

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

2022

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EGERTON McAFEE

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CELEBRATING

90

YEARS



What's Going On in the Tennessee State Legislature...

- 33 Senators and 99 Representatives
- Function: to enact, amend, and repeal the laws of Tennessee
- 112th General Assembly, 2nd year, adjourned April 28, 2022
- Big initiatives: revamping funding for K-12 public schools, record high in Rainy Day fund, and over \$280 mil in tax and financial relief

New Legislation Highlights



Budget



Education



Healthcare



Commerce

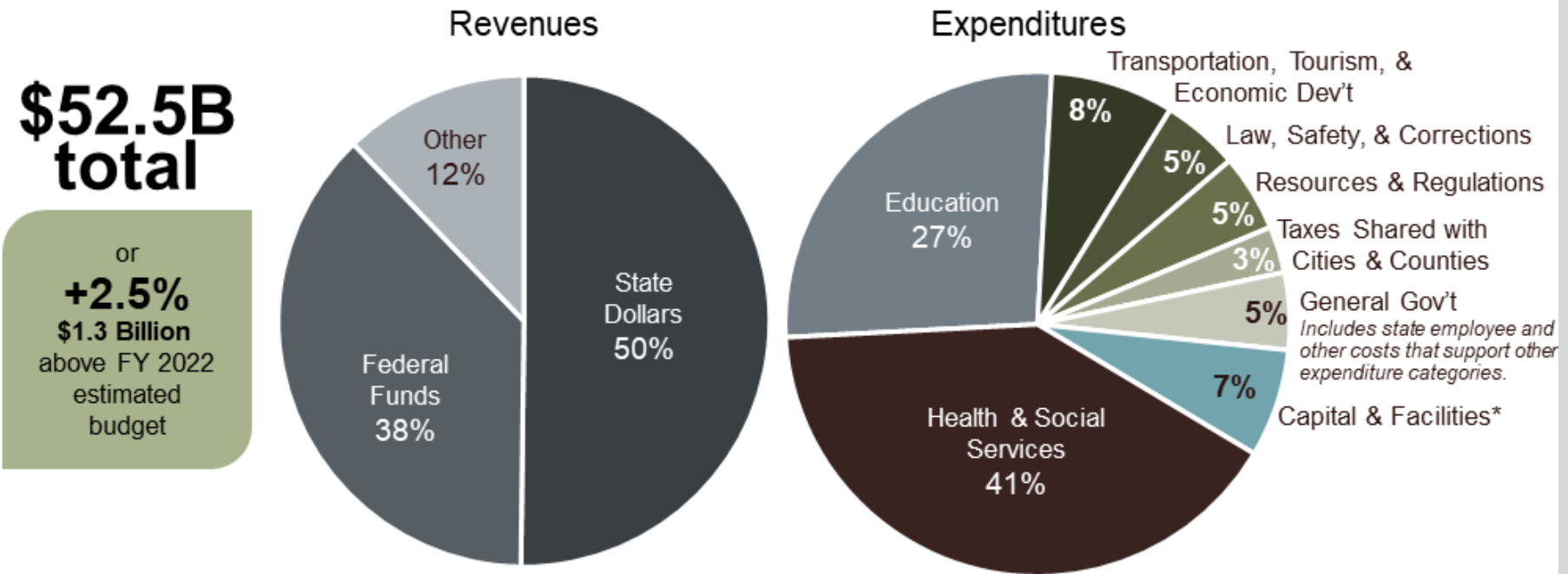


More Misc.
Laws

Budget

FY 2023 Recommended Budget Totals \$52.5 Billion, an Increase of 2.5%

Tennessee FY 2023 Recommended Budget by Revenue Sources and Expenditures



Note: Numbers do not add up to 100% due to rounding. *Includes Capital Outlay, Facilities Revolving Fund, and Debt Service Requirements
Source: The Sycamore Institute's analysis of the FY 2023 Tennessee State Budget

SycamoreTN.org

Image: The Sycamore Institute (2022); Budget has been slightly amended since the publication of this graphic

"Shepherding an economic recovery while also preparing for potential uncertainty" - Commissioner Butch Eley



Budget: Education

- \$6.5 billion (\$1 billion in new funding)
- Largest increase in K-12 funding in TN history
- Tennessee Investment in Student Achievement (TISA) Act
- Increase teacher salaries
- Reduce TCAT waitlists & improve infrastructure
- Increase HOPE scholarship awards
- No tuition increase at state schools this year (Go Vols!)

Budget: Public Safety

Law
enforcement
training

100 additional
state troopers

20 additional TBI
agents (human
trafficking, cyber
security, narcotics,
forensics)

Educational technology
in local jails &
evidence-based
programming

Crime
prevention

Truth in
Sentencing
legislation

Grants for volunteer
fire departments and
rescue squads



Budget: Health & Welfare

- \$5.5 million - mental health treatment centers
- \$3 million - 3 year pilot program for respite care for Alzheimer's and dementia caregivers
- \$9.7 million - salary increase for DCS caseworkers
- \$1 million - suicide prevention
- Foster Care/Adoption childcare vouchers
- Postpartum coverage extended from 60 days to 12 months for TennCare enrollees

Budget: Tax Relief



- \$281 million in tax and financial savings
- \$80 million grocery sales tax holiday August 2022
- \$121.6 million eliminate state license plate registration fee for Tennessee residents
- \$68 million broadband supplies
- \$2.8 million sales tax on agricultural machinery
- \$9 million physician professional privilege tax
- \$360,000 tax on gold, bullion, silver



Budget: Grants (\$17 million)



- Volunteer Fire Departments and Rescue Squads
- Winds of Liberty Museum – military veterans
- Epilepsy Foundation
- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- DIDD – universal changing tables
- Senior centers
- County fairs

TENNESSEE LEGISLATIVE TRIVIA

*What is the
new official
state song of
Tennessee?
(SB 1759/ HB 1731)*



Rocky Top by Osborne Brothers



The Tennessee Waltz by Patti Page



I'll Leave My Heart in Tennessee by
Dailey & Vincent



9 to 5 by Dolly Parton

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EDUCATION



Education: K-12



- **Revamping the public school funding formula:** TISA
- **Library Transparency** - Implementing student, parental and employee feedback re: age appropriateness of materials in school libraries (Pub. Ch. 744)
- **School Computers** - Increasing safeguards against obscene materials (Pub. Ch. 1002)
- **Human trafficking** - Expanding training for detecting, intervening and preventing human trafficking and treatment of child victims (Pub. Ch. 1021, eff. July 1)
- **Sports** - Student's gender for purposes of school sports is determined at time of birth (Pub. Ch. 909, eff. July 1)
- **Addressing school staffing shortage** - retirees who have been retired for 60+ days can accept reemployment as K-12 teacher, sub, or bus driver without loss or suspension of benefits under certain conditions (Pub. Ch. 821)



Education: Higher Ed

- **Expanding internships** by lowering minimum age for work-based learning students to 16 (applicable beginning 2022-2023 school year; SB 0520)
- **Women's NCAA sports** - prohibits biological male students from competing in women's college sports and intramurals (SB 2153)
- **Tuition for veterans** - permits boards of state universities to offer in-state tuition to active-duty military and veterans regardless of TN residency (SB 2486)

TENNESSEE LEGISLATIVE TRIVIA

*SB 2173 prohibits
the expulsion of
kindergarteners
(except in certain circumstances)
... did it pass?!*



Yes



No

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Healthcare

- **COVID laws** – visitation at end-of-life during public health emergencies for nursing home and assisted living facility residents (Pub. Ch. 1123); medical and religious exemptions for COVID-19 vaccine mandates, \$10,000 fine for noncompliance (Pub. Ch. 644)
- **Combatting opioid crisis** – expanding access to opioid antagonists (Pub. Ch. 1061); adds tianeptine to controlled substance list (Pub. Ch. 1135)
- **Human Life Protection Act** – supersedes Heartbeat Bill (6 week ban), prohibits all abortions in the state except for medical emergencies; Class C felony for a person to perform or attempt to perform an abortion; prohibits criminal prosecution of a woman upon whom an abortion is performed or attempted (eff. August 25, 2022, 30 days after overturn of *Roe v. Wade*)
- **Access to wheelchairs** – prohibits health insurer from considering where Complex Rehabilitation Technology may be used when making determination re: medical necessity, allows wheelchair users to obtain CRT through insurance even when taking chair to church or grocery store (Pub. Ch. 973)





Commerce

- **Work requirements reinstated for SNAP benefits** - returns to pre-pandemic, able-bodied individuals between 18 and 49 must work, train or volunteer at least 20 hours per week (Pub. Ch. 972)
- **Blockchain** - allows creation of Decentralized Autonomous Organizations (DAOs) and permits them to engage in business in the state; positions the state to receive DAOs and become leader in blockchain technologies (Pub. Ch. 852)
- **COVID liability protection** - protects businesses, schools, churches and other entities from COVID-19-related loss or injury claims until July 1, 2023 (Pub. Ch. 1117)
- **Pesky subscription services** - requires businesses to provide straightforward cancellation process for subscription services (Pub. Ch. 803, eff. Jan. 1, 2023)

TENNESSEE LEGISLATIVE TRIVIA

*Which Tennessee
sports team is
getting \$500
million from the
2023 Budget,
and for what
purpose?*



Tennessee Titans; new stadium



Nashville Predators; hosting NHL
Playoffs



Memphis Grizzlies; pay incentive for
booking the NBA's Christmas Day
slate of games for the first time (!)



Tennessee Vols Baseball; giant statue
of Tony Vitello

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MORE MISCELLANEOUS LAWS

Thanks for your attention!

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