



## **CAPITOL REPORT: Come to CIVICATION!**

*Review of Feb. 19-23, 2018*

### **Bill updates, CIVICATION registration**

Several high-profile bills were considered last week in the legislature, with more to come as we head into the busiest part of the session. Committee and subcommittee chairs announced final calendars and the deadlines for getting bills on calendar this year. All bills must be calendared by 3/14 in the House Education subcommittees to be heard this year, as **final calendars will begin the final week of March**. That will also be the week of final calendar in Senate Education. It's important to note that final calendars typically are not completed in a single week.

**The package of bills responding to a state report about sexual misconduct** between teachers and students was passed out of Senate Ed last week. Elements of the bills would also impact the powers of the State Board of Education to take licensure action against teachers for offenses not related to sexual misconduct. Expect more discussion about them in the House this week.

**Community schools legislation was rolled a week** in the Senate after an engaged conversation about the bill. A moratorium on new testing until the 2021-22 school year passed out of subcommittee in the House. The Pre-K/Kindergarten portfolio bill was rolled one week while the sponsor hears feedback around potential amendments.

**Please register** and remind your colleagues to come to the Capitol on Tuesday of your spring break for **CIVICATION**. We have a limited block of rooms for those traveling more than 50 miles each way to Nashville, and rooms are going fast!

# TEA Civication

2018

**Come to the Capitol!**  
**Talk to your legislators!**  
**Stand up for education!**  
**Mileage reimbursed by TEA!**  
**Register online now:**  
**[TEAteachers.org/Civication](http://TEAteachers.org/Civication)**



**Monday, 2/26/18**

**Joint Government Operations Rule Review- 1:30PM- HHR I**

- State Board of Education Licensure Rule- Makes various changes to the board policy concerning suspension and revocation of a teaching license.

**Senate Floor- 4PM**

- SB1624/HB1527 (Gresham/Parkinson)- DEFERRED AS AMENDED- Requires LEAs to have a policy regarding transcript alterations, provides protection for whistleblowers for unauthorized alterations, clarifies it is a crime to alter a transcript without authorization.

**Tuesday, 2/27/18**

**Senate Finance- 8:30AM- SHR I**

- SB2241/HB1817 (Norris/Hawk)- HB1817/SB2241 (Hawk/Norris)- SUPPORT- Reestablishes that a state employee may be eligible for pre-65 retiree health insurance if they work for an LEA, and vice versa, rather than having to spend

their whole career with one or the other. Establishes trusts to fund this liability for school employees, rather than just state employees.

### **House Ed A&P- 9AM, HHR III**

- HB2277/SB2094 (Brooks, K/Dickerson)- SUPPORT- Permits the financial literacy commission to establish a grant program to promote financial literacy and to designate certified financial literacy teachers and make annual incentive payments to such teachers if they have successfully completed a financial literacy course, incorporated the course into their classroom instruction, and administered financial literacy assessments
- HB2060/SB2571 (Smith/Hensley)- DEFERRED- Establishes a three year pilot for six schools to participate in a program to improve parent-teacher engagement in grades K-2.

### **House Ed I&P- Noon, HHR I**

- HB1685/SB1625 (Smith/Gresham)- DEFERRED- Permits LEAs to submit individualized implementation plans for RTI.
- HB1686/SB1854 (Smith/Massey)- SUPPORT- States results of the pre-k/kindergarten pilot cannot be sole basis for employment decisions in 17/18 SY. Directs the DOE to engage in broader engagement with practitioners concerning rollout and implementation.
- HB1855/SB1806 (Rudd/Ketron)- SUPPORT- Prohibits any state mandated assessments not in use during the 16-17 SY through the 21-22 SY.
- HB1988/SB2039 (Kumar/Gresham)- OPPOSE- Requires each high school student to receive a Scholars Prep Guide upon registering for any course.
- HB1577/SB1805 (Forgety/Ketron)- SUPPORT- Provides LEAs at least 15 days to verify any assessment and accountability data prior to that data being made public.

### **House Finance- 1:30PM, HHR I**

- HB1529/SB1804 (Terry/Ketron)- SUPPORT- Exempts teachers from states with reciprocity agreements from having to take the Praxis to get a TN teaching license if they receive a 4 or 5 evaluation for two years.
- HB1460/SB1626 (Smith/Gresham)- SUPPORT- Permits LEAs to establish recovery high schools.

### **House Ed A&P Sub- 3PM, HHR V**

- HB2009/HB2011 (Goins/Gresham)- AMEND- Creates cause of action against a director of schools for failure to report certain criminal convictions of teachers. Also grants new powers to the state board of education (SBE) to issue reprimands, suspend or revoke teaching licenses, including for violations of the teacher code of ethics.

- HB2099/SB2012 (Reedy/Gresham)- SUPPORT- Requires final licensure action to be transmitted the NASDTEC national clearinghouse and to be posted to the SBE website.
- HB2165/SB2013 (Goins/ Gresham)- AMEND- Expands the teacher code of ethics to include numerous new provisions. Concerning new provisions include language around professionalism, administering state tests, and mandatory reporting suspected any violations by other teachers.
- HB1997/SB2014 (Brooks, H/ Gresham)- AMEND- Requires school employees to pay for their own background checks every five years.
- HB2433/SB2015 (White, M/Gresham)- SUPPORT- Prohibits LEAs from entering into non-disclosure agreements for any act of sexual misconduct.
- HB2289/SB2125 (Carter/Gardenhire)- MONITOR- Revises definition of classroom teacher to mean an LEA employee who spends at least 75% of their time working with students.
- HB2144/SB2588 (Hill, M/Hensley)- SUPPORT- Removes bad faith language in PECCA, requires an MOU be reached if the board and employees enter into collaborative conferencing.
- HB1690/SB1707 (Clemmons/Kyle)- SUPPORT- Enacts “Tennessee Hunger-Free Students Act.”
- HB2447/SB2593 (Clemmons/Yarbro)- SUPPORT- Enacts a teacher residency grant program
- HB2303/SB2591 (Beck/Yarbro)- SUPPORT- Creates grant program to improve outcomes for homeless students
- HB1694/SB1629 (Smith/Gresham)- MONITOR- Requires state board of ed to track the number of teacher prep programs flagged as a result of student test scores of their graduates.

#### **House I&P Sub- 1:30PM- HHR II**

- HB2164/SB1510 (Moody/Massey)- SUPPORT- Requires instruction on detection, intervention, prevention, and treatment of child sexual abuse into the family life curriculum.
- HB2335/SB2453 (Cooper/Harper)- SUPPORT- Establishes the “Transparency in Charter School Finance Act.”
- HB1870/SB1901 (Dunn/Gresham)- MONITOR- Makes various changes to funding reimbursement for special education costs is determined and distributed to include charter schools.
- HB1981/SB1623 (Smith/Gresham)- DEFERRED- Prohibits use of ACT if problems occurred that prevented students from receiving scores.
- HB2203/SB2589 (Byrd/Hensley)- SUPPORT- Limits assessments given for certain grades and subjects using flexibility granted by federal ESSA law.
- HB1609/SB2575 (Hill, M/Hensley)- DEFERRED- Prohibits EOCs in HS, established ACT as sole assessment that can be required for graduation.
- HB1535/SB1897 (Forgety/Gresham)- DEFERRED- Requires LEAs to develop policies relative to weighting a student’s EOC score on their final grade. Permits

- LEAs not to count test scores on grades not received within 5 days of the end of school. Specifies range of weight percentages.
- HB1534/SB1898 (Forgety/Gresham)- DEFERRED- Requires LEAs to develop policies relative to weighting a student's score on TCAP on their final grade in grades 3-8. Specifies range of weight percentages.

**Senate Ed- 2:30PM- SHR I**

- SB1806/HB1855 (Ketrone/Rudd)- SUPPORT- Prohibits any state mandated assessments not in use during the 16-17 SY through the 21-22 SY.
- SB1901/ HB1870 (Gresham/ Dunn)- MONITOR- Makes various changes to funding reimbursement for special education costs is determined and distributed to include charter schools.
- SB1621/HB1571 (Gresham/Brooks, H)- DEFERRED- Requires commissioner's report to include certain information about college entrance exams.

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