

Legislative Update



REP. AFTYN BEHN AND CM JEFF GREGG
HOUSE DISTRICT 51 AND CD 15 TOWNHALL
SATURDAY, MARCH 22ND

AGENDA

- Welcome!
- Housekeeping (in-person and digital)
- Rep. Aftyn Behn: State Legislative Update
- Councilmember Jeff Gregg: Metro Update
- Q & A

HOUSEKEEPING

Community Agreements

- One Diva, One Mic (Raise hands)
- Step up, Step back
- Jargon giraffe!

Need help?

- Team Aftyn has your back!

THANK YOU TO TEAM AFTYN

It takes a village to put on an event, and I'd like to thank #TeamAftyn for their support in putting this on!

Nicki Pope
Isabella Bartolucci
Kate Briefs
Ainsley Costello
Emilee Warner
Angela Gimlin
Anabel Wilson

Thank
you! 

...AND REYN HAUN

STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

113th General Assembly

RE-ELECT
AFTYN BEHN
FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE



HOW DO WE DECIDE WHAT BILLS TO SUPPORT/OPPOSE?

Do they put more people in prison or expand the states' surveillance ability?

Do the bills improve equity and material conditions for Tennesseans?

Do the bills mitigate harm to marginalized groups?

Do the bills enhance the vision of a Tennessee For All?

Do the bills provide a specific service for constituents?

Do the bills limit local control of municipalities?

Our goal is to introduce and support legislation that provides measurable benefits to the quality of life of Tennesseans while opposing legislation that seeks to harm any group of people.

THE CONSTRAINTS OF THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

- House members are only allowed to introduce 15 bills for the session.
 - A mix of messaging and constituent bills.
- Messaging bills are designed to make a point and show the ideal policy.
 - example: Ending the grocery tax!
- Constituent bills have been suggested and influenced by District 51 constituents or drafted with constituents specifically in mind.
 - These bills, like HB 166g, the Daycare Closing Notice bill, provide a service or improve the quality of life for constituents and Tennesseans.

BILLS THAT DIDN'T MAKE IT

HB 1626

Fundamental Right to Reproductive Healthcare Act

- This bill calls for abortion and contraceptive access to be labeled a fundamental right.

Failed in sub-committee!

HB 2396

\$12 Minimum Wage for Service Workers

- As introduced, increases the minimum hourly wage for food delivery employees within this state from \$7.25 to \$12.

Failed in sub-committee!

HJR 0709

Honoring a Multi-Ethnic Calendar

- Strongly urges the state government to consider multi-ethnic holidays when scheduling etc.
- Recommended by the Jewish Federation and AMAC

Didn't get a motion to be heard in sub-committee

HB 2234

#TaxBigTech to pay for Universal Pre-K



- Digital Data Transaction Tax Act
- This bill seeks to impose a tax of 9.5% on revenue derived from data transactions from digital advertising for persons making over \$50 million yearly.
- Due to the nature of digital advertising revenue, it is not a proxy for already taxed revenue and, therefore, is ripe for such an act.
- These funds will be used to fund universal childcare/pre-k of which a bill already exists.

Failed in sub-committee

BILLS MAKING MOVES

HB 1671 TABC Sexual Assault and Trafficking Training

- Requires all those applying for a serving license to receive training on how to spot someone who has been drugged or who is the victim of sex trafficking.

In committee March 27th, co-sponsored with Rep. Freeman

HB 1672 Expansion of Hours for Alcohol Sales The “I Like my Bloody Mary with the Titans” Bill

- Allows for a 2/3 majority vote to expand the hours of alcohol sales on Sundays to be consistent with the hours of sale on weekdays.

In committee March 27th, co-sponsored with Rep. Freeman

- As introduced, it expands the sales tax exemption on motor vehicles sold to a member of the Tennessee National Guard or military reserve who has been called into active military service to include those who are deployed under orders to a duty station in another state or another country and not just to those deployed to a combat zone.

Placed behind the budget

HB1871 Tax Relief for Service Members

HB 2040

#EndTheGroceryTax Bill

- Eliminate regressive grocery tax and close corporate tax loopholes.
- Institutes worldwide combined reporting and a business enterprise tax
 - WWCR – close offshore tax loopholes
 - BET – serves as an alternative minimum tax that also exempts small businesses
- Massive corporations should not pay less in taxes than working moms paying for baby formula.



Placed behind the budget... BUDGET ADVOCACY!

HB 1669

Day Care Closing Notice bill

- Requires childcare agencies to give notice before closure. This includes children who are currently enrolled or on a waitlist.
- Parents had been blindsided by sudden closures and left with no alternative options as other waitlists had already filled up.

I'll present this on the House Floor next week!



WORKING ACROSS THE AISLE

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BIPARTISIANSHIP IN A SUPERMAJORITY

Co-sponsored legislation to move the sexual harassment policy out of the General Assembly with one of the most conservative Republicans

Co-sponsored 54 bills this session... and counting


- over 20 Republican bills!

Resolutions!

- 6 sponsored, 25 co-sponsored

NEWS

Why a Republican and a Democrat want to change the Tenn. General Assembly's Sexual Harassment policy



WATCH NOW
Exclusive Interview

NewsChannel 5 Investigates

Rep. Aftyn Behn, a Nashville Democrat, and Rep. Todd Warner, a Chapel Hill Republican, are the first to admit this doesn't happen often — a ruby-red Republican and a true blue Democrat joining forces.

BIPARTISANSHIP IN A SUPERMAJORITY

- Submitted budget appropriations request for FiftyForward programming
 - Williamson County Republicans Rep. Sam Whitson and Rep. Jake McCalmon signed on
- Sent letter to Mayor O'Connell and CM Jacob Kupin asking for \$ commitment for 2nd Avenue Fire Station
- Sent letter to our congressional delegation asking to fund the Affordable Connectivity Program, a program that provides subsidized internet to rural communities
- Sent a letter to TNECD Commissioner asking to ensure that high-standard labor protections are included in Tennessee's BEAD program

I'M HERE FOR YOU!

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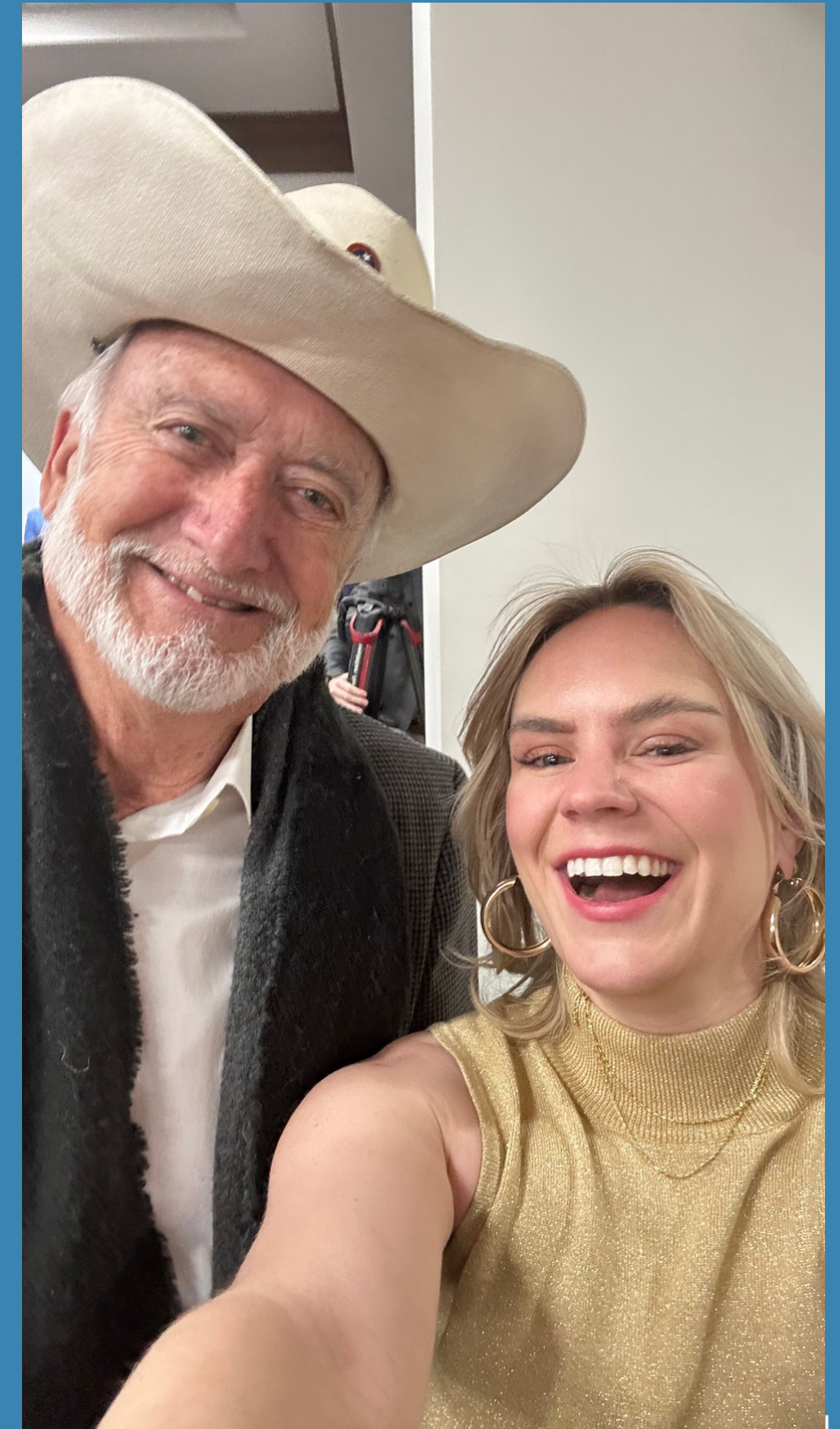
WHAT I CAN HELP WITH

- Potholes on state roads!
- SNAP, TANF, or TennCare issues!
- Recommendation letters!
- Official and unofficial resolutions!
- Proclamations!
 - Bar mitzvahs, weddings, store openings!
- Grant opportunities!

WHAT I'VE BEEN UP TO!

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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PROGRAMMING AND TRANSITIONS

District Programming

- FINAL Girls' Club
 - April 18th
- Spring Townhalls
 - April 20: CM Clay Capp
 - Third Saturday of every month
- Post-session
 - District events!
 - Canvassing!

Transitions

- David got a promotion!
 - Abby Plemmons is my new legislative aide!
- Committee Assignments
 - Education Instruction
 - Health
- Caucus
 - Election Committee!

Thank you!

Constituent Questions?

Contact Abby Plemmons, e: abigail.plemmons@capitol.tn.gov

Campaign Questions?

Contact Campaign Manager Kate Briefs,
e: team@aftynbehn.com