



TENNESSEE FIREARMS ASSOCIATION

Tennessee's ONLY No-Compromise Gun Organization

Bill Status Report

Tennessee Firearms Association Bill Status Report - Bills Supported by TFA

SB441/HB478 **CRIMINAL LAW: Carrying of a firearm into an area where firearms are not permitted.**

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Sen. Bailey, Paul
Rep. Butler, Ed

Summary: Specifies that a person does not commit an offense if the person possesses or carries a firearm into an area that is posted if, upon the request of an individual authorized to control access to the property, the person immediately leaves the property or stores the firearm in a personal vehicle in accordance with state law.

Amendment Summary: House Criminal Justice Subcommittee amendment 1 (006353) revises the offense of possessing a weapon on property that is properly posted to prohibit such possession such that the offense only applies if the individual intentionally or knowingly possessed the weapon where not authorized. Creates an affirmative defense to prosecution for the offense if, upon the request of an individual authorized to control access to the property, the individual immediately leaves the property or stores the firearm in a personal vehicle in accordance with state law.

Subcommittee Amendments: HB0478_Amendment (006353).pdf

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

Senate Status: 04/01/25 - Taken off notice in Senate Judiciary Committee.

House Status: 04/02/25 - Taken off notice in House Judiciary Committee.

Executive Status:

Public Chapter:

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

AG Opinion:

Cosponsors: Rep. Atchley, Fred; Rep. Barrett, Jody; Rep. Bricken, Rush; Rep. Capley, Kip; Rep. Doggett, Clay; Rep. Eldridge, Rick; Rep. Grills, Rusty; Rep. Hill, Timothy; Rep. Hulsey, Bud; Rep. Hurt, Chris; Rep. Keisling, Kelly; Rep. Martin, Brock; Rep. McCalmon, Jake; Rep. Moody, Debra; Rep. Powers, Dennis; Rep. Reedy, Jay; Rep. Reeves, Lee; Rep. Reneau, Michele; Rep. Scarbrough, Rick; Rep. Slater, William; Rep. Todd, Chris; Rep. Vital, Greg;

Position: Support

Priority:

Comment:

SB474/HB387 **PROFESSIONS & LICENSURE: Prohibits a healthcare provider from inquiring as to a patient's ownership of firearm ammunition.**

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Sen. Bowling, Janice
Rep. Butler, Ed

Summary: Prohibits a healthcare provider from inquiring as to a patient's ownership, possession of, or access to firearm ammunition or firearm accessories. Prohibits a healthcare provider from denying future treatment of a patient based upon a patient's ownership or control of a firearm, firearm ammunition, or firearm accessories. Subjects the healthcare provider to disciplinary action and a fine of \$1,000 if the healthcare provider makes such inquires.

Amendment Summary: Senate Health & Welfare Committee amendment 1, House Health Subcommittee amendment 1 (004188) refines definition of "healthcare provider." Allows a healthcare provider to a lethality risk assessment if healthcare provider reasonably believes that a patient may pose a credible, actual risk to themselves or others. Removes the prohibition that a healthcare provider shall not discriminate against a patient based upon the patient's exercise of the constitutional right to own and possess a firearm, firearm ammunition, or firearm accessories.

Subcommittee Amendments: HB0387_Amendment (004188).pdf

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

Senate Status: 03/26/25 - Senate Health & Welfare Committee deferred to second calendar of 2026.

House Status: 04/01/25 - House Health Committee deferred to first calendar of next year.

Executive Status:

Public Chapter:

Caption: AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63 and Title 68, relative to healthcare providers.

AG Opinion:

Cosponsors: Rep. Bricken, Rush; Rep. Capley, Kip; Rep. Grills, Rusty; Rep. McCalmon, Jake; Rep. Powers, Dennis; Rep. Todd, Chris;

Position: Support

Priority:

Comment:

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

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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:

SB824/HB985 **CRIMINAL LAW: Offense of possession of a weapon in a building or on property that is properly posted.**

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Sen. Hensley, Joey
 Rep. Warner, Todd

Summary: Removes the criminal offense of possession of a weapon in a building or on property that is properly posted. Removes the requirement that the department of safety suspend or revoke a handgun carry permit for a violation of that offense by a handgun permit holder.

Amendment

Summary:

Subcommittee

Amendments:

Fiscal Note: (Dated March 22, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 02/12/25 - Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.

House Status: 03/26/25 - 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: Rep. Barrett, Jody; Rep. Bricken, Rush; Rep. Capley, Kip; Rep. Grills, Rusty; Rep. Martin, Brock; Rep. Powers, Dennis; Rep. Reneau, Michele; Rep. Todd, Chris;

Position: Support
Priority:
Comment:

SB914/HB883 **CRIMINAL LAW: Revocation or suspension of handgun carry permit - judicial review of DOS' final determination.**

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Sen. Bailey, Paul
 Rep. Todd, Chris

Summary: Extends the time, from 30 to 45 days, within which a person whose handgun carry permit has been suspended or revoked may petition the chancery court for judicial review of the department of safety's final determination. Broadly captioned.

Amendment Summary: House Criminal Justice Subcommittee amendment 1 (006054) revises the offense of carrying, with the intent to go armed, a firearm or a club, and separates the singular offense into individual new offenses of: (1) carrying, with the intent to go armed, a club; (2) carrying, for the purpose of employing as a weapon, a handgun, and; (3) carrying, for the purpose of employing as a weapon, a firearm other than a handgun. Establishes penalties for, and provides numerous exceptions to, these offenses. Revises the Class A misdemeanor offense for a person to possess a handgun while under the influence of an intoxicant such that it applies to possession of a firearm by a person under the influence, rather than a handgun. Lowers, from 21 to 18, the minimum age required for a person to obtain an enhanced, lifetime enhanced, and concealed handgun carry permit.

Subcommittee HB0883_Amendment (006054).pdf

Amendments:

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 11, 2025) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 04/01/25 - Taken off notice in Senate Judiciary Committee.

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, relative to firearms.

AG Opinion:

Cosponsors: Rep. Davis, Elaine; Rep. Doggett, Clay; Rep. Garrett, Johnny; Rep. Grills, Rusty; Rep. Moon, Jerome; Rep. Zachary, Jason;

Position: Support
Priority:
Comment: Support is limited. The House Subcommittee Amendment revises current law by creating a number of exclusions to the charge of carrying a firearm which needlessly complicates state law. Further, it inexplicably does not create exceptions but rather creates defenses to the charge of carrying a stick or club. This amendment does not create constitutional carry but it does represent a significant revision of existing law.

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

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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, it's 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.

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: Senate amendment 1 (004178) corrects a typographical error.

Subcommittee Amendments: HB0873_Amendment (004178).pdf

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

Senate Status: 04/15/25 - Senate passed with amendment 1 (004178), which corrects a typographical error.

House Status: 04/15/25 - House passed.

Executive Status: 04/15/25 - Sent to the speakers for signatures.

Public Chapter:

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

AG Opinion:

Cosponsors: Sen. Bailey, Paul; Rep. Barrett, Jody; Sen. Bowling, Janice; Rep. Boyd, Clark; Rep. Burkhart, Jeff; Rep. Butler, Ed; Rep. Capley, Kip; Rep. Davis, Elaine; Rep. Doggett, Clay; Rep. Eldridge, Rick; Rep. Garrett, Johnny; Rep. Grills, Rusty; Rep. Hawk, David; Rep. Jones, Renea; Rep. Lamberth, William; Sen. Lowe, Adam; Rep. Martin, Brock; Rep. McCalmon, Jake; Rep. Moon, Jerome; Rep. Powers, Dennis; Rep. Raper, Kevin; Rep. Reedy, Jay; Rep. Scarbrough, Rick; Sen. Stevens, John; Rep. Stinnett, Tom; Rep. Terry, Bryan; Rep. Todd, Chris; Rep. Warner, Todd; Sen. Watson, Bo;

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.

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. Leatherwood, Tom; 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.

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: 04/14/25 - Taken off notice in House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee.

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.