



Tennessee Board of Social Worker Licensure Meeting

Thursday August 14, 2025

MINUTES

The Board meeting of the Tennessee Board of Social Worker Licensure was called to order at 9:49 a.m. CST in the Iris Room, Ground Floor, Metro Center Complex, 665 Mainstream Drive, Nashville, Tennessee 37243 by Dr. Ashley Childers on Thursday August 14, 2025.

Board members present: Ashley Childers, LCSW, Board President
Tara Watson, LCSW
Colleen Howe, Citizen Member
Kenya Anderson, LMSW
Caitlin Wright, LAPSW
Angela DeLoach, LBSW
Crystal Parker, LAPSW

Board member(s) absent: Jennifer Williams, LAPSW

Staff present: Candyce Wilson, Board Director
Katherine Trawick, JD, General Counsel
Courtney Reimers, Board Administrator

Tennessee Department of Health Legislative Office 2025 Update

Ms. Libby Johnson, Legislative Liaison, presented updates on multiple public chapters that were passed in the past year that could potentially affect the Board.

PC 19 HB182 / SB171

As enacted, enacts "The Ink of Hope Act"; requires tattoo operators and tattoo artists to complete up to one hour of training on recognizing and reporting signs of human trafficking.

PC 22 HB229 / SB52

As enacted, extends the board of alcohol and drug abuse counselors to June 30, 2029. - Amends

TCA Title 4, Chapter 29 and Title 68, Chapter 24.

PC 23 HB233 / SB55

As enacted, extends the board of osteopathic examination to June 30, 2029. - Amends TCA Title 4, Chapter 29 and Title 63, Chapter 9.

PC 24 HB234 / SB56

As enacted, extends the board of pharmacy to June 30, 2029. - Amends TCA Title 4, Chapter 29 and Title 63, Chapter 10.

PC 25 HB235 / SB57

As enacted, extends the board of physical therapy to June 30, 2029. - Amends TCA Title 4, Chapter 29 and Title 63, Chapter 13.

PC 28 HB247 / SB69

As enacted, extends the genetic advisory committee to June 30, 2029. - Amends TCA Title 4, Chapter 29 and Title 68, Chapter 5, Part 5.

PC 29 HB257 / SB79

As enacted, extends the perinatal advisory committee to June 30, 2029. - Amends TCA Title 4, Chapter 29 and Title 68, Chapter 1, Part 8.

PC 36 HB274 / SB96

As enacted, extends the Tennessee medical examiner advisory council to June 30, 2029. - Amends TCA Title 4, Chapter 29 and Title 38, Chapter 7, Part 2.

PC 41 HB281 / SB106

As enacted, extends the traumatic brain injury advisory council to June 30, 2029. - Amends TCA Title 4, Chapter 29 and Title 68, Chapter 55.

PC 42 HB404 / SB393

As enacted, extends the professional music therapy advisory committee of the board of examiners in psychology to June 30, 2027. - Amends TCA Title 4, Chapter 29 and Title 63, Chapter 11.

PC 43 HB232 / SB54

As enacted, extends the board of occupational therapy to June 30, 2029. - Amends TCA Title 4, Chapter 29 and Title 63, Chapter 13.

PC 45 HB192 / SB282

As enacted, enacts the "Individualized Investigational Treatment Act." Outlines a patient's right to seek treatment with an individualized investigational treatment and that a healthcare provider is protected against disciplinary action taken by the licensing board based solely on the provider's recommendation regarding access or treatment with an individualized investigational treatment - Amends TCA Title 53 and Title 63. - Amends TCA Title 53 and Title 63.

*PC 46 HB111 / SB1283

As enacted, adds Hepatitis C to the list of serological tests run at the time of the first examination for pregnant women. Removes Hepatitis B and adds a second Syphilis screening for all pregnant women between the 28th and 32nd week of gestation. Also, adds a third Syphilis screening for all pregnant women at the time of delivery.

PC 48 HB227 / SB49

As enacted, extends the advisory committee for children's special services to June 30, 2029. - Amends TCA Title 4, Chapter 29 and Title 68, Chapter 12.

PC 50 HB255 / SB77

As enacted, extends the medical cannabis commission to June 30, 2029. - Amends TCA Title 4, Chapter 29 and Title 68, Chapter 7.

PC 53 HB271 / SB93

As enacted, extends the Tennessee emergency medical services board to June 30, 2029. - Amends TCA Title 4, Chapter 29 and Title 68, Chapter 140, Part 3.

PC 56 HB383 / SB 744

As enacted, directs the commissioner of health to, on or before July 1, 2025, add alpha-gal syndrome to the department of health's published list of reportable diseases and conditions, the occurrence of which must be reported to the department by a healthcare provider pursuant to existing administrative rule. - Amends TCA Title 4; Title 63 and Title 68.

PC 59 HB186 / SB174

As enacted, requires the board of medical examiners to register an applicant as a registered surgical assistant if the applicant maintains current credentials

as a surgical assistant issued by the American Board of Surgical Assistants and satisfies other necessary requirements; removes December 31, 2019, as the deadline by which an applicant for registration as a surgical assistant must register with the board in order to be registered on the basis of certain practical experience. - Amends TCA Title 63, Chapter 6.

PC 65 HB584 / SB515

As enacted, extends by four years to June 30, 2029, the current 125-bed limitation on the number of new nursing home beds for which the health facilities commission may issue a certificate of need per fiscal year. - Amends TCA Section 68-11-1619.

PC 68 HB693 / SB569

As enacted, makes certain changes to the practice of pharmacy, including removing the present prohibition on requiring a patient to pay an administrative fee for pharmacist-provided hormonal contraceptives when the patient is insured or covered and receives a pharmacy benefit that covers the cost of the hormonal contraceptives. - Amends TCA Title 53, Chapter 10; Title 56, Chapter 32 and Title 63, Chapter 10.

PC 69 HB1226 / SB669

As enacted, deletes all references to the world health organization; requires a pandemic to be declared by the federal centers for disease and prevention control, rather than the world health organization, with a subsequent declaration of a state of emergency by the governor for the governor to have exclusive jurisdiction to issue executive orders and directives related to the pandemic until the pandemic ceases to exist. - Amends TCA Title 7 and Title 68.

PC 76 HB62 / SB224

As enacted, authorizes athletic trainers to use dry needling to carry out the practice of prevention, recognition, evaluation, management, disposition, treatment, or rehabilitation of athletic injuries; requires the board of athletic trainers to establish minimum competency requirements for an athletic trainer to demonstrate in order to practice dry needling. - Amends TCA Title 49 and Title 63

PC 79 HB102 / SB1267

As enacted, changes from 21 to 18 the age at which certain adoption records must be made available to certain adopted persons; makes various other changes regarding adoption records. - Amends TCA Title 36, Chapter 1, Part 1.

PC 81 HB107 / SB1287

As enacted, removes the requirement that a parent or caretaker enter a personal responsibility plan that requires a child to attend school and receive immunizations and health checks; removes certain requirements for a parent or caretaker regarding personal responsibility plans; removes a 20 percent reduction in temporary assistance payments for failure to comply with certain personal responsibility plan requirements. - Amends TCA Title 71.

PC 94 HB321 / SB329

As enacted, requires each department, agency, office, commission, institution, or instrumentality of the executive branch to accept electronic transmissions; defines the meaning of electronic transmission as applicable to this state's code; removes the terms "fax" or "facsimile" in certain statutes and replaces the terms with electronic transmission.

PC 96 HB395 / SB318

As enacted, enacts the "Tennessee Genomic Security and End Organ Harvesting Act." - Amends TCA Title 56 and Title 68.

PC 99 HB572 / SB575

As enacted, requires all hospitals and birthing centers to provide information on post-birth warning signs, including symptoms and resources, to a mother and, if possible, to the mother's caregiver or at least one of the mother's family members prior to discharge following a birth; requires the department to provide all hospitals and birthing centers with information on post-birth warning signs, including symptoms and resources, and to have the information available on the department's website. - Amends TCA Title 68.

PC 100 HB657 / SB619

As enacted, allows a healthcare provider to petition a relevant board after completing a peer assistance or treatment program contract to remove information from the public-facing licensure verification website regarding the adverse action and the order by the relevant board after five years from the completion date of that program or contract indicated in such order; authorizes the division of health related boards to promulgate rules to effectuate such petition process. - Amends TCA Title 4; Title 63 and Title 68.

PC 108 HB1157 / SB1031

As enacted, enacts the "Restore Trust in Public Health Messaging Act." prohibits the Department of Health, the commissioner of the Department of Health, any employee or agent of the Department or a local health department, and any member of the state executive branch from promoting, distributing or endorsing information that conflicts with or does not accurately reflect the federal Food and

Drug Administration ("FDA") approved or FDA-authorized label for said drug product - Amends TCA Title 53 and Title 68.

PC 116 HB155 / SB668

As enacted, removes the limitation that a death must have been anticipated for a registered nurse to make the actual determination and pronouncement of death if a deceased was a patient or resident at a nursing home, hospital, or assisted-care living facility. - Amends TCA Title 68

PC118 HB821 / SB707

As enacted, specifies that a prospective purchaser of tobacco, smoking hemp, vapor products, or smokeless nicotine products must produce proof of age prior to the sale being made; increases from 30 to 50 years the apparent age above which a seller is not required to demand presentation of proof of age. - Amends TCA Title 39, Chapter 17 and Title 43, Chapter 27.

PC 125 HB1074 / SB1063

As enacted, removes the requirement that a provider notify a patient of communication between the provider and a health insurance entity or healthcare facility concerning additional information needed to process a prior authorization request for the patient; removes the requirement that an utilization review agent notify the enrollee and the provider or healthcare facility when additional information is needed from the enrollee, provider, or healthcare facility to make a determination on the request for prior authorization. - Amends TCA Title 56 and Title 63, Chapter 1.

*PC 127 HB1311 / SB1284

As enacted, removes requirement that a license issued by a health related board be signed by members of the board prior to such issuance; authorizes the presiding officer to divide the board into panels to conduct contested case hearings or disciplinary matters; includes patient billing records as part of the medical and practice records that providers must make available for inspection upon the department's request; clarifies that identifying information of certain parties to a contested case hearing involving disciplinary charges filed against a provider must only be produced by the provider in response to a subpoena from a law enforcement agency. - Amends TCA Title 4; Title 63 and Title 68

PC 128 HB113 / SB1290

As enacted, makes permanent the exclusion of narcotic testing equipment used to determine whether a controlled substance contains a synthetic opioid, unless the narcotic testing equipment is possessed for purposes of the commission of

a drug offense, from the definition of drug paraphernalia; removes the July 1, 2025, repeal date for that exclusion. - Amends TCA Section 39- 17-402.

PC 139 HB363 / SB462

As enacted, designates the month of November as "Diabetes Awareness Month." - Amends TCA Title 15, Chapter 2, Part 1.

PC 144 HB498 / SB321

As enacted, creates the advisory task force on state reimbursement rates to make recommendations on annual adjustments to the reimbursement rates paid to agencies that perform healthcare functions and services, the purpose of which is to ensure such reimbursement rates are adequate. - Amends TCA Title 4; Title 62 and Title 63.

PC 147 HB702 / SB267

As enacted, clarifies that an additional license for a collection station is not required, without regard to where specimens are transported, as long as the medical laboratory owner of the licensed medical laboratory retains ownership of the medical laboratory and oversight of the collection station. - Amends TCA Title 68, Chapter 29.

PC 172 HB515 / SB680

As enacted, requires an LEA and public charter school that provides parents or guardians of K-12 students with information on immunizations, infectious diseases, medications, or other school health issues to include information about Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes published by the department of education; directs the department, in cooperation with the department of health, to publish and make available to LEAs and public charter schools for free on its website certain information about Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes. - Amends TCA Title 49 and Title 68.

PC 196 HB843 / SB1198

As enacted, declares Perry County Community Hospital in Linden and Decatur County General Hospital in Parsons to be necessary providers for the purpose of critical access hospital designation eligibility in accordance with Section 1820 of the Social Security Act. - Amends TCA Title 68.

PC 204 HB959 / SB789

As enacted, changes the term "temporary license" to "associate license" for a marriage and family therapist who has completed the academic coursework and training required for the license and who has successfully passed the

examination required by the board; redefines an approved supervisor for marital therapy and counseling services to no longer include a board-approved marriage and family supervisor; redefines the exemptions to current law for professional counselors and marital and family therapists. - Amends TCA Title 33 and Title 63.

PC 209 HB830 / SB299

As enacted, changes the qualifications for membership on the medical cannabis commission to include a patient caregiver and a subject matter expert with knowledge of how cannabis is cultivated, processed, shipped, distributed, or prescribed for medical use; specifies that the recommendations made by the commission to the general assembly may include policy recommendations. - Amends TCA Title 4 and Title 68, Chapter 7.

PC 212 HB373 / SB497

As enacted, requires a tattoo artist's signature on this state's tattoo apprenticeship completion application to signify that the apprentice artist under the tattoo artist's training has met the necessary requirements to become licensed in this state; permits tattoo artists who have been licensed in this state for fewer than three years but licensed in another state for 10 years or more to train an apprentice artist. - Amends TCA Title 62 and Title 68.

PC 213 HB510 / SB554

As enacted, enacts the "Tennessee Physician Workforce Information Act." Requires the Department of Health to contact qualified medical organizations in Tennessee and request information on challenges, opportunities, and solutions related to physician workforce sustainability, including burnout, policy needs, training, access to care, and national trends. Amends TCA Title 4; Title 49; Title 63 and Title 68.

PC 217 HB990 / SB1004

As enacted, creates definitions for "inevitable abortion" and "serious risk of substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function" providing more clarity to physicians in determining when a condition could qualify for an abortion to be performed that is not considered criminal - Amends TCA Title 4; Title 9; Title 29; Title 33; Title 37; Title 38; Title 39; Title 40; Title 53; Title 56; Title 62; Title 63; Title 68 and Title 71.

PC 222 HB203 / SB332

As enacted, requires the board of nursing to develop a survey to collect information regarding Nurse Practitioners including specialty, collaborating physician relationship, and practice site location. Creates an annual report of the aggregated, de-identified data collected from the survey. The report shall be submitted on or before December 31 to the chair of the health and welfare committee of the senate and the chair of the committee of the house of representatives with jurisdiction over health-related matters. Amends TCA Title 4; Title 8; Title 14; Title 29; Title 33; Title 37; Title 39; Title 53; Title 63; Title 68 and Title 71.

PC 228 HB896 / SB880

As enacted, prohibits a state agency from disseminating, proposing, or finalizing any regulatory action for a substance, mixture, or chemical related to drinking water, water pollution control, hazardous substances, contaminated site remediation, air quality, or solid or hazardous waste handling unless the regulatory action is based upon the best available peer-reviewed scientific and technical information. Clarifies this does not apply to any rule of the department of agriculture, the department of health, any rule required by federal law, or any rule that is the substantive equivalent to a federal regulation. - Amends TCA Title 4, Chapter 5.

PC 232 HB466 / SB1385

As enacted, requires a medical laboratory supervisor to be readily available for consultations during all hours when tests are performed; prohibits a medical laboratory supervisor from being required to be on laboratory premises. - Amends TCA Title 68.

PC 247 HB533 / SB449

As enacted, enacts the "Fertility Treatment and Contraceptive Protection Act." Outlines protections for fertility treatment and contraception - Amends TCA Title 63 and Title 68.

PC 261 HB960 / SB849

As enacted, directs the department of health to collaborate with an organization in this state that is approved by the board of medical examiners and board of osteopathic examination, and the board of medical examiners, the board of examiners in psychology respectively and accredited as a sponsor of continuing education to create or identify a continuing education program for the purpose of providing healthcare professionals licensed pursuant to this chapter with information or training relative to maternal mental health.

PC 263 HB1141 / SB882

As enacted, adds that the governor's appointee for the health facilities commission who is a representative of the assisted-care living facility industry may be appointed from lists of qualified persons submitted by interested groups, including the Tennessee Center for Assisted Living. - Amends TCA Title 68.

PC 266 HB1044 / SB955

As enacted, creates the "Medical Ethics Defense Act." Grants healthcare providers the legal right to decline to participate in or fund any healthcare procedure, treatment, or service that violates their conscience. - Amends TCA Title 63.

PC 272 HB1349 / SB1146

As enacted, requires the medical examiner's office to ascertain and document current drug use, including psychotropic drugs, by a deceased individual who committed a mass shooting; directs the University of Tennessee's health science center to study drug interactions between the psychotropic drugs and any other drugs present in the deceased individual's system; requires the department of health to disclose the psychotropic drug use of the individual to the public upon request. - Amends TCA Title 38; Title 53; Title 63 and Title 68.

PC 278 HB37 / SB428

As enacted, authorizes an insurer, for purposes of group insurance plans offered to state employees, to adopt or amend a state preferred drug list (PDL); requires the insurer to ensure that reimbursement is provided to a healthcare prescriber or hospital that provides a non-opioid treatment to a covered employee under the group insurance plan. - Amends TCA Title 8; Title 53; Title 56; Title 63; Title 68 and Title 71.

PC 286 HB731 / SB908

As enacted, specifies that the Tennessee One Health Committee is a governing body under the open meetings act; requires meetings of the committee to be open to the public. - Amends TCA Title 4, Chapter 3, Part 5; Title 8, Chapter 44; Title 43, Chapter 1; Title 58; Title 68, Chapter 1 and Title 70.

PC 294 HB1237 / SB1235

As enacted, prohibits the exclusion of persons from membership on state regulatory and health-related boards on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, and national origin; prohibits such boards from establishing or operating under race-based policies pertaining to their composition; creates a private cause of action against a board and its officers, employees, and agents for such practices; removes requirement that appointing authorities strive to ensure certain boards and commissions are represented by members of

racial minorities. - Amends TCA Title 4, Chapter 21; Title 9; Title 62; Title 63 and Title 68.

PC 295 HB1239 / SB421

As enacted, authorizes certain prescribing physician assistants and nurse practitioners to prescribe buprenorphine products for the treatment of opioid use disorder when the physician assistant or nurse practitioner is employed by or contracts with a state correctional facility or county or municipal jail, and certain other conditions are met. - Amends TCA Title 33; Title 41; Title 53 and Title 63.

PC 304 HB164 / SB128

As enacted, allows chiropractic physicians to engage in the practice of animal chiropractic and apply to the board for a certification to perform animal chiropractic if they meet certain requirements. It also allows the performance of animal chiropractic by a licensed veterinarian. - Amends TCA Title 4 and Title 63.

PC 317 HB1203 / SB359

As enacted, authorizes the board of medical examiners and board of osteopathic examination to issue a license subject to a private advocacy order which requires the applicant to participate in a peer assistance program approved by the board; designates private advocacy orders as confidential and not public records, as long as the provider does not fail to maintain participation in the peer assistance program and requires the initiation of disciplinary proceedings by the board. - Amends TCA Title 63.

PC 324 HB968 / SB763

As enacted, requires the department of revenue to maintain a directory on its website that lists all vapor products certified as authorized to be sold in this state; levies a privilege tax of seven cents per milliliter of consumable material contained in a closed-system vapor product; levies a privilege tax at the rate of 10 percent of the wholesale cost price on vapor products.

PC 339 HB495 / SB606

As enacted, rewrites the fee limits for a party requesting a patient's medical record in either paper or electronic format from a provider or the provider's third-party release of information provider. - Amends TCA Title 63 and Title 68.

PC 346 HB760 / SB817

As enacted, authorizes a healthcare practitioner to prescribe and a pharmacist to dispense a prescribed, bronchodilator rescue inhaler to an authorized entity to be administered to a person believed to be experiencing asthma symptoms

or respiratory distress in an emergency situation, under a standing protocol from the healthcare practitioner; encourages schools in LEAs and public charter schools to keep bronchodilator rescue inhalers to be administered to students believed to be having asthma symptoms or in respiratory distress in an emergency situation. - Amends TCA Title 49; Title 53; Title 63 and Title 68.

PC 347 HB826 / SB895

As enacted, outlines parental consent regarding medical treatment and video or voice recording of children on school property, as well as absences from school due to religious holidays- Amends TCA Title 33; Title 36; Title 37; Title 49; Title 63 and Title 68.

PC 360 HB885 / SB212

As enacted, expands the requirement that state and local governing bodies make an agenda available to the public prior to regular public meetings of the body to include the governing bodies of certain nonprofit organizations, including nonprofit community organizations that receive federal funding, nonprofit organizations that receive community grant funds from this state or certain funding from local governments, nonprofit organizations created for the benefit of local governments, and nonprofit organizations that provide the metropolitan government of Nashville/Davidson County with certain utility services; requires, rather than permits, such governing bodies that maintain a website to post the agenda to the website. - Amends TCA Section 8-44-110

PC 361 HB318 / SB263

As enacted, prohibits the enforcement and recognition of requirements or mandates issued by the World Health Organization, United Nations, or World Economic Forum in this state or its political subdivisions. - Amends TCA Title 4, Chapter 1, Part 4.

PC 386 HB1180 / SB1005

As enacted, allows petitioners to include all children in one adoption or termination of parental rights petition if the petitioners are seeking to adopt more than one child at the same time and the children are siblings who share at least one biological parent, unless the court issues a written order finding that it is in the best interest of the children that separate petitions be filed; specifies that the clerk of court shall charge only one filing fee for such a petition. - Amends TCA Title 18; Title 36 and Title 37.

PC390 HB1355 / SB1052

As enacted, specifies that a biological father or alleged biological father who makes token financial support to or for the benefit of a child or the child's mother during the pregnancy or when the mother had physical custody of the

child is not a putative father; makes various other changes regarding final orders of adoption. Adds to the list of persons a healthcare provider can get informed consent from before vaccinating a minor to include biological, legal, adoptive parent, potential adoptive parent or individual granted medical decision-making authority over a child under state law - Amends TCA Title 36 and Title 63.

PC 392 HB1293 / SB1114

As enacted, deletes the automatic repeal on July 1, 2025, of a provision that authorizes records custodians to seek an injunction against a person who makes requests to view or copy public records with the intent to disrupt government operations. - Amends TCA Title 10, Chapter 7, Part 5.

PC 393 HB1356 / SB1116

As enacted, allows the Department of Children's Services to access sealed adoption records for the purposes of kinship foster placement. - Amends TCA Title 36 and Title 68

PC 397 HB1357 / SB1239

As enacted, Creates the Tennessee task force to end childhood hunger with the purpose of developing an action plan for ending childhood hunger. The task force shall recommend a strategic action plan to guide the administration and general assembly. - Amends TCA Title 36 and Title 37.

*PC 400 HB1310 / SB1282

As enacted, deletes present laws pertaining to rented premises unfit for habitation and quick fast food establishment delivery vehicles; removes the statutorily set permit fees to operate food service establishments and requires such permit fees to be set by rule; makes other revisions to present laws pertaining to food service and safety. - Amends TCA Section 53-8-103; Title 68, Chapter 110; Title 68, Chapter 111; Title 68, Chapter 14 and Title 68, Chapter 15.

PC 404 HB1242 / SB1414

As enacted, expands provisions prohibiting discrimination against 340B entities that are covered entities participating in the federal 340B drug discount program under section 340B of the Public Health Service Act, 42 U.S.C. § 256b. - Amends TCA Title 47, Chapter 18 and Title 56

HJR120

Urges Department of Health to implement voluntary reporting system for Charcot-Marie-Tooth Disease cases.

HB923 / SB1084

As enacted, enacts the "Dismantling DEI Departments Act." Prohibits a department, agency, or other unit of state government from use of a discriminatory preference in an effort to increase diversity, equity, or inclusion or establish or maintain an office, division, or department for such purposes. Sets exemptions for public health, medical research, or disease prevention programs - Amends TCA Title 4; Title 5; Title 6; Title 7; Title 8 and Title 49, Chapter 7.

HB622 / SB1083F

As enacted, enacts the "Dismantle DEI Act," which prohibits local governments and public institutions of higher education from basing hiring decisions on any metrics that consider an applicant's race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or disability, or hiring a particular candidate to achieve any goals to increase diversity, equity, or inclusion in the workplace. – Amends TCA Title 5; Title 6; Title 7; Title 8 and Title 49.

HB1330 / SB1316

As introduced, enacts the "Less is More Act of 2025." – Amends TCA Title 4; Title 8; Title 20; Title 33; Title 38; Title 40; Title 52; Title 55; Title 62; Title 63; Title 68; Title 70 and Title 76.

HB132 / SB396

As enacted, limits the duration of a state of emergency declared by the governor to 30 days; authorizes the general assembly to terminate, extend, or renew a state of emergency by joint resolution; establishes an ad hoc legislative council to extend a state of emergency during the interim between legislative sessions. – Amends TCA Section 58-2-107.

HB865 / SB644

As enacted, requires the board of nursing to change certain minimum curricula standards for schools of nursing related to program course access and enrollment; requires the board of nursing to permit practical nursing program students to sit for the national council licensure exam upon completion of the program, as long as the exam's minimum age requirements are met. – Amends TCA Title 49 and Title 63.

HB310/ SB289

As enacted, creates a presumption that the diagnosis of a law enforcement officer or emergency medical responder with post-traumatic stress disorder as the result of responding to certain incidents was incurred in the line of duty for purposes of workers' compensation coverage. – Amends TCA Title 7, Chapter 51 and Title 50, Chapter 6.

HB869 / SB890

As enacted, deletes the 72 hour pause on certain lab results, requiring labs to fully comply with federal information blocking requirements. Also outlines requirements for insurance entities to establish and maintain certain application programming interfaces as described in federal code for the benefit of insureds - Amends TCA Title 8; Title 47; Title 56; Title 63 and Title 68.

HB1192 / SB871

As enacted, directs TACIR to conduct a study and prepare a report on recommendations on the continuum of care in this state and how the continuum of care can be improved; requires the study and report to survey the continuum of care in other states and compare such care to the continuum of care in this state; requires TACIR to submit the report on or before January 1, 2026, to each member of the general assembly and the legislative librarian; permits the report to be submitted electronically. – Amends TCA Title 4; Title 33; Title 63; Title 68 and Title 71.

HB979 / SB764

As enacted, establishes rules around which types of physicians can be employed by hospitals in different counties, with specific restrictions for specialties like radiologists, anesthesiologists, pathologists, and emergency physicians. It also defines conditions under which these physicians can be employed, including ensuring medical decision-making is not interfered with by the employing hospital. Establishes a licensing system for anesthesiologist assistants in Tennessee, setting requirements for education, certification, and supervision, and outlining their scope of practice under the direct oversight of a licensed anesthesiologist. - Amends TCA Title 47; Title 63 and Title 68.

HB717 / SB654

As enacted, enacts the "Caring for Caregivers Act," which requires the department to create and administer a three-year family caregiver grant pilot program to provide grants to caregivers of family members diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or related dementia to offset expenditures incurred by the caregivers. - Amends TCA Title 9; Title 33; Title 52; Title 67 and Title 68.

HB979 / SB476

As enacted, requires LEAs and public charter schools to prohibit food or beverage items that contain Red 40 to be sold, offered for sale, or provided to

students on school property unless the food or beverage item is sold to the student as part of a school fundraising event. - Amends TCA Title 49

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

Ms. Katherine Trawick, Board Attorney, reviewed the Board's conflict of interest policy and the open meetings act.

Elections for Board Secretary and Board Chair

Dr. Childers provided information on the Chair and Secretary roles and upcoming changes in the new calendar year. The last vote for Board Chair was May 2024, for a 1-year appointment.

Ms. Kenya Anderson nominated Tara Watson for Board Secretary, Ms. Caitlin Wright seconded, the motion passed.

Ms. Colleen Howe nominated Kenya Anderson for Board Chair, Ms. Caitlin Wright seconded, the motion passed.

The new Board Chair and Board Secretary will begin their terms at the next meeting, November 13, 2025.

REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

Ms. Barbara Granum, Intake Coordinator presented the current complaints report for the Board.

FINANCIAL REPORT

No financial report was presented.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REPORT

Ms. Courtney Reimers, Board Administrator read the statistics of the licensing report and gave the following updates:

Total active licensees as of August 13, 2025:

Licensed Baccalaureate Social Workers 466
Licensed Master Social Workers 4021
Licensed Advanced Practice Social workers 201
Licensed Clinical Social Workers 4540

Total New Applications February 13, 2024, through August 11, 2025:

Licensed Baccalaureate Social Workers 26
Licensed Master Social Workers 524
Licensed Advanced Practice Social workers 6
Licensed Clinical Social Workers 342

Upcoming meeting dates: November 13, 2025, February 5, 2026, May 2, 2026, August 27, 2026, November 12, 2026

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT

Katherine Trawick, Board Attorney gave the report from the Office of General Counsel which included the following updates:

1. As of July 31, 2025, there were twenty-five complaints open against twenty-four of the Board's licensees.
2. There are twelve of these Boards licensees currently being monitored.
 - a. The total number on reprimand is 1 with terms.
 - b. The total number on probation is 5 with terms.
 - c. The total number on suspension is 3 with terms.
 - d. The total number with a revoked or surrendered license is 1.
 - e. The total number of voluntarily retired is 2.

Ms. Trawick addressed the retrospective rule changes that were discussed in the January 2025 meetings. The rule changes are in the internal review process. Future meetings will address additional rule review.

CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS

Christina Shelley-Applicant for LCSW by examination appeared for an executive session to discuss her application. The Board reviewed the application materials and discussed the matter with the applicant. Ms. Wright motioned the applicant to have 2 years of probation, 6 months to find a therapist, 6 months to find a practice monitor and 3 months to find a sponsor. The applicant must meet a minimum of monthly cadence with practice monitor, therapist and sponsor. Ms. Howe seconded, and the motion passed.

April Armstrong- Applicant for LCSW by examination. Ms. Armstrong appeared via phone to address her supervision hours being expired per the 8-year rule. The Board reviewed the application materials and discussed the matter with the applicant. The Board advised the applicant to request additional documentation of ongoing supervision through her place of employment, to include a notarized letter with dates of supervision. The applicant shall provide documentation by the next meeting, November 13, 2025. If documentation is received the file will be reviewed by the consultant to determine if the application is complete. If documentation is not received by the next meeting the applicant can request to appear. The request must be received no later than 2 weeks prior to the November 13, 2025 meeting.

Chelsi Williamson- Applicant for LCSW by examination. Ms. Williamson appeared to discuss concerns of clinical hour discrepancies and log validity. The Board reviewed the application materials and discussed the matter with the applicant. The Board discussed duplicate hours, logs dated into the future and documentation of clinical hours. The Board advised the applicant to correct clinical logs; a spreadsheet may be used to clarify documentation. If deficient in hours the applicant will need to remain under supervision and submit documentation once hour requirements are met. The Board requested the administrative staff reach out to the supervisor Grace Rieman to reiterate the supervision guidelines. Once documentation is received the file will be sent to the consultant for review. Ms. Anderson motioned to send the letter to supervisor Rieman, Ms. Parker seconded, motion passed.

Heather Schow- Applicant for LCSW by examination. Ms. Schow appeared due to a pending DUI charge. The Board reviewed the application materials and discussed the matter with the applicant. Ms. Watson motioned that the applicant be allowed to withdraw the application and reapply once the pending case is adjudicated. Application fees will be waived if the application is received by August 14, 2026. Ms. Deloach seconded, and the motion passed.

Kelli Webber- Applicant for LMSW by exam. Ms. Webber appeared due to multiple indications on her background check. The Board reviewed the application materials and discussed the matter with the applicant. Ms. Wright motioned that the applicant be approved to test, Ms. Watson seconded, and the motion passed.

Disciplinary Order(s)

Consent Order(s)

Victoria Hodges, LMSW (License#12838)-Ennica Street, Disciplinary Coordinator presented the signed consent order for Ms. Hodges. Ms. Anderson motioned to accept the order, Ms. Parker seconded the motion, and it passed.

Randall Perry, LCSW (License#3613) - Ennica Street, Disciplinary Coordinator presented the signed consent order for Mr. Perry. Ms. Watson motioned to accept the order, Ms. Howe seconded the motion, and it passed.

Shaaron Boyle, LCSW (License#6842)- Ennica Street, Disciplinary Coordinator presented the signed consent order for Ms. Boyle. Ms. Wright motioned to accept the order, Ms. Anderson seconded the motion, and it passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the January 16, 2025, Board meeting minutes. Ms. Wright motioned to approve the minutes, Ms. Anderson seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

The Board reviewed the January 30, 2025, Board meeting minutes. Ms. Wright motioned to approve the minutes, Ms. Anderson seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

The Board reviewed the February 18, 2025, Board meeting minutes. Ms. Wright motioned to approve the minutes, Ms. Anderson seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

CONDUCT NEW BUSINESS

Ratification of New Licensees

The Board reviewed the newly licensed and reinstated licensees since the last Board meeting. Ms. Watson motioned to ratify all names on the list, Ms. Wright seconded the motion, and it passed.

Correspondence

Edna Booker-Request for CEU waiver received after the licensee was audited. The Board reviewed the documentation received and discussed the request. Ms. Parker motioned to deny the request, Ms. Wright seconded the motion, and it passed.

Jessika Walker- Request for CEU waiver received after the licensee was audited. The Board reviewed the documentation received and discussed the request. Ms. Wright motioned to approve request, pending submission of additional documentation, Ms. Deloach seconded the motion, and it passed.

Veterans Administration change in policy from telehealth to in office, cubicle setting. Concerns submitted regarding patient privacy and confidentiality. Ms. Trawick recommended that the pending public statement from the psychology Board be reviewed and adapted for the social work Board. Dr. Childers offered to review the psychology draft.

NSAW Update from Karen Franklin, NASW Executive Director

Ms. Franklin discussed the new NASW TN website, rebranding, and new logo. The TN chapter website is now joining with the National website, and they are working through technical issues. CE approval information is on new website <https://naswtn.socialworkers.org/>. The previous web address will redirect to the new website.

Social Work Compact Update

Ms. Watson provided updates on the compact's progress. The next meeting will be held virtually on 11/5/2025 and will be available to the public.

Discuss and consider any changes to consultant application review procedures

Ms. Reimers discussed difficulties in not having a permanent consultant along with the timeframe for reviews. Ms. Watson provided input on the best process for reviews as a consultant. Ms. Watson motioned to approve Dr. Ann Marie Buchanan to be a consultant, Ms. Wright seconded, and the motion passed.

Discuss and take action if needed regarding rulemaking, hearings, rule amendments, and policies and applicable forms

Telehealth supervision policy revision for LAPSW consideration

Ms. Candyce Wilson discussed the LCSW/LAPSW policy amendment for supervision via Telehealth. The previous policy did not include the LAPSW designation. Rule 1365-01-.08(2)(b)(3) was added. Ms. Wright motioned to accept the amended policy, Ms. Parker seconded, and the motion passed.

Background checks with indication application review process

Ms. Wilson provided information on the new process for background check reviews and the administrative burden. The Board discussed creating a policy to allow administrative oversight. Ms. Trawick discussed the fresh start act. Ms. Wright offered to work with Ms. Trawick to draft a policy and bring back to the Board at the November 13, 2025 meeting.

Supervision hours from out of state supervisors on by exam applicants

Ms. Reimers presented the issue of supervision from states other than TN and the required 3 CEUs in TN licensure law course that is required by supervisors. The Board discussed the current guidelines for supervision and out of state supervisors. Ms. Anderson offered to draft a policy for Board review. Ms. Watson motioned that the Board no longer require the 3 CEUs in TN licensure law for out of state supervisors. Ms. Wright seconded, and the motion passed.

Consideration on Annotated Code Continuing Education grace period and availability of continuing education courses

Ms. Reimers provided an update on the course availability and the possibility of having the Board record its own course to offer the annotated code CE. Ms. Wilson provided information on the CE audits

currently lacking the 1 CE annotated code and the Board was asked to consider a grace period/extension. Ms. Wright motioned to waive the 1 CE annotated code for 2025 audits and reinstatements, Ms. Parker seconded, and the motion passed.

Ms. Anderson motioned for Dr. Childers to record the content for the course to be offered through the Board, Ms. Wright seconded, and the motion passed. Ms. Franklin stated the NASW will be happy to share the current course content offered through the NASW TN chapter.

Consideration and guidance on clinical hours breakdown on verification form and supervision logs

Ms. Reimers provided common questions received from applicants and supervisors regarding documentation on the clinical logs. Ms. Watson provided information on what she sees as a consultant and requested direction on what the Board would like the logs to contain. The Board discussed having separate forms for LCSW and LAPSW with updated definitions.

Discuss Legislation and Take Action as Needed

Ms. Trawick discussed the ability of boards to break into hearing panels. The panel will only be used for contested cases and will require 3 board members. Ms. Watson motioned that the Board have the ability to break into hearing panels, Ms. Wright seconded, and the motion passed.

Disciplinary Order(s)

Petition for Order of Compliance

Carrie Fair, LCSW (license #5771)-Ms. Trawick presented the petition of order of compliance and notice from the disciplinary coordinator that all terms have been met. Ms. Wright motioned to approve the petition of order of compliance, Ms. Deloach seconded, and the motion passed.

Agreed Citation

Melesa Love, LCSW (License# 5894)-Ms. Wilson presented the signed consent order for Ms. Love. Ms. Wright motioned to accept the order, Ms. Watson seconded the motion, and it passed.

Heather Monroe, LCSW (License# 6759)-Ms. Wilson presented the signed consent order for Ms. Monroe. Ms. Watson motioned to accept the order, Ms. Parker seconded the motion, and it passed.

Margaret Kimball, LMSW (License# 12028)-Ms. Wilson presented the signed consent order for Ms. Kimball. Ms. Parker motioned to accept the order, Ms. Wright seconded the motion, and it passed.

Alisa Jorstad, LCSW (License# 5296)-Ms. Wilson presented the signed consent order for Ms. Jorstad. Ms. Watson motioned to accept the order, Ms. Wright seconded the motion, and it passed.

Keilah Mills, LMSW (License# 14136)-Ms. Wilson presented the signed consent order for Ms. Mills. Ms. Parker motioned to accept the order, Ms. Watson seconded the motion, and it passed.

Kerith Hopper, LMSW (License# 13809)-Ms. Wilson presented the signed consent order for Ms. Hopper. Ms. Parker motioned to accept the order, Ms. Watson seconded the motion, and it passed.

CONDUCT NEW BUSINESS / ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REPORT

Ms. Wilson reviewed the Less is More Act, which provides the ability to meet virtually. The act requires the Board to meet in person at least once a year. Dr. Childers recommended that the Board continue to meet in person and reserve the option for when it is needed. The Board decided to meet in person for at least the next 2 meetings make decisions regarding future meetings on a meeting-by-meeting basis.

Discuss and consider approval for attendance to upcoming conference(s), as needed:

Ms. Trawick asked about new board member training. Ms. Wilson provided information on the ASWB new board member training 8/28/25-8/29/25. Ms. Reimers to provide Board members with a link to the registration.

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 pm CST.