

## 2019 Legislative Summary

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### MENTAL HEALTH RELATED LEGISLATION

**SB204/HB36 Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services, Dept. of** - As enacted, changes from once every five years to once every four years the timeframe during which social workers, marriage and family therapists, professional counselors, pastoral counselors, alcohol and drug abuse counselors, and occupational therapists must complete an approved suicide prevention training program.

**Public Chapter:** 131

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**SB472/HB677 Mental Illness** - As enacted, requires court clerks to report the race, sex, and, if known, Social Security number of a person judicially committed or adjudicated a mental defective to the Federal Bureau of Investigation-NICS index and the Department of Safety for use in determining a person's eligibility to purchase firearms; requires that such information be confidential.

**Public Chapter:** 262

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**SB540/HB995 Mental Health Professionals** - As enacted, requires licensure as a healthcare professional for a person to competently treat a mental health disorder; creates certain exemptions; provides for an action to recover damages.

- Defines "mental health disorder" to mean a serious psychological condition, including, but not limited to, major depressive disorder, anxiety disorder, bipolar disorder, personality disorder, and post-traumatic stress disorder.
- Defines "psychotherapy" to mean an intervention for a mental health disorder by a licensed mental health professional.
- Creates civil liability for an unlicensed person providing mental health psychotherapy services for treatment of a mental health disorder.

**SB579/HB643 Mental Illness** - As enacted, requires the Department of Finance and Administration, in consultation with the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and the Division of TennCare, to develop and administer a grant program to assist sheriffs who are required by law to transport persons who have been certified by a health care professional for transport to a hospital or treatment resource for a mental health examination to determine whether the person should be involuntarily admitted; authorizes hospitals and treatment resources to conduct a mental health examination to determine whether a person should be involuntarily admitted via telehealth services.

- Creates a grant program through the Department of Finance and Administration, in consultation with the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and the Division of TennCare, to assist sheriffs required to transport persons to a hospital or treatment resource for emergency mental health transport under this section.
- Prohibits assistance from the grant program for emergency mental health transports where a physician, psychologist, or designated professional determines that the person can be transported by friends, neighbors, or other mental health professionals familiar with the person, relatives, or member of the clergy.
- Authorizes a sheriff to contract with one or more third parties or other law enforcement agencies to transport persons to a hospital or treatment resource. Sheriffs may use grant funds to pay for the services.
- Authorizes hospitals or treatment resources to conduct an evaluation for admission through telehealth if such services are available and offered.

**SB620/HB1005 Medical Examiners** - As enacted, revises provisions governing the process to be followed when the next of kin disagrees with a finding that the suspected or determined manner of death was suicide.

- Revises the present law reconsideration process available to the deceased's next of kin.
- Requires an examiner to consult with the decedent's treating mental health professional or primary care physician, if known and reasonably able to be identified through the decedent's next of kin, if the examiner suspects that suicide may be a potential manner of death.
- If the manner of death is suicide and the next of kin disagrees with the manner of death determination, then the next of kin may contact the county medical examiner who performed the autopsy to request a meeting. The county medical examiner must meet with the next of kin within 30 calendar days of that initial contact by the requesting next of kin or, if more time is needed to gather documentation, on a mutually acceptable date. The meeting must be either in person or via teleconference, at the discretion of the requesting next of kin. At the meeting, each party must present the reasons supporting their position with respect to the manner of death, including any relevant documentation.
- Requires the county medical examiner to make a written determination on the manner of death and notify the next of kin within 30 calendar days of the meeting with the next of kin. The notification must address the next of kin's specific bases for disagreement, inform the next of kin of the right to seek reconsideration from the office of the state chief

medical examiner (OSCME), and include information on how to request the reconsideration. The notification must also inform the next of kin of their right to seek judicial review.

- Next of kin may terminate a reconsideration process requested pursuant to this bill at any time and for any reason. Next of kin may also seek judicial review at any time during the reconsideration process following the receipt of the original death certificate.
- By requesting reconsideration, the next of kin will authorize the release of any medical records, hospital records, investigative reports, or other documentary evidence of the deceased that the peer review panel deems necessary to complete the reconsideration.
- A physician who acts in good faith to comply with this amendment will be immune from individual civil liability in the absence of gross negligence or willful misconduct for actions authorized by the bill.
- Requires the OSCME to maintain statistics on the number of reconsideration requests, the number of manner of death determinations that are upheld or overturned, and the number of next of kin terminations of a reconsideration process before the issuance of final findings. The OSCME may also maintain additional information relative to the reconsideration requests that may assist in carrying out other functions of the office.

**Public Chapter:** 343

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**SB972/HB1135 Health Care** - As enacted, permits advanced practice nurses and physician assistants who are prescribers at community mental health centers to arrange for chart review by and site visits with certain collaborating physicians by means of HIPAA-compliant electronic information systems.

**Public Chapter:** 183

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**SB1340/HB1498 Mental Illness** - As enacted, revises provisions concerning judicial commitment of certain persons in the custody of the Department of Correction.

- Revises present law concerning judicial commitment of certain persons in the custody of the Department of Correction.
- Requires the commissioner of Correction, upon determining from an examination that a person who is in the custody of the Department of Correction has a mental illness or serious emotional disturbance and because of the mental illness or serious emotional disturbance poses a substantial likelihood of serious harm, to, no less than 30 days before the person's scheduled release from a correctional facility, file a complaint for the judicial commitment of the person to a hospital or treatment resource.
- Requires the clerk to serve to the person a copy of the complaint and send a copy of the complaint to the district attorney general with jurisdiction in that district.
- A complaint filed under this amendment stays the release of the person pending completion of a hearing.

**Public Chapter:** 504

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**SB1402/HB754 Firearms and Ammunition** - As enacted, creates a Class A misdemeanor offense for the transfer of a firearm to a person knowing that the person: has been judicially committed to a mental institution or adjudicated as a mental defective unless the person's right to possess firearms has been restored; or is receiving inpatient mental health or substance abuse treatment at a treatment resource other than a hospital.

**Public Chapter:** 432

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### **SUBSTANCE ABUSE/CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES RELATED LEGISLATION**

**SB194/HB150 Opioids** - As enacted, defines "alternative treatments," for purposes of the requirement that prescribing physicians explain reasonable alternatives to opioids, as including chiropractic care, physical therapy, acupuncture, and other treatments that relieve pain without the use of opioids.

**Public Chapter:** 117

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**SB367/HB341 Physicians and Surgeons** - As enacted, specifies that requirement for licensure of persons who practice medicine does not prohibit a licensed nonresidential office-based opiate treatment facility from employing or contracting with a physician if the facility has a physician in the ownership structure of its controlling business entity and the employment relationship between the physician to be employed or contracted with and the nonresidential office-based opiate treatment facility is evidenced by a written contract or employment agreement containing language that does not restrict the physician from exercising independent professional medical judgment in diagnosing and treating patients.

**Public Chapter:** 259

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**SB566/HB1293 Controlled Substances** - As enacted, requires, under the Tennessee Prescription Safety Act, the controlled substance committee or the Commissioner of Health to release confidential information from the controlled substance database to the attorney general and reporter upon request for the purpose of reviewing, querying, or otherwise using the data in conjunction with investigating or litigating a civil action involving controlled substances.

**Public Chapter:** 264

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**SB798/HB942 Controlled Substances** - As enacted, increases the penalty to a Class B felony for 15 grams or more or a Class A felony for 150 grams or more of fentanyl, carfentanil, remifentanil, alfentanil, thiafentanil, or any fentanyl derivative or analogue.

- Administration Bill

**Public Chapter:** 201

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**SB810/HB843 Drugs, Prescription** - As enacted, makes various changes concerning the prescription of certain Scheduled controlled substances.

- Allows review of opioid prescribing by a quality improvement committee as defined in TCA § 63-1-150.
- Extends the requirement for electronic prescriptions of Schedule II, III, and IV controlled substances to January 1, 2021.
- Requires a subsequent fill of a partially filled opioid prescription to occur within six months of the issuance of the original prescription, unless federal law requires a shorter timeframe.
- Requires pharmacy dispensing software vendors to update dispensing software to allow for partial filling of controlled substances by January 1, 2021.
- Defines "palliative care."
- Allows a 30-day supply of prescribed opioids rather than a 20-day supply.
- Clarifies the definition of "severe burn" and "major physical trauma."
- Restricts the treatment of upper respiratory symptoms or cough with opioids to no more than a 14-day supply.

**Public Chapter:** 124

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**SB1384/HB1360 Opioids** - As enacted, requires the Commissioner of Health, by January 1, 2020, to: study instances when co-prescribing of naloxone with an opioid is beneficial and publish the results to each prescribing board that licenses healthcare professionals who can legally prescribe controlled substances and the Board of Pharmacy; and include the findings in the treatment guidelines for prescribing opioids.

**Public Chapter:** 327

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**SJR181 General Assembly, Statement of Intent or Position** - Declares that prior authorization requirements from insurance providers should be removed when a healthcare professional provides or seeks to provide medication assisted treatment to a patient with a substance use disorder and declares substance use disorder and opioid use disorder should be insured in the same manner as other diseases such as diabetes and heart disease. - A RESOLUTION to recognize the need for mental health parity in Tennessee.

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## **GENERAL HEALTH/HEALTH INSURANCE/HEALTH ADMINISTRATION RELATED LEGISLATION**

**SB28/HB37 Public Health** - As enacted, creates the state Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia Advisory Council.

**Public Chapter:** 364

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**SB281/HB774 Health Care** - As enacted, enacts the "Chronic Disease Prevention Act."

- Requires the speaker of the Senate and the speaker of the House to establish a task force to study methods on how best to prevent chronic diseases in this state and what funding is available to assist with chronic disease prevention.
- Specifies membership of task force and requires task force to complete its findings and make a report to the speakers by December 15, 2020.

**Public Chapter:** 372

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**SB317/HB199 Nurses, Nursing** - As enacted, clarifies that the definition of the practice of nursing does not prevent qualified registered nurses from making determinations that patients are experiencing emergency medical conditions, in certain circumstances.

**Public Chapter:** 12

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**SB474/HB771 TennCare** - As enacted, enacts the "Annual Coverage Assessment Act of 2019."

**Public Chapter:** 434

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**SB510/HB419 Insurance Companies, Agents, Brokers, Policies** - As enacted, enacts the "Tennessee Right to Shop Act."

- Requires health insurance carriers, on or after January 1, 2021, to implement a shopping and decision support program that provides shopping capabilities and decision support services for enrollees in a health plan.
- On or after January 1, 2021, a health insurance carrier may provide incentives for enrollees in a health plan who elect to receive a comparable healthcare service from a network provider that is covered by the health plan and is paid less than the average allowed amount paid by that carrier to network providers for comparable healthcare services.
- Exempts any group insurance plan offered under Title 8, Chapter 27, any managed care organization (MCO) contracting with the state to provide insurance through the TennCare program or the CoverKids program, or any plan described in Section 1251 of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and Section 2301 of the federal Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act.
- Allows a carrier to contract with a third-party vendor to comply with this section.

**Public Chapter:** 407

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**SB613/HB710 Consumer Protection** - As enacted, enacts the "Healthcare Billing Clarity Act."

- Prohibits a hospital from including in any billing statement to a patient any language that indicates or implies that a charge is for a specialty healthcare service that was rendered by a healthcare provider unless: (1) The charge is described in a manner that provides the patient with sufficient information to identify the healthcare provider or the specialty healthcare service rendered; and (2) (A) The costs of any supplies, equipment, or other services rendered to the patient by or at the hospital are excluded from the amount charged for the healthcare provider or the specialty healthcare service rendered; or (B) The billing statement includes language or is accompanied by a notice to inform the

patient that billed amounts for services do not include charges for healthcare providers who are not employed by the healthcare facility, including anesthesiologists, emergency physicians, pathologists, and radiologists.

- A violation of the above provisions will constitute a violation of the Tennessee Consumer Protection Act as an unfair or deceptive act or practice affecting the conduct of trade or commerce and a violator will be subject to the penalties and remedies as provided in that Act, which include the penalties for a Class B misdemeanor and, in the case of a willful violation, the violator being liable for treble damages.
- If a healthcare provider includes a charge in a billing statement to a patient for the costs of any supplies, equipment, or other services provided by a healthcare facility, then the healthcare provider must include with the billing statement language or an accompanying notice to inform the patient that those charges are included.
- A violation of this provision will also be considered a violation of the Tennessee Consumer Protection Act, as described above.
- Applies to all hospitals licensed under state law, including mental health hospitals.
- Defines "specialty healthcare service" as anesthesia, pathology, radiology, and emergency services.

**Public Chapter:** 341

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**SB1128/HB1350 Nurses, Nursing** - As enacted, revises requirements for certificate to practice as a registered nurse first assistant.

- Under present law, to be a "registered nurse first assistant," a person must: (1) be licensed as a registered nurse in this state; (2) be certified in perioperative nursing; and (3) have successfully completed a registered nurse first assistant education program that meets the education standard of the Association of Perioperative Registered Nurses for a registered nurse first assistant.
- Adds as an alternative to meeting the certification requirement described in (2) above, that the person is certified as an advanced practice registered nurse and is qualified by education and training to perform tasks involved in perioperative nursing, as determined by the board.

**Public Chapter:** 326

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**SB1206/HB655 Health Care** - As enacted, extends the authority to barter for healthcare services if the patient is not covered by health insurance to all healthcare professionals instead of only physicians.

**Public Chapter:** 229

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**SB1286/HB616 TennCare** - As enacted, requires the Bureau to establish a program that identifies child TennCare enrollees who are likely to be eligible for federal supplemental security income due to disability upon reaching 18 years of age; requires the program to initiate counseling with and provide enrollment assistance to the child to prevent a gap in TennCare eligibility upon the child reaching 18 years of age.

**Public Chapter:** 310

**SB1428/HB1280 TennCare** - As enacted, directs the governor, through the Commissioner of Finance and Administration, to submit a waiver amendment to the centers for Medicare and Medicaid services to provide TennCare II funding by means of a block grant indexed for inflation and population growth.

**Public Chapter:** 481

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### **STATE GOVERNMENT RELATED LEGISLATION**

**SB165/HB667 Administrative Procedure (UAPA)** - As enacted, continues permanent rules filed with the Secretary of State after January 1, 2018; schedules the Tennessee Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers Rule 0660-11-.05, relative to professional conduct, and filed in the office of Secretary of State on December 12, 2018, to expire on May 21, 2019; specifies that, effective July 1, 2019, the Department of Revenue is no longer prohibited from collecting internet sales or use taxes pursuant to Rule 1320-05-01-.129(2).

**Public Chapter:** 429

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**SB167/HB86 Public Records** - As enacted, provides that any legislation of the House of Representatives that creates an exception to the requirement deeming records of public entities to be open for inspection by the public must be referred to the Government Operations Committee according to the rules of the House of Representatives.

**Public Chapter:** 221

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**SB569/HB1087 Public Employees** - As enacted, replaces the awarding of treble damages under the Public Employee Political Freedom Act of 1980 with the awarding of compensatory damages.

**Public Chapter:** 446

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**SB633/HB1022 Pensions and Retirement Benefits** - As enacted, prohibits a current early service retiree from changing to disability retirement; makes other revisions to provisions governing the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System (TCRS).

- Specifies that an individual participating in the optional retirement program whose position is reclassified from exempt to non-exempt after at least one year of service in the exempt position shall maintain participation in the optional retirement program.
- Deletes language that specifies that employer contributions are to be credited to the optional retirement fund to provide retirement and death benefits for members and are not refundable in a lump sum for any reason, except death.
- Prohibits a current early service retiree from changing to disability retirement.
- Makes other changes to provisions governing TCRS.

**Public Chapter:** 381

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**SB662/HB1270 Federal Aid** - As enacted, requires certain state agencies and political subdivisions to prepare and submit reports to the Department of Finance and Administration regarding the effects of and plans for reductions in federal funding.

**Public Chapter:** 480

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**SB759/HB252 State Government** - As enacted, requires agencies to ensure the provision of appropriate accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if the agency requires a person applying for a license to engage in an occupation, trade, or profession in this state to take an examination; not applicable to an examination mandated and administered pursuant to federal law.

**Public Chapter:** 243

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**SB911/HB502 Criminal Offenses** - As enacted, enhances the penalty for destruction or alteration of governmental records from a Class A misdemeanor to a Class E felony.

**Public Chapter:** 495

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**SB1205/HB1132 Public Records** - As enacted, creates an exception to provisions concerning the confidentiality of certain investigatory records of the Division of Health Related Boards in the Department of Health.

- Makes certain materials, documents, and other matters related to, or compiled or created pursuant to, an investigation conducted by or on behalf of the Department of Health (DOH), subject to subpoena from law enforcement agencies.

**Public Chapter:** 447

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**SB1234/HB1230 General Assembly** - As enacted, updates references to House committee names; requires that House speaker be given a copy of all reports required to be submitted to the General Assembly, the House of Representatives, or a House committee; specifies that the rules of each house control as to appropriate committee to which a report must be submitted or before which a party is to appear in situations where the committee name may differ from what appears in TCA due to a rule change.

**Public Chapter:** 345

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## CRIMINAL/JUVENILE JUSTICE RELATED LEGISLATION

**SB782/HB926 Correction, Dept. of** - As enacted, revises provisions governing grants made by the department to fund reentry programs that reduce recidivism and probation revocations; redefines recidivism.

- Administration bill.
- Redefines "recidivism."
- Designates an eligible program participant is a convicted misdemeanor, locally-sentenced felon, or state-sentenced felon who will be incarcerated for a period of time that will allow for completion of the program before release.

**Public Chapter:** 249

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**SB806/HB950 Criminal Procedure** - As enacted, splits the electronic monitoring indigency fund into two accounts to be used to pay for ignition interlock devices for indigent defendants and to pay, subject to local matching funds, for transdermal monitoring devices, other alcohol and drug monitoring devices, and global positioning monitoring devices for indigent defendants.

- Administration bill.

**Public Chapter:** 505

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**SB904/HB1324 Jails, Local Lock-ups** - As enacted, authorizes a county sheriff to create an inmate reentry education program.

- Allows a county sheriff to create an inmate reentry education program.
- Successful completion of the program may allow an inmate to qualify for an educational sentence reduction credit of 60 days if the inmate successfully receives a high school equivalency credential, high school diploma, vocational educational diploma, or other postsecondary industry recognized certification.
- No credit will be given unless the course of study, including the institution through which the credential, diploma, degree, or certification is offered, has received the prior approval of the Department of Correction.

**Public Chapter:** 346

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**SB985/HB1449 Sentencing** - As enacted, adds to sentencing considerations available community-based alternatives to confinement and the benefits that imposing such alternatives may provide to the community should be considered when the offense is nonviolent and the defendant is the primary caregiver of a dependent child.

**Public Chapter:** 309

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**SB1039/HB909 Elder Abuse** - As enacted, enacts the "Elderly and Vulnerable Adult Protection Act of 2019."

- Creates a Class E felony offense of abuse of an elderly adult and creates a Class D felony offense of abuse of a vulnerable adult.

- Creates a Class A misdemeanor offense for any person to knowingly sexually exploit an elderly adult or vulnerable adult.
- Revises provisions pertaining to procedure for seeking relief by a relative having personal knowledge that an adult has been subject to or threatened with willful abuse, neglect or exploitation.
- Establishes that it is a Class C felony when a person commits the offense of aggravated abuse of an elderly or vulnerable adult and the act results in serious psychological injury.
- Authorizes the court to waive any court costs, taxes, or fees for obtaining an order of protection upon a finding that the individual for whose benefit an order of protection has been sought is indigent.
- Establishes that the Department of Human Services is not responsible for court costs, costs of representation, or costs for a guardian ad litem related to a petition for an ex parte order of protection, or any ex parte order of protection issued pursuant to this section.

**Public Chapter: 474**

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- SB1325/HB1319 Juvenile Offenders** - As enacted, revises the provisions for judicial diversion for juvenile offenders under certain circumstances; clarifies offenses for which a juvenile offender may be committed to the Department of Children's Services; authorizes probation for juvenile traffic offenders; clarifies various other provisions related to juvenile court proceedings.
- Specifies that if a child pleads guilty or no contest before the magistrate in a delinquency or unruly proceeding, the child waives the right to request an adjudicatory hearing.
  - If the plea includes an agreement as to disposition, the child also waives the right to request a hearing before the judge regarding disposition.
  - Adds that attachment and detention of a child are not authorized for violation of a pretrial diversion agreement.
  - Establishes home placement of a child not be issued if there is risk of sexual assault or danger to self. Requires a child not be placed on judicial diversion if the matter is dismissed after a hearing on the merits.
  - Adds aggravated burglary and commission of an act of terrorism or carjacking to the list of offenses by juvenile offenders where the length of the commitment cannot be greater than the sentence for an adult convicted of the same crime.
  - Allows the court to place the child on probation for a traffic violation.

**Public Chapter: 312**

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## **EDUCATION RELATED LEGISLATION**

**SB170/HB405 Education** - As enacted, requires LEAs and public charter schools to adopt a trauma-informed discipline policy; requires the Department of Education to develop guidance on trauma-informed discipline practices that LEAs must use to develop a trauma-informed discipline policy.

**Public Chapter:** **421**

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**SB803/HB947 Education** - As enacted, requires, instead of authorizes, the Tennessee School Safety Center to establish school safety grants to assist LEAs in funding programs that address school safety; revises other various provisions regarding school safety grants.

- Administration bill.
- Requires the Tennessee School Safety Center to establish school safety grants.
- Requires the creation of a grant application for Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to describe how funding will be used to improve school safety.
- Reserves and prioritizes funding for school safety grants for LEAs with schools that did not have full-time school resource officers during the 2018-2019 school year.

**Public Chapter:** **154**

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**SB1238/HB1158 Local Education Agencies** - As enacted, authorizes LEAs to establish a threat assessment team for the purpose of developing comprehensive, intervention-based approaches to prevent violence, manage reports of potential threats, and create a system that fosters a safe, supportive, and effective school environment.

**Public Chapter:** **394**

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**SB1251/HB788 Education** - As enacted, makes various changes to state education laws; revises certain duties of the commissioner of Education; transfers certain duties from the Department of Education to local boards of education; transfers certain duties from the State Board of Education to local education agencies.

- Section 23 clarifies that LEAs do not have to provide prior written notification of a mental health screening if a child is in need of a screening due to an emergency or urgent situation.

**Public Chapter:** **248**

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## MISCELLANEOUS LEGISLATION

**SB16/HB1 Gambling** - As enacted, enacts the "Tennessee Sports Gaming Act."

- Authorizes sports betting in Tennessee
- Creates a 20% privilege tax on gaming revenue (80% distributed to the Lottery for Education Account, 15% to local government, and 5% to TDMHSAS for gambling addiction treatment and prevention).
- Restricts sports wagering to interactive sports wagering or online wagering.

**Public Chapter:** 507

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**SB26/HB97 Tobacco, Tobacco Products** - As enacted, limits the places in which one may use vapor products.

- Adds products that can be used to produce or emit a visible or non-visible vapor to the definition of "vapor product" under the "Prevention of Youth Access to Tobacco and Vapor Products Act."
- Limits the places in which one may use vapor products under the "Children's Act for Clean Indoor Air" to those places where smoking is currently prohibited, including child care centers, group care homes, and public schools.

**Public Chapter:** 144

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**SB357/HB844 Agriculture** - As enacted, revises and enacts various provisions regarding hemp, including licensure requirements.

- Defines "hemp."
- Creates licensure requirements for hemp producers.
- Grants regulatory authority to the commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Agriculture over hemp.

**Public Chapter:** 87

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**SB360/HB1284 Tobacco, Tobacco Products** - As enacted, expands the Prevention of Youth Access to Tobacco and Vapor Products Act and other laws concerning juveniles' access to tobacco and vaping products to apply to hemp for smoking.

**Public Chapter:** 303

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**SB447/HB356 Public Funds and Financing** - As enacted, establishes a victims of human trafficking fund in the state treasury to provide comprehensive treatment and support services to victims of human trafficking.

**Public Chapter:** 356

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**SB649/HB1047 Courts** - As enacted, makes various changes to zero to three courts, including adding five additional safe baby courts and extending such courts to January 1, 2025.

- Extends the "Tennessee Zero to Three Court Initiative" from January 1, 2022 to January 1, 2025.

- Establishes five safe baby courts through the state on January 1, 2020.
- Authorizes the establishment of additional safe baby courts as funding permits.
- Requires the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), in consultation with the Department of Children's Services (DCS), the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (DMHSAS), and the Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges to determine the location of each program.
- Requires the DCS, in consultation with the AOC, DMHSAS, and the Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges to establish at least one program within the three grand divisions and seek to serve both rural and urban populations.
- Authorizes a juvenile court matter that meets the safe baby court program criteria be referred to a safe baby court program at any time during the pendency of the proceeding.
- Requires any juvenile matter with a permanency plan already in place when transferred to a safe baby court program be scheduled for a review hearing by the court within 30 days of the transfer.
- Authorizes safe baby courts to apply for and receive matching monetary grants in addition to funds allotted to safe baby court programs from the DCS, DMHSAS, and the AOC. Creates a Safe Baby Court Advisory Committee to develop non-regulatory strategies to address issues related to the operation of safe baby courts and to facilitate necessary changes.

**Public Chapter:** 383

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**SB711/HB686 Guardians and Conservators** - As enacted, allows the district public guardian to serve as conservator for disabled persons younger than 60 years of age, if certain conditions are met.

**Public Chapter:** 230

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**SB807/HB951 Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities** - As enacted, exempts from licensure requirements persons providing direct care services to no more than three people receiving services through consumer direction in a Medicaid home- and community-based services program.

- Administration bill.

**Public Chapter:** 89

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**SB888/HB1468 Agriculture** - As enacted, creates a 12-member task force to study issues relative to hemp commerce and consumer protection.

**Public Chapter:** 387

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**SB955/HB1003 Civil Procedure** - As enacted, allows a party or non-party making certain filings with a court to redact portions of a person's social security number, taxpayer identification number, birth date, or financial account number or the name of a minor when included in the filing, unless such information is otherwise required by statute, rule, or order.

**Public Chapter:** 151

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**SB1393/HB1190 Landlord and Tenant** - As enacted, establishes process for landlords to verify need of tenants and prospective tenants to have pet policies waived to accommodate the need for a service or support animal; creates penalties for misrepresentation.

- Specifies that the offense is committed if a person "fraudulently represents," instead of "misrepresents," that the person has a disability or disability-related need for the use of a service or support animal.
- Authorizes a landlord who receives reliable documentation of a disability and the disability related need for a service animal or support animal to "verify," instead of "authenticate," such reliable documentation and specifies that this bill does not authorize a landlord to obtain confidential or protected medical records or confidential or protected medical information concerning a tenant's or prospective tenant's disability.
- Applies to rental agreements amended on or after July 1, 2019.

**Public Chapter:** 236

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