

2023 Legislative Summary

To view a bill from this list, [click here](#).

Mental Health Related Legislation

SB0953/HB0690 Medical Occupations - As enacted, authorizes the board of examiners in psychology to designate as a health service provider in this state, a person who has held a valid license or certificate to practice psychology in another state under certain conditions.

Public Chapter: 173

SB0350/HB0294 Education, Higher - As enacted, expands the Save Tennessee Students Act to require public institutions of higher education that issue new student identification cards to students enrolled in the institution to include certain contact information for crisis and suicide prevention resources on the cards; requires the institutions to post certain contact information for crisis and suicide prevention resources in a conspicuous place on each campus operated by the institution.

Public Chapter: 190

SB0672/HB1051 Mental Illness - As enacted, authorizes certain licensed advanced practice nurses and physician assistants to execute a certificate of need if a person is admitted and detained by a hospital or treatment resource for emergency diagnosis, evaluation, and treatment; makes other revisions to the execution of certificates of need.

Public Chapter: 199

SB0721/HB0498 Health Care - As enacted, exempts a patient receiving an initial behavioral health evaluation via telehealth from the requirement that a patient have an in-person encounter with a healthcare services provider, the healthcare services

provider's practice group, or the healthcare system within 16 months prior to an interactive visit in order to establish a provider-patient relationship for purposes of telehealth; allows a physician assistant who is authorized to prescribe drugs and who provides services solely via telehealth to arrange for chart review by a collaborating physician via HIPAA-compliant electronic means.

Public Chapter: 201

SB0183/HB0398 **Juvenile Offenders** - As enacted, requires mental health evaluation and treatment for juveniles who commit aggravated animal cruelty under certain circumstances.

Public Chapter: 334

SB0274/HB0322 **Education** - As enacted, revises various provisions of present law relative to safety in elementary and secondary education and the Schools Against Violence in Education Act.

Public Chapter: 367

SB0856/HB0976 **Firefighters** - As enacted, enacts the "James 'Dustin' Samples Act."

- PTSD related injury incurred in the line of duty is compensable under Workers' Compensation Law

Public Chapter: 465

Substance Abuse/Controlled Substances Related Legislation

SB0256/HB0075 **Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation** - As enacted, authorizes the responding law enforcement officer or the district attorney general's office to use their discretion when extending criminal immunity to persons who are experiencing a subsequent drug overdose and who are seeking medical assistance.

- Administration Bill
- Legislative proposal from the Statewide Planning and Policy Council

Public Chapter: 41

SB0328/HB0144 **Criminal Offenses** - As enacted, changes from 25 to 17 the number of days of incarceration a person convicted of a second offense of driving under the influence of an intoxicant must serve before the person can participate in a substance

abuse treatment program; requires a person charged with or convicted of a third or subsequent offense of driving under the influence of an intoxicant involving the use of alcohol to wear a transdermal alcohol monitoring device for a 90-day period of continuous sobriety.

Public Chapter: [116](#)

SB0362/HB0412 Expunction - As enacted, authorizes the expunction of public records regarding a motor vehicle operator's refusal to submit to breath and blood tests to determine alcohol or drug content of a motor vehicle operator's blood under certain circumstances.

Public Chapter: [137](#)

SB2555/HB2376 Opioids - As enacted, permanently extends the present law that establishes limitations on the prescription of opioids and authorizes the promulgation of rules related to the calculation of those limitations and makes other changes relative to opioids.

Public Chapter: [188](#)

SB0329/HB0514 Health Care - As enacted, revises law requiring the governor to appoint three members to the medical cannabis commission, such that at least one member must be a patient who has been diagnosed with a qualifying medical disease or condition and who can establish the diagnosis for purposes of appointment to and service on the commission with a valid letter of attestation.

Public Chapter: [258](#)

SB0859/HB0982 Controlled Substances - As enacted, protects a person's statement regarding the use or possession of marijuana to certain licensed health providers that was made in the course or scope of the person's medical care for the purpose of obtaining medical advice on possible adverse effects of marijuana use in combination with other medications or medical treatment from being admissible as evidence in any criminal trial, hearing, or proceeding in which the person is a defendant; authorizes the person to expressly waive such protection.

Public Chapter: [270](#)

SB0720/HB0458 Boats, Boating - As enacted, revises various provisions of present law concerning the offense of boating under the influence.

Public Chapter: [383](#)

SB0193/HB0702 **Controlled Substances** - As enacted, enacts the "One Pill Will Kill Act," which adds fentanyl, carfentanil, remifentanil, alfentanil, and thiafentanil to what constitutes a qualifying controlled substance for purposes of certain felony offenses
Public Chapter: 386

SB1398/HB1242 **Criminal Offenses** – As enacted, makes it a Class A misdemeanor to knowingly possess xylazine; makes it a Class C felony to knowingly manufacture, deliver, or sell xylazine, or to knowingly possess xylazine with intent to manufacture, deliver, or sell xylazine; provides exceptions for veterinarians.
Public Chapter: 412

SB0378/HB0403 **Consumer Protection** – As enacted, regulates the production and sale of hemp-derived cannabinoids, including products known as delta-8 and delta-10.
Public Chapter: 423

SB0637/HB1367 **Attorney General and Reporter** – As enacted, adds additional companies to the statewide opioid settlement agreement for which the attorney general and reporter has the authority to release pending or future claims.
Public Chapter: 429

General Health/Health Insurance/Health Administration Related Legislation

SB0011/HB0002 **Public Health** - As enacted, makes permanent various provisions regarding COVID-19.
Public Chapter: 48

SB0680/HB0895 **TennCare** - As enacted, clarifies that the Medical Assistance Act of 1968 does not require a vendor, healthcare provider, or telehealth provider group that provides healthcare services exclusively via telehealth to have a physical address or site in this state in order to be eligible to enroll as a vendor, provider, or provider group for the medical assistance program.
Public Chapter: 55

SB0679/HB0803 Medical Occupations - As enacted, expands the types of medication a certified medical assistant may administer and prepare as ordered by an authorized healthcare provider.

Public Chapter: 94

SB1225/HB0556 Elder Abuse - As enacted, requires that court clerks notify the health facilities commission, instead of the department of health, when an offender is to be placed on the registry of persons who have been determined to have abused, neglected, misappropriated, or exploited the property of vulnerable individuals; requires that such notice is given within 90 days of conviction of the offense.

Public Chapter: 103

SB0560/HB0584 Hospitals and Health Care Facilities - As enacted, authorizes a hospital, or an affiliated entity of the hospital, to employ an emergency physician to treat patients at a satellite emergency department, or a physician to treat patients at a primary care clinic or urgent care clinic, which is located in this state, if certain conditions are met.

Public Chapter: 196

SB0289/HB2148 TennCare - As enacted, enacts the "Annual Coverage Assessment Act of 2023."

Public Chapter: 232

SB0292/HB0275 Public Health - As enacted, applies on a statewide basis, rather than only in Nashville, Chattanooga, Knoxville, and Memphis, the distance parameter for the prohibition on needle and hypodermic syringe exchange programs being operated within 1,000 feet of a school or public park; removes the distance parameter of 2,000 feet that presently applies on a statewide basis outside those four cities; provided, however, that such a program established in Kingsport must not conduct an exchange within 2,000 feet of a school or public park.

Public Chapter: 256

SB0924/HB0577 Sentencing - As enacted, adds as a factor the court may consider for the purpose of enhancing a defendant's sentence upon conviction of a criminal offense, consideration of whether the defendant committed the offense of aggravated assault or attempted first degree murder on grounds or premises defined as a healthcare facility.

Public Chapter: 306

SB1345/HB1503 Insurance Companies, Agents, Brokers, Policies - As enacted, requires the commissioner of commerce and insurance to conduct a study on the implementation of the federal No Surprises Act and its implications for physicians and healthcare facilities in this state; revises present law concerning network adequacy.

Public Chapter [352](#)

SB1443/HB0727 Local Education Agencies - As enacted, requires a student's parent or legal guardian, or the student if the student has reached the age of majority, to provide certain consent before the student may engage in certain activities at school.

Public Chapter: [353](#)

SB0073/HB1181 Consumer Protection - As enacted, enacts the "Tennessee Information Protection Act."

Public Chapter: [408](#)

SB0781/HB1281 Scholarships and Financial Aid - As enacted, establishes a family medicine student loan repayment grant program to incentivize physicians in residency training to provide medical health services in health resource shortage areas following completion of their training.

Public Chapter: [414](#)

SB0458/HB0496 Health Care - As enacted, requires certain health related boards to either render a decision on the application or inform the applicant of the need to appear before such board within 60 days from the date the respective board receives a completed application for licensure from either an initial applicant or an applicant who is licensed in another state or territory of the United States or in the District of Columbia.

Public Chapter: [426](#)

SB0219/HB0271 Health Care - As enacted, establishes certain rules regarding certified psychological testing technicians.

Public Chapter: [442](#)

SB0296/HB0779 Medical Occupations - As enacted, requires the board of medical examiners, the board of osteopathic examination, board of nursing, board of physician assistants, and board of alcohol and drug abuse counselors, when such board receives a completed application for licensure from an applicant who is licensed in another state or territory of the United States or in the District of Columbia, to, within 45 days from the date the board receives the completed application, render a decision on the application or inform the applicant of the need to appear before the board.

Public Chapter: 443

SB1111/HB1380 Public Health - As enacted, enacts the "Mature Minor Doctrine Clarification Act."
Public Chapter: 477

State Government Related Legislation

SB0051/HB0217 Sunset Laws - As enacted, extends the professional art therapist advisory committee of the board of examiners in psychology to June 30, 2024.
Public Chapter: 9

SB0052/HB0218 Sunset Laws - As enacted, extends the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact Act to June 30, 2031.
Public Chapter: 10

SB0036/HB0202 Sunset Laws - As enacted, extends the controlled substance database committee to June 30, 2027.
Public Chapter: 29

SB0033/HB0199 Sunset Laws - As enacted, extends the board of nursing to June 30, 2027
Public Chapter: 31

SB0034/HB0200 Sunset Laws - As enacted, extends the board of pharmacy to June 30, 2027.
Public Chapter: 32

SB0048/HB0214 Sunset Laws - As enacted, extends the medical cannabis commission to June 30, 2025.
Public Chapter: 33

SB0029/HB0195 Sunset Laws - As enacted, extends the board for professional counselors, marital and family therapists, and clinical pastoral therapists to June 30, 2027.

Public Chapter: 70

SB0032/HB0198 **Sunset Laws** - As enacted, extends the board of medical examiners to June 30, 2027
Public Chapter: 71

SB0038/HB0204 **Sunset Laws** - As enacted, extends the department of commerce and insurance to June 30, 2027
Public Chapter: 72

SB0042/HB0208 **Sunset Laws** - As enacted, extends the department of intellectual and developmental disabilities to June 30, 2027
Public Chapter: 75

SB0063/HB0229 **Sunset Laws** - As enacted, extends the Tennessee opioid abatement council to June 30, 2025.
Public Chapter: 79

SB0218/HB0374 **Sports** - As enacted, moves administrative regulation of the Fantasy Sports Act from the office of the secretary of state to the sports wagering advisory council.
Public Chapter: 143

SB0040/HB0206 **Sunset Laws** - As enacted, extends the department of health to June 30, 2027.
Public Chapter: 156

SB0775/HB1162 **Arbitration** - As enacted, makes various revisions to the "Uniform Arbitration Act."
Public Chapter: 319

SB0037/HB0203 **Sunset Laws** - As enacted, extends the department of children's services to June 30, 2024; requires the department to submit quarterly reports to the chairs of the government operations committees to provide updates on the department's progress in addressing performance audit findings; requires the department to appear before the education, health, and general welfare joint evaluation committee no later than June 30, 2023, to present information included in the department's six-month follow-up report submitted to the comptroller of the treasury.
Public Chapter: 331

SB0068/HB0234 **Administrative Procedure (UAPA)** - As enacted, continues permanent rules filed with the secretary of state between January 1, 2022, and December 31, 2022, that are in effect on the effective date of this act until repealed or amended by subsequent rule of the appropriate rulemaking agency or until otherwise superseded by legislative enactment.

Public Chapter: 332

SB1532/HB1545 **Appropriations** - As enacted, makes appropriations for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2022, and July 1, 2023.

Public Chapter: 418

SB1230/HB1043 **Gaming** - As enacted, requires the department of mental health and substance abuse services to use funds distributed from revenue received from sports gaming to provide treatment services for juvenile addiction and mental health disorders secondary to providing services for gambling addiction and gambling disorders.

Public Chapter: 482

SR0018 **General Assembly, Review Or Ratification of Rules** - Ratifies and approves the amendments and revisions to the Tennessee Rules of Civil Procedure, as promulgated and adopted by the Supreme Court.

SR0019 **General Assembly, Review Or Ratification of Rules** - Ratifies and approves the amendments and revisions to the Tennessee Rules of Criminal Procedure, as promulgated and adopted by the Supreme Court.

HR0007 **General Assembly, Review Or Ratification of Rules** - Ratifies and approves the amendments and revisions to the Tennessee Rules of Civil Procedure, as promulgated by the Supreme Court.

HR0008 **General Assembly, Review Or Ratification of Rules** - Ratifies and approves the amendments and revisions to the Tennessee Rules of Criminal Procedure as promulgated and adopted by the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Miscellaneous Legislation

SB1004/HB0450 Expunction - As enacted, allows a defendant or defendant's counsel, in addition to a judge or district attorney general, to request a certificate from the Tennessee bureau of investigation relative to a defendant's eligibility for pretrial diversion.

Public Chapter: 35

SB0190/HB0340 Education - As enacted, requires a student to be considered in violation of a zero tolerance offense and be expelled for not less than one calendar year, except that a director of schools may modify such expulsion on a case-by-case basis, for threatening mass violence on school property or at a school-related activity.

Public Chapter: 299

SB1068/HB1000 Expunction - As enacted, makes various changes relative to expunction.

Public Chapter: 315

SB0013/HB0026 Fines and Penalties - As enacted, prohibits a court clerk, upon request by an individual on a payment or installment plan, from requiring the individual to pay outstanding court-assessed fines, fees, taxes, or costs arising from a criminal proceeding during the 180-day period following the individual's release from a term of imprisonment sentence of one year or more for a felony offense; excludes from this provision restitution owed to a victim and certain fines, fees, taxes, or costs that have been sent to a collection agency.

Public Chapter: 329

SB1001/HB0831 Tennessee Bureau of Investigations - As enacted, requires the bureau to develop a request for certification form to be completed by the court and submitted to the bureau prior to entering an order of expunction, with a few exceptions; requires the bureau to determine and certify whether a submitted offense is eligible for expunction; prohibits entry of an order of expunction on or after January 1, 2024, unless a certificate of eligibility from the bureau is attached to the order of expunction.

Public Chapter: 392

SB1420/HB0905 Judges and Chancellors - As enacted, adds one additional criminal court judge in the thirteenth judicial district, one additional circuit court judge in the nineteenth judicial district, and one additional circuit court judge in the twenty-second judicial district.

