



# Weekly Legislative Update

03.04.22

This week, Tennessee advocates and stakeholders continued to watch and weigh in on developments around several key education bills, namely school funding reform, as the General Assembly's legislative full committees and their subcommittees begin the process of preparing to conclude for the year. It has been announced that all three education subcommittees in the House - Education Instruction, K-12 Education, and Higher Education - will hold their final calendars next week on Tuesday, March 8th, meaning the two full standing education committees - Education Instruction and Education Administration - will likely conclude their consideration of bills in the coming weeks as well.

Top of mind for many in the education realm is the revamp of our state's public school funding formula, which will move through the legislature in an Administration-backed bill called TISA, or the Tennessee Investment in Student Achievement. The bill's language will be inserted in [HB2143/SB2396](#), legislation carried each chamber's Republican Majority Leaders, Rep. William Lamberth and Sen. Jack Johnson. The legislation will first be considered in the House, scheduled for the chamber's K-12 Subcommittee convening next Tuesday at 4:00PM CT. Earlier this week, several bills The Education Trust in Tennessee opposes, such as [HB2154/SB2407](#), the Age-Appropriate Materials Act of 2022, and [HB1895/SB1861](#), which would withhold critical funding from school districts based on gender classifications for school sports, advanced out of education committees for further consideration. A number of bills Ed Trust supports, such as legislation that would analyze food insecurity among students in higher education ([HB1669/SB1825](#)) and a bipartisan bill that would include National Suicide Prevention Lifeline information on student ID cards ([HB2062/SB2510](#)), passed onward as well. Other legislation Ed Trust is supporting, such as bills that would ban corporal punishment in Tennessee's public schools ([HB2564/SB2213](#)) and prohibit most PK-2 suspensions and expulsions ([HB2258/SB2173](#)), will be considered next week.

To see all of the legislation up for consideration next week as well as the other key bills Ed Trust is actively tracking, please be sure check out the "On Our Radar" section, our updated bill tracker, and the committee calendars each linked below.



**Reggie Nash**  
External Relations Manager for Tennessee



## On Our Radar

### [HB2564 / SB2213](#) Rep. Hakeem / Sen. Campbell

Prohibits the use of corporal punishment against students; deletes various provisions relative to the use of corporal punishment.

### [HB2258 / SB2173](#) Rep. Harris / Sen. Akbari

Prohibits an LEA from suspending or expelling a student enrolled in any of the grades pre-kindergarten through two unless the student's behavior endangers the physical safety of others; authorizes an LEA to suspend such a student for such behavior for no more than three days if certain measures are taken before the student is suspended.

### [HB2143 / SB2396](#) Rep. Lamberth / Sen. Johnson

Changes the date, from November 1 to September 1, by which the BEP review committee must submit its annual report on the BEP to the Governor, the State Board of Education, the Finance, Ways and Means Committees, the Senate Education Committee, and the House Education Administration Committee.

### [HB1648 / SB2597](#) Rep. Griffey / Sen. Hensley

Authorizes an LEA or public charter school to deny enrollment to students who are unlawfully present in the U.S., eliminates state funding for specified students, and requires LEAs and charter schools who enroll specified students to bear sole financial responsibility.

[Review Our Bill Tracker](#)



## What's Happening

House Higher Education Subcommittee  
Tuesday, 3/8/22, 12:00PM  
House Hearing Room III [Subcommittee Homepage](#)

House Education Instruction Subcommittee  
Tuesday, 3/8/22, 3:00PM  
House Hearing Room III [Subcommittee Homepage](#)

House K-12 Education Subcommittee  
Tuesday, 3/8/22, 4:00PM  
House Hearing Room II [Subcommittee Homepage](#)

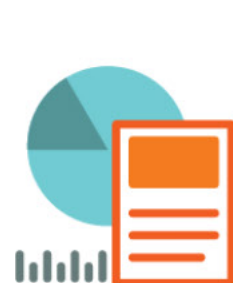
House Education Instruction Committee  
Wednesday, 3/9/2022, 11:00AM  
House Hearing Room I [Committee Homepage](#)

Senate Education Committee  
Wednesday, 3/9/2022, 1:00PM  
House Hearing Room I [Committee Homepage](#)

House Education Administration Committee  
Wednesday, 3/9/2022, 3:30PM  
House Hearing room I [Committee Homepage](#)

[House Committee Calendars](#)

[Senate Committee Calendars](#)



## Noteworthy

### The Tennessee Investment in Student Achievement (TISA)

The Tennessee Department of Education is exploring [a new student-based funding formula](#) for the state's public schools to replace the Basic Education Program (BEP) formula. Last week, Governor Bill Lee and Commissioner Penny Schwinn unveiled their full new proposal, including a base of \$6.6 billion to provide per-pupil funding.

[Read more](#)

### TISA Evaluation Tool

Ed Trust TN conducted an analysis based on the language in the amendment, [HB2143 / SB2396](#), as well statements made in the [presentation](#) by Governor Lee and Commissioner Schwinn on Feb. 24, 2022. This analysis is designed to provide stakeholders with the ability to see how TISA measures up to [our recommendations](#), and to provide additional context for each component of the new formula.

[Read more](#)

### VIDEO: Analyzing TISA: A Dollars and Sense Guide to the Formula Webinar

A modern and equitable funding formula is essential for student and school success and we are encouraged by Gov. Lee's commitment to making a historic K-12 investment. Last Tuesday, Ed Trust TN hosted a webinar to breakdown the different components of the bill and to share [our analysis](#).

[Watch here](#)

### EVENT: Teacher Education Policy & Advocacy 101

Join Reggie Nash, Breanna Sommers, and Meili Powell from Ed Trust TN for a teacher-focused education policy and advocacy training next Tuesday, March 8th, at 5:30p.m. CT, in partnership with [Teach for America Nashville-Chattanooga](#). Come learn more about our state's education policy governance structure, develop awareness about important education legislation, and build tangible advocacy skills.

[Register here](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Check Out Our Policy Agenda](#)



The Education Trust