

111th General Assembly / 2020 Session

Legislative Report

Public Chapter 527

SB 1260: Gresham; HB 736: Lafferty
TDOE Contact: Steve Playl

Authorizes LEAs to provide career-based experiences for high school students. Authorizes LEAs to establish partnerships with industry and local business to provide career-based experiences for students. *Effective March 6, 2020*

Public Chapter 532

SB 1946: Hensley; HB 1826: Haston
TDOE Contact: Michael Hardy

Requires the department to develop formative assessment question banks that are aligned to state-mandated summative assessments. Development must begin no later than July 1, 2020. Formative assessment question banks shall be available for use by LEAs. *Effective March 10, 2020*

Public Chapter 537

SB 1647: Roberts; HB 1725: Daniel
TDOE Contact: Theresa Nicholls

Extends the Advisory Council for the Education of Students with Disabilities to June 30, 2027. *Effective March 19, 2020*

Public Chapter 544

SB 1670: Roberts; HB 1748: Daniel
TDOE Contact: Theresa Nicholls

Extends the Dyslexia Advisory Council to June 30, 2027. *Effective March 19, 2020*

Public Chapter 555

SB 1689: Roberts; HB 1767: Daniel
TDOE Contact: Charlie Bufalino

Extends the Southern Regional Education Compact to June 30, 2027. *Effective March 19, 2020*

Public Chapter 576

SB 1962: Gresham; HB 2001: White
TDOE Contact: Maryanne Durski

Clarifies the responsibility of a county legislative body to make revenue estimates and determine the level of revenue necessary to establish a budget for the operation of county schools that is at least equal to the minimum budget required to comply with the required local match and maintenance of effort provisions of the Basic Education Program (BEP). *Effective March 19, 2020*

Public Chapter 587

SB 1790: Powers; HB 1835: Johnson
TDOE Contact: David Donaldson

Authorizes the Commissioner of Education, upon request by an LEA, to grant a waiver from the average class size requirements to assist the LEA in funding a “grow your own” program. *Effective July 1, 2020*

Public Chapter 601

SB 1637: Yager; HB 2407: Ragan
TDOE Contact: Casey Haugner-Wrenn

Requires a student who’s IEP or section 504 plan allows for the use of testing accommodations to be afforded the same accommodations while taking a TCAP assessment, so long as the accommodation does not invalidate the assessment. *Effective March 20, 2020*

Public Chapter 603

SB 1755: Haile; HB 1671: Lamberth
TDOE Contact: Christy Ballard

Revises certain provisions regarding student placement in an alternative school or alternative program. Authorizes the director of schools to remove a student from an alternative school or alternative program under certain circumstances. *Effective March 20, 2020*

Public Chapter 618

SB 1886: Massey; HB 1935: Dunn
TDOE Contact: Christy Ballard

Authorizes an LEA's local board of education to locate the board's administrative offices within a building owned by the United States government. *Effective March 25, 2020*

Public Chapter 628

SB 1759: Reeves; HB 1683: Boyd
TDOE Contact: Lori Paisley

Requires the department, in consultation with the Department of Health, to develop a standardized student allergy reporting form. Each LEA shall require each school within the LEA to use the form to maintain records of student allergies. *Effective March 30, 2020*

Public Chapter 629

SB 2262: Gresham; HB 1975 Moody
TDOE Contact: Christy Ballard

Adds offenses to the list of offenses for which, upon conviction, the State Board of Education shall automatically revoke a teacher's or administrator's license. *Effective July 1, 2020*

Public Chapter 652

SB 2672: Johnson; HB 2818: Lamberth
TDOE Contact: Christy Ballard

Ensures that no LEA, district employee, or students are adversely impacted by school closures, student absenteeism, or other hardships related to COVID-19 and the 2020 tornadoes by directing the Commissioner of Education to waive certain statutory requirements. Directs the State Board of Education

to revise high school graduation requirements to ensure high schools seniors who were on-track to graduate in the spring of 2020 can do so. *Effective April 4, 2020*

Public Chapter 708

SB 2088: Haile; HB 2461: White
TDOE Contact: Jay Klein

Establishes a reporting framework for any school personnel who has knowledge or reasonable cause to suspect that a child who attends the school may be a victim of child abuse or child sexual abuse. Requires each LEA to designate a child abuse coordinator at each school within the LEA. *Effective August 1, 2020*

Public Chapter 717

SB 1616: Haile; HB 1617: Dixie
TDOE Contact: Christy Ballard

Revises the period of time after an LEA makes an initial job offer to a teacher that that teacher has to accept or reject that offer of employment if the offer is made between June 1 and April 1 of each year. *Effective August 1, 2020*

Public Chapter 733

SB 2260: Gresham; HB 1976: White
TDOE Contact: Christy Ballard

Gives the State Board of Education administrative subpoena power in connection with investigations related to licensure disciplinary actions. *Effective June 22, 2020*

Public Chapter 734

SB 2261: Gresham; HB 1974: Dunn
TDOE Contact: Christy Ballard

Permits the State Board of Education to assess reasonable costs against a teacher or administrator when a final order is issued following a contested case hearing in which a teacher or administrator is issued a formal reprimand or the teacher's or administrator's license is denied, non-renewed, suspended, or revoked; requires the State Board to promulgate rules for such assessments. *Effective June 22, 2020*

Public Chapter 736

SB 2269: Yarbrow; HB 2477: Freeman
TDOE Contact: Lori Paisley

Requires the Family Life curriculum adopted by the state board of education or an LEA to include information on the prevention of dating violence. *Effective August 1, 2020*

Public Chapter 743

SB 2473: Yager; HB 2542: Powers
TDOE Contact: Christy Ballard

Revises various provisions regarding released time such that public schools are required to, upon request, excuse a student from school to attend a released time course in religious moral instruction for one hour per school day, regardless of whether the local board of education has adopted a release time policy, if certain requirements are met. Clarifies that an LEA may provide transportation services to and from the location of the release time instruction, provided that the independent entity responsible for the release time instruction reimburse the LEA for the cost of the transportation services. *Effective June 22, 2020*

Public Chapter 748

SB 2620: Swann; HB 2841: Farmer
TDOE Contact: Christy Ballard

Clarifies that if any tier of a progressive truancy intervention plan is unsuccessful and the school can document that the student's parent is unwilling to cooperate in the truancy intervention plan, then the Director of Schools may report the student's absences to the appropriate judge without having to implement subsequent tiers first. *Effective August 1, 2020*

Public Chapter 760

SB 2931: Johnson; HB 2922: Lamberth
TDOE Contact: Drew Harpool

Makes appropriations for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2019, and July 1, 2020. *Effective June 22, 2020*

Public Chapter 769

SB 1700: Roberts; HB 1778: Daniel
TDOE Contact: Lisa Coons

Extends the State Textbook and Instructional Materials Quality Commission unto June 30, 2021. *Effective July 15, 2020*

Public Chapter 770

SB 2342: Gresham; HB 1827: Haston
TDOE Contact: Lisa Coons

Revises various provisions regarding textbooks and the State Textbook and Instructional Materials Quality Commission. Requires textbook publishers to make all textbooks and instructional materials proposed for adoption available for inspection by LEAs and the public online. *Effective July 15, 2020 and August 1, 2020*

Public Chapter 777

SB 1247: Gresham; HB 1008: White
TDOE Contact: Eve Carney

Requires that a school that is placed in the Achievement School District remain in the Achievement School District until the school is authorized to return to the school's original LEA according to the transition plan developed by the Commissioner of Education. The Commissioner is required to develop a transition plan for the purpose of schools returning to their original LEA no earlier than the 2024-2025 school year. This plan must be submitted to the education committees of the House and Senate by January 1, 2021. *Effective July 15, 2020*

Public Chapter 792

SB 1974: Gresham; HB 2470: Dunn
TDOE Contact: Charlie Bufalino

Establishes the Tennessee Commission on Education Recovery and Innovation. The Commission is composed of appointees from the Governor, the Speaker of the House, and the Speaker of the Senate. The Commission is administratively attached to the State Board of Education. The Commission is required to submit reports the General Assembly on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on Tennessee's education system. *Effective July 15, 2020*
