

Juvenile Law Update: 2024 Legislative Session

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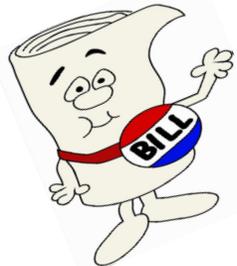
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July 26, 2024



TN Legislative Process

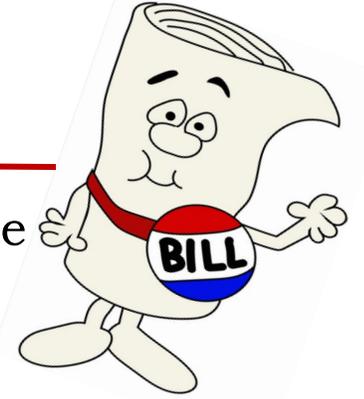
- The Tennessee General Assembly meets in Nashville each year beginning at noon on the second Tuesday of January.
- Each General Assembly meets 90 session days over a two-year period. Generally, legislative sessions last from mid-January through late April or May of each year.
- 113th General Assembly adjourned sine die April 25, 2024.
- Legislative proposals can originate in either the Senate or House in the form of bills, resolutions and joint resolutions. A bill is a proposed law and may be either general or local. A general bill has a statewide impact, and a local bill affects only a particular county or town named in the bill.



113th General Assembly introduced over 10,139 bills; Completed 5,800.



TN Legislative Process



- For a new law to be made, it must be considered and passed on three separate days (considerations) by both the House and Senate.
- After second consideration, general bills are referred to committee for review. That is where most of the work is done in determining if the bill should be modified, amended, or not reported out of the committee. Bills which the committees do approve are sent on through the system so that eventually they may be voted on by the full house for the third and final time.
- A constitutional majority is required for a new law to pass. This means it must receive at least 50 favorable votes in the House and 17 favorable votes in the Senate.
- Once a new law has been acted on favorably by the House and Senate, it is then sent to the Governor who can approve it by signing it or letting it become a law without his signature.
- The Governor may also disapprove a measure by vetoing it. The legislature may override the Governor's veto with a constitutional majority.



Part I

Dependency and Neglect



Dependent and Neglect Child

PC862: (Haile/Slater)

- Revises the definition of a dependent and neglected child to specify that the criteria for dependence and neglect must be present at the time of the filing of the petition.
- Removes the clarification that support is presumptively token support if it is less than the amount of the minimum child support order established by the child support guidelines under the definition of "abandonment" under adoption.
- A parent or guardian bears the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that any support provided was more than token support.
- Court must look at each parent, guardian, relative and caregiver who provided care during relevant time period of abuse if d/n alleged or found regardless of ground alleged in petition.
- Removes specification that a home is not suitable if parent or guardian resides with or maintains a relationship with an individual deemed perpetrator of severe child abuse.
- T.C.A. § 37-1-102
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



Taking Child into Custody/Removal of Child from Parent

PC613: (Johnson/Lamberth)

- Requires the juvenile court in a dependency and neglect proceeding to determine whether a parent, guardian, relative, or caregiver of the child cannot be excluded as a perpetrator of severe child abuse against the child.
- Prohibits a juvenile court from returning a child victim of severe child abuse to the custody of a person who cannot be excluded as the perpetrator unless certain circumstances are met.
- Makes various other changes regarding abuse, severe child abuse, and token support.
- T.C.A. §§ 36-1-100; 36-1-102; 36-1-113; 37-1-100; 37-1-102; 37-1-108; 37-1-113; 37-1-129; 37-1-130; 37-1-602; 37-2-400; 37-2-402; 37-2-403; 37-2-417; 37-2-604; 39-13-309; 39-13-502; 39-13-504; 39-13-514; 39-13-515; 39-13-522; 39-13-527; 39-13-531; 39-13-532; 39-15-302; 39-15-402; 39-17-406; 39-17-408; 39-17-1004; 39-17-1005
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



DCS Status Report

PC591: (Haile/Littleton)

- Within 30 days of the date of foster care placement, DCS must prepare a plan for each child in foster care to include a goal for:
 - 1) Return of child to parent;
 - 2) Permanent placement of child with a fit and willing relative;
 - 3) Adoption, giving first preference to foster home;
 - 4) Permanent guardianship; or
 - 5) A planned permanent living arrangement.
- For any child in care 6+ months with a permanency goal of return child to parent must also include a requirement that parent complete trauma-informed education.
- T.C.A. §§ 37-2-403; 37-5-519
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



Abrial's Law: Keeping Children Safe from Family Violence Act (Rev.)

PC799: (Massey/Alexander)

- Custody determinations require “best interest of the child” standard.
- More restrictions on “reunification camps”.
- Court can't cut off contact with a non-abusive parent - custody arrangement must permit both parents to enjoy the maximum participation possible in the life of the child considering child's need for stability and all other relevant factors.
- Any issues of abuse referred to juvenile court for further proceedings where appropriate.
- Court must consider evidence of physical or emotional abuse to the child, to the other parent, or to any other person, including the child's siblings.
- Places new requirements on judicial domestic violence training.
- T.C.A. §§ 36-6-106; 36-6-404; 36-6-406; 36-6-700; 36-6-701; 36-6-702; 37-1-102; 37-1-130
- **Effective date: 4/23/2024**



Part II

Delinquency / Criminal

Proceedings



Proposed Discharge of Child Committed to DCS



PC611: (Lowe/Travis)

- Requires DCS Commissioner to notify the committing court at least 15 days prior to the proposed discharge of a delinquent child who was committed to the custody of DCS for an indefinite time.
- T.C.A. § 37-1-137
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



Blended Sentencing

PC1007: (Taylor/White)

- Creates a “blended sentencing” option for “serious youthful offender” juveniles who are 16 years or older and commit certain crimes that would be a Class A or B Felony if they were an adult.
- Extends juvenile jurisdiction from a juvenile’s 19th birthday to their 24th birthday.
- Juveniles accused of an act that would require them to be classified as a serious youthful offender will have the right to a jury trial *in state court* (unless juvenile waives).
- T.C.A. §§ 37-1-131; 37-1-134
- **Effective date: 1/01/2025**



Recording of Interrogation of Juvenile

PC565: (Lamar/Chism)

- Requires audio or video recording of all interviews with juvenile suspects in custody, barring technical issues.
- T.C.A. § 37-1-126
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



Child in Care of Registered Sex Offender

PC565: (Ferrel/Gant)

- Creates new Class A misdemeanor for a parent of a minor who “*knowingly allows the child to be under the care or supervision of a person*” who is a registered sex offender.
- T.C.A. §§ 39-15-400; 39-15-401; 40-39-200; 40-39-202; 40-39-211
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



Sexual Exploitation of Children – AI Images

PC885: (White/Littleton)

- *Sexual Exploitation Material* includes any computer image, or computer-generated image, including an image created, adapted, or modified by artificial intelligence.
- *Artificial Intelligence* - machine learning technology, including generative artificial intelligence, that uses data to train statistical models for the purpose of enabling a computer system or service to autonomously perform any task, including visual perception, natural language processing, or speech recognition, that is normally associated with human intelligence or perception.
- *Generative Artificial Intelligence* - artificial intelligence based on a foundation model that is capable of and used to produce synthetic digital content, including audio, images, text, and videos.
- T.C.A. § 39-17-1002
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



Indecent Exposure

PC1023: (Kyle/Towns)

- Expands offense of indecent exposure to include:
 - Knowingly invites, entices, or fraudulently induces a minor *into the person's residence* for the purpose of attaining sexual arousal or gratification by intentionally engaging in the exposure of such person's genitals, buttocks, or female breasts or masturbation in the presence of the minor without consent.
 - Knowingly engages *in the person's own residence*, in the intended presence of minor, without consent, for the defendant's sexual arousal or gratification, exposure of the person's genitals, buttocks, or female breasts or masturbation.
- Defendant must be 18+ and *child victim must be 13-17 years of age.*
- T.C.A. § 39-13-511
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



Child Endangerment by Parent or Custodian

PC885: (White/Littleton)

- Increases penalty from Class A misdemeanor to Class D felony for offense of child endangerment by a parent or custodian, if child eight years of age or less, if parent or guardian *knowingly exposes the child to, or knowingly fails to protect* the child from, abuse or neglect resulting in physical injury or imminent danger to the child.
- Increases the penalty from a Class D felony to a Class B felony for a person *who negligently, by act or omission, engages in conduct* that places a child eight years of age or less in imminent danger of death bodily injury, or physical or mental impairment.
- T.C.A. § 39-15-401
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



Abortion Trafficking of a Minor

PC283: (Rose/Zachary)

- Creates Class A misdemeanor of abortion trafficking of a minor for an adult who “recruits, harbors, or transports a pregnant unemancipated minor” for the purpose of (1) concealing an abortion from the minor’s parents; (2) procuring an abortion; or (3) obtaining an abortion-inducing drug for the minor.
- Criminal Liability Exceptions: 1) parents of pregnant minor; 2) one acting with consent of parents; 3) common carriers in scope of business; and 4) “an ambulance driver and any corresponding emergency medical services personnel...acting within the course and scope of their duties.”
- A person who violates the criminal provisions may be held civilly liable for “wrongful death of unborn child.”
- T.C.A. §§ 39-13-503; 39-13-503; 39-13-506; 39-13-522; 39-13-531; 39-13-532; 39-13-534; 39-13-535; 39-15-200; 39-15-213; 39-15-218; 39-15-302; 68-140-302
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



Parent Accountability Act

PC866: (Johnson/Slater)

- Permits juvenile courts to assess a fine against a child who is found to be delinquent for a *second or subsequent delinquent act* to be paid by the child's parent or legal guardian who had custody of the child at the time of the offense.
- For monetary damages (including expenses incurred by any law enforcement agency in responding to and investigating the delinquent act) resulted from the child's delinquent conduct.
- Identify whether restorative justice program addressing loss resulting from a delinquent act or community service work is available and may be utilized appropriately in the place of financial restitution to ensure that the order of disposition is reasonable and, where applicable, prioritizes restitution to the victim.
- T.C.A. §§ 37-1-131; 37-1-163; 39-15-400
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



Reporting of Students Adjudicated Delinquent

PC721: (Watson/Martin)

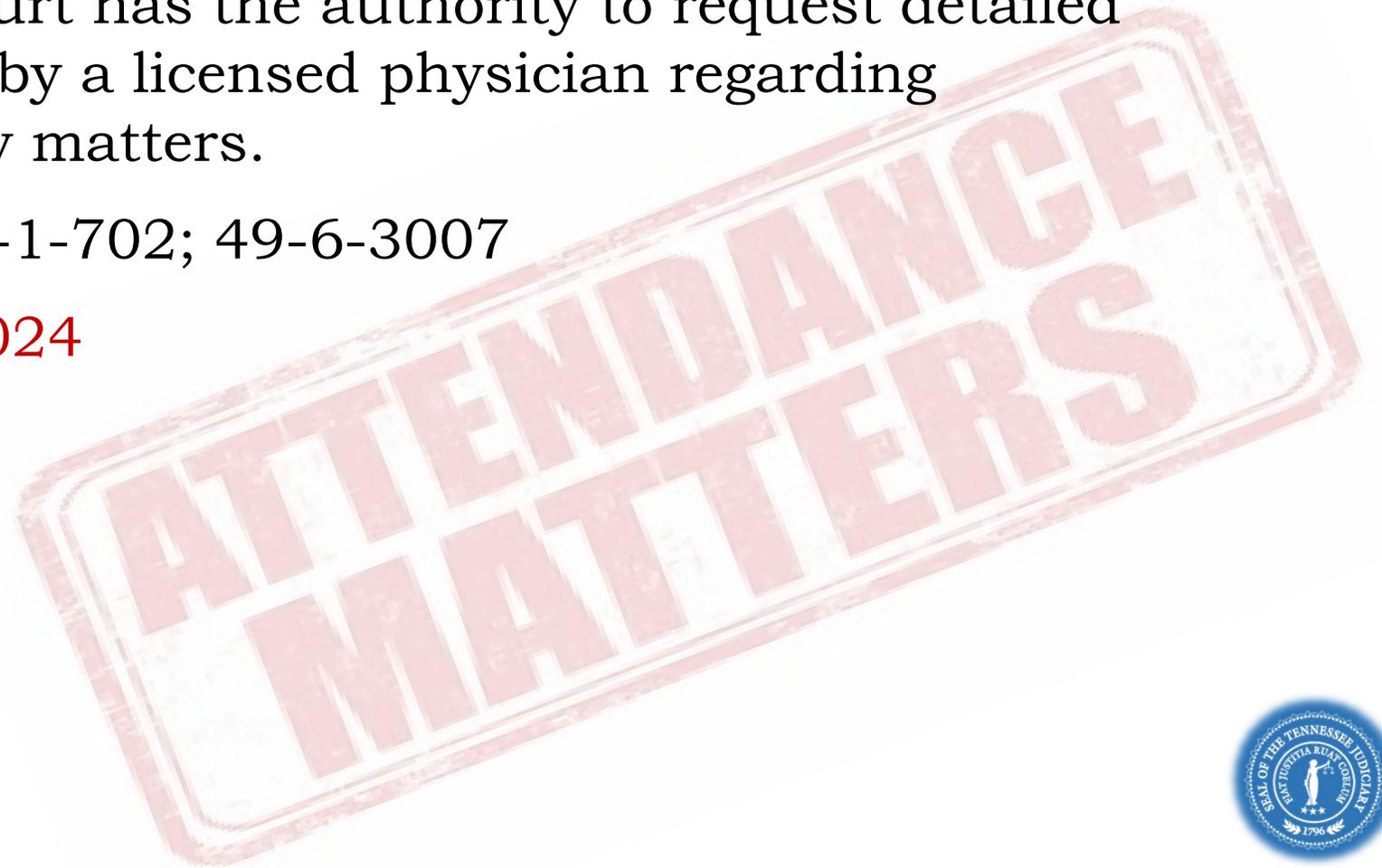
- Increases from a Class C misdemeanor to a Class B misdemeanor the penalty for a student's parent, guardian, or legal custodian failing to report an adjudication that the student committed certain delinquent acts to the student's school principal or the principal's designee.
- Specifies that a school principal shall ask in writing a student's parent, guardian, or legal custodian whether the student has been adjudicated delinquent for certain offenses, including rape, robbery, kidnapping, or aggravated assault.
- T.C.A. §§ 37-1-100; 37-1-154; 49-6-3051
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



Truancy

PC849: (Lowe/Raper)

- Clarifies that a teen court has the authority to request detailed documentation signed by a licensed physician regarding absenteeism in truancy matters.
- T.C.A. §§ 37-1-132; 37-1-702; 49-6-3007
- **Effective date: 5/01/2024**



Bullying/Cyberbullying

PC797: (Lowe/Russell)

- *Bullying* - an act committed by a student that substantially interferes with another student's educational benefits, opportunities or performance.
- Cyberbullying – the act takes place off school property or outside of a school-sponsored activity, is directed specifically at another student and has the effect of creating a *substantial disruption to the education environment or learning process*.
- Requires law enforcement officer who has knowledge that a minor is the victim of bullying or cyberbullying to make a written report and provide the minor's parents with notice of the incident
- Intentionally engaging in cyberbullying is a delinquent act.
- T.C.A. §§ 37-1-131; 39-17-308; (Title 40 relative to harassment)
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



Threat to Commit Mass Violence at School

PC727: (White/Stevens)

- Requires juvenile court to include in disposition for juvenile found to have made a threat to commit mass violence on school property or at a school-related activity the suspension of juvenile's driving privileges or ability to obtain a drivers license for a period of one year.
- T.C.A. §§ 37-1-100; 39-16-517; 55-10-700
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**

PC887: (Lundberg/Mitchell)

- Increases penalty for threatening to commit mass violence on school property or at a school-related activity from a Class A misdemeanor to a Class E felony.
- T.C.A. §§ 33-1-101; 39-16-517; 55-10-700
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



Organized Retail Crime/Theft of a Firearm

PC635: (Taylor/Grills)

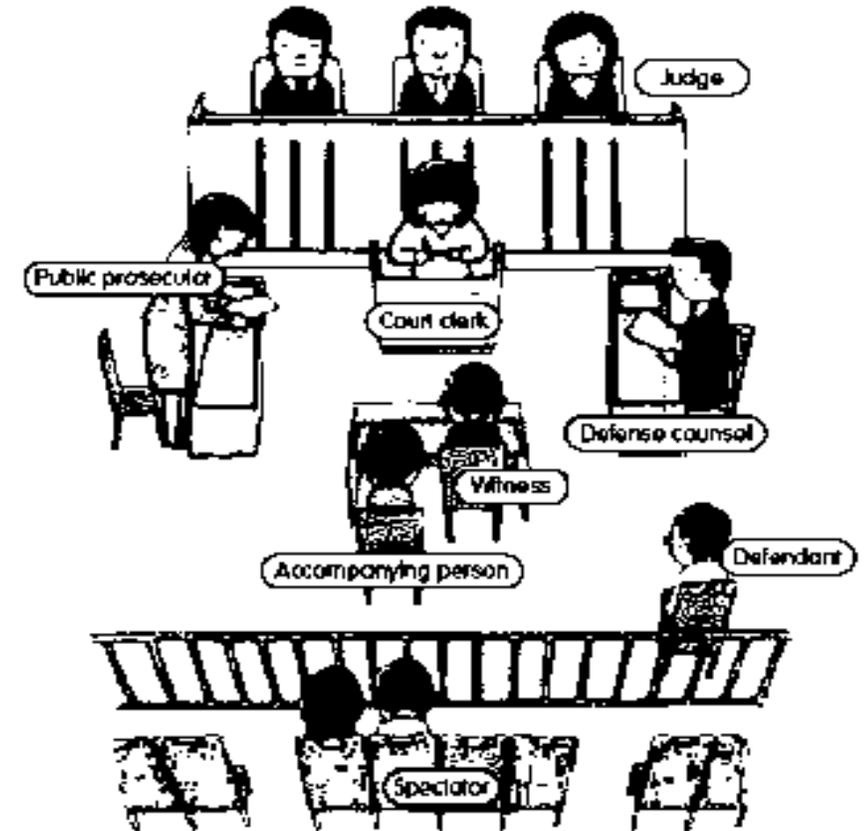
- Allows a juvenile court to transfer a child 15 years of age or older to be tried as an adult in criminal court for the offense of organized retail crime, theft of a firearm, or an attempt to commit such offense.
- T.C.A. §§ 37-1-116; 37-1-134; 39-11-106; 39-14-113
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



Assault Against Participant in Judicial Proceedings

PC1045: (Powers/Lamberth)

- Creates Class E felony offense of assault against a participant in judicial proceedings, when a person, while on the premises of a building in which judicial proceedings occur, knowingly assaults a victim that the person knows or reasonably should know is present due to the victim's participation in judicial proceedings.
- T.C.A. §§ 39-13-100; 39-13-601; 39-13-603
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024; 5/28/2024**



* Trial is open to public.



Violent Juvenile Sexual Offense

PC888: (Southerland/Hawk)

- A "violent juvenile sexual offense" includes, in addition to other offenses, the rape of a child if:
 - (i) the victim is at least four years younger than the offender; or
 - (ii) for acts occurring on or after July 1, 2024, the victim is less than four years younger than the offender, and the judge, taking into account the facts and circumstances surrounding the delinquent act, orders that the juvenile be required to register as a violent juvenile sexual offender.
- T.C.A. §§ 39-13-522; 40-39-200; 40-39-202
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



Involuntary Admission to Inpatient Treatment

PC785: (Johnson/Lamberth)

- Requires that a defendant who is a child under 16 must not be judicially committed for nonemergency involuntary inpatient treatment unless one of the certificates of need (CON) is filed by a physician, psychologist or qualified advanced practice provider with experience with children.
- T.C.A. §§ 33-6-403; 33-6-421; 33-6-502; 33-6-5031
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



DUI Blood Alcohol Concentration

PC1011: (Rose/Gant)

- Lowers the threshold for enhancing the minimum sentence of driving under the influence from a blood alcohol concentration of .20 percent or more to a blood alcohol concentration of .15 percent or more.
- T.C.A. §§ 55-10-400; 55-10-402; 69-9-200
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



Part III
Civil Proceedings /
Family Law



Revision to Adoption Bill



PC996: (Haile/Leatherwood)

- If child is 4 years old or more, then the time-period is the 4 consecutive months immediately preceding the filing of a petition to terminate. If the child is less than 4 years old, the time-period is three consecutive months immediately preceding the filing.
- “Putative father” includes one that has not been excluded by DNA testing, is not a legal parent, *and* has filed with putative father registry, claimed to be father/paid support, lived openly with child as father *or* has permanency plan.
- Allows for certain payments of reasonable charges or fees in connection to an adoption during pregnancy and up to 90 days after birth or surrender.
- An adult has an affirmative obligation to inquire whether their sexual activity has resulted in a pregnancy and a failure to inquire does not serve as a defense to termination grounds.
- Sworn consent of a child 14 years of age and older must be received by the court and recited in an adoption order. The court must receive the consent and testimony from the child in chambers, if requested by the child.
- In contested matters, a scheduling conference is scheduled within 30 days of the filing of answer. Court must give the case priority in setting a final hearing of the proceeding and must be heard at the earliest possible date over all other civil litigation other than child protective services cases.
- T.C.A. §§ 36-1-100; 36-1-109; 36-1-111; 36-1-112; 36-1-113; 36-1-114; 36-1-116; 36-1-117; 36-1-119; 36-1-122; 36-1-150; 36-2-318; 37-2-403
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



Revision to Adoption Bill



- Surrender not valid if surrendering party states a desire to receive legal or social counseling until the request is satisfied or withdrawn. Surrender Form must include “The judge or other officiant has also advised me that I have the right to a lawyer”.
- Surrender is valid only if a home study of adoptive parents is available to and reviewed by a court, which must produce a report.
- Surrender may be made at any time prior to birth. A surrender made prior to the birth of a child is not filed with the court until after the birth of the child along with written reaffirmation of surrendering party’s desire to surrender the child. Reaffirmation must be made within 3 calendar days of the birth of the child. Surrender must be made after the earlier of discharge from a hospital or 48 hours following the child's birth (may be waived by the court may, for good cause shown).



Revision to Adoption Bill



- Additional termination grounds against a person who is not a legal parent at the time of the filing of an adoption petition:
 - (i) person has failed, without good cause or excuse, to make reasonable and consistent payments for the support of the child;
 - (ii) person has failed to seek or exercise reasonable visitation with the child or has engaged in only token visitation;
 - (iii) person has failed to manifest an ability and willingness to assume legal and physical custody of the child;
 - (iv) placing custody of the child in person's legal and physical custody would pose a risk of substantial harm to the physical or psychological welfare of the child; or
 - (v) person has failed to file a petition to establish paternity of the child within 30 days after notice of alleged paternity, or after making a claim of paternity.
- Additional grounds for termination against unlawful Father:
 - (A) Father engaged in act of unlawful sexual penetration against child's mother by which the child was conceived; or
 - (B) Father engaged in an act against the child's mother that resulted in the child's conception and the father's conviction for or plea of guilty to a criminal offense.
- Authorizes a termination of parental rights and a finalization of an adoption may be heard and decided in the same hearing if the court determines it is in the best interest of the child.



Termination of Parental Rights – Substantial Noncompliance

PC652: (White/Butler)

- Requires DCS to petition to terminate the parental rights within 90 days of a juvenile court's finding that the parent or guardian has been substantially noncompliant with the statement of responsibilities in the child's permanency plan.
- T.C.A. §§ 36-1-113; 37-2-400; 37-2-409
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



Grandparent Visitation

PC715: (Jackson/Eldridge)

- Defines reasonable visitation with regard to grandparent visitation as being sufficient contact to reasonably permit a strong and meaningful relationship to be established with the child as a minimum.
- T.C.A. §§ 36-6-306; 36-6-307
- **Effective date: 4/01/2024**



Families' Rights and Responsibilities Act

PC1061: (Haile/Faison)

- All parental rights exclusively reserved to a parent of a child without obstruction by or interference from a government entity unless abuse, neglect, or endanger a child occurs.
- Medical procedures done on a child must be done with notification and consent of the parent.
- Parents have the right to be notified promptly if an employee of the state reasonably believes that abuse, neglect or any criminal offense has been committed against the child by someone other than the parent, unless entity is required by law to withhold such information.
- Parents have the right to consent before any government entity makes a video or voice recording of the child, unless the video or voice recording is made during or as a part of a law enforcement interaction, instead of a law enforcement investigation.
- T.C.A. §§ 29-26-116; 36-8-101; 36-8-102; 36-8-103; 36-8-104; 39-15-401; 49-1-704; 49-1-706; 49-2-137; 49-2-211; 63-1-100; 63-1-173; 63-6-200; 63-6-218; 63-6-222; 63-6-249; 63-11-202; 63-22-122; 68-140-309
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



Parent's Right to Unimpeded Phone Conversations

PC711: (Ferrell/Grills)

- Expands the right to unimpeded telephone calls to twice a week at reasonable times within the parenting plan with the parent's child to include video conference conversations if available.
- T.C.A. § 36-6-101
- **Effective date: 4/01/2024**



Foster and Adoptive Parent Protection Act

PC677: (Rose/Littleton)

- Prohibits DCS from the following when considering foster or adoptive placement:
 - (1) Requiring a current or prospective adoptive or foster parent to affirm, accept, or support any government policy regarding sexual orientation or gender identity that conflicts with their sincerely held religious or moral beliefs;
 - (2) Denying a parent's eligibility to foster or adopt based, in whole or in part, upon their sincerely held religious or moral beliefs regarding sexual orientation or gender identity; and
 - (3) Establishing or enforcing a standard, rule, or policy that precludes consideration of a parent for a placement based, in whole or in part, upon the parent's sincerely held religious or moral beliefs regarding sexual orientation or gender identity.

Such beliefs do not create a presumption that any particular placement is contrary to the best interest of the child.

- T.C.A. §§ 37-6-101; 37-6-102; 37-6-102

- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



Reimbursement as a Relative Caregiver



PC574: (Johnson/Lamberth)

- Expands the eligibility for reimbursement as a relative caregiver by removing the income limitations and including a relative caregiver who meets the eligibility requirements and has been awarded custody by an order of any court.
- T.C.A. § 37-1-102; 37-2-417; 37-2-422; 37-2-604
- **Effective date: 3/15/2024**



Children Autopsies

PC881: (Powers/Littleton)

- Requires establishment of policies and procedures for the prioritization of the completion of final autopsy reports for fatalities or near fatalities of:
 - 1) any child in DCS custody;
 - 2) any child who is subject of a child protective services investigation or has been subject of investigation within 45 days preceding fatality or near fatality; or
 - 3) any child whose fatality or near fatality resulted in an investigation of the safety and well-being of any other child in the home.
- T.C.A. §§ 37-3-803; 37-5-124; 38-7-105
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



No Assistance with Gender-Affirming Healthcare

PC1064: (Bowling/Richey)

- Creates a civil cause of action for parents of an unemancipated minor who has sought “gender-affirming care” and has been “recruited, harbored, or transported” by another.
- That the minor consented is not a defense.
- T.C.A. §§ 39-15-400; 68-33-0; 68-33-103; 63-33-104; 63-33-105
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**

NOTE: As of the effective date of this legislation, the prohibitions of Chapter 33 are the subject of litigation pending before the United States Supreme Court.



Prohibits Immunization Requirement

PC699: (Watson/Gant)



- Prohibits DCS from requiring immunization as a condition of adopting or overseeing a child in foster care if an individual or member of an individual's household objects to immunization on the basis of religious or moral convictions.
- T.C.A. §§ 36-1-148; 37-2-419
- **Effective date: 3/25/2024**



Orders of Protection

PC632: (Rose/Lamberth)

- Expands the eligibility for filing a petition to obtain a *lifetime order of protection* to include victims of aggravated stalking, especially aggravated stalking, and felony harassment.
- T.C.A. §§ 36-3-608; 36-3-627; 39-13-100; 39-17-308
- **Effective date: 4/02/2024**

PC751: (Jackson/Littleton)

- Specifies that an order of protection related to allegations of *domestic abuse* remains in effect *during the appeal* unless the order expires by operation of law.
- T.C.A. §§ 36-3-600; 36-3-601
- **Effective date: 4/22/2024**



Minor Victims of Trafficking for Commercial Sex Acts

PC790: (Johnson/McCalmon)

- *Trafficking for a Commercial Sex Act* – If victim was a minor, a person (i) knowingly subjects or attempts to subject, benefits from, or attempts to benefit from the victim's provision of a commercial sex act; or (ii) recruits, entices, harbors, transports, provides, purchases, or obtains by any other means the victim for the purpose of providing a commercial sex act.
- Changes the statute of limitations to bring a civil action for an injury or illness based on trafficking for a commercial sex act that occurred but was not discovered at the time of the commercial sex act from within three years from the time discovery of the abuse by the injured person to within 30 years from the date the person becomes 18.
- T.C.A. §§ 28-3-104; 28-3-116
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



Part IV
Miscellaneous



Non-Compliant Juvenile Court Reporting

PC685: (Walley/Littleton)

- Requires AOC to submit a report listing:
 1. Each juvenile court, if any, that is not in compliance with statewide data collection requirements;
 2. Dates of non-compliance; AND
 3. Steps that could be taken to bring the court into compliance.
- Due by October 1 of each year.
- Report must be submitted the chairs of the judiciary committee of the senate and the civil justice committee of the house of representatives and to the non-compliant juvenile courts.
- T.C.A. § 37-1-187
- **Effective date: 4/01/2024**



Child Protective Teams Data Sharing

PC559: (Haile/Littleton)

- Permits the District Attorneys General Conference, the Administrative Office of the Courts, the Tennessee Chapter of Children's Advocacy Centers, the Department of Children's Services, and law enforcement agencies to enter into data sharing agreements that allow for the sharing of information necessary to ensure compliance with statutory reporting requirements.
- Specifies that data shared pursuant to an agreement retains its confidential status consistent with current law.
- T.C.A. §§ 9-4-200; 9-4-213; 37-1-607; 37-1-612
- **Effective date: 3/12/2024**



Age-Appropriate Materials Act of 2022 (Rev.)

PC782: (Hensley/Lynn)

- New provisions require materials in a “library collection” to “be suitable for the age and maturity levels of the students who may access the materials.”
- Materials that “in whole or in part contains nudity, or descriptions or depictions of sexual excitement, sexual conduct, excess violence, or sadomasochistic abuse...must not be maintained in a school’s library collection.”
- T.C.A. §§ 39-17-900; 39-17-901; 49-6-2201; 49-6-3803; 49-7-2701
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



School SROs

PC729: (Hensley/Warner)

- Authorizes a law enforcement agency to assign an SRO to a school even absent a written memorandum of understanding between school and law enforcement agency for the provision of SROs.
- Law enforcement agency must notify director schools of such an assignment.
- T.C.A. §§ 49-6-800; 49-6-815; 49-6-4202
- **Effective date: 7/01/2024**



Right to Bail – Constitutional Amendment

HJR89: (Sexton)

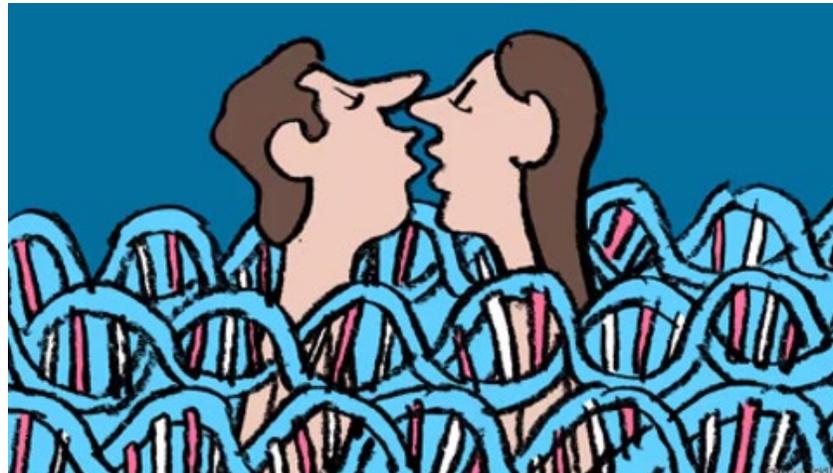
- Proposed Constitutional amendment to Article I, Section 15 of the Constitution of Tennessee to remove the right to bail for the following offenses when the proof is evident or the presumption great: act of terrorism, second degree murder, aggravated rape of a child, aggravated rape, grave torture, and any other 100% sentence offense, as of November 3, 2026 (long list of violent crimes).
- Must go through another legislative session, then will be on the gubernatorial ballot in 2026.



No Marrying Your First Cousins

PC806: (Yarbro/Jernigan)

- Expands the list of prohibited degrees of relationships to include marriage between first cousins.
- T.C.A. § 36-3-101
- **Effective date: 4/29/2024**



Any Questions – Please Contact:

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