

The Budget Drops

The Governor gave his fourth State of the State in which he outlined his legislative agenda and budget priorities. His primary investment themes were workforce, education, healthcare, and economic development. This was the largest budget in the state's history, \$52.6 billion, increasing from \$41.8 billion last year. This increase in collections is fueled by a quick economic recovery and franchise and excise revenues that are up with an annual growth rate of 21.18 percent.

Items of Interest

Deeper into the proposed budget

- \$1 billion in new, recurring education spending for Tennessee public schools.
- \$750 million in recurring funding into the Basic Education Program.
- \$2.5 million investment in the Future Workforce Initiative.
- \$125 million to raise teacher pay this year.
- \$200 million in TCAT expansions.
- \$90 million investment in Tennessee's nationally-highlighted outcomes-based funding formula at the higher education level.
- \$250 million investment to improve the physical infrastructure at TSU.
- \$250 million toward road infrastructure projects in the fastest-growing counties.
- \$18 million to attract 150 new primary care residents for rural Tennessee.
- \$103 million for the FastTrack program, ensuring the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development has the tools to recruit and retain top companies to call Tennessee home.
- \$40 million to invest in environmental cleanup, including National Priority List sites.

The proposed budget can be found here:

<https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/finance/budget/documents/2023BudgetDocumentVol1.pdf>

Redistricting

You can find the new districts here at a street level:

<https://wapp.capitol.tn.gov/Apps/fml2022/search.aspx>

COVID-19 Policy

[SB 2009/ HB 2073](#) (Bell/Cochran)

The bill prohibits a place of entertainment that receives public funds of this state, or any political subdivision of this state, from compelling or taking an adverse action to compel a person to provide proof of vaccination for COVID-19.

Workforce Development

[SB 2464/ HB 2309](#) (Reeves/Freeman)

This bill would allow anyone federally authorized to work and has a valid work permit to be eligible for professional and commercial licenses in TN.

Items to Watch this Week

Judicial Redistricting

[HB 1832/ SB 2011](#) (Lamberth/Bell)

The bill establishes an advisory task force to recommend a proposed statewide judicial redistricting plan every ten years; requires the general assembly to reapportion the judicial districts each year following the proposed plan's receipt.

The bill is calendared for the Civil Justice subcommittee on 2/8/2022 and can be seen [here](#).

Local Control

[HB 1675/ SB 1840](#) (Cepicky/Hensley)

The bill authorizes a county legislative body to impose an impact fee on residential development in the county.

The bill is calendared for the House Property and Planning subcommittee on 2/8/2022 and can be seen [here](#).