

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - WEEK OF JANUARY 30, 2023

Both the House and the Senate began in earnest this week, as each chamber's committees met to conduct business. Governor Bill Lee's 5th State of the State Address will take place Monday, which will provide insight into the Governor's budgetary priorities this fiscal year. The Governor's administration's budget proposal will be submitted to the legislature by February 13th.

IMPORTANT DATES

Governor Bill Lee's State of the State Address

Tennessee State Capitol

February 6, 2023

6pm C.T.

Annual Governor's Address, hosted by Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce

JW Marriott

March 6, 2023

8-9:30am C.T

[Register here](#)

Legislative Items of Interest

1692 bills and resolutions have been filed.

Nonresident Alien Property Ownership

[HB40/SB1022](#), sponsored by Rep. Jay Reedy and Sen. Frank Nicely, prohibits a nonresident alien, a foreign business or foreign government from purchasing or acquiring real property in this state, if the laws of the country where the nonresident alien resides or the foreign business is located, prohibit citizens of the United States from purchasing real property located within that country. The Chamber is closely monitoring this bill to ensure no unintended consequences arise from prohibiting foreign business investment in the state.

Appointments of Nashville International Airport Board

[HB1176/SB1326](#), sponsored by Rep. Johnny Garrett and Sen. Paul Bailey, adds the governor and speakers of the General Assembly as appointing authorities for board positions for the Metropolitan Nashville Airport Authority. The new board would consist of 11 members, all of whom must be Davidson County residents, appointed as follows:

- Four members appointed by the House speaker
- Four members appointed by the Senate speaker
- Two members appointed by the governor
- Nashville's mayor, or a designee, would be the final member of the board, serving as a voting, ex-officio member

In a statement to the Tennessean, Nashville International Airport President and CEO Doug Kreulen said, "Since 1970, the Metropolitan Nashville Airport Authority has operated effectively and independently to serve Middle Tennessee and surrounding counties. As a major economic engine for the region, Nashville International Airport and John C. Tune Airport generate more than \$10 billion in annual economic impact. Regarding the proposed state legislation, the Airport Authority is respectful of the legislative process and will engage with lawmakers to gain insight concerning this bill. As one of the fastest growing airports in the country, BNA remains committed to serving our community through best-in-class facilities, air service and customer experience."

Appointments for Metropolitan Nashville Sporty Authority

[HB1197/SB1335](#), sponsored by Rep. Ryan Williams and Sen. Paul Bailey, would reconstitute the Metropolitan Nashville Sports Authority and give state elected officials more control over the board composition. Board members, some of whom can live outside of Davidson County, would be appointed as follows:

- Three members appointed by Nashville's mayor
- Four members appointed by the governor
- Three members appointed by the House speaker
- Three members appointed by the Senate speaker

Termination of Future Taxes for Nashville Convention Center

[SB648/HB1279](#), sponsored by Sen. Jack Johnson and Rep. Elaine Davis, aims to end Nashville's authority to impose extra sales taxes in its tourist zone, use privilege tax funds to pay off convention center bonds or charge a \$2 tax on vehicles hired at the airport. This legislation received two House sponsors this week and has not been heard in committee yet.

Reduction in Size of Local Legislative Bodies

[SB87/HB48](#), sponsored by Rep. William Lamberth and Sen. Bo Watson, caps the number of members that may be elected to the governing body of a metropolitan or municipal government to 20 members. This legislation passed through House Cities and Counties Subcommittee this week and is set to be heard in House Local Government Committee on 2/7.