VOICES FOR A TENNESSEE

WHO WE

We are a nonpartisan grassroots coalition, bonded by our commitment to advocating for pragmatic, evidence-based firearm safety laws and promoting responsible gun ownership in Tennessee. Go to **SaferTN.org** to learn more.

WHY WE'RE HERE

The collective pressure and influence of Tennesseans have been instrumental in bringing the need for firearm safety legislation to the forefront. Attending the 2024 legislative session allows us to represent people from all walks of life and regions across Tennessee, demanding meaningful change and demonstrating continued interest in policy action.

WHEN WE

The TN General Assembly convenes January 9th, 2024 for the start of the legislative session and will be in session for several months, likely adjourning sometime in April or May. We need legislative presence during the week (primarily Tuesdays, Wednesday and some Thursdays) for relevant committee hearings and meetings.

SIGN UP

Sign up <u>here</u> or with the **QR code below** to offer your time and presence at the Capitol. Whether it is 2 hours or 2 full days, your showing up is making a difference. Signing up will allow us to distribute our presence across various committee hearings and meetings and directly message those that are in specific sessions with updates related to that session.

PREPARING FOR YOUR TIME AT THE STATE LEGISLATURE

Your first visit to the State Legislature can be slightly intimidating. Here are a few tips and logistics to help you. **Please read thoroughly.**

ATTIRE: We recommend dressing as you would if you were going to a professional meeting, visiting a place of workship, or attending a community gathering. Voices for a Safer TN buttons will be available.

CARPOOLING: There is power in numbers. Consider carpooling with friends, neighbors or coworkers and encouraging others to join you. Looking for a carpool? Email us with your name and address and we will try to match you with other attendees in your area.





TIMING: We suggest allowing 30 minutes to park, get through security and find your way to your designated meeting spot.

PARKING: Here are a few of the most convenient parking locations. See map on page 3.

- St. Mary's Cathedral Lot (320 5th Ave North, 37219)
- MTA Garage (413 Charlotte Ave, 37219)
- Public Square Garage (350 Deaderick Street)
- S&P Parking, Pkwy 301 James Robertson Pkwy
- Paid street parking is also occasionally available.

PUBLIC TRANSIT: Check here for available public transit options.

ADDRESS: See map on page 3.

• Cordell Hull (Committee Sessions): 425 Rep. John Lewis Way North, Nashville, TN 37243 Note: The entrance to Cordell Hull on Rep. John Lewis Way N is through a relatively nondescript set of doors with a statue. You will enter on the ground floor and take stairs or an elevator up to the first floor. House hearings are on one side, and Senate hearings on the other.

GOING THROUGH SECURITY: Security is very nice and will direct you through a metal detector. Note that computers, food and drinks <u>are all allowed</u> in the buildings. Weapons are not.

CHECK-IN: Check in and pick up a Safer TN logo button in the Cordell Hull Cafeteria. If a Safer TN rep is not in the cafeteria, please text 615-200-6083.

WHERE TO EAT: There is a cafeteria inside Cordell Hull on the second floor. There are also vending machines on each floor in the Cordell Hull break rooms. If you would like to bring in your own food, that is permitted. There is no food or drink allowed in the committee meeting rooms.

RESOURCES: We encourage you to review our policy documents regarding **temporary transfer**, **secure storage**, and **background checks** as well as our **one pager**.

QUESTIONS? We will try our best to answer questions leading up to and during session. Please email **info@safertn.org**.

WHAT IF I AM ASKED FOR AN INTERVIEW? If you are approached by media about an interview on behalf of our group, please decline and refer them to our media contact: Mark Drury (615) 330-7587

TIPS FOR WHEN INSIDE THE LEGISLATURE

- We encourage you to be polite, respectful, and attentive. Please do not publicly disparage legislators.
- You must have a seat in a hearing room. If there are no more chairs, remain in the hall. We need a presence there, too.
- Be aware of who you are standing or sitting by when having any conversations.
- Please **do not record video or audio** during the session or any individual conversations with legislators.
- Stay informed and engaged. Familiarize yourself with the topics being discussed. Here is a good link to better understand how legislation is passed https://www.capitol.tn.gov/about/billtolaw.html -and- Go to https://wapp.capitol.tn.gov/Apps/fml2022/search.aspx to get to know your House Representative and State Senator.
- Seek out support. If you feel unsure or overwhelmed, reach out to us. Remember, everyone is welcome to engage in the legislative process. If you would like to receive more information about meeting with a legislator, please email us at info@safertn.org.

