



Tennessee

NEWS

Week of March 10th legislative committee calendars: [House](#)



The Tennessee Primary Care Association spent Wednesday engaging with legislators, advocating for TennCare and uninsured patients, and sharing the realities faced in communities across the state.



The Tennessee Veterinary Medical Association had a strong presence at the Capitol this week for their Day on the Hill, culminating in recognition during the Senate Energy and Agriculture Committee.



Meagan Frazier was glad to welcome North Highland for their first visit to the Cordell Hull Building, offering insight into Tennessee's legislative process.



Volunteer Behavioral Health, a proud member of TAMHO, met with legislators to discuss the importance of mental health especially for students. Advocacy efforts like these help shape policies that support Tennesseans in need.

TN Congressman
JOHN ROSE
Announces Run for
Governor



Congressman John Rose (TN-06) has officially announced his candidacy for governor of Tennessee. Speaking at a Republican women's event in Williamson County, Rose shared his decision to return home after his current term in Congress and seek to replace Governor Bill Lee. A longtime advocate for conservative policies, Rose previously served as Tennessee's agriculture commissioner and is a businessman and attorney.

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Gov. Lee Bans Manus, DeepSeek AI Platforms on Tennessee State Network



Gov. Bill Lee has banned Manus and DeepSeek, two AI platforms with ties to the Chinese Communist Party, from Tennessee’s state network due to security risks. Tennessee is the first state in the U.S. to prohibit the Alibaba-owned Manus platform, which launched earlier today.

The platforms pose threats related to data privacy, cybersecurity vulnerabilities, and the spread of misinformation. Concerns include the collection of sensitive user data, potential for censorship, and risks of espionage. Following the ban, the Tennessee Attorney General issued a consumer warning regarding DeepSeek.

[PRESS RELEASE](#)



Bill Allowing Judges to Review Recent Juvenile Records Passes Senate

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A bill allowing judges to review an adult defendant's juvenile records when setting bail has passed the Senate and is now under consideration in the House Judiciary Committee. Sponsored by Sen. Brent Taylor (R-Memphis), the bill aligns with a law requiring judges to prioritize public safety in bail decisions.

The legislation has been amended to limit access to only the last five years of a defendant's juvenile record. An additional House amendment would make juvenile records public in cases of homicides committed on school grounds. Otherwise, records remain sealed from public view.

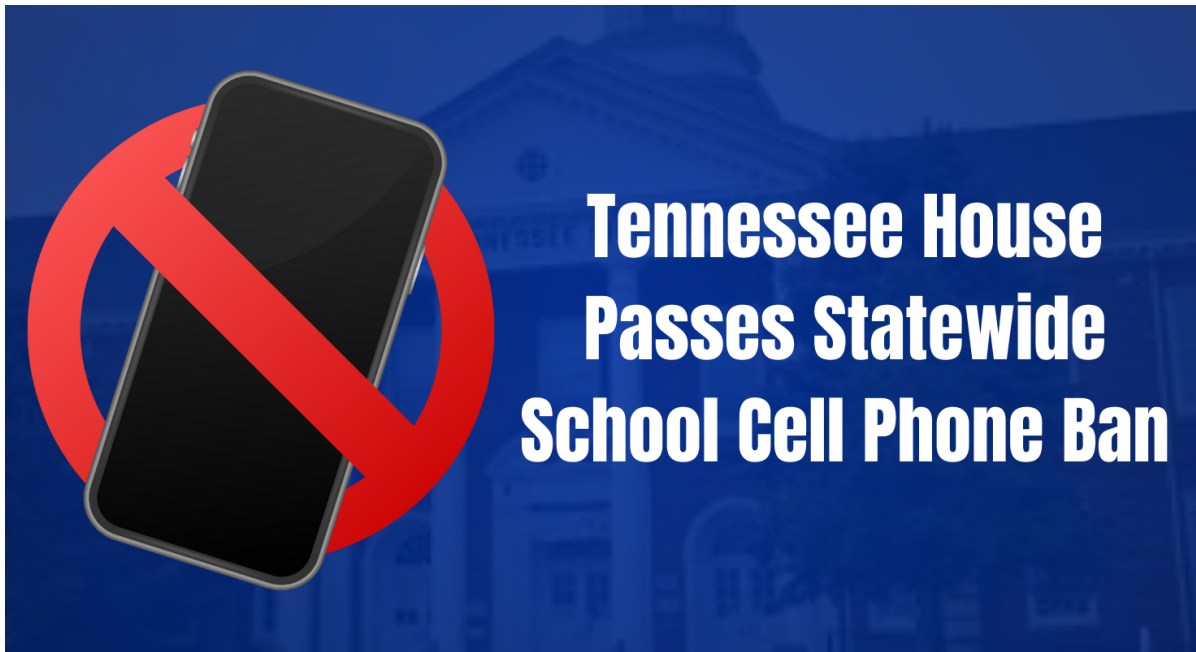
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Tennessee Celebrates Literacy Month Throughout March

Gov. Bill Lee has proclaimed March as Tennessee Literacy Month, celebrating the state's historic reading gains and continued investment in early literacy. With 39% of students meeting grade-level expectations and Tennessee outpacing national reading proficiency averages, the Tennessee Department of Education is marking the month with school visits featuring Riley the Reading Raccoon and encouraging participation using #TNReadingForALL. This summer, new literacy training programs, including Pre-K Literacy Training, will equip educators with tools to support young readers.

[PRESS RELEASE](#)



The Tennessee House of Representatives has passed House Bill 932, requiring school districts to restrict student use of cell phones, smartwatches, laptops, and other devices during instructional time. The bill, which passed 80-10 with bipartisan support, now heads to the Senate for a final vote before reaching Gov. Bill Lee's desk.

While local school boards will determine specific policies, exceptions will be made for educational use, medical needs, and emergencies. If signed into law, the measure will take effect July 1, 2025, for the 2025-26 school year. Supporters argue the ban will reduce distractions, improve classroom engagement, and limit cyberbullying, while critics note most schools already have similar policies in place.

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Bill to Limit Tennessee Governor's Emergency Powers Advances

A bill restricting the Tennessee Governor's emergency powers is moving forward in the legislature. House Bill 0324 (HB0324), sponsored by Rep. Rusty Grills (R-Newbern), passed unanimously in the House Public Service Subcommittee and will be heard by the House State and Local Government Committee on March 12. The companion bill (SB0027), sponsored by Sen. Mark Pody (R-Lebanon), is set for a Senate vote on March 6.

The legislation ensures that executive orders issued during emergencies cannot suspend or conflict with the Tennessee Constitution, while still allowing the governor to respond to crises. Supporters argue it upholds constitutional rights and prevents overreach during states of emergency.

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Tennessee Property Rights Protection Act Advances

A bill strengthening property rights protections in Tennessee is moving forward in the legislature. House Bill 0444 (HB0444), sponsored by Rep. Bud Hulsey (R-Kingsport), has been scheduled for a hearing in the House Finance, Ways, and Means Committee on March 11 after passing subcommittee unanimously. The companion bill (SB0480), sponsored by Sen. Janice Bowling (R-Tullahoma), is set for a full Senate vote on March 6.

The bill aims to limit the use of eminent domain by replacing the "blighted area" definition with a more precise "blighted property" definition, ensuring only truly blighted properties can be seized for public safety while protecting well-maintained, code-compliant properties. It also strengthens due process protections for property owners.

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IN THE NEWS

- ***'Less tinfoil hat?' House panel advances bid to boost penalties for 'chemtrail' violations***

Tennessee's ban on "chemtrails" could involve harsher penalties for violators under a bill advanced by a House subcommittee.

PRO.STATEAFFAIRS.COM - March 6, 2025

- ***'A crappy bill:' Grundy County seeks regulation authority over 'sewage sludge' used as fertilizer***

Grundy County officials are urging state lawmakers to allow local leaders to regulate the use of "sewage sludge" that is used in lieu of fertilizer on farms, because it is causing issues in their community.

PRO.STATEAFFAIRS.COM - March 6, 2025

- ***TDOT's Nobody Trashes Tennessee Encourages Residents to Participate in the Great American Cleanup this Spring***

Spring is upon us, and as Tennesseans begin to emerge from winter's hibernation, the Tennessee Department of Transportation's (TDOT) Nobody Trashes Tennessee (NTT) campaign encourages residents to get outside and do their part to keep our roadways and waterways clean safe, and litter-free.

TN.GOV - March 03, 2025

- ***'Right to Die' bill dies in House subcommittee***

An effort by a Nashville lawmaker to grant Tennesseans the "right to die" has failed in the state legislature.

[WKRN.COM](https://www.wkrn.com) - March 04, 2025|

- **Bill would designate three months as the celebration of ‘life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness’ in Tennessee**

A Tennessee lawmaker is already preparing to recognize the Semiquincentennial of the United States by proposing a bill to designate three months to celebrate the founding principles of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness in the Volunteer State.

[WKRN.COM](https://www.wkrn.com) - March 03, 2025

- **Despite 3 Republicans Voting for Educating Illegal Aliens At Taxpayer Expense, Preventative Bill Passes**

A bill giving public school districts the option to charge students tuition if they cannot prove they are in the country and state legally, passed in the Senate Education Committee on Wednesday evening.

[TENNESSEECONSERVATIVENEWS.COM](https://www.tennesseeconservativenews.com) - March 06, 2025

Contact Us:



Tennessee

Estie Harris | Managing Principal | [Email Estie](#)

Meagan Frazier | Managing Principal | [Email Meagan](#)

Mac Podlesney | Associate | [Email Mac](#)

Merle Franklin | Office Manager | [Email Merle](#)



HBS Tennessee, 511 Union Street, Suite 1800, Nashville, TN 37219, USA

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