



Highlights of 2017 State Government Agenda From City of Memphis & Shelby County Mayor's Office

Stiffer sentences for violent crimes: Enact longer sentences for convicted felons illegally in possession of firearms, which will deter gun crime and have an impact on our crime rate.

Expungement fees: Reduce the fee a non-violent felon must pay to have his or her record expunged, thus decreasing the barrier many encounter when they try to enter the workforce.

Driver's licenses: Instead of revoking driver's licenses during payment of fines, provide an avenue for restriction, thus allowing those in that process to continue to work.

Attract and retain jobs: Economic development incentives should be evaluated and adjusted to ensure that Tennessee is competitive in its efforts to bring more jobs and investment to our state. That includes updating the historic tax credit structure and supporting entrepreneurs.

Education funding: Fully fund the Basic Education Program (BEP), which includes support for continued inflationary growth in the state and local match BEP formulas, as well as capital outlay.

Tennessee Promise: Expand eligibility for designated private technical education programs with established high performance.

Workforce training: Build on current LEAP investment by expanding a dual enrollment Career and Technical Education program in Shelby County, which will connect students to pathways to postsecondary education and higher skills.

Support for Entrepreneurs: Seek state funding to leverage significant local investments in entrepreneurship and job creation programs that bring innovation, people and jobs to Tennessee through the EPIcenter.

Health coverage: Implement initiatives and programs to provide access to health coverage to working Tennesseans living at or near the federal poverty level.

De-annexation: Pursue a solution that is fiscally responsible, locally determined and agreed upon both by the City of Memphis and Shelby County.

TDZ funding: Pursue modifications to state funding structures, such as the Tourism Development Zone, that will enable more growth in Downtown Memphis.

State revenue sharing: Support efforts, such as Sen. Brian Kelsey's proposal, to replace funding lost by municipalities in the repeal of the Hall income tax with other existing equitable revenue streams.

Equitable funding: Advocate for a more equitable funding distribution for the housing of state inmates in local jails, which will align with the actual costs incurred by county government.

Infrastructure funding: Pursue enhanced infrastructure funding that is designated exclusively for improvements to transit, highways (including the Lamar Avenue/Interstate 22 project), roads, and bridges.

Community paramedicine: Seek support in certification requirements to continue and enhance our community paramedicine program, which will enable the city to improve EMS service.

Out-of-state taxes: Level the playing field of competition for local businesses by requiring out-of-state businesses to collect and remit sales taxes upon reaching \$500,000 in sales in Tennessee.

IMPROVE Act: Address the equity of the distribution of state fuel tax revenues to more fairly address large metropolitan areas, while strategically reducing taxes.

Infrastructure access: Modify Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation restrictions that limit public utilities or municipalities' access to existing infrastructure near streams and rivers, making it easier to ensure public safety.

Pink Palace: Increase funding of the Science Alliance of Tennessee, and include capital support for the museum's master plan.

Historic tax credits: Support updates to the tax credit structure to incentivize rehabilitation of historic property to spur job creation and economic development activity.

Strengthen business assistance tools: Adjust economic development incentives to attract and retain businesses and to ensure that Tennessee is competitive in its efforts to bring jobs and investment to our state.