



59th General Assembly
of the
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government
RED SENATE



Sponsors: Garrett Wilson, Matthew Nickels

Committee: Senate - Judiciary

School: Brentwood Academy

30 already incorporated into the budget.
31
32 All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this law are hereby repealed.
33
34 This bill will take effect May 1, 2012, the public welfare requiring it.

An Act To Provide A Second-Chance Opportunity for Ex-Convicts

1 Be it enacted by the TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

2

3 Section I:

4 Violent Crime: Any crime where the criminal charged, is in possession of, or in use of
5 any weapon. This includes unarmed aggression.

6 Expungement: The removal of the select conviction from a persons criminal record.

7 Illegal Substances: A drug or chemical whose manufacture, possession, and use are
8 regulated by the government.

9 Section II:

10 If enacted, requirements for being a candidate for expungement include:

11 a) The candidate must have not been convicted of a violent crime or any other crime
12 except for the one in question.

13 b) The candidate must have served his or her full sentence and completed all court
14 ordered requirements

15 c) The candidate must be free of illegal substances, as well as alcohol for two years time,
16 attending drug and alcohol testing regularly. Also, they must sign a contract saying that
17 they will attend regular, but less frequent, alcohol and drug testing.

18 d) The candidate must have received a high school diploma or its equivalent.

19 e) The candidate must complete at least a year of community service and possibly more
20 depending on the judges ruling, up to two years.

21

22 Section III:

23 The released inmates have two years to complete this opportunity; however, they must
24 start immediately upon their release in order to be a candidate for expungement.

25 Section IV:

26 Expungement would allow a persons record to be wiped clean, and allow them to have a
27 better chance at a job, considering they would have no criminal charges on record.

28

29 This bill will have no fiscal impact on the state of Tennessee, since the drug tests are



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Sponsors: Patrick East, Benjamin Kidd

Committee: Senate - Judiciary
School: Brentwood Academy

An Act to Require a Mandatory Drug Test for Individuals Applying for Welfare Benefits

- 1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government:
- 2
- 3 Section 1: Terms in this bill are defined as follows:
- 4 a. Drug testing- The process of medically testing whether a person is using drugs
- 5 b. Illegal drug- Any substance that is deemed unlawful in the state of Tennessee
- 6
- 7 Section 2: If enacted, this bill would require a drug screening for all people who are
- 8 applying for welfare in the state of Tennessee.
- 9
- 10 Section 3: If a person is found using illegal drugs, he or she will not be permitted to have
- 11 welfare unless he or she attends a drug treatment program. The family members of this
- 12 person will still be allowed to have welfare if needed.
- 13
- 14 Section 4: This will cost around \$2.3 million dollars to the state of Tennessee, but most of
- 15 this cost, if not all, will be cancelled out due to the fact that less money is sent out by
- 16 welfare.
- 17
- 18 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.
- 19
- 20 Section 6: If passed this bill will take effect on January 1, 2013.



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Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government
RED SENATE



Sponsors: Alan Groves, Nick Erickson

Committee: Senate - Judiciary
School: Ravenwood High School

An Act to Regard Reckless Homicide as the Lowest Form of Killing

- 1 Be It Enacted in the Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government
- 2
- 3 Section 1: The terms of this act shall be listed and defined in the following descriptions
- 4
- 5 a) A criminally negligent homicide shall be defined as criminally negligent conduct that
- 6 results in death.
- 7 b) A reckless homicide shall be defined as the reckless killing of another.
- 8 c) A class E felony holds a 1-2 year sentence before mitigation or alternative sentencing.
- 9 d) A class D felony holds a 2-4 year sentence before mitigation or alternative sentencing.
- 10 e) Alternative Sentencing shall be defined as probation, fines, etc. that can substitute or
- 11 reduce a criminal sentence.
- 12
- 13 Section 2: Criminally negligent homicide, formerly a class E felony, will be erased from
- 14 the Tennessee Code. This will make Reckless Homicide, a higher class D felony, the new
- 15 lowest class of killing another person.
- 16
- 17 Section 3: Persons already convicted of criminally negligent homicide will remain so,
- 18 and any persons who are subject to investigation or prosecution for criminally negligent
- 19 homicide will still be prosecuted until this bill becomes law.
- 20
- 21 Section 4: There will be no cost additional cost to the state government, as judges will
- 22 still consider alternative sentencing for the culprits of reckless homicide.
- 23
- 24 Section 5: This act is in complete compliance with existing law.
- 25
- 26 Section 6: After passage, this act shall go into effect at the beginning of the next
- 27 legislative session.
- 28
- 29

RHB/12-3-8



59th General Assembly
of the
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government
RED HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES



Sponsors: Joseph Greer, Daniel Sawyer

Committee: House - Judiciary

School: Signal Mountain High School

AN ACT TO RAISE THE PUNISHMENT LEVELS FOR UNDERAGE TOBACCO POSSESSION OR USE, AMMEND TN LEGAL CODE 39-17-1505

1 Be it enacted by the TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:

2

3 Section I. All terms in this bill can be defined as:

4 (a) tobacco - any of several plants belonging to the genus Nicotiana

5 - any product or products made from such leaves

6 (b) community service - acts of public service required by the government

7

8 Section II. If enacted, this amendment will raise underage tobacco use/possession punishments in

9 an attempt to cut down on underage tobacco use.

10 *This includes: cigarettes, chewing tobacco, cigars, tobacco paste

11

12 Section III. New Punishments:

13 1st offense: \$50-75 and parental notification

14 2nd offense: \$100 and 50 hours community service

15 -must attend a series of rehabilitation classes

16 3rd offense: \$200 and 100 hours community service

17 -7 days in juvenile detention

18

19 Section IV. This amendment will affect all TN citizens under the age of 18.

20

21 Section V. This amendment will have an immediate fiscal gain.

22

23 Section VI. All laws and parts in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

24

25

26

RHB/12-3-9



59th General Assembly
of the
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government
RED HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES



Sponsors: Morgan Wohlfahrt, Keri Roberson

Committee: House - Judiciary

School: Merrol Hyde Magnet School

An Act to Legalize Civil Unions between Same-Sex Couples

1 Be it enacted by the Tennessee YMCA Youth Legislature:

2 Section 1: Terms used in this act, unless the context requires otherwise, shall be defined as

3 follows:

4 A) Civil Union-a relationship between a same-sex couple that is legally recognized by a state

5 authority and has the rights and responsibilities of marriage.

6 B) Marriage-the social institution under which a man and woman establish their decision to live

7 as husband and wife by legal commitments, religious ceremonies, etc.

8 C) Same-Sex Couple-An unmarried, common-law or married couple composed of two person of

9 the same gender.

10 D) Homosexual-a person who is sexually attracted to members of the same sex.

11

12 Section 2: In 2009, our capitol passed a non-discrimination ordinance which protects Metro

13 government employees from discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

14 Although this has been a major step in gaining equality for homosexuals, they are still being

15 denied the basic privilege of marriage.

16

17 Section 3: This bill will allow same-sex couples in the state of Tennessee the privilege to enter

18 into civil unions as an alternative to marriage.

19

20 Section 4: When entering into civil unions, same-sex couples would be given the same rights as

21 heterosexual married couples which include: employment, death, estate planning, consumer,

22 family, medical, government, tax, and housing benefits.

23

24 Section 5: This bill will ensure the people of Tennessee's commitment to guaranteeing equality

25 for all of its citizens.

26

27 Section 6: This bill will not require funding.

28

BHB/12-5-8



59th General Assembly
of the
Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government
BLUE HOUSE



Sponsors: Tiffany Mangione, Margot Pefanis, Ali Thrasher
Committee: House - Finance, Ways & Means
School: Brentwood Academy

**AN ACT TO ADD AN ADDITIONAL 8% SALES TAX TO THE PRODUCTS THAT
MAY BE FOUND IN ADULT SUPERSTORES**

- 1 Section 1: Terms in this bill are defined as follows:
- 2 A. Adult superstores: A very large retail store that stocks highly diverse merchandise for
- 3 adult entertainment such as sex toys and different forms of pornography.
- 4 B. The products may include sex toys, lingerie, pornographic videos, books, magazines, and
- 5 other paraphernalia.
- 6
- 7 Section 2: If enacted, this bill will add an additional 8% tax will be added to the 7% sales tax,
- 8 raising taxes on such products to 15%.
- 9
- 10 Section 3: The generated revenue will go to the budget of the Department of Education, which
- 11 will then decide how to use the funds.
- 12
- 13 Section 4: This bill will not have no fiscal impact on the State of Tennessee.
- 14
- 15 Section 5: All laws or parts of laws are here by repealed that are in conflict with this act.
- 16
- 17 Section 6: This act shall take effect January 1, 2013, the public welfare requiring it.
- 18

BHB/12-5-9



59th General Assembly
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Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government
BLUE HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES



Sponsors: Sophie Workman, Johnson, Madeline Ragland
Committee: House - Children & Family Affairs
School: Signal Mountain High School

**An Act to Restrict Parental Visitation When Under Investigation for a Felony Amend
Tennessee Code Annotated 6-6-301**

- 1 Be it enacted by the TENNESSEE YMCA YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT:
- 2
- 3 Section I: Terms to be defined as follows:
- 4 a) A non-custodial parent is the parent without child custody and is being investigated for a
- 5 crime.
- 6 b) A social worker is a certified professional who seeks to improve the quality of life for
- 7 juvenile.
- 8 c) Meetings are considered an assigned time and place between non-custodial parent, child(ren)
- 9 and a social worker.
- 10
- 11 Section II: If passed, this bill would require that a non-custodial parent who is under police
- 12 investigation and/or has committed a felony would only be permitted to meet with his/her
- 13 child(ren) in the presence of a social worker.
- 14
- 15 Section III: Any/all meetings between the non-custodial parent and child(ren) will take place
- 16 within a courthouse or other government building.
- 17
- 18 Section IV: This act will affect all non-custodial parents who are under investigation for a felony.
- 19
- 20 Section V: This act will fall under the supervision of the Department of Children and Family
- 21 Services, which will supply all social workers.
- 22
- 23 Section VI: This act shall take effect immediately upon becoming a law the public welfare
- 24 requiring it.