#### **CMFO AND CCFO TRAINING**

#### Legislative Update



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## THE TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### Created under Article II, Section 3 of the TN State Constitution

- Legislative authority is vested in the General Assembly, which consists of a Senate and a House of Representatives (both are popularly elected)
- Constitution requires an election for Senators & Representatives to be held once every two years in November of even-numbered years

#### The Members

- > Senate has 33 Members, elected to four-year terms
- House of Representatives has 99 members, elected to twoyear terms

### THE TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- Convenes at noon on the second Tuesday of January each year
- There are two legislative sessions in each General Assembly

JANUARY 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	å	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
Printable Calendars From 123Calendars.Com						



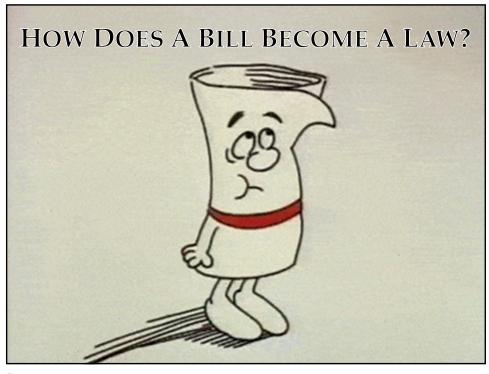
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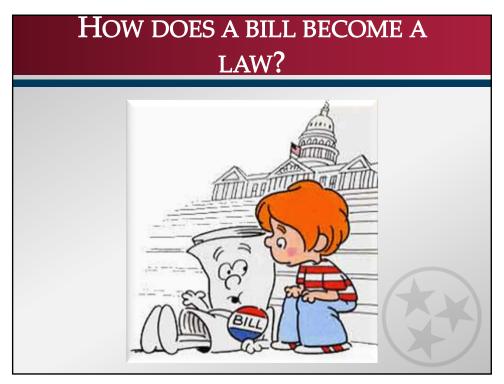
## THE TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

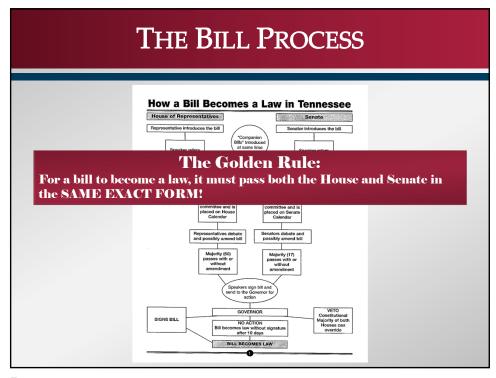
#### **Function of the Legislature**

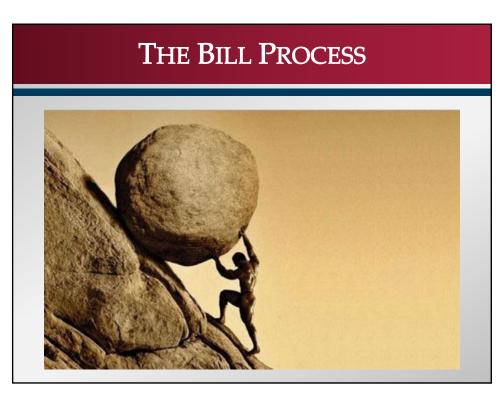
- Legislature's Function: enact, amend, and repeal laws of Tennessee
  - > Specific powers: appropriation of all money to be paid out of the treasury (general fund), levy & collect taxes, right to authorize counties, towns to levy.
- The one thing the legislature must do every year is pass a balanced budget.

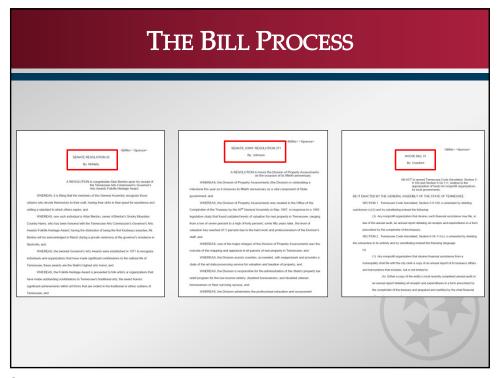




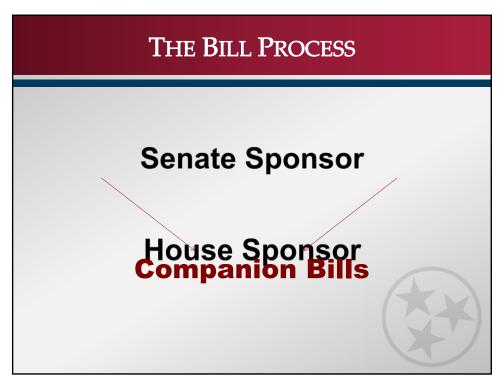








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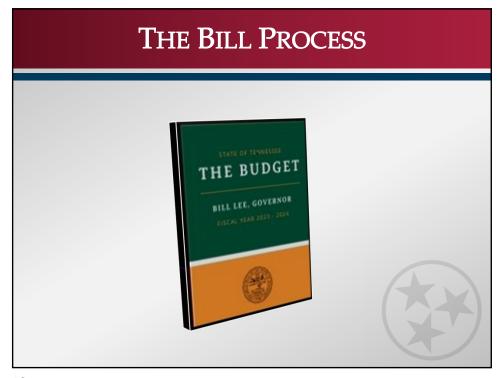
#### THE BILL PROCESS

- To rainew law to be made, it must be considered and passed on three separate days (considerations) by both the House and Senate.
- After second consideration, bills are referred to committee.



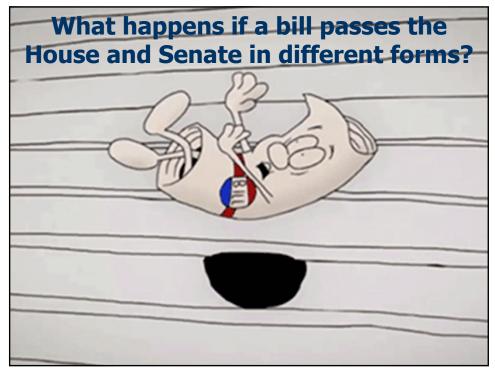
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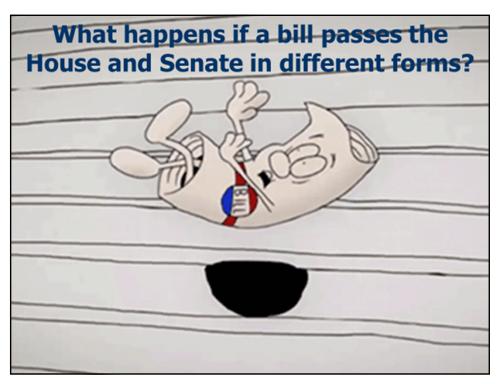
# THE BILL PROCESS

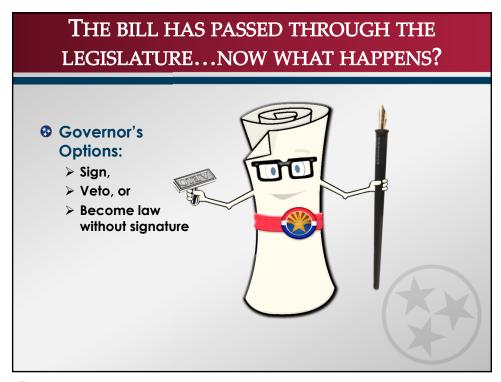


#### THE BILL PROCESS

- Floor Session the full House or Senate meets on the Floor to hear the bills that have passed out of the committees
  - > At least 50 favorable votes in the House
  - > At least 17 favorable votes in the Senate
- After a bill passes one chamber, its companion must pass the other chamber in the same exact form before becoming law













#### 4<sup>TH</sup> EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

#### **Public Safety Special Session**

- **❸** SB 7085 Free firearm locks to Tennessee residents upon request.
- SB 7086 Shortens the time frame within which a circuit court clerk or general sessions court must notify the TBI of the final disposition of criminal proceedings.
- SB 7088 Requires the TBI to submit a report on child and human trafficking crimes and trends in this state to the governor and legislature.
- SB 7089 Appropriations Bill:
  - > Mental Health Professional Bonuses
  - > Behavioral Health Safety Net Grants
  - School Safety Upgrades

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#### **LEGISLATION OF INTEREST**

**Regular Session** 



#### **Regular Session Highlights**

- © Convened on January 10, 2023
- **3** 521 Effective Public and Private Acts
- **ॐ** 56.2B Budget
- Major Topics
  - > Transportation
  - School Safety
  - > Foster Care and Adoption
  - > Metro Council and Boards



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#### LEGISLATION OF INTEREST

• Bonds - \$0.1 billion



#### LEGISLATION OF INTEREST Where does the money go? The largest portion of FY 2023-24 **Top 5 Expenses** the state budget is spent in three areas: Education \$14.7 billion 14.5 Billion TennCare 1) Health and Social Services 8.0 Billion Social Services ② 2) Education 6.1 Billion Transportation 3) Transportation Corrections 1.4 Billion TOTAL – Top 5 Expenses 44.7 Billion

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#### **LEGISLATION OF INTEREST**

#### **Budget Accomplishments**

- 3.3B to bolster road construction
- **©** \$231.7M to enhance school safety
- \$125M for K-12 teacher pay raises
- **❸** Continues building the Rainy Day Fund (\$2.05B)

#### Tax Cuts

- \$273M for a three-month sales tax holiday on grocery items.
- **3** \$150M in annual small business tax relief.



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#### LEGISLATION OF INTEREST

#### **Comptroller Bills**

- Pub. Ch. 22 Increases the statute of limitation for prosecution of official misconduct and destruction of and tampering with governmental records to six years from the date of the offense.
- ❷ Pub. Ch. 83 Deauthorizes the use of promissory notes secured by a first mortgage or a first deed of trust upon residential real property as collateral by banks in which public funds are invested or deposited by a governmental entity for investments or deposits above the insurance limitations provided by the FDIC.

#### Comptroller Bills continued

- Pub. Ch. 184 Removes the authority of the state board of equalization to create an assessment appeals commission to hear property tax appeals.
- Pub. Ch. 463 Merges the Utility Management Review Board and the Water and Wastewater Financing Board into the newly created Tennessee Board of Utility Regulation (TBOUR).

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#### LEGISLATION OF INTEREST

#### **Transportation**

- Pub. Ch. 159 Enacts the Transportation Modernization Act of 2023.
  - > Authorizes TDOT to enter into agreements with a private company to build choice lanes.
  - Establishes the Transportation Modernization Fund to be used for funding transportation initiatives and improvements.
  - > \$3.3B
    - \$300M to be distributed to local governments as grants.

#### Education

- Pub. Ch. 367 LEAs to develop a district-wide safety plan. Annual safety drills.
- Pub. Ch. 437 Increases the base salaries for K-12 teachers; eliminates option to have automatic payroll deduction for professional employee organization dues.

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#### **LEGISLATION OF INTEREST**

#### **Metro Bills**

- Pub. Ch. 21 Caps at 20 the number of members that may be elected to the Metro Council
- Pub. Ch. 410 Reconstitutes the Metro Sports Authority
- Pub. Ch. 430 Changes to the Convention Center TDZ
- Pub. Ch. 454 Replaces the Community Oversight Board with the Police Advisory and Review Committee
- Pub. Ch. 488 Reconstitutes the Metro Airport Authority

#### **Open Meetings Act**

- Pub. Ch. 213 Requires a local legislative body to make available to the public, at no charge and at least 48 hours prior to a meeting, the agenda for the upcoming meeting in a place accessible to the public; authorizes such body to deliberate or act upon matters not listed on the agenda if the body follows its bylaws or properly adopted rules and procedures and complies with all other applicable state laws.
- Pub. Ch. 300 Requires governmental entities to provide a period of public comment for public meetings; authorizes the governmental entities to place reasonable restrictions on the period for public comment.

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## Questions

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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