

**Legislation Impacting the  
Tennessee Board of Regents and Member Institutions  
*Public Acts of 2018***

<b>Section/Description</b>	<b>Public Chapter</b>
<b>I. ACADEMICS AND WORKFORCE TRAINING</b>	
<p>This act extends the Go Build Tennessee Program, from July 1, 2019, to July 1, 2024. Additionally, the act deletes the restriction that funds collected from contractor licensing revenue be used only to fund career and technical education programs and other certified and nationally accredited programs.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 4/20/2018.</i></p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Public Chapter 786</u></a></p>
<p>This act empowers the emergency medical services board to certify training programs for certain emergency medical services personnel operated by licensed ambulance services in the following counties: Sullivan, Washington, Carter, Johnson and Hawkins.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 5/21/2018.</i></p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Public Chapter 998</u></a></p>
<p>As enacted, revises the Course Access Program Act pertaining to EPSO</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 4/20/2018.</i></p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Public Chapter 784</u></a></p>
<p>This act requires public higher education institutions in Tennessee to adopt a policy to allow American sign language courses to satisfy any foreign language requirements for admission to an undergraduate degree program.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 3/9/2018.</i></p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Public Chapter 546</u></a></p>
<p>As enacted, creates the Tennessee Rural Hospital Transformation Act of 2018.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 7/1/2018.</i></p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Public Chapter 1055</u></a></p>
<p>This act allows local education agencies (LEA) that use the career academy or small learning community model to increase the size of career and technical education classes (CTE) without a waiver.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 4/12/2018.</i></p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Public Chapter 669</u></a></p>

<p>This act creates a liability framework for employers that accept or employ a student receiving a secondary education to participate in work-based learning coordinated through the student's LEA or state institution or higher education; creates franchise and excise tax credit for taxpayers employing work-based learning students.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 4/25/2018.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 991</a></p>
<p><b>II. APPROPRIATIONS</b></p>	
<p>This act makes appropriations for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2017, and July 1, 2018.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective 7/1/18.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1061</a></p>
<p><b>III. BUSINESS</b></p>	
<p>This act provides colleges in the college system of Tennessee to issue a certificate of credit or official transcript for a student despite outstanding debt if the student is seeking admission to any college in the system and has entered into a written agreement to satisfy the outstanding debt or obligation owed to the college issuing the certificate of credit or official transcript.</p> <p>This act also increases the threshold for withholding diplomas, certificates of credit or official transcripts to \$100 for all public higher education institutions.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 4/2/2018.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 739</a></p>
<p>As enacted, this creates the Contract Accountability and Responsible Employment (CARE) Act requiring that, prior to the procurement of a contract for services between a state agency and a private party in excess of \$2,500,000 and that results in the layoff or furlough of one or more state employees, the state agency must produce an economic impact statement using professionally accepted methodologies.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 2/26/2018.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 544</a></p>
<p><b>IV. HUMAN RESOURCES</b></p>	
<p>This act requires applicants for teaching or child care positions to submit to a criminal records background check; changes criminal records background check procedures for LEA employees.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective 7/1/18.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 1006</a></p>

<p>As enacted, revises provisions governing the use of leave by state employees to include twelve (12) weeks of maternity or paternity leave.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 4/17/18</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 907</a></p>
<p>This act prohibits public and private employers from requiring an employee or prospective employee to execute a non-disclosure agreement with respect to sexual harassment in the workplace as a condition of employment.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 4/23/18.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 965</a></p>
<p><b>V. GOVERNANCE</b></p>	
<p>This act adds “honorably discharged military veteran of the United States armed forces” to the categories that should be represented in appointments to the Board of Regents and the university boards.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 4/12/2018.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 841</a></p>
<p>This act extends the state university and community college system, board of regents, for four years to June 30, 2022.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 3/29/2018.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 703</a></p>
<p>This act revises the process of selection a chief executive officer of a public institution of higher education in this state to permit no more than three (3) finalists for the position and requires at least on public forum held at least seven (7) calendar days before the board votes on the candidate.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 4/5/2018</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 770</a></p>
<p>This act clarifies certain code references to account for the state university boards established by the FOCUS Act; reduces the number of student members on the higher education commission to a single voting member and revises the nominating process for that student member. Additionally, this act removes the alumni requirement for appointments to the board of regents.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 3/12/2018.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 602</a></p>
<p>This act authorizes the board of regents to establish additional state colleges of applied technology or to combine existing state colleges of applied technology as needed to improve operational and administrative efficiencies.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 4/18/2018</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 877</a></p>

<p>This act places the administrative authority of Tennessee Foreign Language Institute with the University of Tennessee System instead of the Board of Regents.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective 7/1/18</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 932</a></p>
<p>This resolution confirms the appointment Miles Burdine to the Board of Regents.</p> <p><i>This confirmation is 3/21/2018.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Senate Resolution 153</a></p>
<p>This resolution confirms the appointment Emily Reynolds to the Board of Regents.</p> <p><i>This confirmation is 3/21/2018.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Senate Resolution 156</a></p>
<p>This resolution confirms the appointment Yolanda Greene to the Board of Regents.</p> <p><i>This confirmation is 3/21/2018.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Senate Resolution 157</a></p>
<p><b>VI. LEGAL</b></p>	
<p>This act requires agencies, when holding a public hearing as part of their rulemaking process, to make copies of the rule available in redline form to persons in attendance at the hearing.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective 7/1/18.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 611</a></p>
<p>This act requires, by January 1, 2019, state governmental entities to promulgate rules, rather than adopt policies, to establish a process for making requests to inspect or receive copies of public records, for responding to requests for public records, and for the creation of a statement of any fees charged for copies of such records.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 3/22/2018.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 712</a></p>
<p>This act prohibits boards, commissions, and other multi-member governmental entities from promulgating rules or issuing other internal restrictions that infringe on an entity member's freedom of speech.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 4/2/2018.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 754</a></p>
<p>This act clarifies definitions of "rule" and "policy" for rulemaking purposes. Section 3 revises other administrative procedures but does not apply to TBR.</p> <p><i>The provisions of this act are effective 7/1/18.</i></p>	<p><a href="#">Public Chapter 929</a></p>

## VII. SCHOLARSHIPS AND NEED BASED AID

This act revises provisions regarding financial aid for higher education.

*The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 8/1/2018 at 12:01 a.m.*

[Public Chapter 695](#)

## VIII. STUDENT AFFAIRS

The act creates the “Student Due Process Protection Act” establishing requirements for the investigation and hearing of sexual misconduct cases at public higher education institutions.

*For the purposes of promulgating rules, the provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 4/24/18. For all other purposes the provisions of this act are effective 7/1/18.*

[Public Chapter 980](#)

This act requires state institutions of higher education to grant an excused absence to military reserve or national guard personnel for an absence due to mandatory military service; requires state institutions of higher education to permit military reserve and national guard personnel to withdraw or receive a grade of incomplete in any course if the service member is called to active duty while enrolled.

*The provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 3/26/2018.*

[Public Chapter 647](#)

This act requires each state institution of higher education to notify parents of enrolled students of the parent's right to view student records under the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 on the institution's website.

*The provisions of this act are effective 7/1/18.*

[Public Chapter 894](#)

This act enacts the Tennessee Ultrasound Sonographer Practice Act

*For the purposes of promulgating rules, the provisions of this act are effective upon becoming law, 1/1/19.*

[Public Chapter 1054](#)