



The Weekly Update

Tennessee General Assembly

House of Representatives

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BUDGET

Governor Phil Bredesen will release his budget proposal for fiscal year 2010-2011 in the next few weeks. Undoubtedly, the House and Senate will propose potential alternatives.

Legislators are expected to grapple once again with the slow economic recovery which limits revenue and has already forced significant cuts to services and departments. Last year House members voted for budget cuts of nearly 12% and with revenues projected to be smaller than estimated again this year, more cuts are probable.

We must pass a balanced state budget that keeps our state running and provides quality services in a responsible manner. The final budget is expected to be voted on sometime later in May. We have much work ahead of us to pass a budget that is responsible and balanced.

GRANT TO REDUCE BINGE DRINKING AMONG TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS

The United States Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration has provided a grant to the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities. The \$11.5 million grant will be used across the state to reverse the state's upward trend in binge drinking, prevent substance abuse and strengthen prevention among teens and young adults.

CENSUS

The United States Census Bureau is reporting that Tennessee is one of 18 states that have surpassed their 2000 mail-in rates for 2010 Census forms. Seventy-three percent of Tennesseans have mailed in their forms. Should you have census questions, the telephone number listed for the Nashville census office is 234-5760.

We have some very serious and threatening weather conditions predicted for tomorrow, April 24. Please take every precaution necessary to stay safe. As always, if I may help you in any way, please do not hesitate to call.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary".

Weekly Update Is For Informational Purposes Only