



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 1024

HOUSE BILL NO. 2366

By Representatives Hawk, Davis

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 2157

By Senators Watson, Bowling, Gardenhire, Taylor

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 5; Title 6; Title 7 and Title 67, relative to tourism development zones.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 7, is amended by adding the following as a new chapter:

7-92-101. Chapter definitions.

As used in this chapter:

- (1) "Local government" means an incorporated city or town, county, or metropolitan form of government; and
- (2) "Tourism development zone" has the same meaning as defined in § 7-88-103.

7-92-102. Tourism development zone access.

(a) Except as otherwise authorized pursuant to subsection (b), a local government shall not block streets or other rights-of-way within a tourism development zone in a manner that disrupts the operation of businesses within the tourism development zone; prohibits the delivery of goods, services, merchandise, food, and beverages to businesses and patrons within the tourism development zone; or prohibits taxis, public transportation vehicles, or ride sharing companies from picking up or dropping off persons within the tourism development zone.

(b) A local government may temporarily prohibit ingress or egress or block streets or other rights-of-way into or within a tourism development zone:

- (1) For purposes of providing exclusive access to first responders during an emergency;
- (2) For an event permitted by the local government to an event operator or event promoter;
- (3) For construction, maintenance, repair, or improvement of public or private infrastructure, buildings, or utilities, including activities authorized through a local government permitting process; and
- (4) In accordance with applicable rules prescribed pursuant to § 7-92-104.

7-92-103. Jurisdiction of Tennessee highway patrol.

Notwithstanding another law, the Tennessee highway patrol established pursuant to title 4, chapter 7, part 1, has concurrent law enforcement authority with local law enforcement agencies, including the power to arrest, carry a firearm, and investigate crime within a tourism development zone in this state.

7-92-104. Designation of economic protection zones.

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(a) The department of tourist development, in consultation with the department of economic and community development, department of environment and conservation, and department of safety and homeland security, shall promulgate rules designating tourism development zones in this state as economic protection zones for the purposes of protecting and stimulating economic activity within the tourism development zones.

(b) The rules must:

(1) Apply uniformly to tourism development zones in this state;

(2) Regulate ingress and egress into businesses and public property in a manner that facilitates access to tourists and residents;

(3) Regulate unlawful loitering, sitting, camping, or sleeping on public property in a manner that maintains ingress and egress into places of business and maintains clear and unobstructed streets, alleys, sidewalks, parks, plazas, parking lots, driveways, rights-of-way, public buildings, or other locations open to or accessible by the public for the purpose of facilitating vehicular and pedestrian traffic; and

(4) Be promulgated in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

(c) This chapter does not supersede or alter the regulatory authority of the department of transportation over state highway rights-of-way or limit the statutory authority of the department of transportation to regulate activities within the jurisdiction of the department of transportation.

SECTION 2. The headings in this act are for reference purposes only and do not constitute a part of the law enacted by this act. However, the Tennessee Code Commission is requested to include the headings in any compilation or publication containing this act.

SECTION 3. For purposes of promulgating rules, this act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act takes effect August 1, 2026, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: April 23, 2026



CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RANDY McNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 19th day of May 2026



BILL LEE, GOVERNOR