

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - WEEK OF MARCH 6, 2023

The state legislature is at the halfway point of the first session of the 113<sup>th</sup> Tennessee General Assembly. Several headline-drawing pieces of legislation, including the bill to cut the size of Nashville's Metro Council, have been signed by the Governor, leaving room for final budget discussions.

### IMPORTANT DATES

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

JW Marriott

March 23, 2023

8-9:30am CT

[Register here](#)

### UPDATES ON LEGISLATIVE ITEMS OF INTEREST

#### **Elimination of Runoff Elections**

[HB1399/HB1527](#), sponsored by Rep. Jason Zachary and Sen. Brent Taylor, aims to eliminate runoff elections across the state. This legislation would have significant impacts on Davidson County election protocols, and the Chamber continues to closely monitor the legislation. *The legislation was delayed in Senate State and Local Committee last week and is scheduled to be heard this Tuesday. It has not been calendared in the House yet.*

#### **Transportation Modernization Act**

[HB321/SB273](#), sponsored by Rep. William Lamberth and Sen. Jack Johnson, carries Governor Lee's Transportation Modernization Act language. *This legislation is scheduled to be heard in both House and Senate Finance committees this week.*

[Click here](#) to learn more about the Governor's transportation plan.

#### **Amended: Legislation Adding Liability for Businesses that Post Notices Prohibiting Firearms**

[HB1005](#), sponsored by Rep. Rusty Grills, Rep. Chris Todd and Sen. Frank Niceley, as initially drafted, added liability for businesses that post signage prohibiting firearms. *The bill was amended and removed the language adding liability to businesses that post.*

#### **LEAs to Provide Workplace Skills Testing**

[HB250/SB198](#), sponsored by Rep. Kirk Haston and Sen. Jon Lundberg, requires LEA and public charter school to provide high school seniors the opportunity to take nationally recognized assessments designed to measure a broad range of foundational workplace skills. *The bill will be heard in the Senate Finance, Ways, and Means Committee and will be heard in the House Education Administration this week.*

### **3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Retention**

There are currently 16 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade retention related pieces of legislation waiting to be discussed in education committees. Legislators have indicated that, in the end, there will be one bill that contains a combination of changes to the retention law. *These bills are scheduled to be heard in House K-12 Education Subcommittee this week.*

### **Appointments of Nashville International Airport Authority**

[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. *This legislation received a positive recommendation in Senate Gov Ops last week and is scheduled to be heard in House Government Operations Committee on 3/13 and in Senate Transportation on 3/15.*

### **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 would add state elected officials as appointing authorities for board positions. *This legislation received a positive recommendation in Senate Government Operations and will be heard in House Local Government Committee and in Senate State and Local this week.*