

2021 Legislative Update

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Municipal Technical Advisory Service
INSTITUTE *for* PUBLIC SERVICE

Alcohol

Chapter No. 59 (HB0377/SB0293). Removal of residency requirement for applicants for retail package store licenses.

Amends T.C.A. § 57-3-204(b)(2)(A) by deleting the language that required an individual to be a resident of Tennessee for 2 years immediately preceding the date of application for a retail package store license.

Effective March 29, 2021.



Alcohol

Chapter No. 426 (HB1514/SB1032). Population threshold amended for purposes of alcohol referendums. Amends T.C.A. § 57-3-101 by lowering the population threshold for 925 to “700 or more, according to the 2010 federal census or any subsequent federal census” for purposes of defining a “municipality” for liquor by the drink, retail package store, and WIGS referendums.

Effective May 12, 2021.



Authorities, Boards, and Commissions

Chapter No. 228 (HB0831/SB0787). Conflict of interest acknowledgement required for industrial development corporation board of directors. Amends T.C.A. § 7-53-301 by requiring each member of the board of directors of an industrial development corporation board to complete a conflict of interest statement acknowledging that the director received a copy of the State statute related to conflicts of interest and that he/she understands when disclosure of an indirect conflict must be made and when a direct conflict exists. Requires the Tennessee Ethics Commission to publish a sample conflict of interest statement on its public website.

<https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/ethicscommission/documents/sample%20statement%20disclosure%20for%20UD.pdf>

Effective July 1, 2021.



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Crimes and Criminal Procedure

Chapter No. 423 (HB1254/SB1361). Award of attorney's fees in certain asset forfeiture cases increased. Amends T.C.A. § 40-33-217 by providing that when an administrative law judge or court presiding over an asset forfeiture case enters an order that includes the return of property, the order must also include an award of reasonable attorney's fees against the seizing agency. Provides that the award of attorney's fees is not to exceed \$10,000 and the failure to submit documentation of an attorney's time and expenses will result in no attorney's fees being awarded.

Effective July 1, 2021.



Economic and Community Development

Chapter No. 297 (HB0968/SB0933). Incentives for the development of single-family housing authorized. Amends T.C.A. § 6-54-118 by expanding the definition “economic development” to include the appropriation of money to be used as incentives, in a manner approved by the municipal governing body, to promote the development of single-family housing by an industrial development corporation. Also amends § 7-53-101(15) by expanding the definition of “project” to include providing incentives that promote the development of single-family housing through programs approved by the municipal governing body creating an industrial development corporation. Only applicable in counties recognized by the Department of Economic and Community Development as tier 3 and 4 counties.

Effective April 30, 2021.



Education

Chapter No. 272 (HB1410/SB1259). “Safe Stars Act” enacted. Amends Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6 by enacting the “Safe Stars Act.” Provides that beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, each LEA that provides a school youth athletic activity must require the coaches to 1.) annually complete the concussion recognition and head injury safety education course program required under § 68-55-502; 2.) annually complete the sudden cardiac arrest education program required under § 68-6-103; 3.) receive training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and in the use of automated external defibrillators (AEDs); and 4.) comply with all applicable background check and fingerprinting requirements of § 49-5-413. Also requires the LEA to implement certain response plans related to injuries and emergencies of youth athletes. Requires the LEA to develop a code of conduct for coaches.

Education

Chapter No. 287 (HB0117/SB0337). Additional in-service training required on human trafficking of child victims. Amends T.C.A. § 49-6-3004(c)(1)(B) by requiring that beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, each teacher employed by the local board of education receive, once every 3 years, in-service training on the detection, intervention, prevention, and treatment of human trafficking in which the victim is a child. Requires the training to be acquired through the viewing of a video recording approved by the LEA.

Effective April 30, 2021.



Education

Chapter No. 310 (HB0235/SB1125). Purchasing authority for LEAs amended. Amends T.C.A. § 49-2-203 by providing that if a LEA chooses not to follow the local governing body's purchasing procedures, and the LEA is located in a county having a population of less than 40,000, according to the 2010 federal census or any subsequent federal census, then all expenditures for the purchase of supplies, furniture, fixtures, or materials through the executive committee estimated to cost \$10,000 or more must be made through competitive bidding, which must be solicited by advertisement in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, except that the newspaper advertisement may be waived in case of emergency.

Also provides that if the LEA chooses not to follow the local governing body's purchasing procedures, and the LEA is located in a county having a population of 40,000 or more, according to the 2010 federal census or any subsequent federal census, then all expenditures for the purchase of supplies, furniture, fixtures, or materials through the executive committee estimated to cost \$25,000 or more must be made through competitive bidding, which must be solicited by advertisement in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, except that the newspaper advertisement may be waived in case of emergency.

Includes similar population-based purchasing procedures for purchases less than \$10,000 and \$25,000 and for construction services.

Effective July 1, 2021.



Education

Chapter No. 341 (HB1513/SB1034). “Textbook Transparency Act” enacted.

Amends T.C.A. § 49-6-2203 by enacting the “Textbook Transparency Act.” Requires each LEA to post on its website, the links to the textbooks and instructional material provided by the publishers of the textbooks and instructional material used by the LEA or identify on the LEAs website, the name and publisher of textbooks and instructional materials adopted by the LEA and provide a link to the State textbook depository’s website where the textbooks and materials can be accessed. Also includes requirements for posting links to textbooks and instructional materials not approved by the Textbook Commission but used pursuant to a waiver.

Effective July 1, 2021.



Education

Chapter No. 452 (HB1233/SB1367). “Tennessee Accommodations for All Children Act” enacted. Amends Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 2 by enacting the “Tennessee Accommodations for All Children Act.” Requires that a public school, to the extent practicable, 1.) provide a reasonable accommodation to a student, teacher, or employee of the public school who desires greater privacy when using a multi-occupancy restroom or changing facility designated for the student's, teacher's, or employee's sex and located within a public school building, or when using multi-occupancy sleeping quarters designated for the student's, teacher's, or employee's sex while attending a public school-sponsored activity; and 2) provides that a written request for a reasonable accommodation be made to the school principal. If the student requesting a reasonable accommodation is under 18 years of age, then the student's parent or legal guardian must provide the written request on the student's behalf. Requires the school principal to evaluate the request on behalf of the public school and, to the extent practicable, provide a reasonable accommodation. The decision approving or denying the request is required to be made in writing. Provides that if the principal denies the request, then the grounds for denial must be provided in the principal's written decision. Also includes a process for appealing the principal's decision to the director of schools.

Education (cont.)

Also provides that a student, teacher, or employee of the public school, or the student's parent or legal guardian, if the student is under 18 years of age, has a private right of action against the LEA or public school, if 1.) the student, teacher, or employee encounters a member of the opposite sex in a multi-occupancy restroom or changing facility located in a public school building; the student, teacher, or employee is in a multi-occupancy restroom or changing facility designated for the student's, teacher's, or employee's sex at the time of the encounter; and the LEA or public school intentionally allowed a member of the opposite sex to enter the multi-occupancy restroom or changing facility while other persons were present; or 2) the student, teacher, or employee is required by the public school to share sleeping quarters with a member of the opposite sex, unless the member of the opposite sex is a family member of the student, teacher, or employee.

Effective July 1, 2021.



Education

Chapter No. 578 (HB1501/SB0122). “School Turnaround Pilot Program Act” enacted. Amends Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6 by enacting the “School Turnaround Pilot Program Act which requires schools in need of intervention to develop a school turnaround plan during the 2021-2022 school year and to implement the plan during the 3 school years from 2022-2023 through 2024-2025. Requires the local board of education for a school in need of intervention to select and contract with an independent school turnaround expert identified by the Department of Education. Includes the payment structure for the expert and provides that subject to available funds, the Department of Education must provide grants to local boards of education with schools in need of intervention to facilitate the implementation of the turnaround programs and pay for the required experts.

Effective May 27, 2021.



Education

Chapter No. 589 (HB0713/SB0449). Per pupil state and local funds required to be allocated to an out-of-state residential mental health facility. Amends T.C.A. § 49-3-370 by requiring an LEA allocate funding in an amount equal to the per pupil State and local funds received by the LEA to an out-of-state residential mental health facility on a prorated daily basis for the student's length of stay under certain circumstances. Provides that if an LEA allocates funds to an out-of-state residential mental health facility pursuant to this section, then the LEA and the Department of Education are authorized to monitor the out-of-state residential mental health facility for compliance with this section, an individual student's IEP, and all other applicable state and federal laws. Also provides that if the out-of-state residential mental health facility fails to comply with all applicable requirements, then the LEA must cease the allocation of funding provided for in this section.

Effective May 27, 2021 and applicable to students admitted to an out-of-state mental health facility for the 2021-2022 school year and each school year thereafter.



Finance

Chapter No. 127 (HB0655/SB0537). Comptroller review of municipal travel and reimbursement policies. Amends T.C.A. § 6-54-903 by requiring all municipal travel and expense reimbursement policies and any amendment to the policies, to be available for review and audit by the Comptroller or the Comptroller's designee, but no longer requires the policies to be submitted to the Comptroller.

Effective April 13, 2021.



Firearms

Chapter No. 108 (HB0786/SB0765). Permitless carry and guns in parking lots.

Amends T.C.A. § 39-17-1307(g) by authorizing any person at least 21 years of age or 18 years of age and active-duty military or honorably discharged from the armed forces or reserves to lawfully possess a firearm in a place where the person is lawfully present, whether openly or concealed.

Also amends T.C.A. § 39-17-1313 by providing regardless of any ordinance or resolution to the contrary, a person who has a valid enhanced handgun carry permit or concealed handgun carry permit or who lawfully carries a handgun pursuant to T.C.A. § 39-17-1307(g) may transport or store a firearm or firearm ammunition in the person's vehicle while on or using any public or private parking area if 1.) the vehicle is parked in a location in which it is permitted to be; and 2.) the firearm or ammunition is transported or stored in the vehicle in a manner kept from ordinary observation or kept from ordinary observation and locked within the trunk, glove box, the interior of the vehicle or in a container securely affixed to the vehicle if the person is not in the vehicle.

Firearms (cont.)

Requires an enhanced handgun carry permit holder and a concealed handgun carry permit holder to always have his/her permit in the holder's immediate possession when carrying in a location or manner that would be prohibited except for the permit status and to display such permit to law enforcement on demand when in such situation.

Effective July 1, 2021.



General Government

Chapter No. 273 (HB1172/SB1262). “County Powers Relief Act” amended.

Amends T.C.A. § 67-4-2910 by providing that the governing body of a metropolitan government may pass a resolution or ordinance requiring 50% of the privilege tax on residential development to be paid at the time of application for a building permit and the remaining 50% of the tax to be paid prior to the issuance of a certificate of occupancy.

Effective April 30, 2021.



General Government

Chapter No. 309 (HB0215/SB0207). “Stopping Addiction and Fostering Excellence (SAFE) Act” amended. Amends T.C.A. § 6-54-145 by deleting the language related to sober living homes and providing only that a local government shall display in the city hall or other building that houses the seat of the local government, a sign at least 11 " in height and 17" in width stating:

PURSUANT TO TENNESSEE CODE ANNOTATED, § 33-2-405, IT IS UNLAWFUL FOR A PERSON, PARTNERSHIP, ASSOCIATION, OR CORPORATION TO OWN OR OPERATE A SERVICE OR FACILITY THAT PROVIDES ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION AND/OR TREATMENT WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 33 OF THE TENNESSEE CODE ANNOTATED WITHOUT HAVING OBTAINED A LICENSE. A VIOLATION OF THIS REQUIREMENT IS A CLASS B MISDEMEANOR. EACH DAY OF OPERATION WITHOUT A LICENSE CONSTITUTES A SEPARATE OFFENSE. REPORT ANY SUSPECTED UNLICENSED ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION AND/OR TREATMENT SERVICES TO THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES' OFFICE OF LICENSURE BY DIALING [WEST TENNESSEE LICENSURE OFFICE PHONE NUMBER; MIDDLE TENNESSEE LICENSURE OFFICE PHONE NUMBER; OR EAST TENNESSEE LICENSURE OFFICE PHONE NUMBER, AS APPLICABLE TO THE LOCATION OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT].

Also provides that if a local government maintains a website, then the required notice must be placed prominently on the entity's website.

Effective July 1, 2022.



General Government

Chapter No. 338 (HB1069/SB0590). Selling or offering to sale merchandise manufactured by inmates. Amends T.C.A. § 41-22-116 by prohibiting the State or a political subdivision from selling or offering to sale goods, wares, or merchandise manufactured by inmates, unless the inmates are on parole or probation, and are working through a TRICOR program.

Effective May 4, 2021.



General Government

Chapter No. 453 (HB1182/SB1224). Signage required for public restrooms under certain circumstances. Amends Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 120, Part 1 by providing that when a public or private entity operates a building or facility that is open to the general public, and as a matter of formal or informal policy, allows a member of either biological sex to use any public restroom within the building or facility, a notice is required to be posted at the entrance of each public restroom in the building or facility. The signage must be easily visible to anyone entering the public restroom and must:

- 1.) Be at least 8 inches wide and 6 inches tall;
- 2.) The top 1/3 of the sign must have a background color of red and state "NOTICE" in yellow text, centered in that portion of the sign;
- 3.) The bottom 2/3 of the sign must contain in boldface, block letters the following statement centered on that portion of the sign: THIS FACILITY MAINTAINS A POLICY OF ALLOWING THE USE OF RESTROOMS BY EITHER BIOLOGICAL SEX, REGARDLESS OF THE DESIGNATION ON THE RESTROOM.
- 4.) Except as provided in subdivision (b)(2), have a background color of white with type in black;
- 5.) Be located on a door to which the sign must be affixed or have its leading edge located not more than 1 foot from the outside edge of the frame of a door to which the sign must be affixed.



General Government (cont.)

Provides that any entity not in compliance with this part has 30 days to come into compliance after being notified of such non-compliance before any action is taken against the entity. “Public restroom” is defined as including a locker room, shower facility, dressing area, or other facility or area that is open to the general public, designated for a specific biological sex, and is a facility or area where a person has a reasonable expectation of privacy. Provides that this requirement is not applicable to unisex single-occupant restrooms and family restrooms intended for use by either biological sex.

Effective July 1, 2021.



General Government

Chapter No. 513 (HB0013/SB0187). Governmental entities prohibited from requiring COVID-19 vaccination or treatment for those who object for various reasons.

Amends Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 5, Part 1 by prohibiting the State or a political subdivision of the State from promulgating, adopting, or enforcing an ordinance or resolution that requires a person to receive an immunization, vaccination, or injection for the SARS-CoV-2 virus or any variant of the SARS-CoV-2 virus or requires medical treatment for those who object to the medical treatment on religious grounds or by right of conscience. Defines "medical treatment" as an immunization, vaccination, or injection for the SARS-CoV-2 virus or any variant of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and "Political subdivision" as a local governmental entity, including a city, town, municipality, metropolitan government, county, utility district, school district, public building authority, housing authority, emergency communications district, county board of health, and development district created and existing pursuant to the laws of this state, or an instrumentality of government created by 1 or more local governmental entities.

Effective May 25, 2021.



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General Government

Chapter No. 550 (HB0575/SB0858). Requiring proof of vaccination prohibited. Amends Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 5, Part 1 by prohibiting a State or local government official from 1.) requiring or mandating that a private business require proof of vaccination as a condition of entering upon the premises of the business or utilizing the services of the business; or 2.) requiring proof of vaccination as a condition of entering upon the premises of a State or local governmental entity, or utilizing services provided by a governmental entity.

Effective May 26, 2021.



Labor

Chapter No. 384 (HB0037/SB1573). “The Essential Workers Act” enacted.
Amends Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 50, Chapter 1, Part 2 by enacting “The Essential Workers Act.” Prohibits a local governmental entity or the executive head of the entity from adopting an executive order, ordinance or resolution that creates categories or classes of nonessential businesses, trades, professions, or industries for the purpose of suspending lawful commerce, encumbering trade, or denying citizens the right to work if such activities are otherwise lawful in this State, unless an explicit order of the local fire marshal or a court of competent jurisdiction declares that the business operating poses a clear and present danger to the citizenry of this state.

Effective May 11, 2021.



Law Enforcement

Chapter No. 336 (HB0961/SB1232). Immunity from suit when making arrests outside of jurisdiction. Amends T.C.A. § 38-3-113 by providing that a POST-certified law enforcement officer in this State who is employed fulltime by a county, municipality, or metropolitan form of government and authorized to make arrests has the same legal status and immunity from suit when making an arrest in this State for a crime that was committed outside of the law enforcement officer's jurisdiction, as the law enforcement officer has when making an arrest within the law enforcement officer's jurisdiction, if the arrest is made under the following circumstances: 1) the officer reasonably believes that the person arrested has committed a felony in the officer's presence or is committing a felony in the officer's presence; 2) the officer reasonably believes the person arrested has committed a misdemeanor that amounts to a breach of the peace in the officer's presence or is committing a misdemeanor that amounts to a breach of the peace in the officer's presence; or 3) the officer is rendering assistance to a law enforcement officer of this State in an emergency or at the request of the officer.

Effective May 4, 2021.



Personnel-Benefits

Chapter No. 382 (HB1540/SB1520). Obtaining creditable service. Amends Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 34, Part 6 by authorizing any member of the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System (“TCRS”) to obtain creditable service for prior service while a participating member of a municipal or metropolitan government retirement system by notifying the board of trustees of both retirement systems. Requires the municipal or metropolitan government retirement system, upon receiving the notice, to transfer to TCRS all employer and employee contributions made by or on behalf of the member, with regular interest.

Effective July 1, 2021.



Personnel-Benefits

Chapter No. 424 (HB1373/SB1409). COBRA coverage reimbursement. Amends T.C.A. § 8-27-404 by providing that if a local government offers continued health insurance coverage to the spouse and children of any first responder killed in the line of duty, the State shall reimburse the local government in an amount equal to that portion of the health insurance premiums or expenses for COBRA coverage for the benefits for which the local government is responsible.

Effective May 12, 2021.



Personnel-Benefits

Chapter No. 470 (HB0714/SB0610). Backpay after arrest. Amends T.C.A. § 7-51-1701 by providing that if a municipality or county has or implements a policy that places employees on leave for a period of time immediately following an arrest, the municipality or county is required to implement a policy of restoring backpay to the employee if the charges are dropped or the employee is found not guilty. Adds that this requirement does not apply when the employee pleads guilty to the charges or enters into a plea agreement, separates from employment voluntarily before the charges are dropped or the employee is found not guilty, or if the employee is administratively terminated for a reason other than the arrest. Also makes the records related to any administrative action subject to the local government's applicable retention period and not subject to destruction under the expunction statutes. Authorizes the records to be maintained solely for purposes of documenting the administrative action and submissions in litigation.

Effective May 18, 2021.



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Personnel-Benefits

Chapter No. 478 (HB0772/SB0778). Salary supplement for volunteer firefighters.

Amends T.C.A. § 4-24-202 by providing that a fire department with volunteer firefighters who successfully complete an in-service training course each year that is appropriate to a volunteer firefighter's rank and responsibility and the size and location of the volunteer firefighter's department, that is at least 30 hours in duration at a school certified or established by the Commission on Firefighting Personnel Standards and Education ("Commission"), is entitled to receive payment of \$600 from the Commission to be paid to the volunteer firefighter in addition to the volunteer firefighter's other compensation. Also provides that a person is only eligible to receive one payment as either a volunteer firefighter or a firefighter, whichever is greater, for successful completion of the person's annual in-service course.

Effective May 18, 2021 for purposes of promulgating rules and July 1, 2021 for all other purposes.



Personnel-Benefits

Chapter No. 499 (HB1383/SB1185). Retired law enforcement officers authorized to accept certain employment without loss or suspension of retirement benefits.

Amends Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 36, Part 8 by authorizing a former law enforcement officer who worked full time for a political subdivision, the Tennessee Highway Patrol, or for the State as an investigator being primarily responsible for the prevention and detection of crime and apprehension of offenders, has been retired for at least 9 months, and was a member of TCRS, a superseded retirement system administered by the State, or certain local retirement funds, to accept employment as a law enforcement officer without loss or suspension of retirement benefits after meeting certain requirements. Also provides that such officers are not entitled to police pay supplements and the officer can only be hired for a period not to exceed 1 year, subject to additional 1 year appointments.

Effective May 25, 2021 and repealed July 1, 2023.



Records

Chapter No. 242 (HB0197/SB0135). Records custodian authorized to petition the court to enjoin certain records requests. Amends T.C.A. § 10-7-503(a)(7) by authorizing a records custodian charged with fulfilling public records requests to petition the court to enjoin a person from making records requests, when the requests are made for the purpose of disrupting government operations. Provides that an injunction cannot be sought until the requestor is notified in writing that his/her conduct may violate this provision and the conduct does not cease after the notification. The notification is to be provided after the 5th request made by the individuals with the intent to disrupt government operations. Also provides that after a petition is filed, and while the case is pending, all records requests are to be fulfilled from the requestor, but if the records custodian prevails in court, the requestor is required to reimburse the records custodian for all labor incurred by the records custodian in producing the records during the pendency of the case. Provides that the court may enjoin the requestor from making requests for a 1 year period, if the court determines the requests were made for the purpose of disrupting government operations. Requires any records custodian seeking such an injunction to file a report, that includes the petition and any order issued by the court, with the Office of Open Records Counsel no later than 3 months after the petition is filed.

Effective April 28, 2021 and repealed July 1, 2025.



Taxes-Occupancy

Chapter No. 264 (HB0918/SB0852). Vacation lodging services excluded from the definition of short-term rental unit marketplace. Amends T.C.A. §§ 7-4-101, 67-4-1401, and 67-4-1501 related to the collection of taxes on short-term rentals by excluding “vacation lodging services” defined as a person or entity that is engaged in the business of providing the services of management, marketing, booking, and rental of short-term rental units, from the definition of short-term rental unit marketplace.

Effective April 30, 2021.



Taxes-Occupancy

Chapter No. 496 (HB1515/SB1030). Authorization to levy occupancy tax amended. Amends T.C.A. § 67-4-1401 by defining “municipality” for purposes of this provision to include any incorporated city or town, but not a metropolitan form of government. Also adds definitions for “tourism” and “tourism development.” Amends T.C.A. § 67-4-1402 by providing that a municipality may levy, modify, or repeal a tax on the privilege of occupancy by ordinance. Provides that any occupancy tax levy must not exceed 4% of the consideration charged for the space, unless a levy or authorization to levy an amount in excess of 4% existed prior to July 1, 2021. Provides that all private acts or ordinances in place before July 1, 2021, remain in effect. Amends T.C.A. § 67-4-1403 by providing that the revenues received by a municipality levying occupancy tax must be designated and used for the promotion of tourism and tourism development. Also provides that the revenues from any occupancy tax levied prior to July 1, 2021, are to be used in the manner prescribed in the private act or ordinance levying the tax. Deletes T.C.A. § 67-4-1425 in its entirety. Also amends Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 67, Chapter 4, Part 14 by providing that any authorization to levy granted through a private act, ordinance or through this part that existed prior to July 1, 2021, remains in full force and effect on and after July 1, 2021, but any change in the use of revenues after July 1, 2021, must be in accordance with the amended language of this part. Also requires any municipality with an existing authorization to repeal that authorization, if the authorization under this part is to be adopted.

Effective July 1, 2021.



Taxes-Property

Chapter No. 522 (HB0358/SB0563). Collection agent authorized to pursue delinquent tangible personal property taxes. Amends T.C.A. § 67-5-2004 by authorizing the county trustee to proceed against a taxpayer who is delinquent in the payment of tangible personal property taxes by retaining an agent to collect such delinquent tangible personal property taxes, plus interest authorized by law, reasonable costs, and legal fees. Includes the process for procuring such an agent.

*Effective May 25, 2021 and repealed on
July 1, 2024.*



Workers' Compensation

Chapter No. 152 (HB0401/SB1576). Timeframe to recover fees for reasonable and necessary court reporter and expert witnesses extended.

Amends T.C.A. § 50-6-226 by extending the time frame from June 30, 2020 until June 30, 2023 for recovering reasonable and necessary court reporter expenses and expert witness fees for depositions and trials, incurred when the employer wrongfully denies a claim or wrongfully fails to timely initiate any of the benefits to which the employee or dependent is entitled under this chapter, including medical benefits under § 50-6-204, temporary or permanent disability benefits under § 50-6-207, or death benefits under § 50-6-210, if the workers' compensation judge makes a finding that the benefits were owed at an expedited hearing or compensation hearing.

Effective July 1, 2021.



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Resources

- 2021 Public Chapters <https://tnsos.org/acts/PublicActs.112.php?showall>
- I can be reached by phone at 615-532-6827 or you can email me at Elisha.Hodge@tennessee.edu.
- You can also reach out to your municipality's assigned finance consultant for assistance.
- You can access the MTAS website at <https://www.mtas.tennessee.edu/> .

