

2024 Legislative Summary

To view a bill from this list, [click here](#).

Mental Health Related Legislation

SB1681/HB2061	Mental Illness - As enacted, requires, in cases where a person is ordered into emergency or nonemergency admission to involuntary commitment and is to be released, the chief officer of the releasing facility to notify, by electronic means, local law enforcement prior to such release.
Public Chapter:	<u>656</u>
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SB1787/HB2327	Mental Illness - As enacted, by May 31, 2025 and by each May 31 thereafter, requires the department of health to publish an annual report stating the total number of attempted suicides and completed suicides that have occurred in this state in the previous calendar year; requires the department to submit the report electronically to all members of the general assembly within seven calendar days of the publication.
Public Chapter:	<u>678</u>
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SB2734/HB2901	Mental Illness - As enacted, changes prerequisites for emergency detention and admission to a treatment facility from "immediate" substantial likelihood of serious harm to "imminent" substantial likelihood of serious harm.
Public Chapter:	<u>725</u>
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SB1673/HB1625	Mental Illness - As enacted, requires a qualified mental health professional or behavior analyst to warn or protect an identified victim or group of people when the professional or analyst determines that a service recipient has communicated an intent for actual threat of bodily harm; requires the professional or behavior analyst to report such

threat; provides immunity from civil, criminal, and regulatory liability for a professional or analyst who takes reasonable action to warn or protect identified victims or groups and to report such threat.

Public Chapter: 783

SB1769/HB1640 **Mental Illness** - As enacted, enacts "Jillian's Law," which makes various changes relative to being adjudicated as a mental defective or judicially committed to a mental institution, including requiring a person judicially committed to remain committed until the competency of the person to stand trial is restored or, if competency is unable to be restored but the person no longer meets the standard, until the court with criminal jurisdiction over the charges approves a mandatory outpatient treatment plan that accounts for the safety of the community.

Public Chapter: 784

SB2079/HB1682 **Mental Illness** - As enacted, makes changes to the law relative to emergency involuntary admission to inpatient treatment and judicial commitment for nonemergency involuntary inpatient treatment.

- TDMHSAS Admin Bill.
- Allows a Qualified Advanced Practice Provider to sign one of the Certificates of Need for the probable cause and judicial commitment hearings as long as the Qualified Advanced Practice Provider is not in a collaborating agreement with the licensed physician who signed the other Certificate of Need.

Public Chapter: 785

SB2847/HB1997 **Public Funds and Financing** - As enacted, requires the trust principal of the K-12 mental health endowment account to be reduced by \$75,000,000 in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and reallocated to the trust's K-12 mental health special reserve account.

Public Chapter: 792

SB2028/HB1643 **Mental Illness** - As enacted, requires the state to pay the cost of a court-ordered mental health evaluation and treatment for criminal defendants who have been charged with a misdemeanor and are believed to be incompetent to stand trial or for whom there is a question about mental capacity at the time of the offense.

Public Chapter: 905

SB2801/HB2921 **Insurance, Health, Accident** - As enacted, requires TennCare health benefit plans to provide coverage and reimbursement for mental health services and treatment to the same extent that the plans provide coverage and reimbursement for the treatment of alcoholism and drug dependence; makes related changes to insurance law relative to mental health and alcoholism or drug dependency.

Public Chapter: [949](#)

SB1931/HB2224 **Education, Dept. of** - As enacted, requires the department of education to annually notify each local education agency (LEA) in writing of all state and federal grant programs available to assist the LEA in expanding mental health services and resources in schools.

Public Chapter: [1029](#)

SB2749/HB2936 **Children** - As enacted, enacts the "Families' Rights and Responsibilities Act."
• Establishes the liberty and fundamental right of a parent to the care, custody, and control of the parent's child, including the right to direct the upbringing, education, health care, and mental health of the child.

Public Chapter: [1061](#)

[SJR0918](#) **Memorials, Government Officials** - Urges creation of state certified peer recovery program for veterans.

Substance Abuse/Controlled Substances Related Legislation

SB1677/HB1824 **Opioids** - As enacted, adds The Kroger Co. to the list of companies that are released by the attorney general and reporter for pending or future claims regarding opioids.

Public Chapter: [568](#)

SB2080/HB1683 **Controlled Substances** - As enacted, removes obsolete references to federal law that pertain to the prescription of certain controlled substances.

- TDMHSAS Admin Bill.
- Removes reference to the federal Drug Addiction Treatment Act (DATA) Waiver

Public Chapter: [575](#)

SB2141/HB2311 **Education** - As enacted, requires the principal or head of a school that maintains an opioid antagonist at the school to ensure that the opioid antagonist is stored in accordance with manufacturer instructions; prohibits a school from prohibiting a student, employee, or visitor from possessing an opioid antagonist while the person is on school property or attending a school-sponsored activity held at a location that is not school property.

Public Chapter: **629**

SB2011/HB2903 **Opioids** - As enacted, authorizes TennCare to adopt or amend a state preferred drug list (PDL) without rulemaking; requires TennCare to ensure that reimbursement is provided to a healthcare provider who provides a non-opioid treatment to a recipient under the medical assistance program; requires TennCare to ensure that a hospital that provides services to a recipient is reimbursed under the medical assistance program for medically necessary non-opioid treatment; prohibits a managed care organization or other health insurance issuer from denying coverage of a non-opioid prescription drug in favor of an opioid prescription drug when a healthcare prescriber, instead of a licensed physician, prescribes a non-opioid medication for the treatment of acute or chronic pain.

Public Chapter: **762**

SB2250/HB2429 **DUI Offenses** - As enacted, states that the court, rather than the sheriff or administrative officer of a local jail, may authorize the use of alternative facilities for the incarceration of an offender convicted of a first time offense of driving under the influence.

Public Chapter: **774**

SB2019/HB2060 **Drugs, Prescription** - As enacted, makes changes to the law relative to prescribing buprenorphine products.

- Allows supervising physicians at community mental health centers (CMHCs) and federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) to have up to 5 supervisees instead of 4 when prescribing buprenorphine products.

Public Chapter: **808**

SB2048/HB1825 **Controlled Substances** - As enacted, increases the limit on the amount of products containing ephedrine or pseudoephedrine base, or their salts, isomers, or salts of isomers that a pharmacy may sell or a person may purchase in a 30-day period from 5.76 grams to 7.2 grams, and from 28.8 grams to 43.2 grams in a one-year period.

Public Chapter: **846**

SB2297/HB2308 **Drugs, Prescription** - As enacted, makes changes to the law relative to prescribing buprenorphine products.

- Would allow nurse practitioners and physician assistants to be able to prescribe buprenorphine within a teaching hospital.

Public Chapter: 857

SB2677/HB2865 **Veterans** - As enacted, makes changes to the law relevant to applications for veterans treatment court program grant funds.

- Mandates that the county is responsible for the administration of the veterans treatment court.

Public Chapter: 897

SB2229/HB2301 **Criminal Offenses** – As enacted, requires a violation of the law regarding criminal offenses and penalties for drugs or a conspiracy to violate such law to be punished as second degree murder if the substance involved is fentanyl or carfentanyl, or any analogue or derivative thereof, either alone or in combination with any substance scheduled as a controlled substance by the Tennessee Drug Control Act of 1989, including controlled substance analogues, and the violation resulted in the death of another person.

Public Chapter: 957

SB2246/HB2093 **Drugs, Prescription** – As enacted, makes changes to the law relative to prescribing buprenorphine products

- Increases prescribing capacity for nurse practitioners and physician assistants in nonresidential office-based opiate treatment facilities (OBOTs) that are accredited by the commission on the accreditation of rehabilitation facilities (CARF) or the joint commission (JC).

Public Chapter: 980

SB1055/HB0587 **DUI Offenses** - As enacted, lowers the threshold for enhancing the minimum sentence of a person convicted of driving under the influence of an intoxicant, from a blood alcohol concentration of 0.20 percent or more to a blood alcohol concentration of 0.15 percent or more.

Public Chapter: 1011

General Health/Health Insurance/Health Administration Related Legislation

SB2076/HB1680 **Elder Abuse** - As enacted, expands the Tennessee Adult Protection Act's definition of abuse or neglect to include certain situations when an adult is unable to maintain the adult's own health or welfare.

Public Chapter: 512

SB2628/HB2666 **Licenses** - As enacted, establishes qualifications for a person to receive a professional counselor license through a reciprocal agreement that this state has entered into on or before January 1, 2024.

Public Chapter: 586

SB0163/HB0441 **Abuse** - As enacted, makes changes to the present law regarding adult protection relevant to confidentiality of information, reports, and proceedings.

Public Chapter: 655

SB2399/HB2296 **Professions and Occupations** - As enacted, authorizes the board for professional counselors, marital and family therapists, and clinical pastoral therapists to enter into a reciprocal agreement with any other state that licenses marital and family therapists.

Public Chapter: 700

SB1793/HB2081 **Health Care** - As enacted, allows unlicensed persons who have completed a competency-based training program, and who are employed by certain personal support service agencies licensed under law relative to mental health, substance abuse, and intellectual and developmental disabilities, to administer certain medications to individuals who are incapable of self-administration in the individual's home; prohibits administration of certain medications by unlicensed persons.

Public Chapter: 730

SB1779/HB1639 **Hospitals and Health Care Facilities** - As enacted, provides that, if an incapacitated or deceased patient has no authorized representative, the patient's next of kin will be treated as an authorized representative for the patient for the purposes of obtaining the patient's hospital records.

Public Chapter: 739

SB2362/HB2122 **Health, Dept. of** - As enacted, requires the department of health to create a continuing education program for the purpose of providing healthcare professionals with information and training relative to public and office safety.

Public Chapter: 749

SB2482/HB2773 **Health Care** - As enacted, enacts the "Cassie Wright Act," which makes changes to law relative to a parent, legal guardian, or legal custodian having access to certain medical information of their unemancipated minor.
Public Chapter: **761**

SB1641/HB1883 **Hospitals and Health Care Facilities** - As enacted, establishes that generally an attorney or an agent designated to make healthcare decisions under a durable power of attorney for health care has a right to in-person visitation with the principal at a hospital where the principal is located to evaluate the principal's condition.
Public Chapter **766**

SB2147/HB2420 **Elder Abuse** - As enacted, makes changes to the law protecting elderly persons and disabled adults.
Public Chapter **772**

SB1915/HB1859 **Professions and Occupations** - As enacted, generally prohibits certain licensing boards for professions, including medical professions, from using a vague term in their consideration and their notice or decision for denying a license due to a prior criminal prosecution unless an explanation is provided of how the prior conviction directly relates to the applicable profession, if such prior conviction serves as a basis for the licensing authority's consideration and notice or decision.
Public Chapter: **788**

SB2363/HB1877 **Insurance, Health, Accident** - As enacted, requires hospitals and physicians to accept electronic insurance cards as valid proof of an insurance policy, plan, or contract.
Public Chapter: **789**

SB1766/HB1882 **Health Care** - As enacted, requires a healthcare provider to provide to a patient or the patient's authorized representative a full copy of the patient's medical records within 10 working days of receipt of a written request by the patient or representative, instead of providing a full copy or a summary of the records; requires a healthcare provider to provide to a principal or an attorney in fact acting pursuant to a durable power of attorney for health care a full copy of the principal's medical records within 10 working days of receipt of a written request by the principal or attorney in fact, instead of providing a full copy or a summary of the records.
Public Chapter: **831**

SB2296/HB2248 **Health, Dept. of** - As enacted, authorizes the department of health to contract with a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that maintains a principal office in this state and that is affiliated with a nonprofit membership organization composed of family physicians, family medicine residents, and medical students in this state for the nonprofit organization to administer some or all portions of the family medicine student loan repayment program.

Public Chapter: **856**

SB2299/HB2376 **Hospitals and Health Care Facilities** - As enacted, clarifies what constitutes a "home care organization" relative to law regulating health facilities and resources.

Public Chapter: **858**

SB1720/HB2451 **Health Care** - As enacted, enacts the "Healthcare Provider Advertising Law." Prohibits healthcare professionals who are not physicians from using titles or advertising themselves as having the same education or credentials as physicians.

Public Chapter: **893**

SB1709/HB1628 **Criminal Offenses** - As enacted, enacts "Dr. Benjamin Mauck Act," which creates new criminal offenses of assault within a healthcare facility and aggravated assault within a healthcare facility.

Public Chapter: **928**

SB2012/HB2011 **Health Care** - As enacted, makes revisions to law relative to electronic medical records. Healthcare providers shall not engage in information blocking or restrict a patient access to the patient's electronic health record.

Public Chapter: **931**

SB2022/HB2650 **Health Care** - As enacted, makes revisions to law relative to the health facilities commission.

Public Chapter: **932**

SB1740/HB1723 **Health Care** - As enacted, enacts the "Annual Coverage Assessment Act of 2024," which requires each covered hospital licensed as of July 1, 2024 to pay an annual coverage assessment for FY 2024-2025 of a certain percentage of the covered hospital's annual coverage assessment base.

Public Chapter: **953**

SB2791/HB2940 **TennCare** - As enacted, enacts the "TennCare for Working Individuals with Disabilities Act." Establishes buy-in program for working individuals with disabilities to access health insurance coverage through the medical assistance program, including as a supplement to employer-sponsored coverage.

Public Chapter: **1002**

SB0898/HB0521 **Professions and Occupations** - As enacted, creates the professional music therapist advisory committee of the board of examiners in psychology to regulate the practice of music therapy.

Public Chapter: **1010**

SB1727/HB1862 **Medical Occupations** - As enacted, enacts the "Physician Assistant (PA) Licensure Compact."

Public Chapter: **1018**

SB1881/HB2857 **Insurance, Health, Accident** - As enacted, removes from the definition of "provider-based telemedicine" the requirement that the healthcare service provider or the provider's practice group or healthcare system have an established provider-patient relationship that is documented by an in-person encounter within 16 months prior to the interactive visit; makes related changes.

Public Chapter: **1027**

SB2004/HB2328 **Health Care** - As enacted, makes revisions to the law relative to the regulation of licensed professional counselors, licensed marital and family therapists, and licensed clinical pastoral therapists.

Public Chapter: **1035**

SB2134/HB2405 **Social Workers** - As enacted, enacts the "Social Work Licensure Compact."

Public Chapter: **1041**

SB2136/HB2318 **Medical Occupations** - As enacted, makes revisions to the law relative to collaborative agreements between physicians and physician assistants .

Public Chapter: **1042**

SB2782/HB2310 **Public Health** - As enacted, creates a civil cause of action against any person who intentionally recruits, harbors, or transports an unemancipated minor within this state for the purpose of receiving a prohibited medical procedure, regardless of where the medical procedure is to be procured.

Public Chapter: 1064

State Government Related Legislation

SB1600/HB1743 **Sunset Laws** - As enacted, extends the board of physician assistants to June 30, 2030.
Public Chapter: 491

SB1743/HB1788 **Public Contracts** - As enacted, changes, from three years to five years, the time period for which a person awarded a state contract, change order, or contract modification must retain all books and records of cost or pricing data submitted to the state with regard to the agreement; changes, from three years to five years, the time period for which a contractor or subcontractor under a state-awarded contract must retain all books and records pertaining to the agreement; requires all state procurement contracts executed after July 1, 2024, to include a provision detailing the records retention requirement.
Public Chapter: 576

SB1608/HB1751 **Sunset Laws** - As enacted, extends the department of children's services to June 30, 2026.
Public Chapter: 592

SB1614/HB1757 **Sunset Laws** - As enacted, extends the health facilities commission to June 30, 2026.
Public Chapter: 597

SB1624/HB1767 **Sunset Laws** - As enacted, extends the sports wagering council to June 30, 2028.
Public Chapter: 598

SB1605/HB1748 **Sunset Laws** - As enacted, extends the commission on children and youth to June 30, 2028.
Public Chapter: 825

SB1640/HB1783 **Administrative Procedure (UAPA)** - As enacted, generally establishes that permanent rules filed in the office of the secretary of state on or after January 1, 2023, that are in effect on May 1, 2024, and that are scheduled for expiration on

June 30, 2024, do not expire on June 30, 2024, but remain in effect until repealed or amended by subsequent rule of the appropriate rulemaking agency or until otherwise superseded by legislative enactment.

Public Chapter: 827

SB2278/HB2433 **Business and Commerce** - As enacted, requires the Tennessee advisory commission on intergovernmental relations to conduct a study on the effects of vaping and the use of all vapor products by persons under 21.

Public Chapter: 937

SB2942/HB2973 **Appropriations** - As enacted, makes appropriations for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2023, and July 1, 2024.

Public Chapter: 966

Miscellaneous Legislation

SB1242/HB1170 **Health Care** - As enacted, requires the Tennessee peace officer standards and training (POST) commission to adopt guidelines and materials instructing law enforcement officers on the best practices for recognizing and responding to a medical crisis involving a person under arrest or under the care or supervision of the law enforcement officer.

Public Chapter: 527

SB2228/HB1994 **Guardians and Conservators** - As enacted, establishes a process for the transfer of a guardianship or conservatorship matter from the court appointing the guardian or conservator to a court in another county of this state.

Public Chapter: 542

SB1838/HB2715 **Judicial Districts** - As enacted, creates one additional trial court in the 18th judicial district.

Public Chapter: 600

SB1585/HB2183 **Children** - As enacted, removes the sunset date of the Tennessee Zero to Three Court Initiative on January 1, 2025.

Public Chapter: 638

SB2689/HB2930 **Courts, Administrative Office of the** - As enacted, directs the administrative office of the courts (AOC) to define and develop a centralized system of case management, document management, electronic case filing, electronic payment methods, data reporting, and any other capability deemed necessary for collection and reporting of all state and local court public case level data.

Public Chapter: **947**

SB2517/HB2002 **Judicial Districts** - As enacted, creates one additional circuit court in the 4th judicial district, creates one additional trial court in the 19th judicial district; eliminates part VII of the circuit court in the 13th judicial district; and eliminates part IX of the criminal court in the 13th judicial district.

Public Chapter: **977**

SB2156/HB2528 **Education** - As enacted, establishes a school safety alert grant pilot program.

Public Chapter: **994**

SB0624/HB0430 **Juvenile Offenders** - As enacted, makes revisions to the law relevant to juvenile courts and proceedings.

Public Chapter: **1007**

SB2221/HB1658 **Criminal Offenses** - As enacted, establishes a Class E felony for a person who commits assault against a participant in judicial proceedings who, while on the premises of a building in which judicial proceedings occur.

Public Chapter: **1045**
