

**Legislation Impacting the
Tennessee Board of Regents and Member Institutions
*Public Acts of 2017***

Section/Description	Public Chapter
I. ACADEMICS AND WORKFORCE TRAINING	
<p>This act revises the Tennessee Veterans Education Transition Support Act to – among other things – require institutions of higher education to develop uniform procedures for awarding academic credit for military experience.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 3/16/17.</i></p>	<p><u>Public Chapter 31</u></p>
<p>This act adds postsecondary institutions to the list of entities that the POST commission provides services and authorizes the POST commission to collect police recruit fingerprints for criminal record checks by the TBI and FBI.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective 7/1/17.</i></p>	<p><u>Public Chapter 151</u></p>
<p>This act defines work-based learning in the labor education alignment program. "Work-based learning experiences," must meet the necessary skill standards of high-skill and high-technology industries in the state. Additionally, this act specifies that the curriculum must define "work-based learning," as well as courses, that are necessary for each technical career field that may lead to a postsecondary credential.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 4/27/2017.</i></p>	<p><u>Public Chapter 283</u></p>
<p>This act requires each LEA to offer students in each of its high schools the opportunity to take at least four early postsecondary credit courses, beginning in the 2018-19 school year.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 5/25/2017.</i></p>	<p><u>Public Chapter 450</u></p>
II. APPROPRIATIONS	
<p>This act makes appropriations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017.</p>	<p><u>Public Chapter 460</u></p>

III. BUSINESS	
<p>This act changes agency required action to audits by the Comptroller. This act also requires that the administrative head of an audited department, agency, or institution submit a corrective action plan to the comptroller.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 3/13/2017.</i></p>	Public Chapter 20
<p>This act clarifies that the statutory amount of the bond required from contractors on all public works contracts in excess of \$100,000 is a minimum of 25% of the contract price.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 4/4/2017.</i></p>	Public Chapter 92
<p>This act expands types of vendors who have confidentiality in the contracting process to include vendors providing the state with goods and services used to protect certain electronic, communication, and data storage systems.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 3/27/2017.</i></p>	Public Chapter 114
IV. FACILITIES	
<p>This act allows the governing board of each public institution of higher education expanded authority to determine smoking policies on campus and campus grounds.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective 7/1/1.</i></p>	Public Chapter 161
<p>This act requires that edges of steps into the main entrance of public buildings be clearly marked to assist persons with vision impairment.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective 7/1/1.</i></p>	Public Chapter 491
V. GOVERNANCE	
<p>This act revises various provisions in higher education to include all state governing boards and not just the board of regents or the UT system due to the implementation of the FOCUS Act. Under this act the locally governed institutions now have the authority to hire police officers. Additionally, this act clarifies certain provisions concerning the auditing of institutions.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 3/16/2017.</i></p>	Public Chapter 28

V. GOVERNANCE	
<p>Makes various technical corrections to the FOCUS Act related to the appointment of student and faculty members to the TBR board.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 3/13/2017.</i></p>	Public Chapter 29
<p>This act renames the Tennessee Baccalaureate Education System Trust Act, the Tennessee College Savings Trust Act and adds a president of the locally governed universities to the board. Replaces the TBR Chancellor as a trustee of the Chairs of Excellence Endowment Fund and replaces that position with an individual from one of the six locally governed institutions.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective 7/1/17.</i></p>	Public Chapter 400
<p>Moves the administration of the Tennessee Council for Career and Technical Education to the Board of Regents and adds legislators to the council board.</p> <p><i>For the purpose of promulgating rules, the provisions of this act are effective 5/18/2017. For all other purposes, the provisions of this act are effective 7/1/2017.</i></p>	Public Chapter 433
<p>This resolution confirms the appointment of Thomas A.H. White to the Tennessee Board of Regents.</p>	SR0033
<p>This resolution confirms the appoint of Joey Hatch to the Tennessee Board of Regents.</p>	SR0034
VI. LEGAL	
<p>This act expands the definition of a written public records request to include requests in person, by mail, by email, or by completing an electronic form submitted online.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective 7/1/17.</i></p>	Public Chapter 233
<p>This act makes certain endowment and private investment fund information of the TBR and University of Tennessee confidential.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 5/4/2017.</i></p>	Public Chapter 285
<p>Enacts the "Campus Free Speech Protection Act."</p> <p><i>For the purpose of promulgating rules, the provisions of this act are effective 5/9/2017. For all other purposes, the provisions of this act are effective January 1, 2018.</i></p>	Public Chapter 336

VII. SCHOLARSHIPS AND NEED BASED AID	
<p>This act replaces the Tennessee National Guard Tuition Assistance Act with the Tennessee Support, Training, and Renewing Opportunity for National Guardsmen (STRONG) Act of 2017. This act redefines “educational institution,” creates new eligibility standards, and gives rule-making authority to the adjutant general.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 4/10/2017. Unless changed by statute, pilot ends in June 2021.</i></p>	<p>Public Chapter 229</p>
<p>This act changes the SAT requirements of present law for students seeking postsecondary financial assistance from net Tennessee lottery proceeds (HOPE Scholarship). This act removes provisions concerning specific SAT scores and instead substitutes the language with “concordant” SAT scoring.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 5/1/2017.</i></p>	<p>Public Chapter 328</p>
<p>This act creates the Tennessee middle college scholarship, funded by net lottery proceeds. The act defines “middle college” and creates eligibility standards for the middle college grant.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 5/18/2017.</i></p>	<p>Public Chapter 405</p>
<p>This act revises the Tennessee community college reconnect grant. Reconnect is a last dollar grant for tuition and mandatory fees for adult independent students seeking a certificate or associate’s degree at a community college or university with an associate’s degree program.</p> <p><i>For the purposes of the promulgation of rules by TSAC and statutory clarification, the provisions of this act regarding the GPA requirement, the reduction in the minimum number of semester hours needed to qualify for the grant, and appropriations for the grant are effective upon becoming law, 5/10/2017. This is to assist current community college reconnect students. All other provisions of the act are effective 8/1/2018.</i></p>	<p>Public Chapter 448</p>
<p>Changes the frequency of the dual enrollment grant application process from each semester to each academic year.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective 7/1/1.</i></p>	<p>Public Chapter 471</p>
VIII. SAFETY AND SECURITY	
<p>This act authorizes district attorneys general and similar persons to carry firearms on campus if POST firearms certified.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective 7/1/17.</i></p>	<p>Public Chapter 447</p>

IX. STUDENT AFFAIRS

This act allows the governing boards of public higher education institutions to promulgate rules regarding immunization requirements.

The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 4/24/2017.

[Public Chapter 166](#)

This act amends the "Revised Uniform Athlete Agents Act."

The provisions of this act are effective 9/1/17.

[Public Chapter 216](#)

This act revises provisions governing complaint investigations and resolutions under the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement Act.

The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 5/11/2017.

[Public Chapter 235](#)