. Lamar, London  
●●○○○○○○○○○ Rep. Miller, Larry

*Summary:* Authorizes a county legislative body to elect not to permit persons within the county to lawfully carry a handgun without a handgun carry permit by passage of a resolution. Requires a county that has passed such a resolution to provide notice to persons present within the county by posting notice of the resolution in conspicuous public locations throughout the county.

*Amendment*

*Summary:*

*Subcommittee*

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated January 20, 2025) OTHER FISCAL IMPACT The extent and timing of increases in state revenue and expenditures and local revenue cannot be determined with reasonable certainty.

*Senate Status:* 04/08/25 - Senate Judiciary Committee deferred to the first calendar for 2026.

*House Status:* 02/10/25 - Referred to House Civil Justice Subcommittee.

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 13, relative to the carrying of firearms.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:*

*Position:* Oppose

*Priority:*

*Comment:* Proposal violates 2nd Amendment as applied by Bruen, Heller and McDonald.

**SB130/HB175 ENVIRONMENT & NATURE: Use of drones to locate and retrieve deer that have been wounded by hunters.**

●●●●○ Sen. Walley, Page  
●●●○ Rep. Darby, Tandy

*Summary:* Authorizes the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission to promulgate rules or pass proclamations to authorize the use of unmanned aircraft, including drones, to locate and retrieve deer that have been wounded by hunters.

*Amendment*

*Summary:*

*Subcommittee*

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated January 18, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

*Senate Status:* 02/26/25 - Senate Energy, Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee recommended. Sent to Senate Calendar Committee.

*House Status:* 04/10/25 - Set for House Government Operations Committee 04/16/25.

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39 and Title 70, relative to the use of unmanned aircraft for deer recovery when hunting.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:*

*Position:* Amend

*Priority:* 3 - Third-tier

*Comment:* The bill specifically references "deer." It should likely be amended to include the search for or recovery of game or injured animal. Why, for example, limit this to deer when it just as easily could be elk, bear, exotics, waterfowl, etc.? Also, why is it limited to those animals wounded while lawfully engaged in hunting? Are there other reasons (e.g., road injuries) that should allow for such search and location?

**SB163/HB468 CRIMINAL LAW: Increases penalty for reckless endangerment.**

●●●●○○○○○○○ Sen. Hensley, Joey  
●●●●○○○○○○○ Rep. Reeves, Lee

*Summary:* increases the penalty for reckless endangerment when the offense is committed by discharging a firearm or antique firearm into a motor vehicle from a Class E felony to a Class C felony, if the motor vehicle is occupied, or a Class D felony, if the motor vehicle is unoccupied.

*Amendment Summary:* House Judiciary Committee amendment 1, Senate Judiciary Committee amendment 1 (004927) expands the offense of reckless endangerment to include discharging a firearm or antique firearm into a motor vehicle. Establishes that discharging a firearm into an occupied vehicle is a Class C felony, while discharging a firearm into an unoccupied vehicle is a Class D felony. Authorizes the offense to be prosecuted as aggravated assault, or any other criminal offense, if applicable.

*Subcommittee* HB0468\_Amendment (004927).pdf

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated January 24, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES Incarceration \$84,700

*Senate Status:* 04/08/25 - Senate Judiciary Committee recommended with amendment 1 (004927). Sent to Senate Finance.

*House Status:* 04/09/25 - Set for House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee 04/14/25.

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 13, Part 1, relative to reckless endangerment.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:* Rep. McCalmon, Jake; Rep. Powers, Dennis;

<i>Position:</i>	Oppose
<i>Priority:</i>	
<i>Comment:</i>	This bill does not appear to have any reason behind the proposal of materially increasing the classification of felonies from one grade to a higher grade. This may be a bill brought to allow prosecutors to increase the risk of going to trial for a defendant merely as a means of negotiating plea bargains.

**SB206/HB646 ENVIRONMENT & NATURE: Use of certain colors while hunting.**



Sen. Massey, Becky  
Rep. Carringer, Michele

*Summary:* Authorizes persons big game hunting to substitute daylight fluorescent pink for fluorescent orange. Requires the color to be at least 500 square inches and visible from the front and back.

*Amendment*

*Summary:*

*Subcommittee*

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated January 24, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

*Senate Status:* 03/10/25 - Senate passed.

*House Status:* 04/07/25 - House passed.

*Executive* 04/07/25 - Sent to the speakers for signatures.

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39 and Title 70, relative to the use of certain colors while hunting.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:* Rep. Jones, Renea; Rep. Lamberth, William; Rep. Reedy, Jay; Sen. Reeves, Shane; Rep. Todd, Chris; Rep. Vital, Greg;

*Position:* Oppose

*Priority:*

*Comment:* Appears to be a caption bill.

**SB218/HB33 CRIMINAL LAW: Not being released on personal recognizance.**



Sen. Taylor, Brent  
Rep. Gillespie, John

*Summary:* Establishes a presumption that a defendant should not be released on the defendant's personal recognizance if the defendant is charged with an offense that involved the use or display of a firearm or resulted in the serious bodily injury or death of the victim. Requires a magistrate who determines that the presumption has been rebutted to include in the bail order written findings for each factor considered in making such a determination.

*Amendment*

*Summary:*

*Subcommittee*

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated January 23, 2025) OTHER FISCAL IMPACT Passage of the proposed legislation may result in an increase in local incarceration expenditures; however, the precise timing and impact is dependent on multiple unknown factors and cannot be determined with reasonable certainty.

*Senate Status:* 03/13/25 - Senate passed.

*House Status:* 04/10/25 - Set for House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee 04/14/25.

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 40, relative to pretrial release for certain offenses.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:* Sen. Jackson, Ed; Sen. Rose, Paul;

<p><i>Position:</i> Oppose</p> <p><i>Priority:</i> 2 - Second-tier</p> <p><i>Comment:</i> This bill would create a "presumption that a defendant should not be released on the defendant's personal recognizance if the defendant is charged with an offense that involved the use or display of a firearm or resulted in the serious bodily injury or death of the victim." Note that it could apply, as written, to individuals charged with nothing more than "gun free zone" violations or "carry with intent to go armed" violations. Whatever the sponsors' intent, this bill goes too far.</p>
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**SB221/HB34 CRIMINAL LAW: Use of juvenile court records.**



Sen. Taylor, Brent  
Rep. Gillespie, John

*Summary:* Permits a court to use juvenile court records, including the disposition and evidence, in pretrial reports used to set bond for criminal offenses. Requires the magistrate to consider the defendant's prior juvenile record in determining the defendant's risk of danger to the community.

*Amendment Summary:* Senate amendment 1 (003523) authorizes a court to use juvenile court records, including the disposition of a child and evidence adduced in a hearing, in pretrial reports used to set bonds if the juvenile court adjudication occurred within the previous five years. Requires, in determining the amount of bail necessary to reasonably assure the appearance of a defendant and the public's safety, a magistrate to consider the defendant's prior juvenile record. House Judiciary Committee amendment 1 (004207) authorizes a court to use juvenile court records, including the disposition of a child and evidence adduced in a hearing, in pretrial reports used to set bonds if the juvenile court adjudication occurred within the previous five years. Requires, in determining the amount of bail necessary to reasonably assure the appearance of a defendant and the public's safety, a magistrate to consider the defendant's prior juvenile record. Requires all files and juvenile court records, including medical reports, psychological evaluations, and any other document relating to a person, to be subject to disclosure and opened to public inspection if the person has committed a homicide on school grounds and is deceased. House Finance Subcommittee amendment 1 (005127) authorizes a court to use juvenile court records, including the disposition of a child and evidence adduced in a hearing, in pretrial reports used to set bonds if the juvenile court adjudication occurred within the previous five years. Requires, in determining the amount of bail necessary to reasonably assure the appearance of a defendant and the public's safety, a magistrate to consider the defendant's prior juvenile record.

*Subcommittee* HB0034\_(004207).pdf

*Amendments:* HB0034\_Amendment (005127).pdf

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated February 6, 2025) OTHER FISCAL IMPACT Passage of the proposed legislation may result in an increase in local incarceration expenditures; however, the precise timing and impact is dependent on multiple unknown factors and cannot be determined with reasonable certainty.

*Senate Status:* 03/03/25 - Senate passed with amendment 1 (003523).

*House Status:* 04/10/25 - Set for House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee 04/14/25.

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37 and Title 40, relative to juvenile records.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:* Sen. Rose, Paul;

*Position:*

*Priority:*

*Comment:*

**SB222/HB1027 CRIMINAL LAW: Information provided by sheriff to DOS regarding application for an enhanced handgun carry permit.**

●●●●●○○○○○○○ Sen. Jackson, Ed  
●●●○○○○○○○○○ Rep. Russell, Lowell

*Summary:* Increases, from 30 to 45, the number of days a sheriff has to provide the department of safety with any information that is within the knowledge of the sheriff concerning an applicant's truthfulness on an application for an enhanced handgun carry permit. Broadly captioned.

*Amendment Summary:* Senate Judiciary Committee amendment 1, House Judiciary Committee amendment 1 (005472) enacts the Tennessee Violent Incident Clearance and Technological Investigative Methods Support (TN-VICTIMS) Act. Requires the Department of Finance and Administration's (F&A) Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) to, in consultation with the Tennessee Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Commission, the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy (TLETA), and the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) develop a grant program to improve law enforcement strategies and initiatives aimed at increasing violent crime clearance rates and engagement and support for victims of violent crime. Requires law enforcement agencies that receive grant funding under the program to report to OCJP annually on activities carried out using those funds during the preceding fiscal year. Repeals on July 1, 2031.

*Subcommittee* HB1027\_Amendment (005472).pdf

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated January 24, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

*Senate Status:* 03/25/25 - Senate Judiciary Committee recommended with amendment 1 (005472). Sent to Senate Finance.

*House Status:* 04/09/25 - Set for House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee 04/14/25.

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 38; Title 39 and Title 40, relative to criminal justice.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:* Rep. Cochran, Mark;

*Position:* Oppose

*Priority:*

*Comment:* Appears to be a caption bill.



**SB256/HB601 CRIMINAL LAW: Request for post-conviction relief.**



Sen. Gardenhire, Todd  
Rep. Freeman, Bob

*Summary:* Establishes a procedure through which a district attorney general or person convicted of a criminal offense may, at any time, request post-conviction relief by filing a verified petition alleging actual innocence based on new evidence that was not known by the judge or jury at the time of conviction, including scientific and non-scientific evidence. Specifies that the clerk shall not charge a fee for the filing of such petition. Requires the petition to include allegations of fact supporting each claim for relief and requires the petition and any amended petition to be verified under oath.

*Amendment Summary:* House amendment 1 (006334) expands writ of error coram nobis to include cases in which the defendant entered a guilty, best interest, or no contest plea.

*Subcommittee:* HB0601\_Amendment (006334).pdf

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated March 1, 2025) OTHER FISCAL IMPACT To the extent a hearing is held and a defendants conviction is vacated, there will be a reduction in state incarceration expenditures. The timing and amount of any sentence reduction is unknown and unable to be determined with reasonable certainty. Any increase in expenditures to General Fund or the Indigent Defense Fund is dependent upon multiple unknown factors and cannot be reasonably quantified.

*Senate Status:* 04/10/25 - Senate passed.

*House Status:* 04/07/25 - House passed with amendment 1 (006334).

*Executive:* 04/10/25 - Sent to the speakers for signatures.

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 40, relative to post-conviction relief.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:* Sen. Akbari, Raumesh; Sen. Bowling, Janice; Sen. Campbell, Heidi; Rep. Doggett, Clay; Rep. Farmer, Andrew; Rep. Hardaway, G.A.; Rep. Harris, Torrey; Rep. Hulse, Bud; Rep. Love Jr., Harold; Rep. Parkinson, Antonio; Sen. Rose, Paul; Rep. Towns Jr., Joe; Sen. Yarbro, Jeff;

*Position:*

*Priority:*

*Comment:*

**SB379/HB514 CRIMINAL LAW: TACIR study on the impact of state's firearm laws on each county's firearm sales.**

●●○○○○○○○○○ Sen. Walley, Page  
●●○○○○○○○○○ Rep. Gillespie, John

*Summary:* Directs the Tennessee advisory commission on intergovernmental relations (TACIR) to conduct a study on how firearm sales, criminal offenses, and use of firearms in self-defense are impacted by this state's firearm laws in regard to each county and must identify any similarities or dissimilarities. Requires the TACIR to report its findings to every member of the general assembly and provide a copy of its report to the legislative librarian no later than January 1, 2026.

*Amendment Summary:* House Judiciary Committee amendment 1 (003361) requires the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (TACIR) to conduct a study of how this state's firearm laws impact the following in regard to each county: (1) firearm sales; (2) criminal offenses; and (3) use of firearms for self-defense. Requires TACIR to report its findings to each member of the General Assembly and provide a copy of the study to the Legislative Librarian by July 1, 2026.

*Subcommittee* HJUDCRIM\_2025-02-28.pdf

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated February 12, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

*Senate Status:* 03/31/25 - Taken off notice in Senate Judiciary Committee.

*House Status:* 04/09/25 - Set for House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee 04/14/25.

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37; Title 38; Title 39 and Title 40, relative to firearms.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:*

*Position:*

*Priority:*

*Comment:*

**SB407/HB445 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Revises the procedure for restoration of rights of citizenship.**



Sen. Gardenhire, Todd  
Rep. Hulse, Bud

*Summary:* Revises the procedure for restoration of rights of citizenship.

*Amendment* House Judiciary Committee amendment 1, Senate Judiciary Committee amendment 1 (005985) authorizes a person, who has been convicted of an infamous crime, to have their right of suffrage reinstated without having their full rights of citizenship reinstated. Restores the right of suffrage on the effective date of this legislation to any person who forfeited the right of suffrage due only to a felony conviction prior to January 15, 1973. Establishes requirements for what a petition for restoration of rights of citizenship must contain, and authorizes the court to request any additional proof as it deems necessary to reach a decision on the petition. Specifies that the Administrative of the Courts (AOC), in consultation with the Secretary of State (SOS) and other appropriate entities, will develop the petition for restoration of citizenship rights form and an order granting restoration of citizenship rights form. Authorizes the court to restore the petitioner's right to possess a firearm, full rights of citizenship, and right of suffrage separately from one another.

*Summary:*

Restores the right of suffrage on the effective date of this legislation to any person who forfeited the right of suffrage due only to a felony conviction prior to January 15, 1973. Establishes requirements for what a petition for restoration of rights of citizenship must contain, and authorizes the court to request any additional proof as it deems necessary to reach a decision on the petition. Specifies that the Administrative of the Courts (AOC), in consultation with the Secretary of State (SOS) and other appropriate entities, will develop the petition for restoration of citizenship rights form and an order granting restoration of citizenship rights form. Authorizes the court to restore the petitioner's right to possess a firearm, full rights of citizenship, and right of suffrage separately from one another.

*Subcommittee* HB0445\_Amendment (005985).pdf

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated March 14, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

*Senate Status:* 04/08/25 - Senate Judiciary Committee recommended with amendment 1 (005985). Sent to Senate Calendar Committee.

*House Status:* 04/10/25 - Set for House Floor on 04/14/25.

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2; Title 4; Title 22; Title 36; Title 39 and Title 40, relative to rights of citizenship.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:* Rep. Barrett, Jody; Rep. Hardaway, G.A.; Rep. Russell, Lowell; Sen. Yager, Ken;

*Position:* Neutral

*Priority:*

*Comment:* Bill is very broadly written and needs to be monitored for amendments.

**SB642/HB596 CRIMINAL LAW: Tennessee Voluntary Do Not Sell Firearms Act.**

●●○○○○○○○○○ Sen. Campbell, Heidi  
●●○○○○○○○○○ Rep. Freeman, Bob

*Summary:* Enacts the "Tennessee Voluntary Do Not Sell Firearms Act," which permits a person to voluntarily waive their firearm rights through filing a waiver with the clerk of the circuit court in the county of the person's residence. Specifies procedures the clerk, TBI, and department of safety must follow upon receipt of a waiver.

*Amendment*

*Summary:*

*Subcommittee*

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated March 21, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENTEXPENDITURES General FundFY25-26 \$50,000

*Senate Status:* 04/08/25 - Senate Judiciary Committee deferred to the first calendar for 2026.

*House Status:* 04/02/25 - House Civil Justice Subcommittee deferred to first calendar of 2026.

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 3; Section 10-7-504 and Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 13, relative to the "Tennessee Voluntary Do Not Sell Firearms Act."

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:* Rep. Behn, Aftyn;

*Position:* Oppose

*Priority:*

*Comment:*

**SB662/HB625 HEALTH CARE: Mental health evaluations for persons charged with certain criminal offenses.**

●●●○○○○○○○○○ Sen. Akbari, Raumesb  
●●●○○○○○○○○○ Rep. Hardaway, G.A.

*Summary:* Establishes a rebuttable presumption that a person poses an immediate substantial likelihood of serious harm and needs emergency detention if the person is charged with a crime that would require the defendant to serve at least 85% of the sentence before becoming eligible for release from incarceration and ordered by the criminal, circuit, or general sessions court to undergo an evaluation to determine if the person is incompetent to stand trial. .

*Amendment*

*Summary:*

*Subcommittee*

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated February 17, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES General Fund FY26-27 & Subsequent Years >\$797,900

*Senate Status:* 04/08/25 - Taken off notice in Senate Judiciary Committee.

*House Status:* 04/09/25 - No action taken in House Judiciary Committee.

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 33; Title 40 and Title 52, relative to mental health evaluations.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:*

*Position:* Oppose

*Priority:*

*Comment:* As a general rule, TFA opposes proposals to create rebuttable presumptions that operate against the rights of individuals who have been accused but not convicted of a criminal offense.

**SB819/HB554 CRIMINAL LAW: Tennessee Firearms Freedom Act.**

●●○○○○○○○○○ Sen. Roberts, Kerry  
●●○○○○○○○○○ Rep. Capley, Kip

*Summary:* Creates a civil action against any person or government entity that infringes upon a person's right to bear arms under the Tennessee or United States Constitutions. Specifies that the person or entity is liable for actual or statutory damages, punitive damages, attorney's fees, and court costs.

*Amendment*

*Summary:*

*Subcommittee*

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated February 1, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

*Senate Status:* 04/08/25 - Taken off notice in Senate Judiciary Committee.

*House Status:* 04/02/25 - Failed in House Civil Justice Subcommittee.

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 54, relative to the Tennessee Firearms Freedom Act.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:* Rep. Grills, Rusty; Rep. Martin, Brock; Rep. Powers, Dennis; Rep. Todd, Chris;

*Position:* Support

*Priority:*

*Comment:*

**SB863/HB799 ENVIRONMENT & NATURE: Guide licenses for persons who work as guides at Reelfoot Lake.**

●●●●●●●●○○○ Sen. Stevens, John  
●●●●○○○○○○○○○ Rep. Grills, Rusty

*Summary:* Directs the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission to promulgate rules to create and issue guide licenses for persons who work as guides at Reelfoot Lake.

*Amendment Summary:* House Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee amendment 1 (005724) Defines the term “guide” as it relates to this bill. Requires the commission to create and issue waterfowl guide licenses for individuals at Reelfoot Lake who work as waterfowl guides.

*Subcommittee Amendments:* HB0799\_Amendment (005724).pdf

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated March 14, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT REVENUE Wildlife Resources Fund FY25-26 & Subsequent Years \$6,500

*Senate Status:* 03/24/25 - Senate passed.

*House Status:* 04/10/25 - Set for House Government Operations Committee 04/16/25.

*Executive Status:*

*Public Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 11, Chapter 14, Part 1 and Title 70, relative to Reelfoot Lake guide licenses.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:*

*Position:*

*Priority:*

*Comment:*

**SB869/HB938 ENVIRONMENT & NATURE: Creates a bait privilege license to allow hunting with bait.**

●●●●●○ Sen. Hensley, Joey  
●●●●●○ Rep. Capley, Kip

*Summary:* Creates a bait privilege license to allow hunting or taking of whitetail deer and wild-appearing swine using bait on privately owned or privately leased land.

*Amendment Summary:* House Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee amendment 1 (004641) permits hunting of whitetail deer with bait on private land with a bait privilege license. Requires all hunters, including those normally exempt, to obtain this license. Establishes a deer baiting license with fees set at \$50 for residents and \$100 for non-residents, while granting the Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) the authority to adjust these fees as needed. Requires the Commission to promulgate rules by August 1, 2026, specifying acceptable bait types, permitted quantities, and conditions for license use. Grants the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) authority to suspend baiting privileges to prevent disease spread.

*Subcommittee Amendments:* HB0938\_Amendment (004641).pdf

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated March 14, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT REVENUE Wildlife Fund FY25-26 & Subsequent Years \$6,511,300  
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES FY25-26 & Subsequent Years \$438,500

*Senate Status:* 04/09/25 - Set for Senate Finance, Ways & Means Committee 04/15/25.

*House Status:* 04/10/25 - Set for House Government Operations Committee 04/16/25.

*Executive Status:*

*Public Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 70, relative to hunting with bait.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:* Rep. Doggett, Clay; Rep. McCalmon, Jake;

*Position:*

*Priority:*

*Comment:*



**SB957/HB1082 CRIMINAL LAW: Class E felony - automatic weapons.**

●●○○○○○○○○○ Sen. Lamar, London  
●●○○○○○○○○○ Rep. Camper, Karen

*Summary:* Creates a Class E felony for the possession, manufacture, transport, repair, or sale of a switch or auto sear device designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of converting a weapon to shoot automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger unless certain exceptions apply.

*Amendment*

*Summary:*

*Subcommittee*

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated February 26, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

*Senate Status:* 04/08/25 - Senate Judiciary Committee deferred to the first calendar for 2026.

*House Status:* 04/01/25 - Taken off notice in House Criminal Justice Subcommittee.

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 13, relative to firearms.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:*

*Position:* Oppose

*Priority:*

*Comment:* Proposal violates 2nd Amendment as applied by Bruen, Heller and McDonald.

**SB1038/HB1060 ENVIRONMENT & NATURE: Fees for hunting and fishing licenses.**



Sen. Bowling, Janice

Rep. Howell, Dan

*Summary:* Increases the fee that county clerks and other agents are authorized to collect from purchases of hunting and fishing licenses from \$1.00 to \$3.00 for annual licenses and \$.50 to \$3.00 for temporary licenses.

*Amendment*

*Summary:*

*Subcommittee*

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated March 1, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT REVENUE Wildlife Resource Fund FY25-26 & Subsequent Years \$18,200 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE Mandatory FY25-26 & Subsequent Years \$118,300

*Senate Status:* 04/09/25 - Senate Finance, Ways & Means Committee recommended. Sent to Senate Calendar Committee.

*House Status:* 04/03/25 - House passed.

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 70-2-106, relative to agent fees.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:* Rep. Todd, Chris;

*Position:*

*Priority:*

*Comment:*

**SB1075/HB1093 CRIMINAL LAW: Hearing on suspension or revocation of person's handgun carry permit - notice.**

●●●●○●○○○○○ Sen. Johnson, Jack  
●●○○○○○○○○○ Rep. Sexton, Cameron

*Summary:* Extends, from 10 to 15 days, the amount of written notice of the hearing date and time the department must provide to a person requesting a hearing on the department's suspension or revocation of the person's handgun carry permit. Broadly captioned.

*Amendment Summary:* House Judiciary Committee amendment 1, Senate Judiciary Committee amendment 1 (005877) expands the definition of machine gun as it relates to weapons offenses. Provides an exception for acquiring or possessing such a weapon if the person is in full compliance with the National Firearms Act. Increases the offense of intentionally or knowingly possessing, manufacturing, transporting, repairing, or selling a machine gun from a Class E felony to a Class C felony. Expands the offense of unlawful possession of a firearm with a prior conviction of a felony crime of violence, an attempt to commit a felony crime of violence, or a felony involving a deadly weapon, or a prior conviction for a felony drug offense, to include possession of ammunition. Expands the offense of unlawful possession of a handgun to include possession of ammunition. Prohibits probation for a person convicted of aggravated assault involving the discharge of a firearm from within a motor vehicle. Establishes that a person incarcerated for the offense of aggravated assault, if the offense involved the use of a firearm from within a motor vehicle, is ineligible to receive sentence reduction credits and must serve 100 percent of the imposed sentence.

*Subcommittee Amendments:* HB1093\_Amendment (004916).pdf

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated February 7, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

*Senate Status:* 04/08/25 - Senate Judiciary Committee recommended with amendment (005877). Sent to Senate Finance.

*House Status:* 04/10/25 - Set for House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee 04/14/25.

*Executive Status:*

*Public Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39 and Title 40, relative to firearms.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:* Rep. Farmer, Andrew; Rep. Hardaway, G.A.;

*Position:* Oppose

*Priority:*

*Comment:* This bill was suddenly amended by the House Sponsor to completely change the effect of the legislation. It now seeks, among other things, to materially change the definition of a machinegun under state law. The problem that this creates is that machineguns already have very technical definitions under federal law and this amendment risks creating state law ambiguities that could give rise to different interpretations of state and federal law. Oppose this rushed proposed change in the law particularly since neither sponsor has a history establishing a clear or strong understanding of either the 2nd Amendment or the Supreme Court's rulings relative to the Second Amendment.

### SB1082/HB578 **CRIMINAL LAW: Offense of possessing a firearm or antique firearm during commission or attempt to commit a dangerous felony.**

●●●●●○○○○○○○ Sen. Johnson, Jack  
●●●○○○○○○○○○ Rep. Doggett, Clay

*Summary:* Adds certain criminal offenses, including first degree murder, second degree murder, and reckless homicide to the list of dangerous felonies for purposes of the offense of possessing a firearm or antique firearm during commission or attempt to commit a dangerous felony.

*Amendment Summary:* House Judiciary Committee amendment 1, Senate Judiciary Committee amendment 1 (005970) expands the definition of “dangerous felony” in regard to weapons offenses, to include 15 additional criminal offenses.

*Subcommittee*

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated February 27, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES Incarceration \$117,600

*Senate Status:* 04/08/25 - Senate Judiciary Committee recommended with amendment 1 (005970). Sent to Senate Finance.

*House Status:* 04/10/25 - Set for House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee 04/14/25.

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 13, relative to criminal offenses.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:* Rep. Lamberth, William; Rep. Powers, Dennis;

*Position:* Oppose

*Priority:* 1 - Top-tier

*Comment:* The bill recklessly adds a lot of additional crimes as "dangerous" to an existing list.

For example, the bill adds “reckless homicide” TCA 39-13-215 as a “dangerous felony”. The result is that if someone “possesses” a firearm with the intent to go armed (which we believe is a standard that violates the Supreme Court decision in Bruen) at the time of the offense then the person gets as an additional crime or sentence of from 3 to 10 years in prison with no parole.

Consider, for example, the case of an individual ho was convicted of reckless homicide, a Class D felony. The facts involved a car wreck in which two occupants of the other vehicle died. However, TN and federal law are clear that in Tennessee a “reckless homicide” is a nonviolent felony. Indeed, at least one Tennessee appellate court and one federal court have reached the same conclusion:

/quote/

We decline, however, to characterize reckless homicide as a crime of violence because it requires reckless conduct rather than intentional or knowing conduct. See *United States v. Portela*, 469 F.3d 496, 499 (6th Cir.2006) (holding that Tennessee’s vehicular assault statute, with the requisite mens rea of recklessness, was not a crime of violence under the United States Sentencing Guidelines). Because the defendant’s reckless homicide conviction was not a violent felony, we decline to weigh it more heavily against his credibility than other non-violent felonies.


//endquote//

See, *State v. Parham*, 2010 WL 2898785, at \*8 (Tenn.Crim.App.,2010)

This legislation seeks to elevate a non-violent felony conviction to a “dangerous felony” – a term that suggests at a minimum that there be some mens rea that would warrant a finding of knowing or intentional violence as opposed to recklessness.

Further, under the legislation if the individual had a firearm in their possession, e.g., a longarm for which there are few affirmative defenses under TN law, such that it qualified under the “intent to go armed” clause then a person committing a nonviolent felony which the state established was reckless but not either intentional nor knowing would be sentenced from 3 to 10 years in prison even if the normal consequence of the sentencing statutes called for no prison time at all for the underlying crime.

**SB1140/HB918 ENVIRONMENT & NATURE: Issuance of temporary hunting licenses for disabled veterans.**

 Sen. Crowe, Rusty  
Rep. Slater, William

*Summary:* Requires issuance of temporary hunting licenses, of up to seven-days duration and at no cost, to disabled veterans participating in hunting experiences sponsored and paid for by not-for-profit organizations. Broadly captioned.

*Amendment Summary:* Senate amendment 1 (005237) adds that the executive director of the wildlife resources agency, or the executive director's designee, must, upon request, issue a temporary group hunting event permit to a not-for-profit organization that sponsors and pays for a hunting experience at no cost to a veteran with any percentage of service-connected disability. Provides that such a temporary group hunting event permit must be for a duration that is no longer than the duration of the hunting experience for which the permit is issued, but in no event may the permit be valid for more than seven days. Such hunting experience must comply with all applicable laws, regulations, and proclamations. Requires participants to provide all information necessary to obtain an individual hunting license in connection with a temporary group hunting event permit, and none of the cost for the permit must be borne by the disabled veteran participant. Requires the executive director, or the executive director's designee, to accept as evidence of service-connected disability a certification from the veterans' administration. Provides that in order to account for lost federal funding to the agency and to comply with present law, the executive director, or the executive director's designee, may collect all pertinent and relevant information to certify the unique individuals taking part in the hunting experience under a temporary group hunting event permit. Authorizes the Tennessee fish and wildlife commission to promulgate rules necessary to effectuate this amendment.

*Subcommittee* HB0918\_Amendment (004918).pdf

*Amendments:* HB0918\_Amendment (005237).pdf

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated February 27, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

*Senate Status:* 04/07/25 - Signed by Senate speaker.

*House Status:* 04/07/25 - Signed by House speaker.

*Executive* 04/08/25 - Sent to governor.

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 58 and Title 70, relative to hunting licenses for disabled veterans participating in hunts sponsored by not-for-profit organizations.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:* Rep. Barrett, Jody; Sen. Bowling, Janice; Rep. Cepicky, Scott; Rep. Crawford, John; Rep. Eldridge, Rick; Rep. Fritts, Monty; Rep. Hawk, David; Rep. Hemmer, Caleb; Rep. Howell, Dan; Rep. Lafferty, Justin; Sen. Lowe, Adam; Rep. Martin, Brock; Rep. Moon, Jerome; Rep. Reedy, Jay; Rep. Reneau, Michele; Sen. Rose, Paul; Sen. Southerland, Steve; Rep. Todd, Chris;

*Position:*

*Priority:*

*Comment:*

**SB1176/HB1231 CRIMINAL LAW: Regulating the manner of firearm and ammunition storage in certain municipalities.**

●●○○○○○○○○○ Sen. Akbari, Raumesh  
●●○○○○○○○○○ Rep. Miller, Larry

*Summary:* Permits the largest municipality in Shelby, Davidson, Knox, or Hamilton county to regulate the manner of storage of firearms, firearm ammunition, and firearm accessories by ordinance, resolution, policy, rule, or other enactment.

*Amendment*

*Summary:*

*Subcommittee*

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated March 20, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

*Senate Status:* 04/08/25 - Taken off notice in Senate Judiciary Committee.

*House Status:* 04/02/25 - Taken off notice in House Civil Justice Subcommittee.

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 13, relative to firearm regulations.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:*

*Position:* Oppose

*Priority:*

*Comment:* Proposal violates 2nd Amendment as applied by Bruen, Heller and McDonald.

**SB1184/HB948 FAMILY LAW: Firearm dispossession - person convicted of domestic assault.**



Sen. Akbari, Raumesh  
Rep. Brooks, Shaundelle

*Summary:* Requires a person who is convicted of domestic assault or subject to an order of protection to dispossess any firearm in the person's possession by transferring the firearm to a law enforcement agency and to provide the court with an affidavit of dispossession of firearms and a receipt from the law enforcement agency.

*Amendment*

*Summary:*

*Subcommittee*

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated March 22, 2025) OTHER FISCAL IMPACT The proposed legislation will result in a significant increase in local expenditures in FY25-26 and subsequent years related to law enforcement agencies being required to take custody of and store several thousand additional firearms each year. Due to multiple unknown variables, a precise estimate of such increases cannot be determined.

*Senate Status:* 04/08/25 - Taken off notice in Senate Judiciary Committee.

*House Status:* 04/02/25 - Taken off notice in House Civil Justice Subcommittee.

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36; Title 39 and Title 40, relative to firearms dispossession.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:* Rep. Behn, Aftyn; Rep. Clemmons, John; Rep. Dixie, Vincent; Rep. Freeman, Bob; Rep. Glynn, Ronnie; Rep. Hakeem, Yusuf; Rep. Hardaway, G.A.; Rep. Harris, Torrey; Rep. Johnson, Gloria; Rep. Love Jr., Harold; Rep. Miller, Larry; Rep. Parkinson, Antonio; Rep. Pearson, Justin; Rep. Powell, Jason; Rep. Shaw, Johnny;

*Position:* Oppose

*Priority:*

*Comment:*

**SB1191/HB947 CRIMINAL LAW: Akilah's Law.**



Sen. Akbari, Raumesh  
Rep. Brooks, Shaundelle

*Summary:* Enacts "Akilah's Law," which creates the offense of selling, offering to sell, delivering, or transferring a firearm to a person knowing the person has been a patient in a mental institution at any time within the previous five years.

*Amendment*

*Summary:*

*Subcommittee*

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated March 12, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

*Senate Status:* 04/08/25 - Taken off notice in Senate Judiciary Committee.

*House Status:* 04/09/25 - No action taken in House Judiciary Committee.

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 33 and Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 13, relative to firearms.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:* Rep. Behn, Aftyn; Rep. Camper, Karen; Rep. Chism, Jesse; Rep. Clemmons, John; Rep. Dixie, Vincent; Rep. Freeman, Bob; Rep. Glynn, Ronnie; Rep. Hakeem, Yusuf; Rep. Hardaway, G.A.; Rep. Harris, Torrey; Rep. Hemmer, Caleb; Rep. Johnson, Gloria; Rep. Jones, Justin; Rep. Love Jr., Harold; Rep. McKenzie, Sam; Rep. Miller, Larry; Rep. Mitchell, Bo; Rep. Parkinson, Antonio; Rep. Pearson, Justin; Rep. Powell, Jason; Rep. Salinas, Gabby; Rep. Shaw, Johnny; Rep. Towns Jr., Joe;

<i>Position:</i>	Oppose
<i>Priority:</i>	
<i>Comment:</i>	Proposal violates 2nd Amendment as applied by Bruen, Heller and McDonald.



**SB1227/HB1189 CRIMINAL LAW: Enhanced and concealed firearm carry permits.**

●●●○○○○○○○○○ Sen. Lowe, Adam  
●●●○○○○○○○○○ Rep. Grills, Rusty

*Summary:* Renames enhanced and concealed handgun carry permits as enhanced and concealed firearm carry permits and authorizes a permit holder to carry any firearms, rather than handguns, that the permit holder legally owns or possesses. Broadly captioned.

*Amendment*

*Summary:*

*Subcommittee*

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated March 21, 2025) OTHER FISCAL IMPACT The proposed legislation will require updates to the Department of Safety's A-List software system and changes in handgun permit design and implementation. It is assumed that these updates can be accomplished by the vendors under current contractual agreements without a need for additional expenditures. However, if the scope of work required by this and other legislation subsequently enacted exhausts the relevant contract provisions, the proposed legislation could result in an increase in state expenditures of \$142,600 in FY25-26.

*Senate Status:* 04/08/25 - Failed in Senate Judiciary Committee.

*House Status:* 04/09/25 - No action taken in House Judiciary Committee.

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 7; Title 8; Title 10; Title 33; Title 36; Title 37; Title 38; Title 39; Title 40; Title 49; Title 50; Title 57; Title 67; Title 68 and Title 70, relative to firearms.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:* Rep. Barrett, Jody; Rep. Powers, Dennis;

*Position:* Support

*Priority:*

*Comment:* NOTE: This legislation would convert TN's handgun permit to a firearms permit. The effect is it would allow the transport of loaded rifles/shotguns. Currently, its a crime to carry a loaded longarm in Tennessee - even on your own property or while hunting. Those activities are classified as "defenses" to the crime which means that if an officer observes the activity the officer can stop, detain, question, take possession of the weapon, issue a citation and/or arrest the individual. The burden is on the individual to raise the defenses but that is a "trial" issue and not something that the officer has to consider.

**SB1244/HB1210 FAMILY LAW: Respondent who transfers a firearm to a third party.**

●●●○○○○○○○○○ Sen. Massey, Becky  
●●●○○○○○○○○○ Rep. Keisling, Kelly

*Summary:* Requires, if the respondent on an order of protection dispossesses firearms by transferring possession to a third party who is not prohibited from possessing firearms, the respondent to specify the third party and the physical address where all firearms are located on the affidavit of firearms dispossession form. Requires the third party to sign the affidavit of firearms dispossession form to acknowledge receipt of the firearms.

*Amendment*

*Summary:*

*Subcommittee* HB1210\_Amendment (005302).pdf

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated March 6, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

*Senate Status:* 04/08/25 - Taken off notice in Senate Judiciary Committee.

*House Status:* 04/02/25 - House Civil Justice Subcommittee deferred to first calendar of 2026.

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36, Chapter 3, Part 6, relative to domestic violence.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:* Rep. Davis, Elaine;

*Position:* Oppose

*Priority:*

*Comment:* This legislation is a step toward creating a database of transfers of firearms to specific individuals and storage locations. It is not even clear whether the legislation protects that information from open records requests.

**SB1296/HB1314 CRIMINAL LAW: Criminal offenses for threatening to commit an act of mass violence and posting an individual's number or address.**



Sen. Johnson, Jack  
Rep. Lamberth, William

*Summary:* Creates a criminal offense for threatening to commit an act of mass violence. Creates a criminal offense for posting on a publicly accessible website the telephone number or home address of an individual with the intent of causing harm or a threat of harm to the individual or a member of the individual's family or household. Part of Administration Package.

*Amendment Summary:* Senate Judiciary Committee amendment 1, House Judiciary Committee amendment 1 (004348) creates a Class E felony offense for knowingly, by any means of communication, threatening to commit an act of mass violence and the threat causes another to reasonably expect the commission of an act of mass violence. This classification is enhanced to a Class D felony if: (1) the violation involves a threat to commit mass violence on the property of a school, house of worship, or government, or at a live performance or event; (2) the defendant has one of more prior convictions for such offense or a Class A misdemeanor threat of mass violence on a school property; or (3) the defendant takes a substantial step towards the execution of the threatened act and engages in preparatory actions. Authorizes a sentencing court to order a person convicted of threatening to commit an act of mass violence to pay restitution, including costs and damages resulting from the disruption of the normal activity that would have otherwise occurred but for the threat to commit an act of mass violence. Creates a Class B misdemeanor offense for posting on a publicly accessible website a person's telephone number or address with the intent to threaten or cause harm. Enhances the penalty, from a Class B misdemeanor to a Class A misdemeanor, if the offense results in harm to the individual or a member of the individual's household.

*Subcommittee Amendments:* HB1314\_Amendment (004348).pdf

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated February 14, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES Incarceration \$822,200

*Senate Status:* 04/09/25 - Set for Senate Finance, Ways & Means Committee 04/15/25.

*House Status:* 04/10/25 - Set for House Floor on 04/14/25.

*Executive Status:*

*Public Chapter:*

*Caption:*

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 13, Part 8 and Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 3, relative to criminal offenses.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:* Rep. Cochran, Mark; Sen. Haile, Ferrell; Rep. McCalmon, Jake;

*Position:* Oppose

*Priority:*

*Comment:* Apparent caption bill.

**SB1350/HB1390 CRIMINAL LAW: Issuance of an extreme risk protection order.**

●●○○○○○○○○○ Sen. Akbari, Raumesh  
●●○○○○○○○○○ Rep. Pearson, Justin

*Summary:* Allows a court to issue an extreme risk protection order upon a finding by clear and convincing evidence that a person poses a significant danger of causing personal injury to the person or others if allowed to possess or purchase a firearm. Authorizes a law enforcement officer or relative to file a petition for an extreme risk protection order. Provides that a petition does not require either party to be represented by an attorney. Outlines requirements for a petition. Creates an offense to store or keep a firearm in any place unless the firearm is secured in a locked container, unloaded, and separate from ammunition except when the firearm is carried by or under the control of the owner or other lawfully authorized user. Prohibits a gun dealer from delivering a firearm to a purchaser until 15 business days after the completion of certain requirements. (21 pp).

*Amendment*

*Summary:*

*Subcommittee*

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated March 21, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES Incarceration \$390,100 LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES Mandatory FY25-26 & Subsequent Years \$275,200 Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.

*Senate Status:* 04/08/25 - Taken off notice in Senate Judiciary Committee.

*House Status:* 04/02/25 - Taken off notice in House Civil Justice Subcommittee.

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 33; Title 38 and Title 39, Chapter 17, relative to firearms.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:*

*Position:* Oppose

*Priority:*

*Comment:* Red Flag Law. Proposal violates 2nd Amendment as applied by Bruen, Heller and McDonald.

**SB1360/HB873 JUDICIARY: Civil actions against arms dealers, manufacturers, and sellers.**



Sen. Hensley, Joey  
Rep. Fritts, Monty

*Summary:* Removes the ability to bring a civil liability action for negligence per se against a seller of a qualified product. Expands "qualified products" to include knives, body armor, pepper spray, silencers, tasers, stun guns, and other certain products. Requires physical injury for a negligent entrustment action rather than an unreasonable risk of physical injury. Specifies that a person who will be subject to an ordinance in the future or reasonably intends to be physically present in the political subdivision is an adversely affected party for purposes of filing certain actions. Makes various other changes regarding civil actions against arms dealers, manufacturers, and sellers and the preemption of local regulation of firearms. Broadly captioned.

*Amendment Summary:* House Judiciary Committee amendment 1, Senate Judiciary Committee amendment 1 (004178) makes various revisions to certain definitions, legal liabilities, burdens of proof, processes, and rights of action as they pertain to qualified civil liability actions brought against a manufacturer or seller of firearms and other weapons, to the effect of broadening and reinforcing certain legal immunities such manufacturers and sellers are provided against liability actions related to the use of their products. Restricts the applicability of foreign judgements in such actions in this state under public nuisance or market share theories of liability by requiring they do not violate the relevant policies of this state, and that they otherwise would be allowable under the laws of this state. Increases restrictions on local governments to regulate and enforce certain laws and policies related to firearms and ammunition and their use, including limiting such regulations to only those established by ordinance or resolution, rather than also such regulations enacted by policy or rule, and to only those established or authorized by state law, rather than state or federal law. Elevates state law supremacy in qualified civil liability actions against manufacturers and sellers of firearms and other weapons, and in the regulation of firearms, weapons, and weapons products, generally.

*Subcommittee Amendments:* HB0873\_Amendment (004178).pdf

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated March 23, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

*Senate Status:* 04/08/25 - Senate Judiciary Committee recommended with amendment 1 (004178). Sent to Senate Calendar Committee.

*House Status:* 04/10/25 - Set for House Floor on 04/14/25.

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 29, Chapter 42 and Title 39, relative to weapons.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:* Rep. Barrett, Jody; Rep. Doggett, Clay; Rep. Lamberth, William; Rep. Powers, Dennis; Rep. Reedy, Jay; Rep. Scarbrough, Rick; Rep. Stinnett, Tom; Rep. Todd, Chris;

*Position:* Support

*Priority:*

*Comment:* This legislation is a technical adjustments to TN's existing PLCAA (Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act) which would prohibit claims against manufacturers that result in judgments in other states from being enforced against manufacturer's assets in Tennessee.

**SB1384/HB683 PROFESSIONS & LICENSURE: Creates the enhanced armed guard certificate.**

Sen. Watson, Bo

Rep. Lamberth, William

*Summary:* Creates the enhanced armed guard certificate that may be obtained upon completion of certain training and other requirements by an armed security guard/officer who has at least five years of full-time experience as a law enforcement officer or four years of active duty military experience in a combat arms military occupational specialty. Directs the commissioner of commerce and insurance to establish and approve an enhanced armed guard training course. Specifies that the enhanced armed guard training course be offered no less than quarterly and be at least 16 hours in length. Also requires the enhanced armed guard training to include must also include scenario-based training on when a rifle-caliber weapon may be deployed in an offensive or defensive posture and training on the secure storage of a rifle-caliber weapon when the weapon is not deployed.

*Amendment Summary:* House amendment 1, Senate Judiciary Committee amendment 1 (004376) changes references of "enhanced armed guard certification" to "enhanced armed guard registration" throughout the bill. Revises present law provision exempting certain persons and entities from application of the "Private Protective Services Licensing and Regulatory Act" to, instead, only exempt such person and entities from the requirements of obtaining a license or registration under such Act. Changes the provisions authorizing an enhanced armed guard to carry a rifle caliber weapon under the bill to, instead, carry a rifle or shotgun. Defines "rifle" as any firearm designed, made or adapted to be fired from the shoulder and to use the energy of the explosive in a fixed metallic cartridge to fire a projectile through a rifled bore by a single function of the trigger. Defines "shotgun" as any firearm designed, made or adapted to be fired from the shoulder and to use the energy of the explosive in a fixed shotgun shell to fire through a smooth-bore barrel either a number of ball shot or a single projectile by a single function of the trigger. Revises the provision requiring an applicant, to be eligible for registration enhancement, to submit to and pass a criminal background check to, instead, submit to, with results submitted to the commissioner of commerce and insurance, a fingerprint-based criminal history record check to be conducted by the Tennessee bureau of investigation and then a fingerprint-based national criminal history record check to be completed by the federal bureau of investigation. Removes the requirement that the enhanced armed guard training course be developed by the commissioner of commerce and insurance and only requires it be approved by the commissioner. Revises the renewal requirements for an enhanced armed guard registration enhancement to, instead, require such guard to (i) pay an annual renewal fee, as set by the commissioner of commerce and insurance; (ii) submit to a criminal background check, with results submitted to the commissioner; and (iii) successfully complete an annual requalification course, approved by the commissioner, that is a minimum of eight hours in duration, of which no less than six hours consist of rifle and shotgun training and qualification on a weapon range. House amendment 2, Senate Judiciary Committee amendment 2 (005468) removes the provision limiting the exemptions only to requirements to obtain a license or registration under the "Private Protective Services Licensing and Regulatory Act" instead of applying to the entire act. Adds a provision prohibiting a person from carrying a rifle or shotgun while providing security services without holding a current enhanced armed guard registration.

*Subcommittee**Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated February 17, 2025) STATE GOVERNMENT POST REVENUE TBI STS Commission FY25-26 \$14,700 \$1,700 \$11,500 FY26-27 & Subsequent Years \$23,100 \$3,400 - EXPENDITURES POST Commission FY25-26 \$1,105,400 FY26-27 & Subsequent Years \$673,800 Total Positions Required: 7

*Senate Status:* 04/08/25 - Senate Judiciary Committee recommended with amendment 1 (004376) and amendment 2 (005468). Sent to Senate Calendar Committee.

*House Status:* 03/31/25 - House passed with amendment 1 (004376) and amendment 2 (005468).

*Executive**Status:**Public**Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 39 and Title 62, Chapter 35, relative to private protective services.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:* Rep. Davis, Elaine; Rep. McCalmon, Jake; Rep. Powers, Dennis;

*Position:**Priority:**Comment:*

**SB1407/HB856 CRIMINAL LAW: Lowers the standard for the use of deadly force to protect property.**

●●○○○○○○○○○○ Sen. Hensley, Joey  
●●○○○○○○○○○○ Rep. Capley, Kip

*Summary:* Lowers the standard for the use of deadly force to protect property. Specifies that deadly force does not include the display of a weapon, the brandishing of a weapon, or the use of force in circumstances that do not result in death or serious bodily injury.

*Amendment Summary:* Senate Judiciary Committee amendment 1 (007092) establishes that a person is justified, under certain circumstances, in using deadly force against another to prevent the other's imminent commission of certain property offenses or to prevent the other who is fleeing immediately after committing certain property offenses. Authorizes a private citizen to use deadly force if reasonably necessary to accomplish the lawful arrest of an individual who flees or resists the arrest for violating protection of property statutes.

*Subcommittee*

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:* (Dated March 4, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

*Senate Status:* 04/08/25 - Failed in Senate Judiciary Committee after adopting amendment 1 (007092).

*House Status:* 04/09/25 - Taken off notice in House Judiciary Committee.

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:* AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, relative to the use of force.

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:* Rep. Atchley, Fred; Rep. Crawford, John; Rep. Doggett, Clay; Rep. Fritts, Monty; Rep. Garrett, Johnny ; Rep. Grills, Rusty; Rep. Martin, Brock; Rep. McCalmon, Jake; Rep. Moody, Debra; Rep. Powers, Dennis; Rep. Reeves, Lee; Rep. Reneau, Michele; Rep. Rudd, Tim ; Rep. Stinnett, Tom; Rep. Todd, Chris; Rep. Vital, Greg; Rep. Zachary, Jason;

*Position:* Support

*Priority:* 1 - Top-tier

*Comment:* Tennessee law presently prohibits the use of deadly force, including brandishing a weapon, to protect real property or personal property from looters, thieves, robbers and/or trespassers. This was a reported problem several years ago in the Nashville riots and was more recently a problem to the hurricane victims in East TN. This law would allow the use of force to protect real and personal property, including the brandishment of a weapon.

**SJR28 CRIMINAL LAW: Expresses support for the Constitutional Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act of the 119th U.S. Congress.**

●●●●○ Sen. Lowe, Adam

*Summary:* Expresses support for the Constitutional Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act of the 119th U.S. Congress.

*Amendment*

*Summary:*

*Subcommittee*

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:*

*Senate Status:* 04/08/25 - Senate Finance, Ways & Means Committee recommended. Sent to Senate Calendar Committee.

*House Status:*

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:*

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:*

*Position:* Oppose

*Priority:*

*Comment:* Proposal violates 10th Amendment



**HJR53 CRIMINAL LAW: Constitutional amendment - right to keep and bear arms.**



Rep. Reedy, Jay

*Summary:*

Proposes an amendment to Article I, Section 26 of the Constitution of Tennessee to remove the provision that authorizes the legislature to regulate the wearing of arms with a view to prevent crime and to clarify that citizens have a right to keep and bear arms.

*Amendment*

*Summary:*

*Subcommittee*

*Amendments:*

*Fiscal Note:*

*Senate Status:*

*House Status:* 04/09/25 - Set for House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee 04/14/25.

*Executive*

*Status:*

*Public*

*Chapter:*

*Caption:*

*AG Opinion:*

*Cosponsors:*

*Position:*

Support

*Priority:*

1 - Top-tier

*Comment:*

Tennessee's constitutional clause relative to firearms was enacted in 1870 and contains a provision, based on "Jim Crow" theories, that the legislature has the authority to regulate the wearing of arms with a view to prevent crime. It is an open door for any regulation at all. As a result of the Supreme Court's 2010 decision in McDonald v. City of Chicago, the TN constitution's grant of legislative authority is unconstitutional because it violates the 2nd and 14th Amendments. HJR53 would amend the state constitution to protect the right to keep, bear and wear arms by removing the clause that portends to allow regulation by the legislature as long as it has a crime prevention purpose.