



Volume 20, No. 14

FINAL REPORT

## **TEA Heads Off Massive Cuts ---- Attacks on Employee Rights** **A Strong Membership Ensures A Strong Voice on Capitol Hill!**

The 2009 legislative session ended on June 18 following six months of contentious debate amid budget shortfalls of historic proportions. Even in this difficult fiscal environment, TEA was successful in averting significant cuts to pre-K through 12 education programs. The Association was also successful in stopping many anti-association bills which would have very negatively impacted public education programs and school employees. While the dismal economy prevented progress on TEA's **60, 80, 90** campaign to improve the economic well being of education employees, TEA succeeded in stopping several proposals which would have cost hundreds of jobs.

Although the 2009 legislative session will go down in history as one of the most challenging ever, **TEA was successful in a number of areas including:**

- **SUCCESS** in securing \$83 million for "full funding" of the Basic Education Program, \$22 million for pre-Kindergarten, and \$15 million for extended contracts.
- **SUCCESS** in stopping legislation which would increase class size.
- **SUCCESS** in stopping legislation which would tie granting of tenure to value-added test scores.
- **SUCCESS** in stopping an anti-negotiations bill which would pull principals from the bargaining unit.
- **SUCCESS** in stopping bills which would allow "for profit" and "virtual" charter schools.
- **SUCCESS** in stopping a bill which would prevent a local Association from having access to a school system's e-mail list.
- **SUCCESS** in stopping a bill which would force all schools to start after Labor Day.
- **SUCCESS** in preventing expansion of an un-funded "physical activity" requirement.
- **SUCCESS** in stopping voucher legislation which would potentially drain millions to private schools.
- **SUCCESS** in making substantive changes to a bill which would have given a "blank check" to charter schools.

The 2009 Legislative Session clearly shows the critical role TEA plays in protecting public education and public school employees. **The challenges will be back in 2010, but your Association will be there to carry on the fight for public schools!** But remember, TEA's legislative success is directly tied to our membership. A strong united membership means a strong, united voice on Capitol Hill – **JOIN TODAY!**

## SUMMARIES OF SELECTED 2009 EDUCATION RELATED LEGISLATION

**Appropriations/FY 2009-2010** -- sponsored by Rep. Craig Fitzhugh (D-Ripley) and Sen. Jim Kyle (D-Memphis) -- Makes appropriations for fiscal years 2008-2009 and 2009-2010. Effective July 1, 2009. **Public Chapter 554.**

**Students/Absences** – sponsored by Rep. John Deberry (D-Memphis) and Sen. Roy Herron (D-Dresden) – Provides that students who miss school to attend required court proceedings will not be penalized for grading or attendance purposes. Amends TCA, Section 49-6-3002. Effective June 23, 2009. **Public Chapter 490.**

**Students/Bullying** – sponsored by Rep. Bill Dunn (R-Knoxville) and Sen. Diane Black (R-Gallatin) – Requires, rather than encourages, school districts to include certain criteria in policies prohibiting harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Amends TCA, Section 49-6-1016. Effective July 1, 2009. **Public Chapter 153.**

**Students/Child Abuse Reporting** – sponsored by Rep. Sherry Jones (D-Nashville) and Sen. Beverly Marrero (D-Memphis) – Restates provisions governing reporting of suspected child abuse by personnel of educational institutions and release of related records. Amends TCA, Title 10; Title 37 and Title 49. Effective July 1, 2009. **Public Chapter 283.**

**Students/Disabilities** – sponsored By Rep. Susan Lynn (R-Lebanon) and Sen. Jack Johnson (R-College Grove) – Extends Advisory Council for Education of Students with Disabilities to June 30, 2015. Amends TCA, Title 4, Chapter 29, and Title 49, Chapter 29. Effective April 2, 2009. **Public Chapter 15.**

**Students/Discipline Referrals** – sponsored by Rep. Jim Coley (R-Bartlett) and Sen. Beverly Marrero (D-Memphis) – Requires written referrals for student's behavior to be returned to faculty or staff member issuing the referral; referral to be kept in a student discipline file and not part of student's permanent record. Amends TCA, Title 49, Chapter 6. Effective July 1, 2009. **Public Chapter 315.**

**Students/Dropouts** – sponsored by Rep. Harry Brooks (R-Knoxville) and Sen. Tim Burchett (R-Knoxville) – Requires the Department of Education to explore with the Tennessee congressional delegation and the United States Department of Education modification of No Child Left Behind determination of who is a dropout for students who receive a GED and score well on certain assessments. Amends TCA, Title 49. Effective May 20, 2009. **Public Chapter 259.**

**Students/Extended Learning Programs** – sponsored by Rep. Tommie Brown (D-Chattanooga) and Sen. Andy Berke (D-Chattanooga) – Authorizes local boards of education to cooperate with community organizations to provide extended learning opportunities. Amends TCA, Title 49. Effective June 25, 2009. **Public Chapter 514.**

**Students/Mandated Health Screenings** – sponsored by Rep. Beth Harwell (R-Nashville) and Sen. Diane Black (R-Gallatin) – Places restrictions on universal mental health testing, or psychiatric or socioemotional screening of juveniles; requires certain consent by a juvenile's parent, guardian, legal custodian, or caregiver before such testing can occur. Amends TCA, Title 9, Chapter 4, and Title 49, Chapter 2, Part 1. Effective July 1, 2009. **Public Chapter 127.**

- Students/Monetary Incentives** – sponsored by Rep. Brian Kelsey (R-Germantown) and Sen. Dewayne Bunch (R-Cleveland) – Enacts the “Education Pays Act,” which encourages LEAs to develop Education Pays pilot programs for at-risk students to encourage student academic achievement through monetary or other rewards. Amends TCA, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 2. Effective May 29, 2009. **Public Chapter 326.**
- Students/Psychotropic Drugs** – sponsored by Rep. Les Winningham (D-Huntsville) and Sen. Joe Haynes (D-Goodlettsville) – Instructs the State Board of Education to review LEA policies on school personnel recommending psychotropic drugs such as Ritalin to treat elementary and secondary school students for behavioral concerns; requires the State Board to report its findings to the Select Oversight Committee on Education. Amends TCA, Title 49. Effective May 27, 2009. **Public Chapter 309.**
- Students/Transportation** – sponsored by Rep. Mike Turner (D-Old Hickory) and Sen. Jim Kyle (D-Memphis) – Removes the authorization for an LEA to transport up to 15 students to and from an interscholastic athletic or other interscholastic or school sponsored activity in a van. Amends TCA, Section 49-6-2116. Effective May 7, 2009. **Public Chapter 193.**
- Students/Adjudicated Delinquent** – sponsored by Rep. Bill Dunn (R-Knoxville) and Sen. Jamie Woodson (R-Knoxville) – Authorizes courts to notify the school of a child who is adjudicated delinquent based on an offense for which school notification is not mandatory under law. Amends TCA, Title 37, Chapter 1, Title 49, Chapter 6. Effective July 1, 2009. **Public Chapter 160.**
- Students/Assignment (Shelby County)** – sponsored by Rep. Curry Todd (R-Collierville) and Sen. Paul Stanley (R-Germantown) – Allows Shelby County board of education to delegate authority regarding assignment of individual students for decision-making on such matters; provides that if a local board of education delegates its power to determine the assignment of students, such delegation must be made to a three-member committee consisting of at least one current board member with all remaining members as board employees. Amends TCA, Title 49. Effective June 1, 2009. **Public Chapter 331.**
- Schools/Archives** – sponsored by Rep. Jim Coley (R-Bartlett) and Sen. Beverly Marrero (D-Memphis) – Enacts the “Archival Protection Act of 2009” to urge preservation of historically significant personal property located in public schools that have been closed. Amends TCA, Title 49. Effective July 1, 2009. **Public Chapter 291.**
- Schools/Bonds** – sponsored by Rep. Craig Fitzhugh (D-Ripley) and Sen. Randy McNally (R-Oak Ridge) – Replaces the term “qualified zone academy project” with the term “school credit bond project” in the Tennessee State School Bond Authority Act; authorizes the TSSBA to allocate, on behalf of the state, the national zone academy bond limitation allocated to the state among the state, local governments and public charter schools; revises other various provisions governing school credit bond projects. Amends TCA, Title 4 and Title 49. Effective July 8, 2009. **Public Chapter 601.**
- Child Abuse/Records** – sponsored by Rep. Sherry Jones (D-Nashville) and Sen. Beverly Marrero (D-Memphis) – Requires private schools and church-related schools to turn over records on a child who is the subject of a child abuse investigation and to cooperate fully with the investigation. Amends TCA, Section 37-1-406. Effective June 1, 2009. **Public Chapter 336.**
- Child Endangerment** – sponsored by Rep. Joe Pitts (D-Clarksville) and Sen. Lowe Finney (D-Jackson) – Redefines the offense of child endangerment to be when a parent or custodian of a child eight years of age or less knowingly exposes such child to or knowingly fails to protect such

child from abuse or neglect resulting in physical injury to the child. Amends TCA, Title 37, Chapter 1; Title 39, Chapter 11 and Title 39, Chapter 15. **Public Chapter 418.**

**Charter Schools** – sponsored by Rep. Beth Harwell (R-Nashville) and Sen. Jamie Woodson (R-Knoxville) – Revises various provisions of the Tennessee Public Charter School Act, including provisions governing eligible students, the authorized number of charter schools, and the authorized term of a charter. Amends TCA, Title 49, Chapter 13. Effective June 29, 2009. **Public Chapter 555.**

**School Safety** – sponsored by Rep. Les Winningham (D-Huntsville) and Sen. Reginald Tate (D-Memphis) – Urges the Select Oversight Committee on Education to study school safety problems, funding requirements and alternative approaches and solutions for management of safety-related problems. Amends TCA, Title 49, Chapter 1, Part 2. Effective July 6, 2009. **Public Chapter 584.**

**Schools/Waiver of Instructional Days** – sponsored by Rep. Les Winningham (D-Huntsville) and Sen. Charlotte Burks (D-Monterey) – Provides that in the event of a natural disaster or serious outbreak of illness affecting or endangering students or staff during a school year, the commissioner of education may waive for such school year the requirement for 180 days of classroom instruction, if the request is submitted to the commissioner by the director of schools. Amends TCA, Title 49. Effective May 21, 2009. **Public Chapter 272.**

**Schools/Firearms** – sponsored by Rep. Eric Watson (R-Cleveland) and Sen. Dewayne Bunch (R-Cleveland) – Revises authorization, and restrictions on such authorization, for a law enforcement officer to carry a firearm at all times and in all places within Tennessee, on-duty or off-duty, regardless of the officer's regular duty hours or assignments. Amends TCA, Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 13, and Title 70. Effective July 9, 2009. **Public Chapter 605.**

**Schools/Sex Offenders** – sponsored by Rep. Ryan Haynes (R-Knoxville) and Sen. Jamie Woodson (R-Knoxville) -- Revises the restrictions imposed on where sexual offenders may reside, work, or visit. Amends TCA, Title 40, Chapter 39, Part 2. Effective August 17, 2009. **Public Chapter 597.**

**School Bus/Extended Use** – sponsored by Rep. Jim Cobb (R-Spring City) and Sen. Ken Yager (R-Harriman) -- Allows Class D school buses to be used up to 15 years of service, subject to certain safety inspection requirements; authorizes approval of conventional buses by additional five years after initial 12-year period of service; imposes certain other requirements. Amends TCA, Section 49-6-2109. Effective July 1, 2009. **Public Chapter 436.**

**School Bus/Advertising** – sponsored by Rep. Jimmy Eldridge (R-Jackson) and Sen. Jim Tracy (R-Shelbyville) – Removes restriction on commercial advertising on school buses that requires such advertising to be composed of black lettering on a white background; prohibits advertisement of individual food items that, pursuant to law, cannot be sold via vending machines to students in pre-K through grade 8. Amends TCA, Section 49-6-2109(e). Effective July 1, 2009. **Public Chapter 38.**

**School Start Date/TCAP** – sponsored by Rep. Beth Harwell (R-Nashville) and Sen. Jamie Woodson (R-Knoxville) – Requires Commissioner of Education to establish dates for the administration of assessments required for graduation that provide the maximum number of instructional days possible prior to testing while maintaining compliance with federal law; requires the commissioner to establish yearly dates for the administration of the grades three through eight achievement tests that provide the maximum number of instructional days possible prior to testing while

maintaining compliance with federal law; establishes August 1 as the earliest date for starting the school year, beginning with the 2010-2011 school year, unless an LEA's board of education establishes a year-round school year by majority vote. Amends TCA, Title 49. Effective June 23, 2009. **Public Chapter 448.**

**Testing/Revisions** – sponsored by Rep. Mike Turner (D-Old Hickory) and Sen. Jim Kyle (D-Memphis) – Removes requirement of passage of the Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program tests in order to receive a full diploma; provides for end-of-course assessments; revises lottery scholarship day provisions. Amends TCA, Title 49. Effective July 1, 2009. **Public Chapter 262.**

**Alternative Schools/Graduation** – sponsored by Rep. Mike Turner (D-Old Hickory) and Sen. Jim Kyle (D-Memphis) – Removes the provision whereby no student may graduate based solely on attendance in alternative schools. Amends TCA, Section 49-6-3402. Effective May 21, 2009. **Public Chapter 192.**

**Special School/Districts** – sponsored by Rep. Bill Harmon (D-Dunlap) and Sen. Jim Kyle (D-Memphis) – Allows a special school district to remain in existence when a county, in which there is at least one special school district, and a city or cities within the county choose to form a metropolitan government. Amends TCA, Title 7 and Title 49. Effective June 5, 2009. **Public Chapter 371.**

**Pre-School/Contracting** – sponsored by Rep. Mike Turner (D-Old Hickory) and Sen. Jim Kyle (D-Memphis) – Revises provisions governing the Department of Education contracting and collaborating with certain entities in relation to preschool programs. Amends TCA, Section 49-6-101. Effective May 18, 2009. **Public Chapter 226.**

**Curriculum/American History** – sponsored by Rep. Joe Pitts (D-Clarksville) and Sen. Tim Barnes (D-Clarksville) – Exempts from the American History course requirement for a baccalaureate degree persons who pursue baccalaureate degrees in areas of study exempted, either by regulation of the board of regents or by regulations or delegated authority of the board of trustees of the University of Tennessee, if they have successfully completed a course in American History in high school. Amends TCA, Section 49-7-110. Effective July 1, 2009. **Public Chapter 204.**

**Home School Diplomas** – sponsored by Rep. Mike Bell (R-Riceville) and Sen. Dewayne Bunch (R-Cleveland) – Requires that diplomas issued by church-related schools and home schools in recognition of completion of secondary education requirements be considered by all state and local governmental entities as having the same rights and privileges of diplomas issued by public school systems. Amends TCA, Title 1, Chapter 3. Effective June 1, 2009. **Public Chapter 329.**

**Parental Involvement** – sponsored by Rep. Kevin Brooks (R-Cleveland) and Sen. Andy Berke (D-Chattanooga) – Requires the Department of Education to develop standards for parental involvement in public schools and to report on parental involvement in each school and school district on the report card for Tennessee schools beginning with the 2010-2011 school year. Amends TCA, Title 49. Effective May 7, 2009. **Public Chapter 154.**

**Health Insurance/Tobacco Surcharge** – sponsored by Rep. Judd Matheny (R-Tulahoma) and Sen. Eric Stewart (D-Belvidere) – Authorizes state insurance committee, the local government insurance committee, and the local education insurance committee to contract for, or delegate

resolution of, the application of medical necessity guidelines; requires that any proposed change in the group insurance plan for public employees that would place a tobacco surcharge on employees based on specific lifestyle choices not take effect until January 1, 2011. Amends TCA, Title 8, Chapter 27. Effective June 25, 2009 and January 1, 2010. **Public Chapter 502.**

**Local Insurance Committee** – sponsored by Rep. Susan Lynn (R-Lebanon) and Sen. Jack Johnson (R-College Grove) – Extends Local Education Insurance Committee to June 30, 2014. Amends TCA, Title 4, Chapter 29 and Title 8, Chapter 27. Effective April 2, 2009. **Public Chapter 25.**

**Retirement/Council on Pensions & Insurance** – sponsored by Rep. Susan Lynn (R-Lebanon) and Sen. Jack Johnson (R-College Grove) – Extends Council on Pensions and Insurance to June 30, 2017. Amends TCA, Title 3, Chapter 9 and Title 4, Chapter 29. Effective May 5, 2009. **Public Chapter 122.**

**Retirement/Return to Work** – sponsored by Rep. Jim Hackworth (D-Clinton) and Sen. Randy McNally (R-Oak Ridge) – Authorizes any person retired for at least one year from the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System (TCRS) to accept covered employment with a different employer without suspension of retirement benefits in certain circumstances; provisions effective until June 30, 2012. Effective July 1, 2009. **Public Chapter 438.**

**Retirement/Return to Work** – sponsored by Rep. Harry Brooks (R-Knoxville) and Sen. Tim Burchett (R-Knoxville) – Extends provisions on reemployment of teachers after retirement from June 20, 2010, to June 30, 2011. Amends TCA, Section 8-36-821. Effective May 20, 2009. **Public Chapter 254.**

**Teacher Education/Advisory Council** – sponsored by Rep. Susan Lynn (R-Lebanon) and Sen. Jack Johnson (R-College Grove) -- Extends Advisory Council on Teacher Education and Certification to June 30, 2015. Amends TCA, Title 4, Chapter 29 and Title 49, Chapter 5. Effective April 2, 2009. **Public Chapter 16.**

**Textbook Commission** – sponsored by Rep. Susan Lynn (R-Lebanon) and Sen. Jack Johnson (R-College Grove) – Extends State Textbook Commission to June 30, 2014. Amends TCA, Title 4, Chapter 29 and Title 49, Chapter 6. Effective April 2, 2009. **Public Chapter 28.**

**Teachers/License Plates** – sponsored by Rep. Bill Harmon (D-Dunlap) and Sen. Jim Tracy (R-Shelbyville) – Authorizes issuance of special license plates recognizing the important role teachers play in the state and pay tribute to such heroes in our local communities. Effective July 1, 2009. **Public Chapter 589.**

**Alternative Licensure** – sponsored by Rep. Harry Brooks (R-Knoxville) and Sen. Doug Overbey (R-Maryville) – Directs Department of Education to develop an alternative teacher licensing program for instructors of any military branch who have taught for a community college of any military branch. Amends TCA, Title 49. Effective May 18, 2009. **Public Chapter 221.**

**Negotiations/Open Meetings** – sponsored by Rep. George Fraley (D-Winchester) and Sen. Bill Ketron (R-Murfreesboro) – Provides that, during negotiations between representatives of public employee unions and representatives of state or local governmental entities, planning or strategy sessions of either set of representatives when meeting with the entity it represents are not open to the public. Amends TCA, Section 8-44-201. Effective May 27, 2009. **Public Chapter 293.**

**Differentiated Pay/Oversight Hearing** – sponsored by Rep. Beth Harwell (R-Nashville) and Sen. Joe Haynes (D-Nashville) – Requires the Select Oversight Committee on Education to conduct a hearing on the status of differentiated pay programs in Tennessee, including bonuses or other compensation tied to performance standards. Amends TCA, Title 49, Chapter 5, Part 6. Effective June 5, 2009. **Public Chapter 367.**

**Religious Expression** – sponsored by Rep. Susan Lynn (R-Lebanon) and Sen. Dewayne Bunch (R-Cleveland) – Prohibits a government entity from substantially burdening a person's free exercise of religion unless it demonstrates the application of the burden is essential to further a compelling government interest and is the least restrictive means of furthering that interest. Effective July 1, 2009. **Public Chapter 573.**

**After School Programs/LEAP** – sponsored by Rep. Tommie Brown (D-Chattanooga) and Sen. Andy Berke (D-Chattanooga) – Requires the Department of Education to study and report on sufficiency of extended learning opportunities complementary to school curricula that are occurring in the LEAP after school program. Amends TCA, Title 49, Chapter 1; Title 49, Chapter 2; Title 49, Chapter 3 and Title 49, Chapter 6. Effective May 27, 2009. **Public Chapter 297.**

**Extended Learning Programs/Standards** – sponsored by Rep. Tommie Brown (D-Chattanooga) and Sen. Andy Berke (D-Chattanooga) – Requires the State Department of Education to survey LEAs concerning extending learning opportunities in LEAs or communities and to include the results of the survey in the commissioner's annual report. Amends TCA, Title 49, Chapter 1; Title 49, Chapter 2; Title 49, Chapter 3 and Title 49, Chapter 6. Effective May 27, 2009. **Public Chapter 298.**

**Employees/Records** – sponsored by Rep. Lois DeBerry (D-Memphis) and Sen. Mark Norris (R-Collierville) – Makes confidential information regarding a public employee's health savings account, retirement account, and pension account; specifies that confidentiality provisions of this act and other existing law regarding public employees also applies to former public employees. Amends TCA, Title 10, Chapter 7, Part 5. Effective May 27, 2009. **Public Chapter 310.**

**Tenure Hearings/Davidson County** – sponsored by Rep. Ben West (D-Hermitage) and Sen. Joe Haynes (D-Goodlettsville) -- Affords tenured teachers in Davidson County a hearing if such teachers are suspended from duty. Amends TCA, Section 49-5-512. Effective June 5, 2009. **Public Chapter 360.**

**Tenure Hearings/Shelby County** – sponsored by Rep. Ulysses Jones (D-Memphis) and Sen. Reginald Tate (D-Memphis) – Extends provisions regarding dismissal of tenured teacher in Davidson County to also apply in Shelby County. Amends TCA, Title 49, Chapter 5. Effective July 1, 2009. **Public Chapter 353.**

**Lottery/HOPE Scholarships** – sponsored by Rep. Harry Brooks (R-Knoxville) and Sen. Jamie Woodson (R-Knoxville) – Clarifies requirements for provisional receipt of a HOPE scholarship. Amends TCA, Title 49, Chapter 4, Part 9. Effective May 20, 2009. **Public Chapter 243.**

**Higher Education/Career Technical Education** – sponsored by Rep. Ty Cobb (D-Columbia) and Sen. Lowe Finney (D-Jackson) – Requires the Board of Regents to study feasibility of cooperative career and technical programs between LEAs and Tennessee technology centers or other two-year institutions offering career and technical education. Amends TCA, Title 49. Effective May 13, 2009. **Public Chapter 205.**

**Higher Education/"Promise Zones"** – sponsored by Rep. Barbara Cooper (D-Memphis) and Sen. Tim Burchett (R-Knoxville) – Requires the executive director of the Tennessee Higher

Education Commission to convene a study group to meet to study the concept of a promise zone and the feasibility of a pilot project for promise zones in Memphis and Knoxville. Amends TCA, Title 49 and Title 67. Effective July 1, 2009. **Public Chapter 568.**

**Higher Education/Board of Regents** – sponsored by Rep. Susan Lynn (R-Lebanon) and Sen. Jack Johnson (R-College Grove) – Extends State University and Community College System, Board of Regents to June 30, 2014. Amends TCA, Title 4, Chapter 29, and Title 49, Chapter 8. Effective June 25, 2009. **Public Chapter 542.**

**Resolution/Curriculum** – sponsored by Rep. Barbara Cooper (D-Memphis) -- Urges the Department of Education to promote the teaching of the history of the labor movement in schools throughout the state. **HJR 51**

**Resolution/Read Across America** – sponsored by Rep. Les Winningham (D-Huntsville) – Expresses support for the “Read Across America” program. **HJR 79.**

**Resolution/National Teacher Day** – sponsored by Rep. Les Winningham (D-Huntsville) – Designates Tuesday, May 5, 2009 as National Teacher Day. **HJR 80.**

**Any TEA member who desires more information -- or a copy of a particular public chapter -- should contact the TEA Government Relations Division at 1-800-342-8262 or E-mail [jwinters@tea.nea.org](mailto:jwinters@tea.nea.org)**

This is the last issue of the TEA Legislative Report for the 2009 session of the 106th General Assembly. It is being sent at this time in order to reach TEA leaders close to the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year. The Legislative Report is published on a weekly basis when the General Assembly is in session. In addition to local association presidents, it is mailed to all association representatives. We ask association reps to share each issue with the members in their school. This report is also available on the TEA website at [www.teateachers.org](http://www.teateachers.org).

## Senate and House Education Committees Contact Information

<b>Senate Education Committee</b>			
LP = Legislative Plaza                      WMB = War Memorial Building Address for all members is Nashville, TN 37243 All legislators may be reached by telephone at 1-800-449-8366. You must then enter the last five digits of their office phone number.			
Member (Party & District)	Office	Phone Area Code (615)	E-Mail Address (Please include your name, postal address, and phone number in your e-mail.)
Chairman Dolores Gresham (R-26)	308 WMB	741-2368	<a href="mailto:sen.dolores.gresham@capitol.tn.gov">sen.dolores.gresham@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Vice Chairman Reginald Tate (D-33)	320 WMB	741-2509	<a href="mailto:sen.reginald.tate@capitol.tn.gov">sen.reginald.tate@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Secretary Andy Berke (D-10)	310 WMB	741-6682	<a href="mailto:sen.andy.berke@capitol.tn.gov">sen.andy.berke@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Charlotte Burks (D-15)	304 WMB	741-3978	<a href="mailto:sen.charlotte.burks@capitol.tn.gov">sen.charlotte.burks@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Rusty Crowe (R-3)	8 LP	741-2468	<a href="mailto:sen.rusty.crowe@capitol.tn.gov">sen.rusty.crowe@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Joe M. Haynes (D-20)	G19 WMB	741-6679	<a href="mailto:sen.joe.haynes@capitol.tn.gov">sen.joe.haynes@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Bill Ketron (R-13)	13 LP	741-6853	<a href="mailto:sen.bill.ketron@capitol.tn.gov">sen.bill.ketron@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Jim Tracy (R-16)	2 LP	741-1066	<a href="mailto:sen.jim.tracy@capitol.tn.gov">sen.jim.tracy@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Jamie Woodson (R-6)	6 LP	741-1648	<a href="mailto:sen.jamie.woodson@capitol.tn.gov">sen.jamie.woodson@capitol.tn.gov</a>

<b>House Education</b>			
LP = Legislative Plaza                      WMB = War Memorial Building Address for all members is Nashville, TN 37243 All legislators may be reached by telephone at 1-800-449-8366. You must then enter the last five digits of their office phone number.			
Member (Party & District)	Office	Phone Area Code (615)	E-Mail Address (Please include your name, postal address, and phone number in your e-mail.)
Chairman Harry Brooks (R-19)	117 WMB	741-6879	<a href="mailto:rep.harry.brooks@capitol.tn.gov">rep.harry.brooks@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Vice Chairman Les Winningham (D-38)	36 LP	741-6852	<a href="mailto:rep.leslie.winningham@capitol.tn.gov">rep.leslie.winningham@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Secretary Jim Coley (R-97)	207 WMB	741-8201	<a href="mailto:rep.jim.coley@capitol.tn.gov">rep.jim.coley@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Judy Barker (D-77)	24 LP	741-0718	<a href="mailto:rep.judy.barker@capitol.tn.gov">rep.judy.barker@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Kevin Brooks (R-24)	104 WMB	741-1350	<a href="mailto:rep.kevin.brooks@capitol.tn.gov">rep.kevin.brooks@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Tommie F. Brown (D-28)	36 LP	741-4374	<a href="mailto:rep.tommie.brown@capitol.tn.gov">rep.tommie.brown@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Barbara Cooper (D-86)	38 LP	741-4295	<a href="mailto:rep.barbara.cooper@capitol.tn.gov">rep.barbara.cooper@capitol.tn.gov</a>
John J. Deberry, Jr. (D-90)	26 LP	741-2239	<a href="mailto:rep.john.deberry@capitol.tn.gov">rep.john.deberry@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Bill Dunn (R-16)	110 WMB	741-1721	<a href="mailto:rep.bill.dunn@capitol.tn.gov">rep.bill.dunn@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Beth Harwell (R-56)	107 WMB	741-0709	<a href="mailto:rep.beth.harwell@capitol.tn.gov">rep.beth.harwell@capitol.tn.gov</a>
David Hawk (R-5)	219 WMB	741-7482	<a href="mailto:rep.david.hawk@capitol.tn.gov">rep.david.hawk@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Ryan A Haynes (R-14)	214 WMB	741-2264	<a href="mailto:rep.ryan.haynes@capitol.tn.gov">rep.ryan.haynes@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Joey Hensley (R-70)	106 WMB	741-7476	<a href="mailto:rep.joey.hensley@capitol.tn.gov">rep.joey.hensley@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Matthew Hill (R-7)	107 WMB	741-2251	<a href="mailto:rep.matthew.hill@capitol.tn.gov">rep.matthew.hill@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Ulysses Jones, Jr. (D-98)	35 LP	741-4575	<a href="mailto:rep.ulysses.jones@capitol.tn.gov">rep.ulysses.jones@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Ron Lollar (R-99)	209 WMB	741-7084	<a href="mailto:rep.ron.lollar@capitol.tn.gov">rep.ron.lollar@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Mark L. Maddox (D-76)	17 LP	741-7847	<a href="mailto:rep.mark.maddox@capitol.tn.gov">rep.mark.maddox@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Joe Pitts (D-67)	109 WMB	741-2043	<a href="mailto:rep.joe.pitts@capitol.tn.gov">rep.joe.pitts@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Joe Towns Jr. (D-84)	36 LP	741-2189	<a href="mailto:rep.joe.towns@capitol.tn.gov">rep.joe.towns@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Larry Turner (D-85)	208 WMB	741-6954	<a href="mailto:rep.larry.turner@capitol.tn.gov">rep.larry.turner@capitol.tn.gov</a>
Terri Lynn Weaver (R-40)	204 WMB	741-2192	<a href="mailto:rep.terri.lynn.weaver@capitol.tn.gov">rep.terri.lynn.weaver@capitol.tn.gov</a>

# G - R - E - A - T

## Grass Roots Education Action Team

(Sign up today for a **GREAT** service for **TEA MEMBERS ONLY!**)

**GREAT NEWS!** We're making it easy for TEA members to stay informed on legislative issues. To sign up for this important legislative/political action communications network, **TEA MEMBERS** need only to provide their HOME e-mail address to our Government Relations Division.

**WHY JOIN?** As a **G-R-E-A-T** member you can:

- ◆ Stay informed on legislative issues concerning education
- ◆ Receive timely legislative updates, including the TEA Legislative Report
- ◆ Help us quickly communicate TEA's positions to lawmakers

**HOW DO I JOIN?** It's as simple as sending an e-mail from your HOME e-mail address to **GreatTeam@tea.nea.org**. Be sure to include the following: FIRST NAME, LAST NAME, LOCAL ASSOCIATION. For a number of reasons, it is essential that we have your HOME – not work – e-mail address.

If you prefer, fill out the form below and return to Government Relations Division, Tennessee Education Association, 801 Second Avenue North, Nashville, Tennessee 37201.

E-mail address at home: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Local Association \_\_\_\_\_

(Note: This list will not be shared with any individual or group.)

## TEA -- A PROUD HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE SUCCESS

The Tennessee Education Association has a proven record of fighting for legislation to protect public education and school employees. Over the years, virtually every major improvement in education has been a TEA initiative. Starting with this year, **here is a chronology of major TEA legislative accomplishments:**

**2009** – Amid drastic cuts, TEA protects teaching positions and ESP jobs by securing full funding of the Basic Education Program

**2007** – TEA launches **60, 80, 90** teacher quality campaign – makes major progress

**2006** – \$250 million NEW dollars appropriated for pre-K & K-12 programs

**2005** – \$25 million in lottery funds earmarked for pre-kindergarten expansion

**2003** – State Board of Education required to have K-12 teacher member

**2002** – "Working conditions" negotiations protected

**2001** – Special education class size reduced

**1998** – Health insurance for retired educators

**1997** – Compounded COLA - A major retirement benefit improvement

**1996** – Teachers protected from performing medical procedures

**1992** – Mandatory kindergarten

**1992** – Education Improvement Act/major class size reduction

**1990** – Tuition reduction for children of teachers

**1986** – Planning time for teachers

**1985** – Duty-free lunch mandated

**1985** – State health insurance plan for teachers

**1981** – Sick Leave Bank authorized

**1978** – Professional Negotiations Law passed

**1973** – Comprehensive vocational education program

**1971** – Personal/professional leave days mandated by law

**1965** – First state-supported kindergarten program

**1957** – Social Security available for teachers

**1951** – Teacher Tenure Law

**1947** – Sick leave for teachers

**1945** – First teacher retirement law enacted

In addition to these major improvements, TEA has often had to oppose anti-public education legislation including: attacks on the tenure law, efforts to weaken the negotiations law, and attempts to divert public education funds to private schools.

**ASK YOURSELF THIS QUESTION – WHERE WOULD PUBLIC EDUCATION IN TENNESSEE BE WITHOUT THE EFFORTS OF THE TENNESSEE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION?**



**YOUR VOICE**

**ON**

**CAPITOL HILL!**



# TEA Successful in 2009 Legislature



## Heads Off Massive Cuts... Attacks on Employee Rights

The 2009 legislative session ended June 18 following six months of contentious debate amid budget shortfalls of historic proportions. Even in this difficult fiscal environment, TEA successfully averted significant cuts to pre-K through 12 education and stopped many anti-association bills.

### Major Budget “Wins”

- \$83 million for “full funding” of the Basic Education Program (includes federal “stimulus” funds)
- \$22 million to maintain pre-kindergarten programs
- \$15 million retained for extended contracts
- \$13 million to fund health insurance premium increases
- \$5 million (non-recurring) retained for coordinated school health.

### “Bad” Bills Defeated

- Attack the TENURE LAW by tying the granting of tenure to value-added test scores.
- Attack the NEGOTIATIONS LAW by pulling principals out of the bargaining unit.
- Allow for “virtual” and “for profit” CHARTER SCHOOLS.
- Attack ASSOCIATION RIGHTS by refusing access to an LEA’s e-mail system.
- Increase CLASS SIZE by using system-wide average
- Mandate the SCHOOL CALENDAR at the state level
- Increase non-funded “PHYSICAL ACTIVITY” requirements
- Drain education funding through VOUCHER programs.



## Charter School Expansion Limited

TEA succeeded in limiting expansion and increasing accountability of charter schools. While the charter school bill, as introduced, would have given a “blank check” to the expansion of charter schools, the bill which passed the last day of the session was greatly modified – through TEA’s efforts – in several ways:

- Limits the number of systems who can make “free-and-reduced lunch” students eligible to attend charter schools.
- Places a priority on enrolling under-achieving students and students from under-achieving schools
- Limits the number of charter schools that can be authorized to 90
- Prevents an unlimited number of charter schools after 2011 by extending the “cap” on number of charter schools another four years, until 2015
- Retains provisions in the law that “sunset” the entire charter school statute – unless it is extended – prior to 2015
- Requires new accountability for charter schools through an enhanced reporting system that tracks students who leave the charter school
- Encourages “non-charter schools of innovation” to gauge the effectiveness of charter schools

The restricted charter school bill that passed is far preferable to a more expansive charter school bill which likely would have passed in the waning hours of the session had TEA not helped to shape the amendments incorporated in the final bill. TEA still has serious concerns about uncontrolled expansion of these schools, and will work to hold charter school advocates to their commitment to refrain from pushing for major changes in the immediate future.



The 2009 legislative session clearly demonstrates the critical role that TEA played in protecting public schools. With the many legislative challenges ahead, TEA members can rest assured that our Association will continue to fight for public education and public school employees in 2010 and beyond!

