



Legislative Update








HB1729 by Rep. Slater- We have been in talks with Rep. Slater. He has stated that he plans to submit an amendment to the bill that would seek to eliminate Section 6 of 49-6-50-3050 (b)(6) and to add "TCAP or Nationally Normed Achievement Test" in the already prescribed testing requirements in current law. It would not add additional requirements. Any language that is currently present in the bill that may create that implication would be removed. Rep. Slater plans to place the bill on notice in the coming weeks.

SB1968 by Sen. Lowe- We have been in contact with Sen. Lowe about the wording of this bill. Sen. Lowe has also stated that they plan to remove Tier 2 Truancy from the bill.

HB1896 by Rep. Mayberry- We have discussed this bill with Rep. Mayberry. He has stated it was not his desire for the bill to affect homeschoolers. It will not affect Church Related Umbrella schools and the bill is intended to deal with 3 online public universities, including Penn State.

THEA continues to communicate regularly with bill sponsors about these bills to advocate for the best interest of home school families. Watch our webinar discussing these bills with HSLDA [HERE](#) with access code: AFw7gO*C

BILLS TO WATCH

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
|  | HB 1729- Slater |
|  | SB 1968- Lowe
HB 1823- Raper |
|  | HB 1889- Hemmer
SB 1978- Akbar |
|  | HB 1889- Hemmer
SB 1978- Akbar |
|  | HB 1896- Mayberry |
|  | SB 2090- Crowe
HB 1976- White |
|  | HB 1740- Glynn
SB 1975- Akbari |

HB 1729 by Rep. Slater & SB 2636 by Sen. Roberts



Summary:

Education - As introduced, allows student performance on the Classic Learning Test to be used alongside the ACT and SAT for various purposes; makes various changes to home school testing requirements and opportunities available to home school students. - Amends TCA Title 49.

Status:

HB 1729 by *Slater

01/22/2026

Assigned to s/c K-12 Subcommittee

01/22/2026

P2C, ref. to Education Committee



(SB 2636) by *Roberts

Introduced, Passed on First Consideration

02/02/2026

Filed for introduction

02/02/2026

Passed on Second Consideration, refer to Senate Education Committee

02/05/2026

****THEA and HSLDA are in active discussion regarding this bill.****



SB 1968 by Lowe & HB 1823 Raper



Summary:

Local Education Agencies - As introduced, requires a director of schools to refer to juvenile court a student who was formerly enrolled in the LEA, who was receiving truancy interventions, who withdrew from the LEA, and who did not transfer to another LEA; establishes that unexcused absences accumulated by a transfer student at their former school or LEA during the school year in which they transfer follow the student to the receiving school or LEA to determine habitual truancy, to implement a progressive truancy plan, and to identify cases of educational neglect. - Amends TCA Title 37, Chapter 1, Part 1; Title 49, Chapter 1; Title 49, Chapter 2 and Title 49, Chapter 6.



Status:

SB 1968 by *Lowe

Placed on Senate Education Committee calendar for 2/25/2026

02/05/2026

Introduced, Passed on First Consideration

02/02/2026

HB 1823) by *Raper

Assigned to s/c Education Administration Subcommittee

02/02/2026

P2C, ref. to Education Committee

02/02/2026

HB 1889 by Hemmer & SB 1978 Akbari



Summary:

School Vouchers - As introduced, establishes various audit and reporting requirements for the department of education and private schools that enroll recipients of an education freedom scholarship; limits eligibility for the scholarship program to students who are members of a family with an annual household income that does not exceed 300 percent of the amount required for a student to qualify for free or reduced lunch; requires scholarship recipients to be administered the same TCAP tests administered to public school students enrolled in the same grade level or course subject. - Amends TCA Title 4, Chapter 29; Title 8, Chapter 44; Title 10, Chapter 7 and Title 49, Chapter 6.



Status:

HB 1889 by *Hemmer

Assigned to s/c K-12 Subcommittee

02/04/2026

P2C, ref. to Education Committee

02/04/2026

Intro., P1C.

02/02/2026

Filed for introduction

01/22/2026

(SB 1978) by *Akbari

Passed on Second Consideration, refer to Senate Education Committee

02/05/2026

Introduced, Passed on First Consideration

02/02/2026

Filed for introduction

01/22/2026

HB 1896 by Mayberry & SB 2449 by Powers



Summary:

Schools, Private - As introduced, prohibits the state board of education from requiring a private school that provides a fully online, self-paced educational program to annually administer a nationally standardized achievement test in English language arts and mathematics to each student each year; directs the state board to require such private schools that provide a high school program to administer a nationally standardized achievement test in English language arts and mathematics to certain students based on the percentage of their high school program that the student has completed. - Amends TCA Title 49, Chapter 1 and Title 49, Chapter 50.



Status:

HB 1896 by *Maberry

Filed for introduction

01/22/2026

Assigned to s/c K-12 Subcommittee

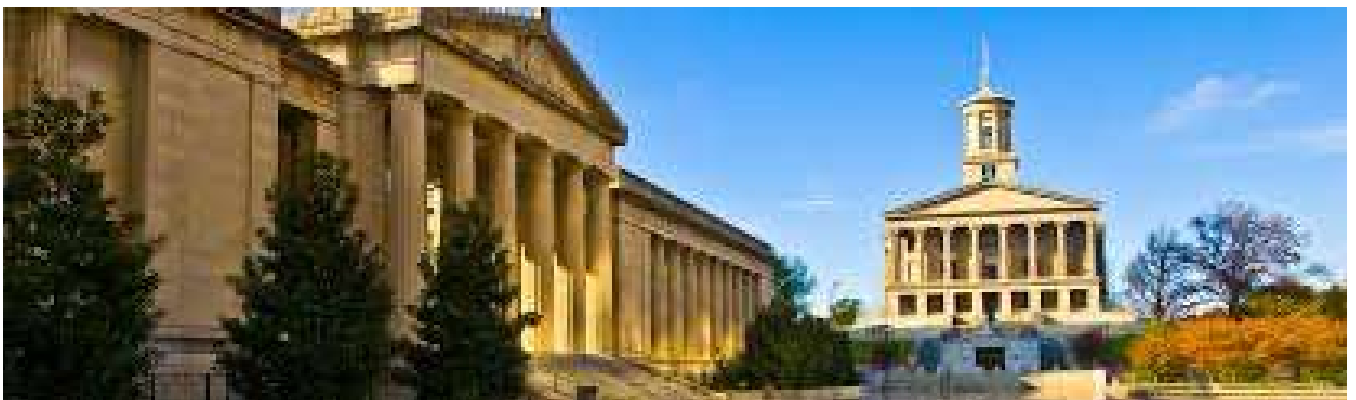
02/04/2026

SB 2449 by Powers

Passed on Second Consideration, refer to Senate Education Committee

02/05/2026

**THEA and HSLDA are actively working with bill sponsors to eliminate language of concern.



SB 2090 Crowe & HB 1796 White



Summary:

Education - As introduced, requires a private school that participates in the Individualized Education Act or the Tennessee Education Savings Account Pilot Program to comply with certain requirements in order to receive public funds through the program; prohibits a student from receiving an education freedom scholarship if the student is enrolled in a private school that doesn't comply with certain requirements. - Amends TCA Title 49, Chapter 10, Part 14; Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 26 and Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 35.



Status:

SB 2090 by *Crowe

Passed on Second Consideration, refer to Senate Education Committee

02/05/2026

Introduced, Passed on First Consideration

02/02/2026

HB 1796 by *White

Assigned to s/c K-12 Subcommittee

02/04/2026

P2C, ref. to Education Committee

02/04/2026

Intro., P1C.

02/02/2026

HB 1740 by Glynn & SB 1975 Akbari



Summary:

School Vouchers - As introduced, allows a child with a medical condition that inhibits the child from attending school in person to receive an individualized education account to enroll in a home school program. - Amends TCA Title 49.

Status:

HB 1740 by *Glynn

Action Def. in s/c K-12 Subcommittee to 3/3/2026

2/17/2026

Placed on s/c cal K-12 Subcommittee for 2/17/2026

02/11/2026

Assigned to s/c K-12 Subcommittee

01/22/2026



(SB 1975) by *Akbari

Passed on Second Consideration, refer to Senate Education Committee

02/05/2026

Introduced, Passed on First Consideration

02/02/2026



Who is THEA?

THEA was formed to assist families who want to home school their children. Any family in the State of Tennessee that wants to homeschool their children is eligible for help and encouragement by THEA.

We assist in the starting of groups, of tutorials, of church related school umbrella programs, of co ops, of sports teams, of graduations, of parties, and of focused learning groups. Local homeschool leaders (see tnhea.org) will tell you about the local resources that are available.

THEA works with other pro family leaders to find and then we monitor bills that are being introduced into our state legislature that will affect families and homeschoolers.

We use our THEA Observer to communicate the progress of bills working their way through the legislature, so that you can be effectively involved and not surprised.

A small group of home schooling families got together in 1984 and formed THEA, because there were five families in court in Tennessee. They were home schooling. Home education was not legal.

Today, our freedoms are widely expanded and the educational successes of homeschoolers is universally recognized and receives acclamation.

Each member of this board serves and cares for not only their own family but also ministers to and care for home schoolers all across the state, offering them hope for a better education and a better future for their children. If God is willing to entrust a mother and father with a child, THEA is committed to help you home school if you wish.

Get involved with the volunteers of Tennessee home educating families all across the state.

Preserving Freedom, Advancing freedom for Home Educating Families

	<p>TNHEA.ORG</p>
<p>THEA Reporter- Chelsea Eichel</p>	<p>reporter@tnhea.org</p>