

Legislative Report

Council on Children's Mental Health

February 22, 2018

CRIMINAL LAW

SB1636/HB1706 Increases age restrictions for tobacco and vapor-related products.

Sponsors: Sen. Yarbrow, Jeff , Rep. Jernigan, Darren

Summary: Increases age restrictions for tobacco and vapor-related products from 18 years of age to 19 years of age.

SB1735/HB1719 Authority of a magistrate to issue a temporary order of protection.

Sponsors: Sen. Kelsey, Brian , Rep. Lamberth, William

Summary: Requires the judge to establish probable relating to domestic abuse offenses where the victim is caused serious bodily injury, or a deadly weapon was displayed. The judge then may impose a 12-hour hold period against the offender and victim notification requirements. A no contact order may be issued prior to release on bond.

SB1850/HB1867 Expands Non-Smoker Protection Act to include vaping.

Sponsors: Sen. Haile, Ferrell , Rep. Dunn, Bill

Summary: Expands the definition of smoking to include vaping in the Non-Smoker Protection Act.

SB1943/HB1982 Gender identity as sentencing enhancement for hate crimes.

Sponsors: Sen. Kyle, Sara , Rep. Jones, Sherry

Summary: STATE SUMMARY - As introduced, adds gender identity to the list of victim characteristics in hate crime as an enhancement factor in sentencing.

SB2258/HB1832 Scheduling of controlled substances and their analogues and derivatives.

Sponsors: Sen. Norris, Mark , Rep. Hawk, David

Summary: Includes the director of the Tennessee bureau of investigation in the process of revising and republishing of the annual schedule of dangerous drugs. Excludes certain drugs from the schedule. Updates the list of drugs and common names for drugs to be categorizes in schedules. Allows for sentence reduction credits to prisoners after successfully completing intensive treatment for substance use. Part of administration package.

SB2277/HB2043 Rape of a person with an intellectual disability.

Sponsors: Sen. Pody, Mark , Rep. Deberry Jr., John

Summary: STATE SUMMARY - As introduced, increases punishment, from Class B felony to Class A felony Range II offender, for defendant convicted of rape of a person with an intellectual disability.

SB2298/HB2226 Maximum sentence for person convicted of an offense that occurred when the person was a minor.

Sponsors: Sen. Harris, Lee , Rep. Jones, Sherry

Summary: Reduces a life sentence to 15 years for a person charged as a minor. Eligibility of parole for a minor sentenced to 15 years is 5 years time served. Increases from 25 to 51 years the amount of time served in order to be eligible for parole after being sentenced to life as an adult.

SB2313/HB2323 Sexual offenders residential restrictions.

Sponsors: Sen. Southerland, Steve , Rep. Goins, Tilman

Summary: Requires a convicted sexual offender from living or working within 1,000 feet of a school, day care center, or a public park.

SB2405/HB2606 Requires department of children's services to develop instruction guidelines for child safety programs.

Sponsors: Sen. Kyle, Sara , Rep. Hardaway, G.A.

Summary: Requires the department of children's services to develop instructional guidelines by January 1, 2019 for child safety training programs for members of professions that frequently deal with children who may be at risk of abuse. Requires the department to work with each licensing board to ensure that the child safety training program created by the board fully and accurately reflects the best practices for identifying and report child abuse and child sexual abuse as appropriate for each profession.

SB2624/HB2428 Transporting of juveniles to an assessment center.

Sponsors: Sen. Norris, Mark , Rep. White, Mark

Summary: Authorizes a law enforcement officer to transport a juvenile in custody to a juvenile assessment center unless a juvenile is in custody for certain offenses.

EDUCATION

SB1510/HB2164 Family life curriculum - child sexual abuse prevention instruction.

Sponsors: Sen. Massey, Becky , Rep. Moody, Debra

Summary: Requires family life curriculum to include instruction on the detection, intervention, prevention and treatment of child sexual abuse. Extends immunity from a cause of action to instructors or organizations providing such instruction in accordance with state law.

SB1626/HB1460 Requirements for recovery high schools.

Sponsors: Sen. Gresham, Dolores , Rep. Smith, Eddie

Summary: Allows LEAs to establish a recovery high school to serve eligible students starting in the 2018-2019 school year.

SB1666/HB1583 Education of children in state custody.

Sponsors: Sen. Dickerson, Steven , Rep. Kane, Roger

Summary: Requires the department of children's services to provide a residential mental health facility that contracts with the department for provision of services to children in state custody education funding equal to the average daily rate of education funding. Specifies that in order to receive such funding the mental health facility must be approved to operate as a Category I special purpose school pursuant to state board of education rules and regulations and must provide a minimum of sixteen and one-half hours per week of education instruction to the students admitted.

SB1947/HB2331 Report on use of corporal punishment.

Sponsors: Sen. Crowe, Rusty , Rep. Powell, Jason

Summary: STATE SUMMARY - As introduced, requires each LEA to submit annually a report to the department of education detailing the LEA's use of corporal punishment; requires the department of education to report the number of instances of corporal punishment on its

website.

SB1969/HB2628 Creation of policy to provide special education services to students with documented learning disabilities.

Sponsors: Sen. Harper, Thelma , Rep. Turner, Johnnie

Summary: Requires the governing board of each state university, the trustees of the University of Tennessee, and the board of regents to create a policy to provide special education services to students with documented learning disabilities and special needs. Specifies that the policy shall require each state institution of higher education to provide, at a minimum, tutoring services and career placement guidance for students with learning disabilities.

SB2031/HB2101 Eligibility Verification for Entitlements Act - postsecondary education benefit.

Sponsors: Sen. Green, Mark , Rep. Terry, Bryan

Summary: Expands the definition of state or local public benefit to include any postsecondary education benefit where a governmental entity provided payments or assistance to an individual, household, or family.

SB2144/HB2431 Authorizes study of children in child care programs in schools.

Sponsors: Sen. Haile, Ferrell , Rep. White, Mark

Summary: Authorizes the office of research and accountability to study the participation of children in after school child care programs.

SB2196/HB2272 Social workers at LEA's.

Sponsors: Sen. Swann, Art , Rep. Pitts, Joe

Summary: Requires each local education agency to employ one licensed social worker in every school to conduct classes in any grade from K-12.

SB2218/HB2651 Establishes commission on the school-to-prison pipeline and restorative practices.

Sponsors: Sen. Tate, Reginald , Rep. Camper, Karen

Summary: Establishes a commission to study the school-to-prison pipeline and restorative practices. Lists the composition and membership of the commission. Calls for the department of education to brief the commission on disciplinary data and student arrests by October 1, 2018. Requires the commission to report on the findings to the governor and general assembly on April 1, 2019.

SB2249/HB1824 Division of rehabilitation services - requirements concerning services offered.

Sponsors: Sen. Norris, Mark , Rep. Hawk, David

Summary: Authorizes the division of rehabilitation services with approval from the commissioner to contract with public and private entities to provide rehabilitation services. Authorizes the division of rehabilitation services to create a rehabilitation center at Smyrna.

SB2263/HB2429 Exemptions to out-of-state tuition.

Sponsors: Sen. Gardenhire, Todd , Rep. White, Mark

Summary: Exempts an individual from paying out-of-state tuition at a state institution of higher education if the individual meets certain requirements outlined in the bill. Excludes international students and trainees who are non-immigrants.

SB2326/HB2629 Instructional guidelines for child safety training programs.

Sponsors: Sen. Kyle, Sara , Rep. Turner, Johnnie

Summary: Requires the department of children’s services to declare rules to include instructional guidelines by January 1, 2019, for child safety training programs for teachers to train them on the common signs of child abuse and child sexual abuse, how to identify children at risk, and the reporting requirements. Requires the child safety training program to be included in the in-service training for teachers and will be required prior to the issuance of a license or licensure renewal.

SB2330/HB2330 Corporal punishment against a disabled students.

Sponsors: Sen. Kyle, Sara , Rep. Powell, Jason

Summary: Prohibits the use of corporal punishment against a student with defined disabilities.

SB2545/HB2516 Annual implicit bias in-service training for school personnel.

Sponsors: Sen. Tate, Reginald , Rep. Akbari, Raumesh

Summary: Requires all school personnel to receive annual implicit bias in-service training in order to deliver more equitable education to all students. Requires the department of education to develop a model evidence-based bias reducing program to be used by school personnel. Authorizes the LEA to develop its own program to be approved by the commissioner. Requires students desiring a license to teach to complete implicit bias training.

SB2569/HB2582 In-state tuition eligibility.

Sponsors: Sen. Hensley, Joey , Rep. Ragan, John

Summary: Requires the board of regents and each state university board to classify a student as an in-state student for the purposes of tuition only if the student is a Tennessee citizen.

SB2571/HB2060 Pilot program to improve parent-teacher engagement.

Sponsors: Sen. Hensley, Joey , Rep. Smith, Eddie

Summary: Requires the department of education to establish a three-year pilot program in six public schools to improve parent-teacher engagement in any grade from kindergarten through grade two beginning with the 2018-2019 school year. Sets criteria for the selection of the six public schools. Trains participating schools in the summer before the program starts using a best practices model. Requires the department to submit an annual report on the outcomes of the pilot program to the education committee of the senate and to the education administration and planning committee of the house or representatives no later than July 31, 2019 for the first year of the pilot program, and no later than July 31 of each remaining year.

FAMILY LAW

SB1887/HB2193 Notice regarding home visits by DCS.

Sponsors: Sen. Massey, Becky , Rep. Littleton, Mary

Summary: Prohibits DCS from providing more than 24 hours' notice of a home visit if the department determines a home visit is necessary to assist in an assessment of a child and family after a report of harm to the child.

SB1931/HB2019 Foster Care Support and Continuity Act.

Sponsors: Sen. Massey, Becky , Rep. Ramsey, Bob

Summary: STATE SUMMARY: As introduced, enacts the "Foster Care Support and Continuity Act." -

Amends TCA Title 36 and Title 37.

SB2085/HB1931 Kinship care - reimbursement by DCS.

Sponsors: Sen. Kyle, Sara , Rep. Staples, Rick

Summary: Authorizes DCS to give a relative caregiver payment for the full foster care rate for the care of a child even if the child has not been placed in state custody under certain conditions. Defines "relative caregiver" to mean a natural person within a first, second, or third degree of relationship to the parent or the step-parent of the child.

SB2137/HB2224 Requirements for interviews in child abuse investigation cases.

Sponsors: Sen. Kyle, Sara , Rep. Jones, Sherry

Summary: Requires an investigator interviewing a child outside the presence of the parents or other person allegedly responsible for the harm and will interview the child in a neutral setting whenever possible. Requires an investigator to conduct with the interview with the presumption that any information provided by the child is truthful, which may be rebutted only by a preponderance of the evidence to the contrary.

SB2248/HB1823 Health insurance coverage as part of child support.

Sponsors: Sen. Norris, Mark , Rep. Hawk, David

Summary: Allows the court to require either party to pay health insurance as part of child support.

SB2404/HB2605 Instructional guidelines for child safety training programs for members in professions working with children.

Sponsors: Sen. Kyle, Sara , Rep. Hardaway, G.A.

Summary: Requires the department of children's services to develop instructional guidelines for child safety training programs for members of professions that frequently deal with children who may be at risk of abuse. Instructs the board of social worker licensure to use the instructional guidelines to create child safety training programs to train the professionals on the common signs of child abuse and child sexual abuse and how to identify children at risk. Requires the department to work with the board of social worker licensure to ensure that the child safety training program fully and accurately reflects the best practices for identifying and reporting child abuse as appropriate for each profession. Requires any professional seeking license renewal from the board of social worker licensure after July 1, 2019, to complete a child safety training program prior to being granted a renewal.

GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION

SB1527/HB1621 Sunset - council on children's mental health care.

Sponsors: Sen. Bell, Mike , Rep. Faison, Jeremy

Summary: Extends the council on children's mental health care for four years to June 30, 2022.

SB1531/HB1625 Sunset - department of intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Sponsors: Sen. Bell, Mike , Rep. Faison, Jeremy

Summary: Extends the department of intellectual and developmental disabilities for four years to June 30, 2022. Requires the department to report back to the committee concerning the findings in its 2017 performance audit report.

SB1537/HB1645 Sunset - dyslexia advisory council.

Sponsors: Sen. Bell, Mike , Rep. Faison, Jeremy
Summary: Extends the dyslexia advisory council for two years to June 30, 2020.

SB1554/HB1632 Sunset - statewide community services agency.

Sponsors: Sen. Bell, Mike , Rep. Faison, Jeremy
Summary: Extends the statewide community services agency for three years to June 30, 2021.

HEALTH CARE

SB1718/HB1795 Adds community mental health centers to definition of healthcare organization.

Sponsors: Sen. Stevens, John , Rep. Farmer, Andrew
Summary: Adds community mental health centers to definition of "healthcare organization" in order to add them to quality improvement committees.

SB1726/HB1901 Mental health service providers - list of accrediting organizations.

Sponsors: Sen. Bell, Mike , Rep. Brooks, Kevin
Summary: Recognizes certain organizations as accredited mental health service providers.

SB1778/HB1747 Staffing of telehealth services at school site.

Sponsors: Sen. Crowe, Rusty , Rep. Hill, Matthew
Summary: Amends language by adding licensed educational personnel trained in conducting the telecommunications encounter and equipped to engage in telehealth services at a school clinic.

SB1949/HB1961 Suicide Mortality Review and Prevention Act of 2018.

Sponsors: Sen. Crowe, Rusty , Rep. Ramsey, Bob
Summary: STATE SUMMARY: As introduced, enacts the "Suicide Mortality Review and Prevention Act of 2018." - Amends TCA Title 68, Chapter 3.

SB1977/HB2180 Needle and hypodermic syringe exchange program.

Sponsors: Sen. Dickerson, Steven , Rep. Hazlewood, Patsy
Summary: STATE SUMMARY - As introduced, clarifies that a park does not include a greenway for purposes of the prohibition that no hypodermic syringe exchange program may be operated within 2,000 feet of a park; declares that in the event a greenway traverses a park, the greenway shall be considered a portion of that park for purposes of such prohibition.

SB2032/HB2091 Report on recommendations for legislation concerning telehealth and telemedicine.

Sponsors: Sen. Green, Mark , Rep. Curcio , Michael
Summary: Requires the commissioner of health to study and report on recommendations for legislation concerning telehealth and telemedicine to the health committee of the house of representatives and the health and welfare committee of the senate. Instructs the reports to examine the need for improving the effective use of telemedicine and telehealth among healthcare providers and insurers.

SB2203/HB1925 Study regarding revision to statutes governing mandatory outpatient treatment.

Sponsors: Sen. Swann, Art , Rep. Rudd, Tim
Summary: Requires the commissioner of mental health and substance abuse services to study any issue dealing with the revision of statutes governing the pilot program in relation to mandatory

outpatient treatment. Requires the commissioner to report the findings of the study to the house health committee and the senate welfare committee before January 15, 2019.

SB2257/HB1831 Requirements for prescribing, dispensing, and reporting of opioids.

Sponsors: Sen. Norris, Mark , Rep. Hawk, David

Summary: Authorizes commissioner of health to establish the morphine milligram equivalent calculation for an opioid drug. Requires use of the calculation established by the federal centers for disease control and prevention for that drug, given that there's no such existing rule. Changes requirements of healthcare practitioners to check a controlled substance database when prescribing and dispensing the substances to patients, and to check the database every six months, instead of annually, of the patient's treatment. Provides the health commissioner with control of this database. Forbids practitioners from providing more than a five-day supply of opiates to patients, a ten-day supply in situations where refilling the prescription would prove difficult for the patient. Restricts the use of opiates to the treatment of patients in severe conditions where traditional treatment methods have been tried, and only after consultation with the patient. Requires the health commissioner to file a report on the effect of these restrictions by no later than November 2021. Part of administration package.

SB2352/HB2580 Study on adequacy of resources to assist children and youth impacted by the opioid epidemic.

Sponsors: Sen. Massey, Becky , Rep. Ragan, John

Summary: Calls for the commissioner of mental health and substance abuse services to report to the house health committee and the senate welfare committee on the adequacy of resources to help children affected by the opioid epidemic by January 15, 2019.

SB2359/HB2675 Authorizes needle and hypodermic syringe exchange program.

Sponsors: Sen. Yarbrow, Jeff , Rep. Fitzhugh, Craig

Summary: Allows county and district health departments to petition for approval from county legislative bodies to create needle and hypodermic syringe exchange programs.

SB2572/HB2360 Report of suggested legislative changes to the Post-Mortem Examination Act.

Sponsors: Sen. Hensley, Joey , Rep. Smith, Eddie

Summary: Requires the commissioner of health to provide a report of suggested legislative changes to the Post-Mortem Examination Act to the health committees of the senate and the house, the judiciary committee of the senate, and the criminal justice committee of the house by February 1, 2019.

SB2674/HB2348 Prescribing of opioids to non-pregnant fertile women.

Sponsors: Sen. Bailey, Paul , Rep. Williams, Ryan

Summary: Requires a specific prescriber who prescribes a five day supply of opioids to a non-pregnant fertile women to inform the patient of the risk of fetal injury and neonatal abstinence syndrome in the event of pregnancy while on therapy.

INSURANCE GENERAL

SB1884/HB1873 Coverage for behavioral health treatment.

Sponsors: Sen. Briggs, Richard , Rep. McCormick, Gerald

Summary: Revises coverage of mental health to provide coverage for mental health, alcoholism or drug

dependency. Requires a plan having a limit on substantially all medical and surgical benefits to include mental health or alcoholism or drug dependency benefits under the limit applied to medical and surgical benefits, or apply a separate limit to mental health, alcoholism, or drug dependency benefits that is no less than the one applied to medical and surgical benefits. Requires the department of commerce and insurance to implement and enforce applicable provisions of the federal Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008. Requires the department to issue a report and provide an educational presentation to the general assembly no later than June 1 of each year. Requires the bureau of TennCare to monitor managed care organization claims denials for mental health, alcoholism, or drug dependency benefits on the grounds of medical necessity within each classification of benefits among inpatient benefits, outpatient benefits, prescription drugs, and emergency care.

INSURANCE HEALTH

SJR466 Expansion of Medicaid eligibility to combat opioid crisis in Tennessee.

Sponsors: Sen. Yarbro, Jeff ,

Summary: Authorizes governor to expand Medicaid eligibility in accordance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to fully combat the opioid crisis in Tennessee.

JUDICIARY

SB1497/HB2078 Admissibility of evidence - out-of-court statements of children.

Sponsors: Sen. Yager, Ken , Rep. Matlock, Jimmy

Summary: Permits an out-of-court statement made by a child who is under 12 years of age at the time of a trial or hearing describing any sexual act performed by, with, or on the child or describing any act of physical violence directed against the child, to be admitted into evidence under certain circumstances.

SB1504/HB1479 Suspension of court costs for indigent defendants.

Sponsors: Sen. Briggs, Richard , Rep. Dunn, Bill

Summary: Authorizes general sessions and criminal court judges statewide to suspend court costs and litigation tax for indigent defendants. Authorizes court clerk to implement community service program in lieu of full payment of court costs and litigation taxes for indigent defendants. Current law applies only to Knox County.

SB1593/HB1480 Admissibility of evidence - statements from children in regard to sexual or physical abuse.

Sponsors: Sen. Yager, Ken , Rep. Dunn, Bill

Summary: Prohibits the exclusion from a criminal trial of certain out-of-court statements made by a child under 12 years of age that describe any sexual act performed by, with, or on the child or act of physical violence directed against the child.

SB1743/HB2022 Participation in recovery court - staying of order to revoke driver license.

Sponsors: Sen. Johnson, Jack , Rep. Farmer, Andrew

Summary: States that a person in any court certified by the department of mental health and substance abuse services may apply to the court for a stay of revoking his or her license.

SB1821/HB2658 Juvenile court - court order regarding an unruly child.

Sponsors: Sen. Norris, Mark , Rep. Camper, Karen
Summary: Prohibits a juvenile court from issuing a court order against an unruly child when that child's only offense is a status offense.

SB1848/HB1774 Creates pilot project for a special juvenile drug court treatment program.

Sponsors: Sen. Dickerson, Steven , Rep. Smith, Eddie
Summary: Creates a regional juvenile drug court treatment program pilot project that serves up to 500 juveniles. Sets guidelines for court jurisdiction over such a program

SB2173/HB2562 Includes the criminal justice committee in receiving the annual report on child protective teams from each district attorney general.

Sponsors: Sen. Gardenhire, Todd , Rep. Butt, Sheila
Summary: Adds the criminal justice committee of the house of representatives to the list of committees receiving the annual report on child protective teams that have been organized in the district attorney general's district by January 15 of each year.

SB2261/HB2271 Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2018.

Sponsors: Sen. Norris, Mark , Rep. Hawk, David
Summary: Enacts the "Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2018." Expands duties of probation officer in regard to juveniles to include receiving and examining complaints and charges of delinquency or unruly conduct and conducting a preliminary hearing. Specifies that an informal adjustment conducted by a designated court officer in regard to the delinquency of a juvenile shall not extend beyond three months from the day commenced unless it is extended by the court for an additional period not to exceed six months. Specifies that financial obligations shall not be assessed or collected against a child as part of an informal adjustment. Defines "financial obligations" to mean fines, fees, costs, surcharges, child support or other monetary liabilities assessed, but it does not include restitution. Removes setting of bail in regard to alternatives that will reduce the risk of flight or of serious physical harm to the child or to others. Prohibits detention from being mandated for categories of offenses or predefined circumstances. Specifies that detention shall be based on an individualized examination of a child's case and its particular circumstances. Requires all delinquent and unruly cases in which a child is in detention or has been placed out of the home by court order to be heard within 30 days of the date the child was placed outside the home. Permits the 30 day time limit to be waived by a knowing and voluntary written waiver by the child. Prohibits a child under 12 from being detained in any secure facility for more than 24 hours, excluding nonjudicial days, unless certain requirements are met. Allows a law enforcement officer who has taken a child into custody for the commission of an offense that would be considered a misdemeanor if committed by an adult to issue a citation in lieu of continued custody of the child. Specifies requirements for such citation. Authorizes each municipal or metropolitan police department or sheriff's department to create and administer its own juvenile diversion program to address citable juvenile offenses without court involvement. Makes other revisions to statutes regarding the adjudication of juveniles as delinquent. (39 pp.) Part of administration package.

SB2307/HB2408 Appearance bond is eliminated for minors.

Sponsors: Sen. Harris, Lee , Rep. Thompson , Dwayne
Summary: Obligates the court to release a juvenile without an appearance bond if the court allows the child to be released.

SB2309/HB2281 Fines and fees levied against juveniles.

Sponsors: Sen. Harris, Lee , Rep. Parkinson, Antonio

Summary: Prohibits a juvenile court from imposing any fines or fees against a juvenile. Requires the court to impose the fines and fees against the parents or the legal guardian of the juvenile.

SB2423/HB2558 Report on zero to three court programs by DCS.

Sponsors: Sen. Haile, Ferrell , Rep. White, Dawn

Summary: Extends to February 15th the deadline for the department of children's services to provide an annual report on zero to three court programs to select senate and house committees.

SB2428/HB2574 Authorizes the commissioner of children's services to receive juvenile and family court dispositions.

Sponsors: Sen. Kyle, Sara , Rep. Stewart, Mike

Summary: Adds the commissioner of children's services to the list of recipients receiving juvenile and family court dispositions that the council of juvenile and family court judges may publish and make available to upon request.

SB2437/HB2568 Notice regarding hearing to transfer the child from juvenile court to criminal court.

Sponsors: Sen. Yarbrow, Jeff , Rep. Stewart, Mike

Summary: Increases from 14 to 20 days before, the amount of time the parent or guardian of a minor receives a notice for a hearing to transfer a child from juvenile court to criminal court.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

SB2432/HB2577 Grants for study of juveniles involved in prostitution and homicides committed by juveniles.

Sponsors: Sen. Kyle, Sara , Rep. Stewart, Mike

Summary: Authorizes municipalities to create funds to provide grants to study of juveniles involved in prostitution and homicides committed by other juveniles.

MEDIA & PUBLISHING

SB2673/HB1539 DOH report on sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS)

Sponsors: Sen. Bailey, Paul , Rep. Windle, John

Summary: Requires department of health to provide information on the risks of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) as well as research on SIDS.

PROPERTY & HOUSING

SB2214/HB1929 Sober living homes.

Sponsors: Sen. Swann, Art , Rep. Curcio , Michael

Summary: Allows for municipalities to require sober living homes to submit records of the home's location and its rehabilitation program. Decreases from eight to six the maximum number of unrelated people living in a place to be called a single family residence.

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

SB2092/HB1985 Reasonable accommodations for pregnancy-related conditions.

Sponsors: Sen. Yarbrow, Jeff , Rep. Gilmore, Brenda

Summary: STATE SUMMARY - As introduced, prohibits public employers from discriminating against applicants for employment and employees with pregnancy-related conditions by not providing the applicants and employees with reasonable accommodations.

TAXES BUSINESS

SB2720/HB2427 Extends business tax exemption for mental or behavioral health services.

Sponsors: Sen. Johnson, Jack , Rep. White, Mark

Summary: Extends business tax exemption for mental and behavioral health services by persons engaged in the business of providing foster care, residential treatment, therapeutic and rehabilitative care, or other social assistance programs.

TAXES PROPERTY

SB1830/HB1908 Property being used as an intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities.

Sponsors: Sen. Southerland, Steve , Rep. Hawk, David

Summary: Requires certain counties with intermediate care facilities on tax exempt property negotiate appropriate payments to the tax jurisdiction in which they are located. If no amount is agreed upon the payments must be at least 25% of the amount the tax would be if the property were not exempt.

TENNCARE

SB2312/HB2608 Online submission of TennCare forms for recipients under the age of 18.

Sponsors: Sen. Harris, Lee , Rep. Mitchell, Bo

Summary: Requires the bureau of TennCare to establish a procedure that allows recipients who are under the age of 18 to reapply for medical assistance benefits online without requiring any paper forms.

SB2357/HB2400 Study on home visitation services for the families of babies with neo-natal abstinence syndrome.

Sponsors: Sen. Yarbrow, Jeff , Rep. Stewart, Mike

Summary: Requires TennCare to study home visitation services for the families of babies with neo-natal abstinence syndrome and report its findings to the house health committee and the senate welfare committee by January 15, 2019

SB2364/HB1541 Payment reform initiatives - behavioral healthcare episodes.

Sponsors: Sen. Crowe, Rusty , Rep. Ramsey, Bob

Summary: Excludes behavioral health from episodes of care in any payment reform initiative developed or implemented with respect to medical assistance provided under the bureau of TennCare or the health care finance and administration (HCFA) of the department of finance and administration.

SB2585/HB1990 Episodes of care in payment reform.

Sponsors: Sen. Hensley, Joey , Rep. Kumar, Sabi

Summary: STATE SUMMARY - As introduced, requires the comptroller of the treasury to study the implementation of episodes of care concerning the implementation of bonuses and penalties within episodes of care with attention to the equity of the system with respect to providers and its relationship to costs associated with independent actors within individual episodes of care;

the comptroller shall report on or before January 15, 2019, to the health committee of the house of representatives and the health and welfare committee of the senate.

SJR554 Improve access to treatment for opioid addiction.

Sponsors: Sen. Ketron, Bill ,

Summary: Encourages the bureau of TennCare to improve access to and quality of treatment for eligible Tennessee residents suffering from addiction to opiates and other substances by means of appropriate federal Section 1115 waiver for Medicaid services.

SJR557 Waiver to expand access to evidence-based home visitation services to families of babies with neonatal abstinence syndrome.

Sponsors: Sen. Yarbrow, Jeff ,

Summary: Encourages the bureau of TennCare to seek an appropriate federal Section 1115 demonstration waiver in order to expand access to evidence-based home visitation services to the families of babies with neonatal abstinence syndrome or related conditions; encourages seeking additional funding opportunities for the home visitation programs.

TORT LIABILITY

SB2040/HB2026 Unlicensed persons who treat or diagnose mental health disorders.

Sponsors: Sen. Lundberg, Jon , Rep. Farmer, Andrew

Summary: STATE SUMMARY - As introduced, imposes tort liability on unlicensed persons who treat or diagnose mental health disorders.

SB2426/HB2523 Settlement agreement provisions that conceal claims of child sexual abuse.

Sponsors: Sen. Harper, Thelma , Rep. Beck, Bill

Summary: Declares any provision of a settlement agreement that has the purpose or effect of concealing the details relating to a claim of a child sexual abuse is void and unenforceable as contrary to the public policy of this state. Maintains that identifying information concerning a victim of child sexual abuse shall be deemed as confidential.

TRANSPORTATION VEHICLES

SB1759/HB1716 Promulgation of rules for transporting children by child care agencies.

Sponsors: Sen. Briggs, Richard , Rep. Ramsey, Bob

Summary: Removes language that required the department of human services to promulgate rules regarding child restraint system use by children transported by child care agencies no later than January 1, 2007.

WELFARE

SB2247/HB1822 Revises various provisions relative to public assistance.

Sponsors: Sen. Norris, Mark , Rep. Hawk, David

Summary: Grants the department of human services with various powers when investigating fraud and abuse of the program.

SB2481/HB2481 Studying the feasibility of drug testing requirements on welfare recipients.

Sponsors: Sen. Niceley, Frank , Rep. Holt, Andy

Summary: Requires the commissioner of human services to study to feasibility of imposing drug testing

on welfare recipients including legal limitations, potential costs, and benefits to health and welfare. Requires the commissioner report the results of study to the health committee of the house of representatives and the senate health and welfare committee no later than January 1, 2019.

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