



Tennessee Gun Owners

2026 Gubernatorial Candidate Survey

1. **Repealing the “Intent to Go Armed” Baseline Offense:** Under current law (T.C.A. § 39-17-1307(a)), it remains a baseline crime in Tennessee to carry a firearm in public “with the intent to go armed,” forcing citizens to rely on a patchwork of complex statutory “exceptions” to carry legally. Though an appellate panel struck this down as unconstitutional in August 2025, the law remains on the books.

If elected Governor, would you sign legislation to repeal the T.C.A. § 39-17-1307(a) “intent to go armed” offense, fully normalizing carrying firearms for self-defense?

HB 737 - HB 2514 Yes ☒ No ☐
Carried 2 bills this year to remove.

2. **Absolute Veto of Red Flag Confiscation Laws:** Following the Covenant School shooting, previous administrations pressured the legislature to enact a state-level Extreme Risk Protection Order, or Red Flag law, which allows the state to seize firearms from citizens without them being charged, tried, or convicted of any crime.

If elected Governor, do you pledge to veto any and all “Red Flag” gun confiscation or extreme risk protection order legislation that comes to your desk?

Yes ☒ No ☐

3. **Second Amendment Protection Act (SAPA):** The federal government cannot constitutionally commandeer Tennessee state and local law enforcement to enforce federal regulatory schemes. A Second Amendment Protection Act would prohibit Tennessee law enforcement from being used to enforce unconstitutional federal gun control, unilateral ATF rules, or executive orders, backed by civil penalties for violations.

If elected Governor, would you sign Second Amendment Protection Act (SAPA) legislation, similar to Missouri’s framework, to protect Tennessee gun owners from federal gun control enforcement?

Yes ☒ No ☐

4. **True Campus Carry:** While Tennessee has expanded restricted school sentinel programs, ordinary law-abiding citizens with a handgun carry permit are still banned from carrying on public college and university campuses.

If elected Governor, would you sign legislation to eliminate restrictions on law-abiding gun owners carrying firearms on public college and university campuses, otherwise known as true Campus Carry?

Yes ☒ No ☐

HB 2514 had this component.

5. **Defending State Preemption and Punishing Rogue Cities:** Under T.C.A. § 39-17-1314, Tennessee maintains state preemption over firearm laws, yet cities like Memphis continue to pass illegal local gun bans, including their November 2025 ordinance.

If elected Governor, would you sign legislation that implements strict personal civil liability and automatic termination for any local official who knowingly votes for or enforces illegal municipal gun control?

Yes X No

6. **Vetoing "Assault Weapon" and Magazine Bans:** Anti-gun legislators continue to introduce bills to outlaw common semiautomatic firearms, such as the AR-15, and standard-capacity magazines.

If elected Governor, do you pledge to veto any legislation that seeks to limit the sale, manufacture, importation, or possession of semiautomatic rifles, shotguns, handguns, or magazines of any arbitrary capacity?

- HB 723 (caption) would remove DFA to allow state to
7. **Vetoing Private Sale Bans:** National gun control groups continue to push so-called "Universal Background Checks" to prohibit law-abiding citizens from privately selling, gifting, or transferring firearms to other law-abiding citizens unless the transaction is processed through a licensed dealer or accompanied by a government background check.

If elected Governor, would you veto any legislation that bans or restricts private firearm sales, gifts, or transfers between law-abiding Tennesseans?

Yes X No

8. **Opposing ESG and Financial Surveillance of Gun Buyers:** Leftist financial institutions have used ESG metrics to "debank" firearms businesses, and payment processors have attempted to use specialized Merchant Category Codes (MCC) to track gun and ammunition purchases.

If elected Governor, will you aggressively enforce Tennessee's ban on firearm-retailer-specific MCC tracking codes and sign further legislation to protect firearms businesses from political debanking?

Yes X No

9. **What does the Second Amendment mean to you?**

Shall NOT BE INFRINGED
This right, as all other Bill of Rights documented,
is a Creator-enclosed Right.

The laws of Nature and Nature's God
permit self defense.

The 2A prohibits govt infringement
documenting right to protect oneself and
Republic from predatory government officials.

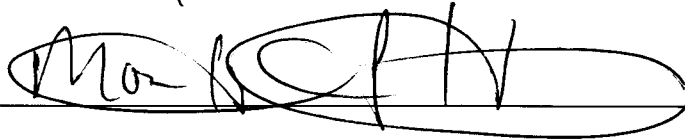
Successfully sponsored HB 723 that protected firearms and ammo
mfg and retailers from predatory laws.

*** Please Note: Failure to answer a question will be graded as an anti-gun answer.**

----- Candidate Authorization -----

My signature affirms that the answers given above accurately represent my beliefs as a candidate for the office of Governor of Tennessee in the 2026 election cycle.

Printed: Monty G. Fritts,

Signed: 

Date: June 24 2024

Your completed and signed survey is due by Close of Business on July 3, 2026 via mail or by email to:
director@tennesseegunowners.org