

Sine Die

Every person elected, appointed, and working at the Capitol is hoping for the two best words of any session, "sine die." The term "sine die" means with no date for resumption. With the budget passage, which included a five hundred million dollar bond to the Nashville Sports Authority, the state now has a balanced fifty-two billion-dollar plan to fund its operations for one more year. Two hundred and forty-six bills stand between the General Assembly and campaign season. The House has forty-six pieces of legislation left, while the Senate only has to consider ninety-six. The session will resume with vigor on Monday.

Items to Watch this Week

Finance

[HB 1405/ SB 905](#) (Halford/ Stevens)

Revises the definition of "qualified farmer or nurseryman" and specifies the tax-exempt property is "substances used for agriculture." This bill ultimately allows more substances to be used for agriculture to be tax-exempt.

The bill is calendared for the House Finance Ways and Means Subcommittee on 4/26/2022 and can be seen [here](#).

[HB 1681/ SB 1770](#) (Cepicky/ Briggs)

The bill requires the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) to develop and administer a two-year pilot program beginning in academic year 2022-2023 to award grants to students enrolled in non-credit workforce training programs, including pre-apprentice lineworker programs. Eligible institutions include any TBR community college or Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT) that offers a program that leads to an industry-validated certification. The bill further outlines specific qualifications for student grant eligibility. Requires TBR to establish the amount of a grant awarded. In addition, TBR to collect and analyze specific data throughout the pilot program and submit the outcome of such data to the Education Committee of the Senate and the Education Administration Committee and Education Instruction Committee of the House of Representatives no later than June 30, 2024.

The bill is calendared for the House Finance Ways and Means Subcommittee on 4/26/2022 and can be seen [here](#).

[HB 2636/ SB 2673](#) (Beck/ Yarboro)

This bill raises the local appropriations for the hotel and motel tax by one percent. The newly created revenue would be dedicated to any metro form of a government building a sports arena with a dome that would seat over 50,000 people.

The bill is calendared for the House Floor on 4/26/2022 and can be seen [here](#).

Education

[HB 2193/ SB 2396](#) (Lamberth/ Johnson)

This bill is the Tennessee Investment in Student Achievement Act. The Governor's funding proposal to replace the Basic Education Program. The bill currently has a competing version in the House and Senate. Therefore, any changes or differences in the Senate and House versions would have to be reconciled in the TISA and the budget bills.

The bill is calendared for the House Finance Ways and Means Committee on 4/26/2022 and can be seen [here](#).

Criminal Offenses

[HB 1927/ SB 1904](#) (Lamberth / Johnson)

The bill redefines "marijuana" as applicable to criminal offenses, thereby establishing that marijuana includes hemp, which has a tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) concentration of more than 0.3 percent on a dry weight basis. It also would Define a "hemp-derived cannabinoid" as a cannabinoid other than delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol, or an isomer derived from such cannabinoid, that is derived from hemp in a concentration of more than 0.1 percent. Further, it prohibits any person from knowingly selling or distributing a product containing hemp-derived cannabinoid to a person under 21 years of age and further prohibits a person under 21 years of age from possessing, purchasing, or accepting a product containing a hemp-derived cannabinoid or presenting or offering any person any false, fraudulent proof of age to purchase or receive a product containing a hemp-derived cannabinoid. Requires any retail location offering products containing hemp-derived cannabinoids to maintain such products behind the counter in an area inaccessible to a customer. The bill would also tax the defined products.

The bill is calendared for House Fiscal Government Operations Committee on 4/25/ 2022 and can be seen [here](#).