

TENNESSEE FIREARMS ASSOCIATION

2026 Tennessee Candidate Survey

Governor • Tennessee Senate • Tennessee House of Representatives

- This survey is being sent to all 2026 candidates for Governor of Tennessee, the Tennessee House of Representatives, and the Tennessee State Senate.
- This survey must be completed and signed by the candidate personally.
- Check one response for each question. Any unanswered question may be scored as "No."
- For legislative candidates, "support" means that, if elected, the candidate will vote for the proposal. "I will lead on this issue" means that, if elected, the candidate will sponsor or co-sponsor the bill or resolution and actively work for its passage.
- For gubernatorial candidates, "support" means that, if elected, the candidate will publicly endorse the proposal and, when applicable, sign implementing legislation. "I will lead on this issue" means that, if elected, the candidate will publicly advocate for the proposal and use the office lawfully to advance it.
- For questions involving a proposed constitutional amendment, "I will lead on this issue" means supporting the introduction and passage of the amendment and, if the amendment is adopted, supporting any necessary implementing legislation.
- Unless otherwise stated, a reference to persons who may possess or carry firearms means persons who are not prohibited from possessing firearms under state or federal law.

Candidate Information

Candidate name (printed):

Office sought (and district, if applicable):

Party affiliation:

Email address:

Cell phone / campaign contact:

Constitutional Structure and Judicial Review

1. Will you support legislation expressly preserving pre-enforcement challenges to the constitutionality or lawfulness of statutes, rules, executive orders, and other state action, including declaratory and injunctive relief and a fee-shifting provision for a successful challenger?
YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___
2. Will you support a constitutional amendment revising Article I, Section 26 of the Tennessee Constitution to provide: "That the citizens of this State have a right to keep and to bear arms for their defense"?
YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___

3. Will you support a constitutional amendment to provide for popular election of the Attorney General and Reporter for Tennessee, together with any implementing legislation required if the amendment is adopted?
YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___

Carrying Arms and Restricted Places

4. Will you support legislation repealing Tennessee Code Annotated section 39-17-1307(a), including the offense of carrying a firearm with the intent to go armed?
YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___
5. Will you support legislation repealing Tennessee Code Annotated section 39-17-1311, which restricts possession or carrying of weapons in parks and other public recreational areas identified in the statute?
YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___
6. Will you support legislation allowing adults 18 to 20 years of age who are not prohibited from possessing firearms under state or federal law to carry handguns under the same Tennessee rules that apply to adults 21 and older?
YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___
7. Will you support legislation allowing persons who are not prohibited from possessing firearms under state or federal law to carry lawfully possessed long guns in the same places and in the same manner that Tennessee law allows the same person to carry a handgun, unless a specific restriction is enacted by statute?
YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___
8. Will you support legislation replacing the current criminal penalty for carrying a firearm onto posted property with a requirement that the person, upon request, immediately leave the premises or secure the firearm in the person's vehicle in accordance with state law before any charges could be brought?
YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___
9. Will you support legislation eliminating local-government authority to prohibit the possession or carrying of firearms on locally owned or managed public property, including parks, greenways, campgrounds, recreational facilities, and similar public places, except to the extent expressly authorized by state law?
YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___
10. Will you support legislation allowing persons who are not prohibited from possessing firearms under state or federal law to carry lawfully possessed firearms into the State Capitol, subject only to neutral security screening and reasonable storage procedures?
YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___
11. Will you support legislation allowing persons who are not prohibited from possessing firearms under state or federal law to carry lawfully possessed firearms into local-government offices and government-operated meeting places?
YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___
12. Will you support legislation expanding current Tennessee law to allow persons who are not prohibited from possessing firearms under state or federal law to carry lawfully possessed firearms on public college and university property?
YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___
13. Will you support legislation expanding current Tennessee law to allow persons who are not prohibited from possessing firearms under state or federal law to carry concealed handguns on K-12 school property?
YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___

14. Will you support legislation requiring each government property that prohibits lawful carry to provide secure firearms storage for lawful visitors?
YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___
15. Will you support legislation creating a civil cause of action against a commercial property owner that posts its premises against lawful firearms carry and fails to provide reasonable security to lawful invitees who are injured by criminal acts on the premises?
YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___
16. Will you support legislation converting Tennessee's handgun-carry permits into firearm-carry permits so that a permit holder?
YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___

Self-Defense, Due Process, and Restoration of Rights

17. Will you support legislation creating a pretrial justified-use-of-force hearing at which the State must prove by clear and convincing evidence that the defendant's use or threatened use of force was unlawful, and requiring dismissal if the State fails to do so?
YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___
18. Will you support legislation restoring the right to keep and bear arms, after completion of sentence, to a person convicted only of a misdemeanor?
YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___
19. Will you support legislation restoring the right to keep and bear arms, after completion of sentence, to a person convicted of a nonviolent felony?
YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___
20. Will you support legislation prohibiting confiscation, dispossession, or compelled surrender of firearms without a criminal conviction?
YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___

Preemption, Administration, and Firearms Commerce

21. Will you support legislation prohibiting local governments from discriminating against firearms-related events when renting, licensing, or permitting the use of public facilities, including convention centers, fairgrounds, and civic centers?
YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___
22. Will you support legislation providing that an executive-branch agency may not regulate the ownership, purchase, sale, transfer, possession, carrying, or use of firearms unless the General Assembly has expressly authorized the specific regulation by statute?
YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___
23. Will you support legislation eliminating the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation fee charged for a firearms background check (i.e., "TICS")?
YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___
24. Will you support legislation eliminating the "conditional proceed" category by requiring that, if the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation cannot issue a lawful denial within the time allowed by law, the transaction must be treated as approved without qualification?
YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___

25. Will you support legislation prohibiting the use of public funds, public employees acting in their official capacities, or other public resources to advocate for legislation that restricts rights protected by the Second Amendment or limits access to constitutional review?

YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___

26. Will you support legislation strengthening existing remedies for violations of Tennessee firearms-preemption law, including declaratory and injunctive relief, damages, attorney's fees, and costs against a local government that violates state law?

YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___

27. Will you support legislation clarifying and expanding existing law so that no state or local official may use emergency powers to suspend, restrict, or impair the lawful possession, transfer, transport, sale, storage, or carrying of firearms or ammunition absent express legislative authorization?

YES ___ NO ___ I WILL LEAD ON THIS ISSUE ___

Additional Candidate Statement

Please identify any additional Second Amendment-related legislation you intend to sponsor, support, advocate for, or sign if elected:

Certification

I certify that I have personally reviewed and answered this survey and that these responses accurately reflect my present positions.

Candidate signature:

Printed name:

Date:

Return deadline: Friday, May 15, 2026

Return by mail to:

TENNESSEE FIREARMS ASSOCIATION

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