Summer Study

Spring may have just started at the legislature, but this week minds were on summer. More than fifty bills are currently in summer study, and more than 200 were taken off notice of or rolled to next year. The trend is expected to continue and increase as we near adjournment. It is expected at this point that the governor's amendment to the budget will not be published until at least the second week of May. Further, with the second round of stimulus dollars set to reach the state at the end of May, a second special session is a genuine possibility. The Tennessee Journal has done an excellent break down of dollars expected to reach cities and counties that can be found here.

Updates

SB 1070 HB 1451

The bill seeking to prohibit the foreign purchase of Tennessee farmland was sent to summer study.

SB 356 HB 440

The bill that added a \$5.00 tax on all money transfers into Tennessee originating outside the United States was sent to summer study

SB 320 HB 794

The bill prohibits employers from denying services to any customer based on immunization status or using a medical device, including a mask. It also prohibits any employer from requiring an immunization or using a mask as a condition of employment. The bill is deferred to 2022

Items to Watch this Week

Business Restrictions

SB 1224 HB 1182 (Rose/ Rudd)

The bill as amended states that any company that has a policy of allowing a person identifying with the opposite sex to use a restroom open to the public with occupancy of more than one person must denote this policy with a sign located outside the restrooms. The bill does not apply; if a company does not have this policy or does not have a policy concerning this.

The bill is set to be heard on Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. in Senate Judiciary and can be seen here.

Government Powers

SB 859 HB 869 (Haile/ Zachery)

Authorizes the general assembly to end a state of emergency that was declared because of a public health emergency by the passage of a joint resolution; requires the governor to provide certain information to the general assembly relative to a declared state of emergency based on a public health emergency.

This bill will be heard in House State Government at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday and can be seen here.

SB 1262 HB 1172 (Baum/ Reeves)

Authorizes a local governing body to pass a resolution or ordinance requiring fifty percent of the residential development tax levied under the County Powers Relief Act to be paid at the time of application for a building permit and the remaining 50 percent of the tax to be paid before the issuance of a certificate of occupancy.

This bill will be heard in House Finance Ways and Means at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday and can be seen here.

Workforce Development

SB 482 HB 752 (Haile/ White)

Sates that the dual enrollment program will award the in-state tuition and mandatory fees cost up to a maximum amount for the first four courses taken and makes other related changes

This bill will be heard in House Education Administration at 3:30 on Wednesday and can be seen here.