

**Legislation Impacting  
The College System of Tennessee, Its Member Institutions,  
and Higher Education in Tennessee  
*Public Acts of 2022*  
*Passed in the Second Session of the 112<sup>th</sup> General Assembly***

Abstract/Effective Date	Public Chapter
<b>I. ACADEMICS AND WORKFORCE TRAINING</b>	
<p>As enacted, increases the number of EMT/AEMT training centers operated by ambulance services that may be operated from 15 to 30; authorizes EMT/AEMT training centers to provide online or virtual didactic instruction to the same extent such instruction may be provided by accredited EMS education institutions; makes other related changes; urges ambulance services operating EMT/AEMT training centers and the Tennessee board of regents to develop partnerships as practicable to increase the capacity of this state to prepare EMTs, AEMTs, and paramedics.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - March 28, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 684</a></p>
<p>As enacted, extends the authorization for state colleges and universities under the board of regents or a state university board to contract with a board of education to provide for the teaching of the children of public school age in the training school to allow such a contract with any county or city board of education instead of only the local board in the county or city in which the institution is located.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - March 31, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 760</a></p>
<p>As enacted, requires, by the 2023-2024 school year, each state college of applied technology to establish partnerships with each LEA that is located in the county in which the main campus of the state college of applied technology is located to provide early postsecondary opportunities for students enrolled in a high school in the LEA; encourages the board of regents to expand the presence of state colleges of applied technology in each county within this state to provide greater early post-secondary opportunities for students enrolled in a high school in an LEA.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - April 14, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 884</a></p>
<p>As enacted, creates the Tennessee Center for Nursing Advancement within East Tennessee State University to address issues of nursing workforce needs and makes other related changes.</p> <p><i>Effective as of July 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 885</a></p>

<p>As enacted, adds to the Eligibility Verification for Entitlements Act that a public benefit does not include a professional or commercial license for purposes of the citizenship verification requirement; specifies that to be eligible for a professional or commercial license, an applicant must show that the applicant is either a United States citizen or authorized under federal law to work in the United States as verified by the SAVE program.</p> <p><i>Effective as of July 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 911</a></p>
<p>As enacted, requires the board to develop an Industry 4.0 diploma distinction and graduation pathway for high school students; revises certain requirements for students participating in work-based learning programs.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - April 29, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 946</a></p>
<p>As enacted, authorizes a person who holds a valid license to instruct in a school of cosmetology and who completes 300 hours in a registered barber school or college regarding the fundamentals of straight razor shaving and barbering technique, to be issued a certificate of registration as a barber instructor; authorizes a person who holds a valid registration as a barber instructor and who completes 300 hours in a licensed school of cosmetology learning the fundamentals of cosmetology technique and pedicuring, to be issued a license to instruct in a school of cosmetology.</p> <p><i>Effective as of July 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 955</a></p>
<p>As enacted, establishes a third-party skills testing program administered by the department of safety for the purpose of facilitating the testing and licensure of commercial drivers; authorizes the department of correction to create a commercial driver license training program for purposes of training offenders who, upon release from incarceration, may be suitable for careers in the transportation industry.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law (May 4, 2022) for rulemaking purposes. Otherwise effective on July 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 992</a></p>
<p>As enacted, designates live, interactive webinars as in-person courses for the purposes of continuing education requirements.</p> <p><i>Effective as of July 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 865</a></p>
<p>As enacted, creates new categories of emergency first responders to assist EMTs in responding to emergencies, driving ambulances, and engaging in limited medical interventions; requires such persons to become licensed EMTs within a certain period of time.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - May 9, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1012</a></p>

<p>As enacted, requires the office of research and education accountability, in collaboration with TSAC and the departments of education, labor and workforce development, and human services to study providing driver education in Title I public high schools at low or no cost to students, sources of funding for the driver education, and benefits to students of the driver education.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - May 27, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1090</a></p>
<p>As enacted, makes various changes to the qualifications for certification as a medication aide by the board of nursing.</p> <p><i>Section 1 effective as of January 1, 2023. All other sections effective upon becoming law - June 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1112</a></p>
<p><b>II. APPROPRIATIONS</b></p>	
<p>As enacted, makes appropriations for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2021, and July 1, 2022.</p> <p><i>Effective as of July 1, 2022 (unless otherwise prescribed by individual appropriations listed in the bill).</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1130</a></p>
<p>As enacted, increases, for FY22-23, the state employer match to 200 percent of the amount contributed by each state employee to the state's 401(k) plan per month, up to a maximum of \$100 per month; exempts from sales tax the retail sale of food and food ingredients sold between Monday, August 1, 2022, and Wednesday, August 31, 2022; makes additional statutory revisions required for implementation of the annual appropriations act.</p> <p><i>Section 1 effective upon becoming law - June 1, 2022. All other section effective as of July 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1131</a></p>
<p>As enacted, authorizes the index of appropriations from state tax revenues for 2021-2022 fiscal year to exceed the index of estimated growth in the state's economy by \$2,997,600,000 or 16.08 percent.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - June 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1132</a></p>
<p>As enacted, authorizes the state to issue and sell bonds of up to \$583.5 million; cancels the bonds authorized by Chapter 758, Public Acts of 2020; allocates proceeds of \$500 million of bonds to the department of finance and administration to provide funds for the purpose of making a grant to Nashville/Davidson County for the construction of a domed sports stadium.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - June 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1133</a></p>
<p><b>III. ATHLETICS</b></p>	

<p>As enacted, revises present law provisions governing the use of an intercollegiate athlete's name, image, or likeness.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - April 20, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 845</a></p>
<p>As enacted, prohibits males from participating in public higher education sports that are designated for females.</p> <p><i>Effective as of July 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1005</a></p>
<p><b>IV. BUSINESS, HUMAN RESOURCES, &amp; FACILITIES</b></p>	
<p>As enacted, increases from \$50,000 to \$75,000 the amount of gross revenue earned at a nonprofit charitable gaming event necessary to require the nonprofit entity hosting the event to file with the secretary of state an audited financial statement prepared by an independent certified public accountant or an independent public accountant.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - March 16, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 661</a></p>
<p>As enacted, increases the monetary threshold for purposes of defining "major maintenance" with respect to the repair or renovation of state buildings and structures; increases the monetary threshold of state lease agreements for purposes of having such lease agreements approved by the attorney general and reporter and the state building commission.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - March 18, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 712</a></p>
<p>As enacted, requires chief procurement officer to establish and maintain a central database of information regarding grant recipients and sub-recipients for monitoring purposes; requires state agencies to update information in the database; requires chief procurement officer to adopt rules regarding the grant management process.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - March 24, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 733</a></p>
<p>As enacted, authorizes commission to require a second appraisal prior to the disposal of certain government property.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - March 24, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 738</a></p>
<p>As enacted, extends the deadline, from the last day of the sixth month following the end of the fiscal year to the last day of the ninth month, for an employer to file an annual certified financial statement with the department of commerce and insurance for purposes of showing the employer's ability to pay all workers compensation claims that may arise against the employer.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - March 24, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 742</a></p>

<p>As enacted, authorizes rather than requires the Megasite Authority of West Tennessee to provide water and wastewater services to customers located on the megasite property.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - March 31, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 763</a></p>
<p>As enacted, specifies that a statewide building construction standard or another standard or requirement adopted by a local government shall not prohibit or limit the use of equipment with refrigerants, if the equipment contains a refrigerant listed in accordance with safety standards imposed by federal law or rule and is installed in accordance with the use conditions imposed by federal law or rule</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - April 8, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 771</a></p>
<p>As enacted, prohibits a public entity from entering into a contract with a company unless the contract includes a written certification that the company is not currently engaged in, and will not for the duration of the contract engage in, a boycott of Israel; provides exemptions for contracts with a total value of less than \$250,000 and contractors with fewer than 10 employees.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law (April 8, 2022) for rulemaking purposes. Otherwise effective on July 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 775</a></p>
<p>As enacted, requires the office of diversity business enterprises to publish an annual report on its website listing each state department's aspirational goals and achievements for businesses owned by minorities, women, persons with disabilities, and service-disabled veterans, as well as other small businesses.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - March 24, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 793</a></p>
<p>As enacted, requires Tennessee State University (TSU) to annually submit a report to the governor and the general assembly, detailing the progress of improvements to TSU's facilities and infrastructure and how the improvements address the needs identified in the Tennessee higher education commission's evaluation on facilities and infrastructure needs for TSU on September 1, 2021.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - April 19, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 836</a></p>
<p>As enacted, requires an employer to allow a veteran employee to have the entirety of Veterans' Day as a non-paid holiday if certain conditions met; specifies that this act does not prohibit an employer from allowing the employer's veteran employees to have the entirety of Veterans Day as a paid holiday.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - April 20, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 854</a></p>
<p>As enacted, authorizes the investment committee for the TCRS board of trustees to cause the retirement system to divest, as expeditiously as possible, from an investment the system has with an entity found to be doing business with or supporting a country sanctioned by the office of foreign assets control.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - April 20, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 855</a></p>

<p>As enacted, requires employers to pay employees no less than the minimum wage, regardless of the subminimum wage for an employee whose earning or productive capacity is impaired by age, physical, or mental deficiency or injury.</p> <p><i>Effective as of July 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 870</a></p>
<p>As enacted, reduces to three years the period of time that a 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(19) nonprofit organization has to be in continuous and active existence in this state to qualify to operate a charitable gaming event in this state.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - April 14, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 888</a></p>
<p>As enacted, requires the Tennessee higher education commission to comply with the policies of the state building commission concerning capital projects affecting public institutions of higher education in this state.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - May 3, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 967</a></p>
<p>As enacted, authorizes a retired TCRS member to cancel the member's designated beneficiary for any reason one time, and to name a new beneficiary.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - April 19, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 831</a></p>
<p>As enacted, establishes a reserve account in the retirement system for the payment of state liabilities, and the interest that would have been earned thereon, resulting from military service credit established pursuant to existing law provisions.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - May 23, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1045</a></p>
<p>As enacted, allows TCRS members who served in the armed forces during certain periods of armed conflict to establish retirement credit for the military service under certain conditions.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - May 25, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1057</a></p>
<p>As enacted, enacts the "CROWN Act: Create a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair," which prohibits an employer from adopting a policy that does not permit an employee to wear the employee's hair in braids, locs, twists, or another manner that is part of the cultural identification of the employee's ethnic group or that is a physical characteristic of the employee's ethnic group; creates certain exceptions.</p> <p><i>Effective as of July 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1078</a></p>
<p>As enacted, establishes a voluntary shared work unemployment benefits program that allows certain employers to submit to the department of labor and workforce development for approval a plan to reduce employee work hours in exchange for employee access to a certain level of unemployment compensation benefits.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law (May 27, 2022) for rulemaking purposes. Otherwise effective on December 1, 2023.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1086</a></p>

<p>As enacted, authorizes the state treasurer to develop, implement, and administer a program to award grants to eligible employers for the purpose of funding of a length of service award program.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - June 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1113</a></p>
<p><b>V. HEALTH &amp; SAFETY</b></p>	
<p>As enacted, requires certain employers with a mandatory COVID-19 vaccination policy to grant exemptions based on medical reason or religious reason; makes other related changes.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - March 11, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 644</a></p>
<p>As enacted, requires each law enforcement officer specifically assigned to the traffic division of a local law enforcement agency or its equivalent, or for whom a county sheriff or chief of police deems it necessary, to undergo training on the proper testing procedures for use in investigating cases of suspected driving under the influence.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - March 18, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 694</a></p>
<p>As enacted, prohibits governmental entities, local education agencies, schools, and private businesses from adopting or enforcing laws, rules, or practices that fail to recognize acquired immunity as providing a level of immune protection that is at least as protective as a COVID-19 vaccine or treat individuals with acquired immunity differently than individuals who have received the COVID-19 vaccine.</p> <p><i>April 30, 2022 - effective without the Governor's signature.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 930</a></p>
<p>As enacted, adds requirements to provisions governing the reporting of crime statistics by institutions of higher education.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - April 29, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 958</a></p>
<p><b>VI. LEGAL/GOVERNANCE</b></p>	
<p>As enacted, requires a records custodian to cite the state law prohibiting disclosure of a public record if the denial of the public records request is based on state law; clarifies the forms of identification a governmental entity may request as evidence of residency in this state from a person seeking public records.</p> <p><i>Effective as of July 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 721</a></p>
<p>As enacted, extends the state university and community college system, board of regents to June 30, 2026; extends video streaming and archiving requirements to meetings of the board's standing committees, in addition to meetings of the board</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - March 31, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 755</a></p>

<p>As enacted, prohibits a public institution of higher education from taking certain actions with regard to divisive concepts and the ideologies or political viewpoints of students and employees; enacts other related provisions.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - April 8, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 818</a></p>
<p>As enacted, removes requirement that an administrative judge or hearing officer make a motion prior to deciding a procedural question of law; removes similar requirement for such persons to direct parties or attorneys for parties to appear for a conference to consider matters relating to a contested case hearing; removes obsolete language regarding the manner in which parties may participate in hearings remotely and revises other related provisions.</p> <p><i>Effective as of July 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 833</a></p>
<p>As enacted, revises provisions governing participation in meetings by electronic means of communication.</p> <p><i>Effective as of July 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 856</a></p>
<p>As enacted, provides that in interpreting a state statute or rule, a court presiding over the appeal of a judgment in a contested case must not defer to a state agency's interpretation of the statute or rule and must interpret the statute or rule de novo; after applying all customary tools of interpretation, the court must resolve any remaining ambiguity against increased agency authority.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - April 14, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 883</a></p>
<p>As enacted, requires each institution governed by the board of regents, a state university board, or the board of trustees for the University of Tennessee to make the grievance procedure for the institution's support staff employees available on its website.</p> <p><i>Effective as of July 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 891</a></p>
<p>As enacted, removes TCA 14-2-101, which prohibits COVID-19 vaccine mandates by governmental entities, schools, and local education agencies, and removes TCA 14-1-101, which is the definitions to the Title 14 COVID-19 laws, from the application of the Title 14 termination date of July 1, 2023; effective July 1, 2023, deletes the 14-1-101 definitions except for those that relate to the prohibition on COVID-19 vaccine mandates for governmental entities.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - April 19, 2022 - with Section 2 then effective on July 1, 2023.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 896</a></p>
<p>As enacted, continues permanent rules filed with the secretary of state between January 1, 2021, and December 31, 2021; schedules the University of Tennessee (Knoxville) Rule 1720-04-03.01 regarding student code of conduct and the Austin Peay State University Rule 0240-05-06-.04 regarding title IX compliance to expire.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - May 11, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1024</a></p>



<p>As enacted, extends termination date from July 1, 2022, to July 1, 2023, for limitations on claims against a person for loss, damage, injury, or death arising from COVID-19.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - June 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1117</a></p>
<p>As enacted, creates a Class E felony of an employer influencing or attempting to influence an employee who is a public servant to vote or not to vote in a particular manner or to resign as a public servant or unnecessarily recuse themselves from a public body with the intent to influence the action or inaction of a public body; creates a cause of action for unlawful discharge of an employee who is a public servant.</p> <p><i>Effective as of July 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1142</a></p>
<p>RESOLUTION to confirm the appointment of Emily Reynolds of Nashville to the Tennessee board of regents.</p> <p><i>Effective as of March 7, 2022, for a term to expire on June 30, 2027.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Senate Resolution 84</a></p>
<p><b>VII. SCHOLARSHIPS &amp; FINANCIAL AID</b></p>	
<p>As enacted, extends eligibility for the work-based learning student grant program to include students enrolled in a middle college program.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - March 4, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 625</a></p>
<p>As enacted, authorizes the governing board for each public institution of higher education to classify a veteran or military-affiliated individual as a Tennessee resident for tuition purposes if the veteran or military-affiliated individual is enrolled in the institution and resides outside of this state.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - April 8, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 791</a></p>
<p>As enacted, extends eligibility for a Senator Ben Atchley opportunity grant, to the extent feasible within existing budgetary resources of TSAC, to Tennessee resident students enrolled at eligible independent postsecondary institutions accredited by a regional accrediting association that have their primary campus domiciled in this state.</p> <p><i>Effective as of July 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1018</a></p>
<p>As enacted, establishes the grading scale that must be used to assign letter grades to students enrolled in grades nine through 12 for purposes of reporting students' grades for postsecondary financial assistance; specifies that the state board or an LEA may develop a grading system for purposes other than reporting students' grades for postsecondary financial assistance.</p> <p><i>Effective as of July 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1080</a></p>

<p>As enacted, increases, from \$1,250 to \$2,000, the amount awarded each semester to a full-time student receiving the middle college scholarship.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - May 27, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1101</a></p>
<p>As enacted, revises various provisions governing the Tennessee student assistance corporation (TSAC) and financial aid.</p> <p><i>Effective as of July 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1107</a></p>
<p>As enacted, revises various provisions governing lottery-funded scholarships and financial aid.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law (June 1, 2022) for rulemaking purposes. Otherwise effective on July 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1116</a></p>
<p>As enacted, specifies that a student who graduates early from an eligible high school, or who completes high school at an eligible home school early, or who obtains an equivalency diploma before the spring semester immediately preceding the student's initial fall enrollment, and is admitted to, and enrolled full time in, an eligible postsecondary program, is eligible for the Tennessee promise scholarship.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - June 1, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1125</a></p>
<p><b>VIII. STUDENT SERVICES</b></p>	
<p>As enacted, removes the geographic or programmatic considerations when THEC adopts a dual admissions policy in which a person who satisfies the admissions requirements of a two-year institution governed by the board of regents and a public university while pursuing a degree program within a transfer pathway program of study is authorized to be admitted to both such institutions.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - April 8, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 794</a></p>
<p>As enacted, requires the Tennessee higher education commission to submit a report to the governor and speakers of the senate and house of representatives by December 31, 2023, on issues of food insecurity among students at public institutions of higher education in this state and that identifies and describes the efforts of the institutions to address food insecurity among students.</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - April 19, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 829</a></p>
<p>As enacted, establishes certain requirements to be followed if a state governmental entity or an LEA receives a complaint from a person who alleges that antisemitism has occurred on the premises of a public school serving any of the grades K-12, or through electronic outreach from a public school serving any of the grades K-12</p> <p><i>Effective upon becoming law - May 25, 2022.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1075</a></p>