



What's New on the Hill

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Legislative Update

It has been a slower week for the legislature, but a brief scheduling update is below:

The Senate held session this week with standing committee meetings on Tuesday and Wednesday. The House will reconvene next week following its two-week organizational recess, with its filing deadline next Tuesday.

Dates of Importance:

- *Tuesday, January 31st - House bill filing deadline*
- *Thursday, February 2nd - Senate bill filing deadline*
- *Monday, February 6th - State of the State Address*
- *Tuesday, February 14th - TN Lobbying expenditure report due*

With the bill filing deadlines for both chambers swiftly approaching, [here are the bills presented so far this session.](#)



ICYMI: On Saturday, January 21st Governor Lee delivered his second inaugural address. Governor Bill Lee was inaugurated for his second term, to serve four more years as the 50th Governor of Tennessee.

[Read Governor Lee's full remarks here!](#)



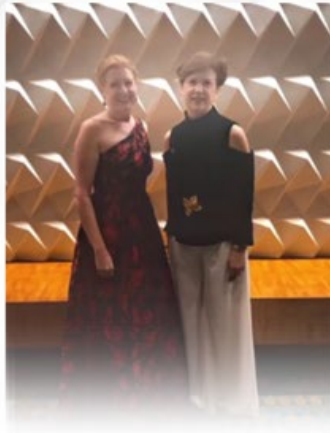
Last year, Governor Bill Lee officially proclaimed this week (January 22-29, 2023) to be recognized as "School Choice Week" in Tennessee. With this declaration and National

School Choice Week conversation sweeping the country this week, we wanted to take this opportunity to mention the General Assembly's efforts in this matter.

The General Assembly has worked on School Choice in Tennessee as apart of Lee's education priorities and will continue to do so as mentioned in Gov. Lee's video statement [earlier this week](#).

School Choice Expansion Continues to be a Priority for Tennessee Lawmakers

Flashback Friday



This year marks 34 legislative sessions for [Estie Harris](#) and 23 legislative sessions for [Meagan Frazier](#). To celebrate this milestone, we wanted to share some #FlashbackFriday memories from our team!

Left: *"This pic is from about 2004 of myself, Chris Richardson, Holly Salmons Kirby and Tiffany Mason. We all worked here together at the time and we are still in this world."* - Meagan

Middle: Estie and Meagan pictured in 2019 at Governor Bill Lee's first inaugural ball.

Right: *"One of my favorite pictures ever. This was the last bill that Charles Sargent passed on the House floor. Mandy and I were helping him"* - Estie



GOV. BILL LEE STATE OF THE STATE

**FEBRUARY 6TH AT
6PM CENTRAL**

Governor Bill Lee's State of this State address is not this Monday, but the following on February the 6th at 6 p.m. CT.

The joint session will take place in the House Chamber of the Tennessee State Capitol. Below are some of the top priorities we are expecting to hear from the Governor:

Infrastructure - With Tennessee's population growth reaching almost 9% in the past decade increasing roadway congestion has reached a critical juncture. Expect Governor Lee's to detail his proposal for "choice" lanes, providing drivers an option to use priced or access-controlled lanes in high traffic conditions.

"Build With Is (see "Transportation Modernization Act of 2023")," infrastructure improvement blueprint and if toll roads will be a means to pay for it.

Abortion - Addressing exceptions regarding Tennessee's "Heartbeat Bill," making it illegal to have an abortion in when a fetal heartbeat is detected or if the mother is past 8 weeks. The law went into effect in August 2022 in Tennessee following the U.S. Supreme Court ruling to overturn Roe v. Wade.

Criminal Justice - Building on the historic "Truth In Sentencing Act" legislation from last year, Lee is expected to do more with sentencing and criminal justice reform.

The address can be found on Lee's [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) channels and will be aired statewide.



In the News

Cindy Mabe makes country music history

Cindy Mabe will become chairperson and CEO of Universal Music Group Nashville on April 1, making her the first woman to lead a major country music record label.

[Axios](#) - Jan 23, 2023

Read Gov. Bill Lee's remarks on the occasion of his second inaugural

In case you missed it over the weekend, Gov. Bill Lee was inaugurated to his second term as Tennessee's 50th governor on Saturday. Here are his remarks as prepared for delivery:

[TNJ: On the Hill](#) - Jan 23, 2023

Tennessee House Speaker Lays Out Legislative Priorities

Tennessee House Speaker Cameron Sexton outlined his top legislative priorities for 2023 during a speech in Nashville Tuesday, among which were further reducing taxes on businesses, implementing toll lanes to mitigate the state's traffic congestion issues, and integrating charter schools into the state's education system.

[Tennessee Lookout](#) - Jan 25, 2023

Nashville Health Care Council Announces Inaugural Conference for Healthcare Leaders and Innovators

"The [Nashville Health Care Council](#) has announced its inaugural Nashville Healthcare Sessions conference, a weeklong series of events designed to gather forward-thinking healthcare, finance and innovation leaders in an engaging environment."

[Nashville Medical News](#) - Jan 23, 2023

Environmental activist Pearson wins race to succeed the late Rep. Barbara Cooper

Environmental activist Justin Pearson won the Democratic primary to succeed the late Rep. Barbara Cooper (D-Memphis) in the Tennessee House. There were no Republicans or independents running for the District 86 seat.

[TNJ: On the Hill](#) - Jan 25, 2023

Register Now for the In-Person Nashville Business Breakfast

Featuring: Douglas E. Kreulen, President & CEO of Metropolitan Nashville Airport Authority

[Nashville Business Journal](#) - Feb 7, 202

Republican lawmakers introduce bill to tax, regulate and ban delta-8 from those under 21

Republican lawmakers want to regulate the sale and production of delta-8 after a bill to ban the product wholly failed last year.

[Tennessean.com](#) - Jan 26, 2023

College of Nursing Offers 3rd Annual Opioid Conference

The 3rd Annual Opioid Conference and Pre-Conference will bring together experts in substance use disorder to share how genetics, trauma, and opportunity contribute to developing opioid use disorder across the lifespan. This conference will be hosted by the University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Nursing March 3, with a pre-conference for prescribers March 2.

[UTHSC](#) - Jan 19, 2023

Tennessee State Library & Archives Honors Tennessee's State Parks Legacy with New Exhibit

*Considered one of the best park systems in the country, Tennessee has 57 state parks. A new exhibit at the Tennessee State Library & Archives, *The Legacy of State Parks*, honors the impact of state parks in Tennessee.*

*Guests can view this new exhibit and the permanent interactive exhibits in the Library & Archives lobby from Monday to Saturday between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. CT. The *Legacy of Tennessee State Parks* exhibit is free and open to the public until May 13, 2023.*

[TN State Parks](#) - Jan 26, 2023



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