



Tennessee Firearms Association

Calendar Report - Week of April 14, 2025

Mon 4/14/25 9:00am - House Hearing Rm I, House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee

Behind the budget calendar MEMBERS W/ EMAILS: Email All; CHAIR R. Williams (R); K. Capley (R); J. Chism (D); M. Cochran (R); J. Crawford (R); R. Gant (R); J. Gillespie (R); T. Hicks (R); G. Hicks (R); A. Parkinson (D); L. Reeves (R); J. Shaw (D); J. Zachary (R) PHONE: (615) 741-1100 ext. 44538 EMAIL: mirna.tunjic@capitol.tn.gov

2. **HB1093 CRIMINAL LAW: Hearing on suspension or revocation of person's handgun carry permit - notice.** 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. Senate Finance, Ways & Means Committee ; House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee ;

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.

rows:

SB1075 - J. Johnson - 04/08/25 - Senate Judiciary Committee recommended with amendment (005877). Sent to Senate Finance.

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

Doggett
C.

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. Senate Finance, Ways & Means Committee ; House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee ;

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.

rows:

SB1082 - J. Johnson - 04/08/25 - Senate Judiciary Committee recommended with amendment 1 (005970). Sent to Senate Finance.

88. **HB33** **CRIMINAL LAW: Not being released on personal recognizance.** 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. 
- J. Gillespie

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. House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee ;

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;

Position: Oppose

Priority: 2 - Second-tier

Comment: 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.

rows:

SB218 - B. Taylor - 03/13/25 - Senate passed.

- 89. **HB34** **CRIMINAL LAW: Use of juvenile court records.** Permits a court to use juvenile court records, including the disposition and evidence, in pretrial reports used to set bond for criminal offenses.
- J. 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 Amendments: HB0034_(004207).pdf
 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. House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee ;

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:

rows:
 SB221 - B. Taylor - 03/03/25 - Senate passed with amendment 1 (003523).

Mon 4/14/25 9:00am - House Hearing Rm I, House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee

TACIR calendar MEMBERS W/ EMAILS: Email All; CHAIR R. Williams (R); K. Capley (R); J. Chism (D); M. Cochran (R); J. Crawford (R); R. Gant (R); J. Gillespie (R); T. Hicks (R); G. Hicks (R); A. Parkinson (D); L. Reeves (R); J. Shaw (D); J. Zachary (R) PHONE: (615) 741-1100 ext. 44538 EMAIL: mirna.tunjic@capitol.tn.gov

- 6. **HB514 CRIMINAL LAW: TACIR study on the impact of state's firearm laws on each county's firearm sales.** Directs the Tennessee Gillespie 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 Amendments: HJUDCRIM_2025-02-28.pdf

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. Senate Judiciary Committee ; House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee ;

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:


rows:

SB379 - P. Walley - 03/31/25 - Taken off notice in Senate Judiciary Committee.

Mon 4/14/25 9:00am - Special Calendar - House Hearing Rm I, House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee

MEMBERS W/ EMAILS: Email All; CHAIR R. Williams (R); K. Capley (R); J. Chism (D); M. Cochran (R); J. Crawford (R); R. Gant (R); J. Gillespie (R); T. Hicks (R); G. Hicks (R); A. Parkinson (D); L. Reeves (R); J. Shaw (D); J. Zachary (R) PHONE: (615) 741-1100 ext. 44538 EMAIL: mirna.tunjic@capitol.tn.gov

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

Russell L. 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 Amendments: HB1027_Amendment (005472).pdf

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. Senate Finance, Ways & Means Committee ; House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee ;

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.

rows:

SB222 - E. Jackson - 03/25/25 - Senate Judiciary Committee recommended with amendment 1 (005472). Sent to Senate Finance.

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

Reedy J. 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. House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee ;

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.

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- 40. **HB468** **CRIMINAL LAW: Increases penalty for reckless endangerment.** 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 Amendments: HB0468_Amendment (004927).pdf

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. Senate Finance, Ways & Means Committee ; House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee ;

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;

Position: Oppose

Priority:


Comment: 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.

rows:

SB163 - J. Hensley - 04/08/25 - Senate Judiciary Committee recommended with amendment 1 (004927). Sent to Senate Finance.

Tue 4/15/25 1:30pm - Senate Hearing Rm I, Senate Finance, Ways & Means Committee

MEMBERS W/ EMAILS: Email All; CHAIR B. Watson (R); VICE CHAIR J. Stevens (R); 2ND VICE CHAIR J. Hensley (R); F. Haile (R); J. Johnson (R); L. Lamar (D); B. Powers (R); P. Rose (R); P. Walley (R); K. Yager (R); J. Yarbro (D) PHONE: 615-741-3227 EMAIL: john.kerr@capitol.tn.gov

- 5. **SB869** **ENVIRONMENT & NATURE: Creates a bait privilege license to allow hunting with bait.** 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. Senate Finance, Ways & Means Committee ; House Government Operations Committee ;

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:

rows:

HB938 - K. Capley - 04/10/25 - Set for House Government Operations Committee 04/16/25.

8. **SB1296 CRIMINAL LAW: Criminal offenses for threatening to commit an act of mass violence and posting an individual's number or address.** 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. Senate Finance, Ways & Means Committee ; House Floor ;

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.



rows:


HB1314 - W. Lamberth - 04/10/25 - Set for House Floor on 04/14/25.

Wed 4/16/25 9:00am - House Hearing Rm I, House Government Operations Committee

MEMBERS W/ EMAILS: Email All; CHAIR J. Lafferty (R); VICE CHAIR J. Reedy (R); K. Camper (D); J. Clemmons (D); J. Crawford (R); J. Faison (R); M. Fritts (R); R. Glynn (D); W. Lamberth (R); A. Maberry (R); P. Marsh (R); S. McKenzie (D); A. Parkinson (D); M. Reneau (R); P. Sherrell (R); J. Towns Jr. (D) PHONE: 615-741-4110 EMAIL: will.walker@capitol.tn.gov

3. **HB799 ENVIRONMENT & NATURE: Guide licenses for persons who work as guides at Reelfoot Lake.** 
Grills R. 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. House Government Operations Committee ;

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:
rows:
SB863 - J. Stevens - 03/24/25 - Senate passed.
10. **HB175 ENVIRONMENT & NATURE: Use of drones to locate and retrieve deer that have been wounded by hunters.** 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. 
Darby T. 
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. Senate Calendar Committee ; House Government Operations Committee ;
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?
rows:
SB130 - P. Walley - 02/26/25 - Senate Energy, Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee recommended. Sent to Senate Calendar Committee.

12. **HB938 ENVIRONMENT & NATURE: Creates a bait privilege license to allow hunting with bait.** 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. Senate Finance, Ways & Means Committee ; House Government Operations Committee ;

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:

rows:

SB869 - J. Hensley - 04/09/25 - Set for Senate Finance, Ways & Means Committee 04/15/25.