

Historic Budget Crisis Backdrop for 2009 Session
TEA Will Fight to Protect Jobs and Teacher Rights

The first session of the 106th General Assembly began on January 13 with a huge political fight right out of the gate. With the Republicans in the House holding a one-vote majority for the first time in decades, 49 Democrats and one Republican allied to elect Rep. Kent Williams (R-Butler) speaker over the Republican caucus nominee Jason Mumpower (R-Bristol). This unexpected political drama has set the stage for a partisan split in House committees which could significantly impact the outcome of legislation in many areas. In a much calmer Senate, Sen. Ron Ramsey (R-Blountville) was re-elected speaker for the next two years.

As the session began, the national economic crisis grew worse by the day and the state faces a revenue shortfall which will probably exceed \$1 billion by the end of the current fiscal year. Due to the economic uncertainties, Gov. Phil Bredesen has delayed presenting his 2009-2010 budget until possibly late March, pending congressional action on a federal stimulus package which will significantly impact budget priorities. TEA members can be assured that **your Association will be working diligently to protect education funding – and positions for educators –** as the budget debates develop in the coming days and weeks.

In addition to budget concerns, **TEA will also be placing several issues on the new legislature's agenda.** These include:

- Legislation to keep TEA's **60, 80, 90** campaign on the legislative agenda.
- Legislation to highlight the issue of **safe schools**.
- Legislation to promote more **parental involvement**.
- Legislation to call attention to teacher "out-of-pocket" expenses for student **materials and supplies** and to review the current procedures for distributing BEP supply money.

TEA is also aware of a number of anti-education, anti-TEA bills. These include:

- a bill to abolish teacher **tenure**
- a bill to pull principals out of the **bargaining unit**
- a bill to provide **vouchers** for private and religious schools
- a bill to greatly expand **charter schools**.

Much more information will be provided to TEA members as this legislation is filed and begins moving through the legislative process. One thing is absolutely sure – **TEA members -- in large numbers – must be prepared to contact legislators and ask that they vote "NO" on any proposal which blatantly attacks teacher rights or the rights of TEA as a professional association!** Next week's Report will contain an insert listing contact information for all legislators.

An Overview of the Legislative Schedule

Generally, legislators come to Nashville on Mondays and return home on Thursdays. On Monday evenings, the House and Senate hold "floor sessions", meaning they meet in their respective chambers in the Capitol, usually at 5:00 p.m. **The Senate Education Committee will meet on Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m. in Room 12, Legislative Plaza. The House Education Committee will meet on Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. in Room 16, Legislative Plaza.** This Report will carry the meeting schedule for the K-12 Subcommittee of the House Education Committee once we have confirmation of times. There is a floor session on Wednesday afternoon and on Thursday morning. TEA Government Relations recommends that TEA members who wish to come to Nashville to attend meetings, observe the legislative process, or meet with their legislators come on Tuesday or Wednesday in order to maximize their visit.

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.

Senate Education Committee

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	sen.dolores.gresham@capitol.tn.gov
Vice Chairman Reginald Tate (D-33)	320 WMB	741-2509	sen.reginald.tate@capitol.tn.gov
Secretary Andy Berke (D-10)	310 WMB	741-6682	sen.andy.berke@capitol.tn.gov
Charlotte Burks (D-15)	304 WMB	741-3978	sen.charlotte.burks@capitol.tn.gov
Rusty Crowe (R-3)	8 LP	741-2468	sen.rusty.crowe@capitol.tn.gov
Joe M. Haynes (D-20)	G19 WMB	741-6679	sen.joe.haynes@capitol.tn.gov
Bill Ketron (R-13)	13 LP	741-6853	sen.bill.ketron@capitol.tn.gov
Jim Tracy (R-16)	2 LP	741-1066	sen.jim.tracy@capitol.tn.gov
Bo Watson (R-11)	6A LP	741-3227	sen.bo.watson@capitol.tn.gov
Jamie Woodson (R-6)	6 LP	741-1648	sen.jamie.woodson@capitol.tn.gov

Senate Finance Committee

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 Randy McNally (R-5)	307 WMB	741-6806	sen.randy.mcnally@capitol.tn.gov
Vice Chairman Douglas Henry (D-21)	321 WMB	741-3291	sen.douglas.henry@capitol.tn.gov
Secretary Tim Burchett (R-7)	306 WMB	741-1766	sen.tim.burchett@capitol.tn.gov
Diane Black (R-18)	5 LP	741-1999	sen.diane.black@capitol.tn.gov
Joe M. Haynes (D-20)	G19 WMB	741-6679	sen.joe.haynes@capitol.tn.gov
Roy Herron (D-24)	309 WMB	741-4576	sen.roy.herron@capitol.tn.gov
James F. Kyle Jr. (D-28)	309 WMB	741-4167	sen.jim.kyle@capitol.tn.gov
Mark Norris (R-32)	9A LP	741-1967	sen.mark.norris@capitol.tn.gov
Doug Overbey (R-8)	4 LP	741-0981	sen.doug.overbey@capitol.tn.gov
Bo Watson (R-11)	6A LP	741-3227	sen.doug.overbey@capitol.tn.gov

House Education Committee

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	rep.harry.brooks@capitol.tn.gov
Vice Chairman Les Winningham (D-38)	36 LP	741-6852	rep.leslie.winningham@capitol.tn.gov
Secretary Jim Coley (R-97)	207 WMB	741-8201	rep.harry.brooks@capitol.tn.gov
Judy Barker (D-77)	24 LP	741-0718	rep.judy.barker@capitol.tn.gov
Kevin Brooks (R-24)	104 WMB	741-1350	rep.kevin.brooks@capitol.tn.gov
Tommie F. Brown (D-28)	36 LP	741-4374	rep.tommie.brown@capitol.tn.gov
Barbara Cooper (D-86)	38 LP	741-4295	rep.barbara.cooper@capitol.tn.gov
John J. Deberry Jr. (D-90)	26 LP	741-2239	rep.john.deberry@capitol.tn.gov
Bill Dunn (R-16)	110 WMB	741-1721	rep.bill.dunn@capitol.tn.gov
Beth Harwell (R-56)	107 WMB	741-0709	rep.beth.harwell@capitol.tn.gov
David Hawk (R-5)	219 WMB	741-7482	rep.david.hawk@capitol.tn.gov
Ryan A Haynes (R-14)	214 WMB	741-2264	rep.ryan.haynes@capitol.tn.gov
Joey Hensley (R-70)	106 WMB	741-7476	rep.joey.hensley@capitol.tn.gov
Matthew Hill (R-7)	107 WMB	741-2251	rep.matthew.hill@capitol.tn.gov
Ulysses Jones Jr. (D-98)	35 LP	741-4575	rep.ulysses.jones@capitol.tn.gov
Ron Lollar (R-99)	209 WMB	741-7084	rep.ron.lollar@capitol.tn.gov
Mark L. Maddox (D-76)	17 LP	741-7847	rep.mark.maddox@capitol.tn.gov
Joe Pitts (D-67)	109 WMB	741-2043	rep.joe.pitts@capitol.tn.gov
Joe Towns Jr. (D-84)	36 LP	741-2189	rep.joe.towns@capitol.tn.gov
Larry Turner (D-85)	208 WMB	741-6954	rep.larry.turner@capitol.tn.gov
Terri Lynn Weaver (R-40)	204 WMB	741-2192	rep.terri.lynn.weaver@capitol.tn.gov
John Mark Windle (D-41)	108 WMB	741-1260	rep.john.windle@capitol.tn.gov

House Finance Committee

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 Craig Fitzhugh (D-82)	33 LP	741-2134	rep.craig.fitzhugh@capitol.tn.gov
Vice Chairman Charles Sargent (R-61)	206 WMB	741-6808	rep.charles.sargent@capitol.tn.gov
Secretary Johnny Shaw (D-80)	33 LP	741-4538	rep.johnny.shaw@capitol.tn.gov
Joe E. Armstrong (D-15)	25 LP	741-0768	rep.joe.armstrong@capitol.tn.gov
Stratton Bone (D-46)	23 LP	741-7086	rep.stratton.bone@capitol.tn.gov
Harry Brooks (R-19)	117 WMB	741-6879	rep.harry.brooks@capitol.tn.gov
Kevin Brooks (R-24)	104 WMB	741-1350	rep.kevin.brooks@capitol.tn.gov
Tommie F. Brown (D-28)	36 LP	741-4374	rep.tommie.brown@capitol.tn.gov
Glen Casada (R-63)	112 WMB	741-4389	rep.glen.casada@capitol.tn.gov
Kent Coleman (D-49)	32 LP	741-6829	rep.kent.coleman@capitol.tn.gov
Lois M. DeBerry (D-91)	15 LP	741-3830	rep.lois.deberry@capitol.tn.gov

House Finance Committee (Con't)

Member (Party & District)	Office	Phone Area Code (615)	E-Mail Address (Please include your name, postal address, and phone number in your e-mail.
Bill Dunn (R-16)	110 WMB	741-1721	rep.bill.dunn@capitol.tn.gov
Jimmy A. Eldridge (R-73)	204 WMB	741-7475	rep.jimmy.eldridge@capitol.tn.gov
Michael Harrison (R-9)	206 WMB	741-7480	rep.mike.harrison@capitol.tn.gov
Curtis G. Johnson (R-68)	207 WMB	741-4341	rep.curtis.johnson@capitol.tn.gov
Mark L. Maddox (D-76)	17 LP	741-7847	rep.mark.maddox@capitol.tn.gov
Debra Young Maggart (R-45)	203 WMB	741-3893	rep.debra.young.maggart@capitol.tn.gov
Steve McDaniel (R-72)	115 WMB	741-0750	rep.steve.mcdaniel@capitol.tn.gov
Steve McManus (R-96)	212 WMB	741-1920	rep.steve.mcmanus@capitol.tn.gov
Larry J. Miller (D-88)	20 LP	741-4453	rep.larry.miller@capitol.tn.gov
Richard Montgomery (R-12)	207 WMB	741-5981	rep.richard.montgomery@capitol.tn.gov
Jason Mumpower (R-3)	103 WMB	741-2050	rep.jason.mumpower@capitol.tn.gov
Speaker Emeritus Jimmy Naifeh (D-81)	G19A WMB	741-3774	spk.eme.jimmy.naifeh@capitol.tn.gov
Gary Odom (D-55)	18A LP	741-4410	rep.gary.odom@capitol.tn.gov
Dennis E. Roach (R-35)	217 WMB	741-2534	rep.dennis.roach@capitol.tn.gov
Donna Rowland (R-34)	209 WMB	741-2804	rep.donna.rowland@capitol.tn.gov
Janis Baird Sontany (D-53)	32 LP	741-6861	rep.janis.sontany@capitol.tn.gov
Harry J. Tindell (D-13)	33 LP	741-2031	rep.harry.tindell@capitol.tn.gov
Mike Turner (D-51)	18 LP	741-3229	rep.mike.turner@capitol.tn.gov
Les Winningham (D-38)	36 LP	741-6852	rep.leslie.winningham@capitol.tn.gov

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