

Safer TN Legislative Presence for Week of April 22nd

Committees for Legislative Presence:

Tuesday, April 23rd

- 9am: House Criminal Justice Committee
- 9am: Senate Finance, Ways, and Means Committee

**This is the last week of legislative session, and schedules will be fluid. We may have opportunities to view key votes on the House and Senate floor.

Bills to Watch:

TUESDAY, APRIL 22nd:

9am: House Criminal Justice Committee

- **HB2082 by Fritts.** (SB2502 by Hensley.) Tennessee Bureau of Investigation - Amends TCA Title 39. As amended, expands permitless carry from "handguns" to "firearms," which would allow an adult to openly carry loaded long guns, including semi-automatic rifles, anywhere that person is legally allowed to be present without any training or background check. The bill would also codify a legal decision that would allow permitless carry for ages 18 and older (down from age 21 as was enacted in the original 2021 law). The bill lowers the age to obtain concealed, enhanced, and lifetime enhanced handgun carry permits from 21 years of age to 18 years of age. Further, it changes the law so that it is no longer an offense for a juvenile to possess a handgun, but rather it is an offense for a juvenile to carry a loaded firearm.
 - **Safer TN opposes.**
- **HB2035 by Barrett.** (SB2763 by Bowling.) Firearms and Ammunition - Amends TCA Title 36; Title 38 and Title 39. as amended, prohibits any local government body (e.g., cities, towns, municipalities, etc.) from creating legislation regarding extreme risk protection orders. Further, it prohibits "a political subdivision" of Tennessee from accepting any funding from any source for the purpose of implementing procedures that enforce an extreme risk protection order against a resident of Tennessee.
 - **Concerning bill Safer TN is monitoring.**

9am: Senate Finance, Ways, and Means Committee

- **SB2155 by Watson.** (HB2323 by Hazlewood.) Criminal Offenses - Amends TCA Title 39 and Title 40. As introduced, increases the penalty for a third or subsequent domestic assault conviction from a Class A misdemeanor to a Class E felony; upgrades the offense classification for certain qualifying misdemeanor offenses to a Class E felony upon a defendant's conviction for a sixth or subsequent qualifying misdemeanor.
 - **Safer TN supports.** Bill in response to shooting death of community business leader Chris Wright in Chattanooga.

TO BE SCHEDULED:

House Floor Votes for:

- **HB1600 / SB2911** would prohibit until age 25 the purchase or possession of firearms for those with violent criminal and mental health juvenile adjudications. This is arguably the most significant piece of legislation to prevent juvenile and young adult crime the state has seen. **Safer TN supports.**
- **HB2323 / SB2155** would increase sentencing guidelines for repeat misdemeanor offenders, making the sixth qualifying misdemeanor a Class E felony after five previous misdemeanor convictions. Convicted felons are prohibited from purchasing or possessing firearms. **Safer TN supports.**
- **HB1202 / SB1325** that allows teachers and faculty to carry concealed firearms after extensive criteria is met. We do not believe more firearms in gun free zones - like classrooms - ever makes us safer. **Safer TN opposes.**

Senate Floor Votes for:

- **HB1600 / SB2911** -- would prohibit until age 25 the purchase or possession of firearms for those with violent criminal and mental health juvenile adjudications. This is arguably the most significant piece of legislation to prevent juvenile and young adult crime the state has seen. **Safer TN supports.**