

Haslam urges lawmakers to focus on what's right for the state

BY CAROLE GRAVES
TML Communications Director

Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam delivered his third State of the State address before a joint session of the General Assembly on Jan. 28. Taking on an upbeat tone, he touted the state's sound fiscal management and the ability to make deliberate and thoughtful decisions in serious matters.

"Unlike the news coming out of our nation's capital and so many other states around the country, good things are happening in Tennessee," Haslam said. "Over the years, we've been intentional about avoiding the traps that Washington, D.C., and other states have fallen into that have gotten them in trouble time and time again."

Haslam outlined his spending plan for his \$31.7 million budget proposal. With the economy slowly improving, state officials project some \$767 million in new revenue growth with general tax revenues for FY 2014 finally surpassing FY 2007 pre-Recession levels.



Feeling optimistic about the state's financial outlook, Gov. Bill Haslam unveils his \$31.7 spending plan for 2013-14.

TennCare will take almost half of the new monies—\$350 million—to offset a reduction in federal

TennCare funding. The remaining new funds will go into education—both K-12 and higher education, provide for a modest pay raise for state employees, and give county jails additional funding to help cover the cost of housing more state prisoners.

Haslam's budget plan also includes two proposals for cutting taxes—one will reduction the Hall tax for seniors and the other will lower state's sales tax on groceries. His proposal for the Hall tax



Photos by State of Tennessee's Photographic Services

Haslam gives his third State of the State address before a joint session of the Tennessee General Assembly.

raises the exemption levels for people over 65 on income derived from dividends from stocks or interest on bonds. Currently, the 6 percent tax is imposed on income over \$26,200 for single people 65 or older; \$37,000 for couples. The new exemption level would raise the exemption to \$33,000 for single filers; \$59,000 for couples.

Revenues collected from the Hall tax are shared between the state and the municipality or county in which the taxpayer resides.

State officials are estimating that the change will mean about 8,400 people will no longer pay the tax and it will cost the state \$1.5 million. The Tennessee Department of Revenue projects it will cost local governments \$789,200.

Haslam is also proposing a reduction in the food tax, from 5.25 percent to 5 percent on the state sales tax on groceries—two points below the overall state tax rate of 7 percent. Restaurant food is fully taxed. The

See **BUDGET** on Page 8

ECD releases new special census procedures for cities

BY CAROLE GRAVES

With the elimination of the Local Planning Assistance Division, the Department of Economic and Community Development recently announced that the state's regional Development Districts will now handled the special census certification program.

Cities and counties that plan to conduct special census must now work with each Development District to verify the results of the special census before submitting it to ECD to become certified.

"After completing a top-to-bottom review in 2011, ECD restructured to focus primarily on strategies to encourage job growth, and the Local Planning Assistance Division that handled the special census certification program was eliminated. As a result, ECD has a very limited staff to verify the special census request from cities and counties, so it was necessary to set more

realistic deadlines and to find a partner to verify new population counts," explains Dan Hawk, director of Rural Development with the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development. "We appreciate the development districts across the state who have agreed to work with local government to review and verify each special census."

Local governments will now submit their population counts to one of the eight regional Development Districts by March 1 so names and addresses can be checked for error. After the census list is reviewed, a door-to-door field check of at least 10 percent of the new population is conducted.

Once the field verification is complete and the special census is deemed valid, the new count is included in the annual Certified Population of Tennessee Incorporated Municipalities.

"It is important that cities plan

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Municipal Bonds may still not be safe from Congress

Vigilance is needed!

While the fiscal cliff legislation passed Jan. 2 left intact the tax exemption for municipal bonds, the issue is not settled. Industry experts believe Congress could still target municipal bonds in its hunt for new tax revenues as policymakers search for ways to address the federal debt crisis.

According to press reports, Rep. Sander Levin, D-Mich., the top Democrat on the House Ways and Means Committee, told a gathering of reporters Jan. 18, that Congress should consider cutting tax benefits and loopholes, including the municipal bond tax exemption.

The National League of Cities also reports that following several meetings with members of Congress, that they continue to view limiting the tax exemption as a viable option for reducing the deficit and are not aware of the harm doing so will have on local tax payers and communities.

The exemption of state and local government bond interest helps lower the cost of capital funding for state and local governments. Any repeal of or change to the exemption of state and local bond interest, will increase borrowing costs for state and local governments. The burden of such changes will fall primarily on state and local governments and through them on their taxpayers and ratepayers, not on high-income federal taxpayers.

"The reduction or end of the exemption would send borrowing costs on capital projects soaring.

That would force either a reduction in the already strained schedule for the building and rebuilding of local infrastructure, or tax increases of one kind or another to cover the added cost," said Charles G. "Bones" Seivers, president and CEO, Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund.

"The elimination or reduction of municipal debt's tax exempt status is a zero sum game," Seivers said. "It raises federal revenue by pushing this cost down to the states and municipalities. The net is that citizens ultimately have the same costs only at a different level of government."

State and local government bonds encourage local control over the development of infrastructure. State and local governments set the priorities for infrastructure and economic development and shoulder the burden of these investments. If the current system were replaced with one in which the federal government provided grants or loans instead of the assistance now provided by the exclusion of interest on state and local debt, the federal government would inevitably appropriate control over infrastructure and economic development decisions that are now made, effectively, at the state and local level.

Limiting or eliminating the exemption will mean less infrastructure investment. Unless substantial amounts of other federal funds are made available, state and local govburden of these investments.

If the current system were replaced with one in which the federal government provided grants or loans

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TML Legislative Conference slated for March 4 - 5

Among a slate of key state officials set to speak at TML's Legislative Conference are Lt. Gov. Ron Ramsey; House Speaker Beth Harwell; Sen. Ken Yager, chairman of the Senate State and Local Government Committee; and Matthew Hill, chairman of the House Local Government committee.

Scheduled for March 4–5 at the DoubleTree Hotel Downtown Nashville, the two-day conference provides an excellent forum for city officials to interact with their legislators and to be updated on the many legislative issues currently being addressed by the 108th Tennessee General Assembly.

City officials are also encouraged to use their time in Nashville to attend Monday evening floor sessions and to schedule time to visit with their legislators.

The voice of Tennessee's municipal governments must be heard in the legislative process, and the TML Legislative Conference is a key opportunity to communicate that message.

To register on line, go to www.TML1.org. Contact TML at 615-255- 6416 for more information.



Lt. Gov. Ron Ramsey



Speaker Beth Harwell



Sen. Ken Yager



Rep. Matthew Hill

General Assembly mobile app available

App connects residents to Tennessee's elected officials

A mobile app featuring contact information for the 108th Tennessee General Assembly is now available for iPhone, iPad and Android devices.

The 108th Tennessee General Assembly app is designed to help Tennessee residents connect with their legislators and contains searchable contact, staff and committee information for all Tennessee representatives and senators.

The Tennessee General Assembly app features:

- a continually-updated database of all Senate and House members
- contact, staff and committee information
- fast and easy search function
- one-click call or email ability

The app was developed by the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association and Bass Berry & Sims PLC.

"We began producing the print directory of the General Assembly more than 30 years ago to be a reference for Tennessee residents and to

educate legislators about electric co-ops," says David Callis, executive vice president and general manager of the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association. "Our app continues that tradition—providing a useful tool while educating users about our co-ops."

"The app is ideal for anyone who wants to monitor the activities at the state Capitol and is designed to be the best reference possible for those who are interested in or work with Tennessee legislators," says Dick Lodge, lobbyist with Bass Berry & Sims PLC.

The \$4.99 app can be found by searching for "Tennessee General Assembly" in the Apple App Store or Google PLAY Marketplace.

The Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association provides legislative and communication support for Tennessee's 23 electric cooperatives and publishes The Tennessee Magazine.

Visit tnelectric.org to learn more, or contact Trent Scott by e-mail at tscott@tnelectric.org or by phone at 731.608.1519



The app can be found by searching for "Tennessee General Assembly" in the Apple App Store or Google PLAY Marketplace.

The Pool’s Randy Williams retires after 35 years in public service

BY VICTORIA SOUTH
TML Communications Coordinator

Some people spend their entire lives plotting to find themselves, and then there is Randy Williams, whose 35-year career in local government came together naturally. A familiar face to cities and towns, government entities, volunteer and civic organizations, Williams didn’t realize that every step along the way, was preparing him for his next big challenge in his quest to make a difference. Retiring from the TML Risk Management Pool January 31, after serving 18 years as a popular client services representative, he modestly insists he was simply in the right place at the right time.

“My dad worked for the city back in the early 60s,” Williams recalls, reflecting on the origins of a professional life that would one day become his self-professed ministry. “He was a municipal laborer and equipment operator and I kind of liked that.” At the time, Williams also liked helping his father salt the Paris intersection when there was ice and snow. “We used buckets and regular Morton salt back then,” he adds proudly. But then he was only 14-years-old and his dad and mom, who worked as a Bell South telephone operator, didn’t want their son getting too attached to manual labor. “Don’t get this equipment operator thing in your blood,” his father warned him.

In the interim, Williams was intrigued by everything municipal government had to offer. In 1966, he took an Engineering course on architectural drafting and drawing at Falls Business College, just one week after graduating from E. W. Grove High School, and very soon landed a

spot in the Engineering Department at the Paris Board of Utilities.

Water and sewer line drawing, electric work orders, surveying and profiling of sewers, water treatment, dispatch, even digging ditches, Williams loved it all, as he bravely entered the college of hard knocks. “It’s where you really get your knowledge,” he reflects. But it was only the beginning of his journey.

By 1974, after earning a bachelor’s degree in General Business Management at UT Martin and being drafted in the military, Williams returned to the city workforce he loved so well, this time, as a building inspector and as a Public Works coordinator. He gained valuable knowledge about working with state and local agencies in the push to establish a city/county landfill along with street improvements, codes enforcement, and major public works projects. He also developed his voice, which led to his promotion to Community Development director in 1976.

With his new position, Williams administered social services and citizen participation activities, oversaw housing rehabilitation programs and obtained grants in excess of \$4 million toward utility improvements. All of this helped prepare him for his next challenge—city manager of Paris.

After a stint as acting city manager and assistant city manager, the then, 30-year-old Williams, was officially appointed Paris City Manager in 1979, a position he held until 1985, but it was a bumpy ride.

“I had all kinds of problems; craziness going on at the Police Department, people hollering at me over at the Fire Department about not making the right decisions, and

there’s always something going on at the city council. I’m not sure I’m connecting,” he confided in the Bishop for West Tennessee. Even Williams’ own father rethinks the advice he gave him about not getting enamored with heavy equipment, as he sees the stress on his son’s face. “Maybe you made a mistake,” the elder Williams ventured. “Maybe you should do something a little more labor oriented.”

But the Bishop, who refers to Williams’ job as “his ministry,” sees an entirely different picture. “He told me somebody’s got to serve the people in order for them to have the quality of life they need,” Williams explains. “From then on, my whole attitude about everything I did with government changed.”

Williams set about building on the same mutual respect the department heads had with his father, utilizing their knowledge and experience and feedback to help improve the city. “We developed an extension at one park and built a whole new park with a swimming pool and tennis complexes,” he recalls. In the process, he met his wife, Karen, also a Bell South employee. “I was having a hard time getting a pay phone at the swimming pool and she took care of that for me, so I married her,” Williams quips.

But when it comes to what was happening in municipalities across the state in the arenas of risk management and insurance coverage, Williams grows serious. His service on the boards of both The Pool and TML in the early 80s was a foreshadowing of things to come within his newfound philosophy. “The mission of The Pool is in my heart,” he acknowledges. “In the late 70s, we had a hard time getting insurance for



Newly retired, Randy Williams, former Paris city manager and MTAS consultant, has served The TML Risk Management Pool since 1995.

police officers and other types of public safety workers. Cities’ commercial insurance policies were getting cancelled. So TML studied and came up with the idea of pooling and started it. What we realized is we had to start taking responsibility for ourselves. No insurance company is going to do it, and that transfers to the foundation of The Pool. Every employee of the city should be a risk manager. I think that’s why The Pool has been successful, because cities have caught on to that. In the late 70s, we had no police policy or procedures, no professionals in our police and fire departments. Over a period of years, the idea that risk management is good management came about.”

And so, after his service as Paris city manager came to a close and a brief experiment in the automotive business ended in 1986, Williams set out in earnest to fulfill his calling. It didn’t take long. The Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) snapped him up in a month, a venue that would do much to advance Williams’ goal to champion a safer, better way of life for Tennessee’s municipalities.

“MTAS was an awesome opportunity,” said Williams. “I was able to see a lot of forms of local governments across Tennessee. No city is the same or operates the same.”

His first task was providing technical assistance and information to local governments on dealing with hazardous waste problems through a contract with the state Department of Health and Environment. Within a year, he was providing technical assistance to more than 100 cities across Middle Tennessee, serving as team leader over nine consultants in the Nashville office and eventually serving as acting executive director over the agency in 1989.

With his passion, experience and contacts through serving cities, Williams was the obvious choice as a municipal insurance consultant at The Pool in 1995. Soon, he was helping cities all over the state, explaining coverage and teaching basic insurance education classes.

In 1998, when the newly named TML Executive Director, Suzette Denslow, needed a capable interim deputy director, Williams was called on to serve. The Pool’s then president, Lee Holland, agreed to loan Williams for the period of one year. Suddenly, he was a registered lobby-

ist on the Hill learning the methods of the state legislature while tackling the complexities of Tort Liability. But while it was all very exciting, Williams missed his clients and being out in the field.

My last three years at The Pool have been significant from the standpoint of being able to help Halie,” said Williams regarding Halie Gallik, his fellow client services representative. “By transferring my career knowledge to her, she will also have it to serve cities.”

In the future, Williams, 64, says his days will be devoted to family activities, a possible trip to Alaska along with crafts and swimming lessons with his six-year-old granddaughter. A consulting job also may not be out of the question. But, as he begins his new journey, his colleagues and friends across Tennessee will miss him sorely.

“Everyone knows what a fine person Randy is and therefore, how much he will be missed,” said Dawn Crawford, TML Pool president. “We have worked together for almost 20 years and the void his leaving creates will be noticed by many. Randy has a servant’s heart and he has served all of us well. I wish him and Karen the very best.”

“I have had the privilege of working with Randy for the past four years. I feel very blessed to call him my mentor and friend,” Gallik adds. “The depth of his local government knowledge and experience are commendable, but his character and compassion for others are second to none. I will always value the time we have spent working together. I wish him the best in his future endeavors.”

“We have always appreciated Randy’s willingness to go “the second mile” in terms of helping us with our concerns. He has the ability to break down complex information so it can be more easily understood,” said Paris City Manager Carl Holder.

“I have been blessed to have the career that I have,” Williams surmises. “I think cities in the future are going to have to run more efficiently and effectively. Things are getting pushed down from the federal and state to the local level. Local is where the rubber meets the road. I think there’s going to be a lot of change in the next decade regarding this. Maybe there’ll be a way I’ll get connected with some folks to be able to affect that...”

STATE BRIEFS



Hundreds of education, law and mental health officials from across the state gathered in Franklin for a school safety summit in the wake of December’s shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School that killed 26 people, mostly students. The event was organized to discuss current safety resources and practices, as well as to hear from leading state and national experts on safety, law enforcement and mental health. Gov. Bill Haslam has proposed \$34 million in his budget to address capital needs that can be used for increased security measures.

Three Tennessee counties will begin issuing secure driver’s licenses this spring. The new process is being piloted at the Hamilton County Clerk’s office, as well as two driver service centers in Sumner and Robertson counties. It will involve checking the identity of people who apply for or renew their licenses, and means people will leave with a paper interim license while their photo is run through a database and checked against 12 million other images. A plastic laminated copy of their driver’s licenses will be mailed to their address. Lori Bullard, assistant commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security, said the added safety measure will help crack down on fraud

and identity theft. In addition, the state is opening self-service kiosks that will allow drivers to renew or replace their driver licenses and state identification cards aimed at reducing lines and wait times. The kiosks will be installed at places such as AAA offices or local government offices to cut down on wait times at driver centers.

The survival of short line railroads in Tennessee may depend on small manufacturers and farmers, who still use the older tracks and trains to move products in and out of rural areas. state officials are encouraging Tennessee farmers and manufacturers to reconsider the short lines for transportation, with the bottom line being that if they don’t use them, Tennessee could lose them. Often less than a hundred miles, short line railroads are typically locally owned and operated, and the trains are smaller and move slower than on larger railroads. As an example, on an average day, two dozen cars will pass along a short line railroad going about 20 miles an hour on their way to the Tennessee River. But on large railroads, a single CSX train might be 100 cars long traveling at 60 mph. Most short lines were sold off by larger railroad companies in the 1980s because they were no longer profitable. In Tennessee, they’ve stayed in busi-

ness with assistance from a fuel tax paid for by all trains. The tax raises \$15 million, but that just goes toward maintenance on the tracks. In other areas of the country, including Texas, Pennsylvania and New York, companies are using short lines to haul pipes and chemicals used for natural gas drilling.

The giant jackpots from Powerball and Mega Millions might grab the headlines, but year after year, it’s those rolls of instant scratch-off tickets that consistently bring big bucks into the Tennessee’s Lottery coffers. In the latest fiscal year, the state lottery topped \$1.3 billion in sales — the eighth consecutive year of growth — and is on pace to reach new heights again this year. From 2005 to 2012, instant sales grew from \$599 million to \$1.05 billion, accounting for more than 80 percent of total sales. Altogether, that steady growth means less discretionary income in the pockets of most Tennesseans who elect to play; it also means that more than \$2.5 billion has been raised for education-related programs and more than 600,000 college scholarships have been funded. In the lottery’s nine years, one game has consistently delivered: Jumbo Bucks. In 2012, the Jumbo Bucks family accounted for \$561 million in sales — 43 percent of overall sales.

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Cities for all: No skipping generations

BY NEAL PEIRCE
Washington Post Writers Group

We're in a new age of celebrating America's cities, no longer disparaging and fleeing them as we did through the suburban-expansion era.

But who are the cities really for? Are they for waves of young professionals drawn to glitter and opportunities? Or for America's seniors, seeking community, support, activity in their twilight years?

Yes on both counts.

But what about families with pre- and school-age children – especially as schools improve? Are the cities for them too? The answer also needs to be an emphatic "yes." Because the very future of cities depends heavily on drawing young, child-rearing families.

This theme – the value of truly multigenerational cities – was embraced by a group of liberally oriented city leaders, the "Mayors Innovation Project," meeting in Washington shortly before Inauguration Day.

Mayor Mark Kleinschmidt of Chapel Hill, N.C., said most people of his university town seem to be in their 20s or 80s – thus "missing the middle." And that crimps economic opportunity because of a serious lack of investors or workers.

By contrast, Mayor Joseph Curtatone of Somerville, Mass., boasted of his city, a close neighbor to Boston, as "multigenerational" – "the most densely populated city in New England." Somerville is highly livable, he noted, with a wide range of housing units, lots of little squares and centers, high transit availability and strong civic engagement. Plus 32 percent of Somerville's population is between the ages of 25 and 34 – the biggest share of this highly productive age group.

More typical of today's America

is the Atlanta region, which spent decades developing spread-out suburbs. But the original homeowners, now "empty-nesters" reaching senior years and driving less (or not at all), have needs that profit-oriented subdivision developers never provided. For example: nearby medical and social services, libraries and social centers, people-friendly parks, farmers markets, and safe, walkable and bikeable environments.

The Atlanta Regional Commission is trying to popularize the idea of lifelong communities. It even sponsored a "charrette" with 1,500 people discussing ways to encourage new housing options, add side-walks and make pedestrian crossing of fast superhighways less perilous.

But are these just local issues? Not so, the mayors were told by Mildred Warner of Cornell University. For decades, she said, American communities were designed as if only people with cars mattered. Today's imperative, she said: to design our cities, our entire economies, as if every age group matters, including both children and "aging baby boomers who do not wish to be shuffled off to enclaves of only older adults."

The formula seems a win-win. Both New York City and Charlotte, N.C., for example, have experimented with school buses used in the middle of the day to take seniors shopping. Many communities now encourage senior tutoring of youth, enriching life for both. In Ithaca, N.Y., a Head Start program is permanently housed in a retirement community.

Denser, less car-focused suburbs and towns with multigenerational living can also be encouraged by promoting three- and four-bedroom houses and apartments for growing families along with "accessory units" – so-called mother-in-law housing in converted garages

and other small residences tucked into home lots. Exaggerated fears of rowdy students pouring into such units, or less on-street parking, or imperiled housing values often trigger "NIMBY" opposition. We all too easily champion our American patriotism but deny opportunity to others, from striving families to young learners to returning Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans.

And then there is raw economics. Towns make a mistake when they focus heavily on attracting a single group such as young professionals, Warner warned the mayors. Instead, she argued, families with young children represent the true "Big Money" – that an average family spends a quarter-million dollars raising a child, with three-fourths of that money supporting housing, health care, child care and other needs that create jobs and bolster the local economy.

The sad irony is that the federal government, with its huge defense and growing outlays for Social Security and Medicare, is paying precious little attention to children and families. The idea seems to be that these are a state and local responsibility. Locally, some cities, preoccupied with their tax base, even try to zone out families with school-age children.

Warner's multigenerational case is that today's America is "underinvesting in children -- asking parents at the start of life, often with very low-paying wages, to pay for everyone else." The message to the rest of us, says Warner: "Invest in young kids, if you hope there'll be someone to be your senior nurse or buy your house."

The mayors couldn't miss the message: It's to go for mixed use, a place for seniors, and especially quality housing and schools for young families. Because ultimately, local futures are our national future.



Mar. 8-9: Shelbyville
The Second Annual Middle Tennessee Gospel Music Festival
Held at Calsonic Arena on the Celebration grounds, the event features southern, bluegrass, contemporary and traditional gospel styles. Begins at 7 p.m. Fri. and continues on Sat. at 3 p.m. Gates open one hour before the show each day. Line up includes: Ernie Dawson and Heirline, The Freemans, Vocal Union, Crystal River, Three Bridges, The Beelers, The Cavaliers Quartet, CrossPoint String Band, Work in Progress, By Faith, The Riders, Locust Ridge, Nathan and Tonya Horton and Brandon Scott Smith. Tickets are \$10, available at the door or by calling 931-455-8879. Visit www.midtn-gospelmusicfestival.com.

Mar. 9-13: Pigeon Forge
A Mountain Quiltfest
Held at Smoky Mountain Convention Center and various locations in Pigeon Forge. A juried quilt show along with an expansive vendor mall and dozens of classes for beginners and seasoned veteran quilters. Show and vendor mall are free of charge. There is a fee for classes. For more information, Call 800-251-9100.

Mar. 9: Etowah
19th Annual Cousin Jake Memorial Bluegrass Festival
The historic Gem Theater in downtown. Band line up includes: Randy Waller & The Country Gentlemen, Jimbo Whaley & Greenbrier, Highway 33 and Grasstowne. Bring your musical instruments so you can “sit and pick” with jam band Between the Lines. An all-day pass is \$15. For more information, call 423-263-7608 or visit www.EtowahArts.org.

Congress could still target Municipal Bonds

BONDS from Page 1

instead of the assistance now provided by the exclusion of interest on state and local debt, the federal government would inevitably appropriate control over infrastructure and economic development decisions that are now made, effectively, at the state and local level.

Limiting or eliminating the exemption will mean less infrastructure investment. Unless substantial amounts of other federal funds are made available state and local governments will be discouraged from infrastructure investments. A lack of investment in infrastructure will hurt long-term economic growth and, in the short term, result in loss of construction-related jobs.

For nearly a century, municipal bonds have been exempt from interest, in accordance to the Revenue Act of 1913, signed into law by President Woodrow Wilson. Today, cities and states are responsible for building more than 75 percent of the critical public infrastructure of the United States, including schools, streets and highways, bridges, hospitals, affordable housing, sewer and water systems, and power utilities. To help safeguard this essential financing tool, cities should

contact their House and Senate members and urge them not to reduce or eliminate the tax exempt status associated with municipal bonds.

For more information about tax-exempt bonds, and their importance to the national economy and to state and local governments, visit www.munibondsforamerica.org.

Federal regulators for the first time are laying out rules aimed at ensuring that mortgage borrowers can afford to repay the loans they take out. The rules were unveiled by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau impose a range of obligations and restrictions on lenders, including bans on the risky “interest-only” and “no documentation” loans that helped inflate the housing bubble. Lenders will be required to verify and inspect borrowers’ financial records. They generally will be prohibited from saddling borrowers with loan payments totaling 43 percent of the person’s annual income. The rules take effect next year. In years leading up to the 2008

Municipal Bonds of America is a coalition of municipal market professionals committed to protecting the federal tax exempt status for municipal bonds. The website includes background information about Congress’ legislative and regulatory proposals, letters to policymakers, and grassroots resources.

NATIONAL BRIEFS



financial crisis, consumers could easily obtain mortgages that they could not afford to repay. In contrast, in subsequent years banks tightened lending so much that few could qualify for a home loan. The new rules seek out a middle ground by protecting consumers from bad loans while giving banks the legal assurances they need to increase lending. They limit features like teaser rates that adjust upward and large “balloon payments” that must be made at the end of the loan period, with some exceptions. The mortgage-lending overhaul is a priority for the agency, which was created under the 2010 financial law known as the Dodd-Frank Act.

No loan is too large or too small



The city of Dyersburg closed a \$4.5 million loan to use on various municipal projects.



The town of Cumberland Gap closed a \$5,000 Highway Safety Grant Anticipation Note.



See us for your special projects needs. (615) 255-1561

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

BY TML STAFF REPORTS

Lt. Governor **Ron Ramsey** received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Bristol Chamber of Commerce during the group's annual awards luncheon. The event drew a sellout crowd of nearly 400 people. Ramsey is the first GOP Senate Speaker in Tennessee in 140 years and the first from Sullivan County in more than 100 years. His real estate and auction company – Ron Ramsey and Associates is a well-respected land company in Upper East Tennessee. Currently serving his third term as Speaker, Ramsey is the longest-serving Republican Senate Speaker in Tennessee history.



Ramsey

Mary-Margaret Collier, director of the Comptroller's Office of State and Local Finance, plans to retire May 31, capping a 16-year career with the state. Among its many responsibilities, the Office of State and Local Finance manages all of the state's debt, including issuing and repaying bonds, reviews budgets and debt obligations of local governments and assists local governments in other areas related to municipal finance. Collier will be replaced by Sandi Thompson, who currently serves as deputy director of the Office of State and Local Finance.



Collier

Greg MacKay was recently hired as Knoxville's director of Public Assembly Facilities. A former administrator of the Knox County Election Commission and real estate broker, MacKay will manage staff and operations at Chilhowee Park and the Civic Auditorium and Coliseum. He succeeds Bob Polk, who retired from the position in November. Mackay worked for 11 years as a Realtor, including a stint as managing broker for Heath Shuler Real Estate. He served as a Knox County Election Commissioner from 1990-98 and as Election Commission administrator from 2003 until 2011.



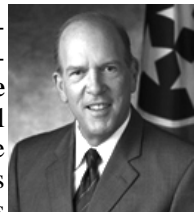
MacKay

Former state Rep. **Richard Montgomery**, Sevierville, has been appointed to the Board of Probation and Parole. Montgomery's term on the seven-member board will be for six years.



Montgomery

Former Democratic gubernatorial nominee **Mike McWherter** will join the Tennessee Valley Authority's board of directors after the U.S. Senate confirmed his nomination by President Obama. McWherter, who owns a beer distributorship in Jackson, will be one of four new directors of the federally owned electric utility, which also covers parts of six other states. McWherter ran for governor in 2010, losing to Bill Haslam. He is also the son of the late Gov. Ned Ray McWherter.



McWherter

Collierville Alderman **Maureen Fraser** has been appointed as vice mayor. She will serve a one-year term.



Kelton

The U.S. Senate confirmed Metro Nashville Police Deputy Chief **Louise Kelton** to become U.S. Marshal for Tennessee's Middle District, the first African-American woman to hold that position in the state and only the second in the nation. Kelton, 57, was nominated in February by President Barack Obama to head the office. The 32-year Metro police veteran will take over for Denny King, who has held that position since 2002.

Longtime Mount Carmel Assistant Police Chief **Mike Campbell** has been promoted to chief. Campbell started his career in law enforcement with the Claiborne County Sheriff's Office in 1989 and joined the Mount Carmel Police Department in 1997.

Gallatin District 5 Councilor **John D. Alexander** has been appointed as vice mayor. Alexander was also re-appointed as the council's representative on the Gallatin Planning Com

Gov. Haslam has asked Knoxville businessman **Randy Boyd** to serve as his special adviser on higher education, focusing on costs, access and the quality of Tennessee programs. Boyd, 53, the founder of Radio Systems Corp., a pet product and invisible fencing company, will work with the governor to come up with new proposals to improve the state's higher education systems.



Boyd

Union University President **David Dockery** will transition to Chancellor by Summer 2014, giving the university, located in Jackson, one year to seek his replacement. Dockery has served as Union's president for 17 years.



Dockery

Mark O'Neal, Smyrna town manager, recently received the Credentialed Manager designation from ICMA, the International City/County Management Association Voluntary Credentialing Program. To receive the ICMA credential, a member must have significant experience as a senior management executive in local government; have earned a degree, preferably in public administration or a related field; and demonstrated a commitment to high standards of integrity and to lifelong learning and professional development.



O'Neal

Greg Workman was sworn in as Elizabethton's new chief of police. Workman previously worked as a patrol officer and as a detective in the Criminal Investigations Division. He was promoted to assistant director of the 1st Judicial District Drug Task Force task force in 2006, then to major Oct. 22.

Deborah Loveless, a 33-year veteran of the state Comptroller's office, was promoted to director of the Division of State Audit. The division is responsible for auditing the finances and performance of the various departments and agencies within Tennessee state government. Loveless replaces Arthur Hayes, who recently retired after 32 years with the Comptroller's office.

Goodlettsville Police Change of Command Ceremony: Goodwin sworn in, Chief Pope retires



Goodlettsville Police Chief Gary Goodwin is sworn-in by city Judge Rob Wheeler as his wife, Pam, holds the Bible.

About 250 people gathered at the Goodlettsville City Hall Jan. 8 for a Change of Command Ceremony. The city bid farewell to long-serving Chief of Police Richard Pope as Goodlettsville resident Gary Goodwin was sworn in as the Goodlettsville's fifth Chief of Police.

Goodwin, 56, was selected among 81 candidates from across the United States—22 from Tennessee. His family has lived in Goodlettsville for nearly two decades. Previously serving as Captain of Field Operations at Metro Nashville Police Department, Goodwin helped oversee special units such as K-9, SWAT and aviation as part of his 37-year law enforcement career.

Goodwin said he plans to put a stronger emphasis on crime prevention through long-term crime data examination, and strengthening the city's neighborhood watch program,

particularly in apartment complexes and hotels through cooperation with management.

Serving in Goodlettsville law enforcement for more than 40 years, Chief Pope started with the Goodlettsville Police in 1972, just one year after construction of RiverGate Mall. He volunteered and trained with the city's police force in high school, then after serving in the military, was hired by the force as a dispatcher.

Pope, whose last day was Jan. 11, reflected with a positive spirit on his career. "There have been many ups and downs during my career, but I must emphasize there have been far more good times than bad," he said. Pope also urged his former co-workers to address him informally in the future. "I know this will be difficult for some of you, but my first name is no longer 'chief,' it is 'Richard,'" he said.

LaVergne police sergeants complete command school



Pictured are: Assistant Police Chief Glenn Taylor, HR Director Fred Gaston, Sgt. David Durham, Sgt. Chip Davis, HR Manager Von Barr, LaVergne Mayor Senna Mosley, and Sgt. Mike Mullen.

Three sergeants with the La Vergne Police Department completed an intensive 10-week program called The School of Police Staff and Command. The course provided detailed instruction on legal issues in law enforcement, managing criminal investigations, human resources administration, police resource allocation, and more.

On Dec. 7, Sergeants Burrell "Chip" Davis, David Durham, and

Mike Mullen graduated from the course, sponsored by the Murfreesboro Police Department. Davis and Durham have been with the police department for nine years each and Mullen has been a sworn officer for 11 years.

The program was taught by the Center for Public Safety at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. Graduates are eligible to earn college credit for the course.

December unemployment rate lowest since 2008

Tennessee's unemployment rate for December was 7.6 percent and remained constant from the November revised rate of 7.6 percent.

December's national unemployment rate was 7.8 percent.

Tennessee's December is the lowest Tennessee unemployment rate since October 2008. The number of unemployed persons (235,700) is the lowest since October 2008. The number of employed persons (2,879,600) is the highest since March 2008.

Over the past year, Tennessee's unemployment rate declined from 8.5 percent to 7.6 percent (-0.9 percentage point) while the national

rate declined from 8.5 percent to 7.8 percent (-0.7 percentage point).

Total nonfarm employment increased 6,000 jobs from November to December, with increases in leisure/hospitality, manufacturing, and mining/logging/construction. There were decreases in administrative/support/waste services, retail trade, and state government.

Over the year, total nonfarm employment increased 36,400 jobs, with increases in manufacturing, health care/social assistance, and accommodation/food services. There were decreases in wholesale trade, financial activities, and arts/entertainment/recreation.

Pool Board to meet March 5

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the TML Risk Management Pool will meet in regular session on Tuesday, March 5, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. local time in the Board Room at The Pool, 5100 Maryland Way, Brentwood, Tennessee for the purpose of considering and transacting all business which may properly come before the Board. Additional information concerning the meeting may be obtained by calling The Pool's office at 800-624-9698.

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community by community,
state by state.
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Senior Client Manager
Bank of America Merrill Lynch
Government Banking
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thomas.boyd@baml.com
bankofamerica.com/government

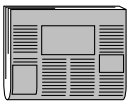
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CITY MANAGER

Elizabethton. Salary DOQ plus excellent benefits. Manager responsible for 248 full-time employees and \$15 million general fund budget. Retiring manager served almost 5 years. Position answers to 7-member council. Mayor chosen by council. Full service community in beautiful northeast Tennessee. Must be proven manager with excellent communication and team-building skills. Demonstrated success in public administration, budgeting and finance, intergovernmental relations, and leadership. At least five years' experience in public administration, preferably as a city manager/assistant city manager or equivalent. Bachelor's degree in related field required. Master's preferred and will count toward experience. Application is a public record. Send resume by Feb. 18, 2013 to HR Director, 136 South Sycamore St, Elizabethton, TN 37643. Fax: 423-547-6249. Phone: 423-547-6282. Email: resumes@cityofelizabethton.org. EOE/AA.

FIRE CHIEF

MT. JULIET. The city is seeking candidates for the position of full time fire chief to work in coordination with the Public Safety director in the development of Mt. Juliet's newly established Fire Department. Selected candidates will be required to complete and pass pre-employment testing. Must hold a valid TN drivers license. Detailed job description and requirements are available online. Applications must be filed electronically and are available online at the city's website, www.cityofmtjuliet.org. We will accept electronic applications until such time when a qualified candidate is chosen. The city of Mt. Juliet reserves the right to stop accepting applications at any time. For questions, regarding the electronic application process, please call 615-754-2552. The city of Mt. Juliet does not discriminate based on race, color or national origin in federal or state sponsored programs, pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d). EOE/Drug-free Workplace.

GENERAL MANAGER

TRENTON. Trenton Utility Board seeks a general manager for its Electric and Water Department. Applicants must have a minimum of a four-year degree in engineering, business, or related field from an accredited university and experience with an electric or water utility. Experience at a senior management level is desired. Applicant must have high level oral and written communication skills. Please send a summary of education, work experience, accomplishments relevant to position and contact information for three work references and two personal references. Please include official transcript, community involvement, salary history and salary expectations. Submissions will be accepted through March 8, 2013. Mail resume and supporting documents to: Trenton Light and Water, 109 West Armory Street, Trenton, Tennessee 38382.

TRAINING PROGRAM MANAGER

The University of Tennessee Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) has an opening for a Training Program Manager in the Knoxville office. MTAS is an agency of the University of Tennessee Institute for Public Service that provides technical assistance, training and research for Tennessee towns and cities, state government and municipal government related associations. The Training Program Manager oversees and manages all aspects of MTAS training and continuing education activities. This position supervises a five person training staff and designs, develops, and delivers training programs and courses primarily for city officials. In addition to providing direct client assistance, this position researches, develops and maintains timely technical reports and publications on critical issues, develops and teaches training courses, and assists other consultants in the agency in the performance of individual and team projects. The Training Program Manager serves as both a supervisor and as a team leader, leading and participating in project teams, and performs other special project work as assigned by the assistant director or the executive director. This position requires a combination of education and experience. A master's degree in adult education, human resource development, organizational development, public administration or related field and five years of experience in developing curricula, evaluating training programs, performing logistical development, delivering training programs with increasing supervisory responsibility is required. Work experience in a governmental environment preferred. Excellent managerial, conceptual and interpersonal skills are essential. Applicants are encouraged to review the full job description requirements prior to applying at <http://www.ips.tennessee.edu/?id=4>. Salary is based on a combination of professional experience and qualifications. Cover letter, resume and references should be submitted by e-mail to Tess Davis, MTAS, at tess.davis@tennessee.edu. Position is open until filled. The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services. All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, or covered veteran status.

TWO MUNICIPAL MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

The Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) is seeking two municipal management consultants. MTAS is an agency of the University of Tennessee Institute for Public Service that provides technical assistance, training and research for Tennessee towns and cities, state government and municipal government related associations. These positions will be located as follows: one in the east or southeast Tennessee area (reference position ID #12000001N9) and the other in either the middle or west Tennessee area (reference position ID#12000001NA). Most municipal management consultants are former city managers or assistant city managers. This is exciting work primarily providing professional advice and technical assistance to municipal officials, both elected and appointed, within an assigned geographic territory. The consultants usually split their time between office and field work, and frequently coordinate the work of a professional team addressing city issues. The consultant also helps develop and deliver training courses for city officials and researches, drafts, and maintains publications on critical issues. This position requires a master's degree in public administration or equivalent and at least five year's experience in local government including either three years as a city manager or six years as an assistant city manager or a bachelor's degree in public administration or equivalent and at least eight year's experience as a city manager. Preference may be given to experience in a city with a minimum population of 10,000. Salary is dependent on qualifications and experience. Generous employee benefits are associated with the position. The positions are open until filled. Applicant should state which location they are interested in the cover letter. Applicants should apply electronically to <http://humanresources.tennessee.edu/recruitment> and submit a cover letter and resume. Application is a public record. The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services. All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, or covered veteran status.

WASTEWATER SPECIALIST I

LAKELAND. Applications are now being accepted for a full time Wastewater Specialist I. Duties for the position include: assists in maintenance and repair of Lakeland Wastewater Collection and Treatment System; assists in operations and maintenance of wastewater treatment plant with licensed operator; assists in maintaining city buildings, equipment, facilities, roads, and grounds by performing general construction duties that include painting buildings, facilities, and fixtures; constructing and/or repairing structures and facilities; repairing leaking pipes; and performing mechanical duties. Uses and/or maintains tools and equipment that include pumping and other motorized equipment, jetter machines, power tools, rubber tire backhoes and loaders, skid steer loaders, and dump trucks. Responds, as directed, to Tennessee One Call locate requests by marking path of city's force main gravity lines and taps, as determined by as-built construction blueprints and/or information from construction drawings and electronic files. Responds to call out and emergencies on 24/7 basis and complies with call-out list requirements. Responsible for obtaining and maintaining Wastewater Collection Level II certification. Enters and updated files on computer for preparing reports, spreadsheets, historical information, and maintenance records. Works safely observing all OSHA, Federal, State and City regulations. Qualified applicants must provide proof of you education and along with your application in order to be considered for the position. Must be minimum of 18 years of age; high school diploma or General Educational Development (G.E.D.) ; minimum of 2 years related experience or equivalent experience and training. Obtain Wastewater Collection Level I and II certifications within one year (12) months after entering position. Starting salary is \$31,500. Closing date for applications is Feb. 22, 2013. Applications are available at Lakeland City Hall, 10001 U.S. Highway 70, Lakeland TN 38002 or online at www.lakelandtn.gov. Applications may be delivered or mailed to City Hall, or faxed to 901-867-2063 or emailed to pstuckert@lakelandtn.org. EOE/Drug Testing Employer.

WASTEWATER SPECIALIST II

LAKELAND. Applications are now being accepted for a full time Wastewater Specialist II. Duties for the position include:

assisting in maintenance and repair of the city's wastewater collection and treatment system and in operations and maintenance of the wastewater treatment plant, collection pipes, lift stations, and pumps, as directed by the wastewater supervisor; operates, maintains, and repairs the sequencing batch reactor wastewater treatment plant in the absence of the wastewater supervisor; assists in maintaining city buildings, equipment, facilities, roads, and grounds by performing general construction duties that include painting buildings, facilities, and fixtures; constructing and/or repairing structures and facilities; repairing leaking pipes; and performing mechanical duties. Uses and/or maintains tools and equipment that include pumping and other motorized equipment, jetter machines, power tools, rubber tire backhoes and loaders, skid steer loaders, and dump trucks. Responds, as directed, to Tennessee One Call locate requests by marking path of city's force main gravity lines and taps, as determined by as-built construction blueprints and/or information from construction drawings and electronic files. Responds to call out and emergencies on 24/7 basis and complies with call-out list requirements. Responsible for obtaining and maintaining waste-

water collection level II and grade II Wastewater Operators Licenses. Enters and updated files on computer for preparing reports, spreadsheets, historical information, and maintenance records. Works safely observing all OSHA, Federal, State and city regulations. Qualified applicants must provide proof of education along with an application in order to be considered for the position. Must be minimum of 18 years of age; High school diploma or General Educational Development (G.E.D.) Minimum of 5 years related experience or equivalent experience and training; must have a Grade II Wastewater Collection and Grade II Wastewater Operators License and must be able to wear mandatory safety equipment. Required be on rotational call list; may have to work after hours in emergency situations and must obtain a Commercial Drivers License within 6 months. Starting salary is \$37,500. Closing date for applications is February 22, 2013. Applications are available at Lakeland City Hall, 10001 U.S. Highway 70, Lakeland TN 38002 or online at www.lakelandtn.gov. Applications may be delivered or mailed to City Hall, or faxed to 901-867-2063 or emailed to pstuckert@lakelandtn.org. EOE/Drug Testing Employer.

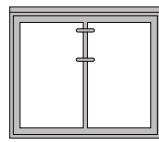
TMBF Board meets March 4

Notice is hereby given that the Tennessee Municipal Bond Fund Board of Directors will meet in regular public session on Monday, March 4, 2013, at 9:00 a.m., local time, in the Vanderbilt Room on the lobby level of the Doubletree Hotel at 315 Fourth Avenue North, Nashville, Tenn., for the purpose of considering and transacting all business that may properly come before said board. Some members of the board may participate in such meeting by telephonic means, which will be audible to any member of the public attending such meeting. If reasonably possible, an agenda will be available on Monday, Feb. 25, at the offices of TMBF, 226 Capitol Boulevard, Suite 502, in Nashville. Additional information concerning the above may be obtained at 615-255-1561.

TML Board to meet March 4

Notice is hereby given that the Tennessee Municipal League Board of Directors will meet in regular public session on Monday, March 4, 2013, at 10:00 a.m., local time, in the Tennessee Room of the Doubletree Hotel at 315 Fourth Avenue North, Nashville, Tenn., for the purpose of considering and transacting all business that may properly come before said board. If reasonably possible, an agenda will be available on Monday, Feb. 25, at the TML offices, 226 Capitol Boulevard, Suite 701, in Nashville. Additional information concerning the above may be obtained at 615-255-6416.

COMING UP



Feb. 22: Certified Municipal Finance Officers (CMFO) graduation ceremony. Nashville at the War Memorial Auditorium, 301 6th Avenue North, 10:00 am central time.

Mar. 6: Engineers Day on the Hill State Capitol, Nashville from 9 am-1:30 pm.

Mar. 9 – 13: NLC's Congressional City Conference Marriott Wardman Park, Washington, D.C. Join city leaders across the country in calling on House and Senate members and the administration to set aside partisan differences to find ways to support economic recovery and job creation efforts. Gain valuable insights into and influence actions in Washington that will impact local communities.

April 3-5: Resource 2013 held at the Murfreesboro Embassy Suites. To register, visit www.localgovcorp.com

April 17-19: TAMCAR Spring Conference held in Murfreesboro at the Embassy Suites Conference Center. Participants will earn credit hours through the UT Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS). Hours also will apply toward state certification and International Institute of Municipal Clerks certification. In addition, they will apply as elective hours toward the Municipal Administrative Program certifications, and some may satisfy continuing education requirements mandatory to maintain certifications including the Certified Municipal Finance Officer (CMFO). Additional details will be available soon.

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Budget provides more money for education, jails, rainy day fund

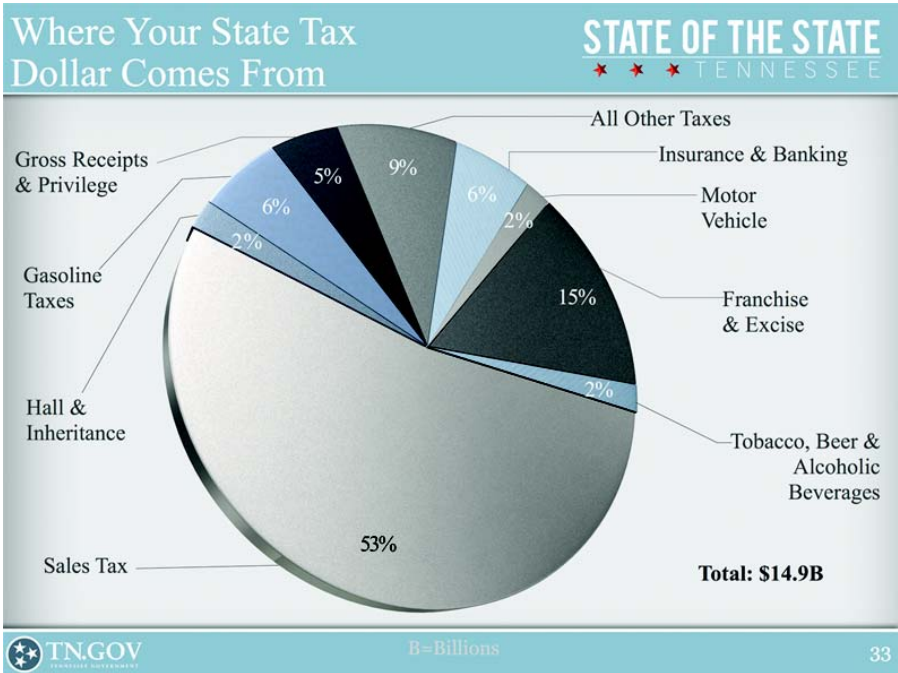
BUDGET from Page 1
local option tax rate of up to 2.75 percent, will also be applied fully to both types of food. The cut is estimated to cost the state \$21.2 million per year in revenue.

On the plus side, the state expects to add \$17 million in revenues to its coffers after Amazon starts collecting state sales taxes on items bought online by Tennesseans. That tax goes into effect January 2014.

As part of his capital outlay projects in higher education, Gov. Haslam is allocating \$38 million toward a state technology center partnership with Nissan's Smyrna plant.

Nissan would provide the property for the center and the state would provide funds for the center's construction, equipment and its teaching staff. Students would be trained in modern automotive manufacturing skills and be prepared to enter the workforce with Nissan, Volkswagen in Chattanooga, or the General Motors plant in Spring Hill. The training center would be similar to one opened at the Volkswagen plant in Chattanooga. Students from the general public would learn skills for robotics and mechatronics that they could apply in auto manufacturing jobs.

For K-12, he has included \$34 million that can



be used for increased security measures in the aftermath of elementary school massacre in Newtown, Conn., and giving schools statewide \$51 million toward technology transition upgrades.

Other highlights of the budget include:

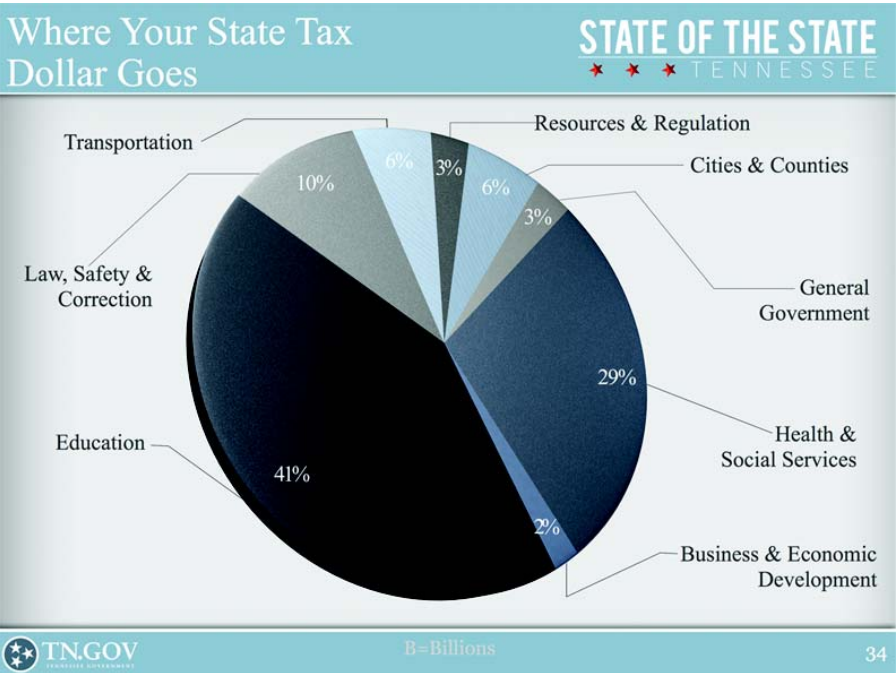
- Full funding of the Basic Education Program;
- \$307.3 million to fund capital outlay projects in higher education including:
 - o The University of Memphis Community Health Facility;
 - o University of Tennessee Health Science Center renovations;
 - o Northeast State Community College technical education complex;
 - o Nashville State Community College academic support building;
- A 1.5 percent pay raise for state employees;
- Upgrading nearly 200 case manager positions in the Department of

- Children's Services;
- \$100 million to the Rainy Day Fund bringing it to \$456 million on June 30, 2014; and
 - \$8 million for a statewide tourism fund to support the work of the tourism commission;

"Tennessee is unique in so many ways. We have so much going for us, and we know what are weaknesses are. It is up to us address those weaknesses; those issues that Tennesseans care about. People want good quality jobs. People want their children to have the best education possible, and as a state we should want the same for those kids. One day they're going to be the ones that we hand the reins to. And taxpayers expect us to be good stewards of the taxes they pay," said Haslam.

2013 legislative priorities

Following his State of the State



Address, Gov. Haslam filed 59 bills, representing the governor's legislative priorities for 2013.

"Our proposals represent our top priorities of making Tennessee the No. 1 state in the Southeast for high quality jobs, continuing to improve education, being the best managed state in the country, and keeping our citizens safe," Haslam said.

Included in his package is a proposal to reform worker's compensation laws that would shift early stages of claim disputes from the courts to a newly created Court of Workers' Compensation Claims within the Department of Labor.

His package also establishes the Tennessee Choice & Opportunity Scholarship Act that would give vouchers to as many as 5,000 students statewide to use in the 2013-14 school year, with the number gradually expanding to

20,000 by 2016. Students would receive an amount equal to what their school district spends per student in local schools.

Haslam is also proposing legislation to rewrite and simplify the Criminal Gang Enhancement statute. The bill clarifies the definition of a "criminal gang offense" and would list in the statute the specific offenses the General Assembly considers criminal gang offenses rather than asking prosecutors and courts to interpret a vague definition.

For more information about Gov. Haslam's 2013 legislative priorities, visit www.tn.gov/governor/legislation.

To view his State of the State Address and to obtain more information about his proposed 2013-14 budget, go to www.tn.gov/stateofthestate.

New procedures to certify city Special Census requests

CENSUS from Page 1

their special census early and carefully so they can meet our new deadlines of March 1 for verification and June 1 for submission to ECD," said Hawk.

Each development district has also been approved to charge a fee for reviewing the data and conducting the field visits. ECD recommends that the fee be assessed at a base rate of \$500 per special census plus \$0.10 per person for the total census count. However, the agency conducting the review is not required to follow the department's recommended fee schedule and can charge more or less depending on its costs to complete a request.

The new procedures are available on line and detail how special censuses must be conducted, deadlines for submission, who will verify the special census and a new fee structure for the verification process.

To view the new procedures, visit www.tn.gov/ecd/pdf/Community/SpecialCensusProcedures.pdf.

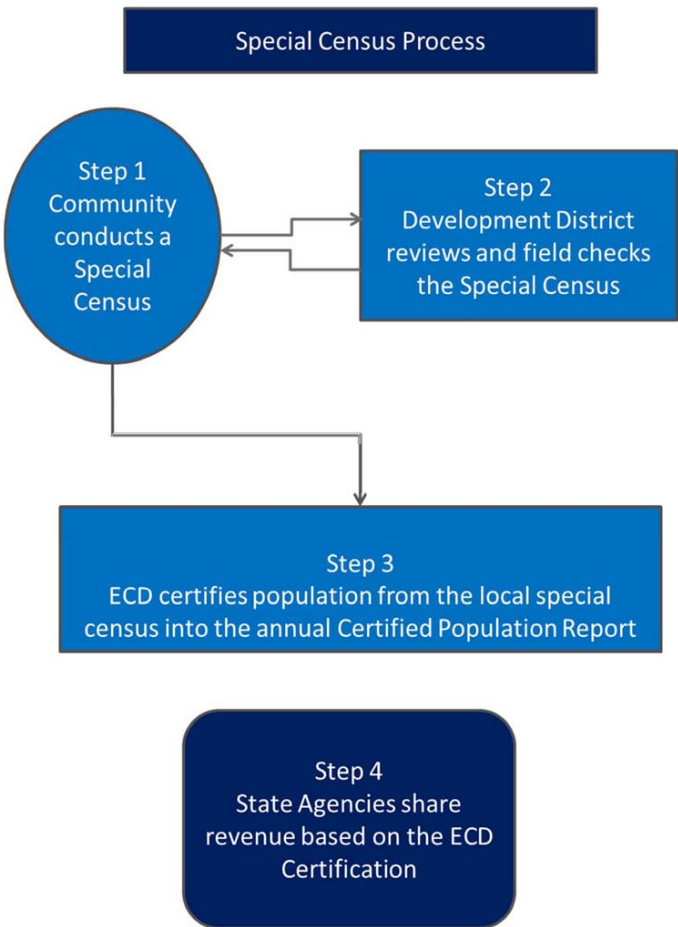
Background

To be certified under ECD rules, the special census must contain the first and last name of every person in the household, as well as the street number and street name for the household. The submittal must include, a street map of the area, a letter from the mayor requesting the department certify the special census, annexation ordinances (if applicable), the census listing, and a check to cover the fee charged by the department.

Several sections of the Tennessee Code Annotated enable cities and counties to conduct special census to document population changes between the federal decennial censuses. A city or county normally chooses to conduct a complete recount of their population to document perceived growth or to resolve a dispute with the federal count. Cities may also conduct a special census when they annex new residents into their jurisdiction.

To receive the shared revenue for those new residents the local government must submit the special census to the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development (ECD) and request approval to include the new count in the annual Certified Population of Tennessee Incorporated Municipalities and Counties report.

For more information, contact Dan Hawk, ECD director of Rural Development, at 615-741-2373.



Agencies Approved to Review and Verify a Special Census

- East Tennessee Development District
- First Tennessee Development District
- Memphis Area Association of Governments
- Northwest Tennessee Development District
- South Central Tennessee Development District
- Southeast Tennessee Development District
- Southwest Tennessee Development District
- Upper Cumberland Development District

Special Census Timeline

1. Not later than **Jan. 1** (Feb. 1 during 2013) submit a Letter of Intent to the Department of Economic and Community Development stating the type of special census you wish to have included in the annual Certified Population of Tennessee Incorporated Municipalities and Counties report;
2. Not later than **March 1** submit the completed special census materials to an approved agency (see listing of approved agencies below) for review and field verification. Payment for review and verification must be made in advance to the agency certifying the validity of the special census;
3. Not later than **June 1** submit the following information to ECD:
 - a. A notarized letter from the mayor that explains the method in which the census was conducted and the count being requested for inclusion in the **July 1** Tennessee Certified Population of Incorporated Municipalities and Counties report;
 - b. A letter from the authorized agency stating that the agency reviewed the census and conducted a field verification having an error rate that is five percent or less, and a recommendation that the special census count be included in the Certified Population of Tennessee Incorporated Municipalities and Counties report;
 - c. One copy of the special census,
 - d. All annexation ordinances and associated maps covering annexation special census requests, if applicable.

RESOURCE 2013

Attention LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORPORATION customers!

Please make sure to join us for RESOURCE 2013!



Where: Embassy Suites Hotel —Murfreesboro, TN

When: April 03-05, 2013

How to attend: Visit www.localgovcorp.com to register.

Questions? Call us at (800) 381-4540.

