



THE LEGISLATIVE BLAST

February 03, 2006

Ethics Legislation Sent to Conference Committee

The House and Senate have both passed individual ethics bills on January 31. Since the bills differ in language, the leadership of both Houses appointed a conference committee to develop consensus legislation. Members of the Conference Committee are listed below. The committee's membership is split equally between Republican and Democrat.

Members of the Conference Committee include:

Senators Burchett, Cohen, Fowler, Harper, Haynes, Herron, Jackson, Kyle, McNally, Ramsey, Williams and Woodson.

Representatives Dunn, Fitzhugh, U. Jones, McCord, McMillan, Mumpower, Overbey, Rinks, Sargent, Stanley, Tindell, and M. Turner.

The committee plans to meet throughout the weekend. TFA will provide a detailed summary of the ethics legislation next week upon passage. An amendment by Rep. Jason Mumpower (R) Bristol, does attempt to clarify the definition of lobbyist and was included in the House version of the bill. Several legislators have mentioned receiving calls from our membership regarding the definition of a lobbyist and the importance of Tennesseans being able to continue to have their voice heard on Capitol Hill. Please call your legislators to thank them for listening to your interests and supporting meaningful ethics reform. Encourage them to continue to support the lobbyist definition which allows our members the right to communicate concerns to legislators in a timely and legitimate manner without requiring lobbyist registration.

State of the State Address

Governor Bredesen will deliver his State of the State address on Tuesday evening, February 7. The address has been postponed a couple of times due to the length of the Special Session. The speech will be broadcast on TV and radio stations across the state.

Legislative Website

To access contact information on your House and Senate Members, visit the General Assembly's website at www.legislature.state.tn.us.



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Regular Session to Convene

The regular session of the 104th General Assembly will convene at the conclusion of the Special Session. An update on forestry, conservation and other legislation will be provided our members at that time.