



Weekly Legislative Update

01.19.24

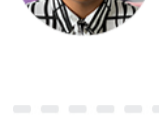
Dear {{FirstName or 'Friend'}},

With a winter storm sweeping across Tennessee this week, TN House Speaker Cameron Sexton and Lieutenant Governor Randy McNally closed the legislative offices and canceled all official legislative meetings. However, legislators will return to Nashville next week and resume legislative business. For now, there has been no change to the bill filing deadlines of January 31 for the House and February 1 for the Senate.

As we continue to see what education issues the legislature will take up this year, I invite you to join The Education Trust - Tennessee on Wednesday, January 24, from 4:00 - 5:00 PM CT / 5:00 - 6:00 PM ET, for our virtual event, [Vouchers and Education Savings Accounts: The Right Choice for Tennessee?](#) to learn more about the history of vouchers in Tennessee and the potential impact of Governor Lee's proposed expansion this session and hear from our expert panel on the impact of universal vouchers in other states.

I hope you continue to stay safe and warm this weekend.

In partnership,



MaKenzie L. Mosby, MPP
Senior Manager of Government Relations for Tennessee



On Our Radar

[HB1644 / SB1679](#)
Rep. Lamberth / Sen. Haile

As introduced, requires each LEA, public charter school, private school, and church-related school to develop a procedure to determine the cause of a fire alarm activation, including the potential of an active shooter event; requires each LEA to coordinate with appropriate safety teams to incorporate the procedure; specifies that the procedure must be implemented no later than July 1, 2024.

[HB1377 / SB1141](#)
Rep. Ragan / Sen. Hensley

As introduced, creates a process by which certain individuals may file a complaint with an LEA or public charter school for the LEA's or public charter school's including or promoting certain prohibited concepts as part of a course of instruction, in a curriculum or instructional program, or by allowing teachers or other employees to use supplemental materials that include or promote certain prohibited concepts.

[HB1655 / SB1712](#)
Rep. Cepicky / Sen. Hensley

Requires the department of education to identify and approve at least one standards-aligned professional development course on mathematics instruction skills that is available, at no cost, to teachers in kindergarten through grade eight. Requires the department to revise the standards for high school students participating in a teaching-as-a-profession career pathway to include standards-aligned mathematics instruction skills in alignment with the professional development course on mathematics instruction skills identified and approved by the department. Requires the department to review and evaluate the mathematics professional development options available in Tennessee.

[SB1630 / SB1711](#)
Rep. Cepicky / Sen. Hensley

As introduced, requires the governing board of each public institution of higher education to promulgate rules, and requires each local board of education and governing body of a public charter school to adopt a policy, regarding the use of artificial intelligence technology by students, teachers, faculty, and staff for instructional and assignment purposes.

[Review Our Bill Tracker](#)



What's Happening

House Higher Education Subcommittee
Monday, 1/22/24, 3:00pm
Senate Hearing Room I | [Committee Homepage](#)

Senate Floor Session
Monday, 1/22/24, 4:00pm
Senate Chamber | [Senate Homepage](#)

House Education Instruction
Tuesday, 1/23/24, 9:00am
House Hearing Room II | [Committee Homepage](#)

House K-12 Subcommittee
Tuesday, 1/23/24, 4:30pm
House Hearing Room II | [Committee Homepage](#)

Senate Floor Session
Wednesday, 1/24/24, 8:30am
Senate Chamber | [Senate Homepage](#)

House Education Administration Committee
Wednesday, 1/24/24, 1:30pm
House Hearing Room I | [Committee Homepage](#)

Senate Education Committee
Wednesday, 1/24/24, 3:00pm
Senate Hearing Room I | [Committee Homepage](#)

Senate Floor Session
Thursday, 1/25/24, 8:30am
Senate Chamber | [Senate Homepage](#)

[House Committee Calendars](#)

[Senate Committee Calendars](#)



Noteworthy

Webinar: Vouchers and Education Savings Accounts: The Right Choice for Tennessee?

Join The Education Trust – Tennessee on Wednesday, January 24th from 4:00 - 5:00 PM CT to learn about Governor Lee's effort to expand vouchers across Tennessee. Our panelists will break down the differences between vouchers and education savings accounts, review the proposed voucher legislation in TN, and explore the fiscal implications for districts and for the state.

[Register here!](#)

Event: Inclusivity + Belonging: Strengthening College to Career Recruitment

Join us for an important discussion on Tuesday, January 23rd at The Engine located at 2963 Sidco Dr, Nashville, TN 37204. Registration opens at 9am, breakfast tacos will be served until 9:30am.

Business leaders are invited to discuss how inclusive student support services strengthen the recruitment pipeline. This forum will help leaders learn about such programming's impact on the pipeline and how to invest in a stronger and more diverse workforce.

The RSVP closes today!

[Register here!](#)

Article: Tennessee lawmakers take on education: Key K-12 bills to watch in 2024

Check out [this piece](#) in the The Tennessean to learn more about bills that impact education and schools that have already been filed since session started on January 9th. Topics range from gun and school safety to curriculum to child care support from teachers.

[Read more](#)

Article: The week in politics: Why these special session bills are getting pushed again

Check out [this article](#) from The Tennessean that names several of the 100 bills that died in the Senate during the August special session, that House members have already re-filed.

[Read more](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Legislative Advocacy Hub](#)

