



January 21, 2022

Ethics Committee Votes to Expel Senator

The Senate Ethics Committee voted to expel Senator Katrina Robinson (D-Memphis) yesterday, based on her recent convictions on two counts of wire fraud. Sen. Robinson originally faced 20 charges, but she was acquitted on 15 of them. Robinson has yet to be sentenced for the crimes. The decision will be up for a vote with the full Senate next, but a date has not been set for that vote.

As a reminder, please take note of the following important legislative dates:

- January 31 - Governor Lee's fourth State of the State Address
- February 1 - Committee budget deliberations begin
- February 2 - House bill filing deadline
- February 3 - Senate bill filing deadline
- Late March - Committee closures begin

Redistricting Process Continues

Thursday morning, the Tennessee Senate went into a heated debate over the Senate and Congressional redistricting maps. Tennessee Republicans have worked several months on the proposed changes, but Democrats have many concerns that these new maps will dilute minority votes. These concerns are largely based on the proposed three-way split of Nashville, though Republican Senators state that the split is due to Nashville's population growth over the past ten years. Republican leaders say their plan is to stick to federal guidelines, where each district must be almost exactly equal in population. The proposals passed easily in the Senate with the Republican majority, and it will be up for a full House vote on Monday, where it is expected to pass easily as well.

"Hey, pull over! It's the World's Largest Frying Pan!"

South Pittsburg, TN, headquarters of Lodge Cast Iron, will now be home to the world's largest frying pan. The attraction will be housed in the under-construction museum which is set to open late summer of 2022. See the skillet being transported to its new home [here](#).