

2026 Tennessee General Election

Voter Guide

501c3 - compliant
and nonpartisan

General Election Candidates

| November 3, 2026



CHURCH
Voter Guides

www.VoteChattanooga.org

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MATTERS**

11/3/2026

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Contact Church Voter Guides at: Info@VoteChattanooga.org | Updated 10/7/2026

For other Voter Guides and more information, please go to our website: www.VoteChattanooga.org

Church Voter Guides does not endorse or oppose any candidates for public office or any political party.

The Voter Guide information contained in this document is provided for informational purposes only. It was obtained directly from candidates and other sources, and we have done our best to convey it to you accurately, but nothing herein has been "fact checked". Utilize this Voter Guide at your own discretion. We take no responsibility for the factual nature of the content, or for publishing errors, etc. To the best of our knowledge, this Voter Guide is 501c3-compliant and officially nonpartisan, and thereby it does not support or oppose any candidate.

2026 Tennessee General Election Voter Guide

General Election Candidates

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Introduction to the Voter Guide

Church Voter Guides is an independent 501c3 faith-based nonprofit organization. We serve the public by providing objective research and education on matters specifically of interest to Christians, primarily through the production and distribution of 501c3-compliant, nonpartisan Voter Guides.

Church Voter Guides does not endorse or oppose any candidates for public office or any political party.

Church Voter Guides, a Tennessee nonprofit, initially started in Colorado Springs in April of 2021. This new Voter Guide for the 2026 General is being distributed electronically-only through our website via downloadable and printable PDF files, as well as mobile-friendly interactive webpages. We have produced one Voter Guide for each seat that is: (1) conducting a contested election this year, and (2) for which at least one candidate in that election answered our Questionnaire. Our Voter Guides are being promoted through a wide-ranging network of area churches, faith-based non-profit organizations, mainstream and social media, and other means.

The purpose of our Voter Guides is to educate and inform voters of each candidate's positions on a variety of policy issues that they are likely to address if elected, as well as information on Ballot Measures. As a Voter Guide designed to be distributed through Churches, we ask the candidates questions on topics that are of utmost interest to the Christian voter.

How to Get the Most Benefit from this Voter Guide

The core information in this Voter Guide comes directly from the candidates themselves. We asked them questions, they answered (with a 120 word limit), and we have published their responses here verbatim. In order to understand and utilize this information to the fullest, so that you may vote in the most informed way, we suggest the following:

1. Pray and ask the Almighty for discernment. The Kingdom of God is all about truth, while politics is a system fraught with compromise. Make sure you consider the candidates' answers with a Heavenly mindset.
2. Ask yourself, "Did the candidate actually answer the question, or rather side-step it, or give a fluff, wishy-washy, and/or 'political' type answer that leaves you not really knowing where he/she truly stands on the issue?"
3. Learn more about the candidates running for General Election Candidates, including their positions on issues we did not cover in our questionnaire, by visiting their official campaign websites (if they have one.) The website URL for each candidate is listed in the Voter Guide.
4. Educate yourself more about the Christian/Biblical perspective regarding many of the subjects covered in our Voter Guide by reading topical articles on our website: www.VoteChattanooga.org
5. Use search engines to find additional information about each candidate, including written articles and videos, other voter guides, and even voting records for those who have served in public office before. You may even want to watch online recordings of the local General Election Candidates meetings to see how incumbents conduct themselves and vote.
6. Reach out to the candidates themselves through the provided email addresses and other means, in order to ask them questions of personal importance to you. Please make sure to show great respect toward each candidate and his/her time, especially to those with whom you disagree. Running for office is hard, stressful, time consuming work, and these are your fellow citizens who have lives, families, jobs...and feelings (just like you!)

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What makes a Voter Guide 501c3-compliant and Nonpartisan?

Federal tax law permits nonprofit 501c3 organizations to develop and distribute materials about political candidates' positions on issues, in order to educate voters impartially and on a nonpartisan basis; meaning that it is free from party affiliation, bias, or designation. The IRS states that 501c3 organizations may conduct any range of activities to promote voter participation and educate voters so long as it is nonpartisan. But, 501c3 organizations are explicitly prohibited from supporting or opposing candidates for public office or political parties.

Some of the activities 501c3 nonprofits *MAY* perform: Conduct or promote voter registration; educate voters on the voting process; distribute nonpartisan sample ballots, candidate questionnaires, and **voter guides**; organize get-out-the-vote activities; encourage and help people to vote; educate the candidates on issues important to their organization; and continue to do issue advocacy during an election.

So, first and foremost: **Church Voter Guides** does NOT endorse or oppose any candidates for public office or any political party.

Second, all of our staff and volunteers are required to act in a nonpartisan manner when working for or representing the organization and the creation of the Voter Guide.

Third, we do not edit, revise, or editorialize candidate responses to our Questionnaire. We do not even correct typos. **Candidate answers are published verbatim**, ensuring that their responses accurately represent their positions and perspectives on these issues. We then simply share this information through the Voter Guide, and you decide whom you believe to be the best candidate.

To be fair and impartial, we reached out by email, text, and phone when determined necessary, to all registered candidates running for General Election Candidates throughout Tennessee for their 2026 elections, inviting them to answer our questionnaire. Candidate information is presented in alphabetical order by **last name**. If a Candidate did not respond at all, or did not choose to participate, or did not choose to respond to certain answers in the questionnaire, then it is noted where applicable. If there were not enough candidates running, then we did not produce a Voter Guide for that seat.

Join Our Growing Grassroots Coalition of Citizens, Churches/Nonprofit Organizations, and Media Partners Committed to Producing and Promoting the Voter Guides throughout Our Region

Let's get the word out!

It's simple. Just share our website URL all around the Tennessee region:

www.VoteChattanooga.org

Tell your friends and neighbors, post on social media, and ask your Pastors to promote it to your congregation (we'll even provide you /them with the announcement info and the PowerPoint promo slide.)

Please contact us for any reason, we'd love to collaborate with you: **Info@VoteChattanooga.org**

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2026 Tennessee General Election Voter Guide

Candidates for

TN House of Representatives

Survey Questions for 2026 General TN House of Representatives Candidates

- 1) **Purpose:** What do you view as the purpose and role of the TN House of Representatives?
- 2) **Candidate's Focus/Expertise/Initiatives:** What are your areas of special focus and/or expertise?
- 3) **Accomplishments & Priorities:** If you are the incumbent: What key accomplishments would you like to highlight, and what are your main priorities moving forward that you want to share with Christian voters? If you are a challenger: What are your top priorities and planned initiatives if elected, and what would you most want Christian voters to know about your vision for the office?
- 4) **Moral Values:** Should governmental laws, ordinances, regulations, etc. follow the moral principles of the Ten Commandments? Please elaborate on your viewpoint and reasoning.
- 5) **Federalism and State Sovereignty:** What is your position on the sovereignty of Tennessee within the United States, and do you believe that the powers of individual states should be considered superior to those of the federal government? Please explain your views in detail, including how you interpret the balance of power between state and federal authorities.
- 6) **AI Data Centers:** What is your position on the rapid expansion of AI data centers in Tennessee? How would you address concerns about increased electricity rates, pollution, water usage, and taxpayer subsidies while still encouraging economic growth?
- 7) **Education Funding and Immigration:** What is your stance on the use of taxpayer funds in Tennessee to support the education of illegal aliens and their children who have recently arrived in the state? Please provide a detailed explanation of your position, including how you believe such funding impacts both the state's budget and the broader community.
- 8) **Government Assistance & Fraud:** In light of fraud found in many states' government assistance programs, what policies can you craft for auditing and prevention of fraud in Tennessee?
- 9) **Unborn Life:** In light of the May 14th Supreme Court ruling continuing mail access to mifepristone at this time, what legislation would you craft to protect our women, children and citizens of Tennessee, or make available the reversal pill?
- 10) **Ballot Security:** Given the high difficulty of fully auditing electronic voting machines and past incidents of such machines being hacked in important elections, what measures would you support to increase transparency in ballot processing? Would you support end-to-end video recording of ballot chain of custody, automatic public access to ballot handling recordings, and making it easier for candidates to request hand counts in close elections?

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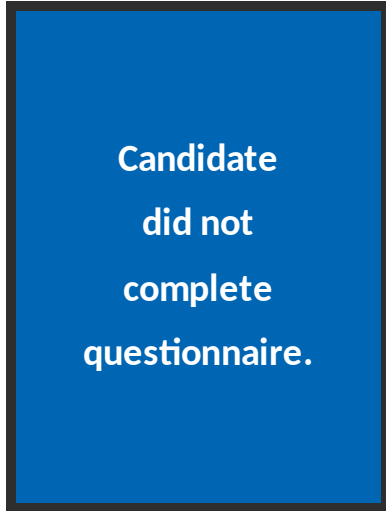
- 11) School Choice:** What is your position on expanding school choice in Tennessee, including education savings accounts or vouchers? How would you ensure that public funds follow the child to schools that align with parental values and do not disproportionately benefit secular, non-Christian, or ideologically opposed institutions?

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TN House of Representatives District 26th Candidates

(in alphabetical order)



Nathan B. Denton
Democratic



Greg Martin
Republican

Independent Survey by



**Candidate
did not
complete
questionnaire.**

NATHAN B. DENTON

We made multiple attempts to communicate with Nathan B. Denton; however, the Candidate did not complete the survey by the submission deadline.

Candidate Information

District: District 26th

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GREG MARTIN

Candidate Information

Party:	Republican
District:	District 26th
Campaign Website:	electgregmartin.com
Email Address:	gregmartind26@gmail.com
Occupation/Vocation:	Realtor
Years as a resident of Tennessee:	50 - moved away for school and work for 13 years

1) Purpose: What do you view as the purpose and role of the TN House of Representatives?

My role in the State House of Representatives is to represent the citizens of my district in the General Assembly. This includes making and repealing laws that reflect the values of my constituents. A State Representative also appropriates state tax dollars. Constituents services is another major role of the State Representative. One of my favorite aspects of serving my district is helping my constituents see their government working for them without the red tape of government bureaucracy.

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2) Candidate's Focus/Expertise/Initiatives: What are your areas of special focus and/or expertise?

My area of expertise is local government and how it relates to state government. I served on the Hamilton County Commission for 6 years, where I chaired the zoning committee. Prior to that I served on the Hamilton County School Board for 4 years. I currently serve on the Local and State Government Committee in the General Assembly. My focus has been to enact laws that help county and city government work better for the people in the state.

I have a focus on Religious Liberty and have brought a few bills to enhance and protect this freedom. Freedom of conscience is something that government should never usurp!

3) Accomplishments & Priorities: If you are the incumbent: What key accomplishments would you like to highlight, and what are your main priorities moving forward that you want to share with Christian voters? If you are a challenger: What are your top priorities and planned initiatives if elected, and what would you most want Christian voters to know about your vision for the office?

I passed House Bill 1454 this pass year that defines "aggravating circumstances" with regard to the rape of a child. This will enable District Attorneys to pursue the death penalty when a child has been raped.

HB 2422 reduces testing in certain public school districts that are eligible in a pilot program.

HB 1876 is a bill I have fought for that provides tax relief for the items of diapers, wipes, and baby formula. Many parents are the most economically challenged in their life when they bring a child into the world.

HB 2260 is a bill that I will bring back next year. It increases the penalty for arson against a crisis pregnancy center.

4) Moral Values: Should governmental laws, ordinances, regulations, etc. follow the moral principles of the Ten Commandments? Please elaborate on your viewpoint and reasoning.

Yes! Our government was founded upon these principals. President John Adams had it right when he stated, "Our constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." If we eliminate our founding principals, we can not expect to have a prosperous future.

5) Federalism and State Sovereignty: What is your position on the sovereignty of Tennessee within the United States, and do you believe that the powers of individual states should be considered superior to those of the federal government? Please explain your views in detail, including how you interpret the balance of power between state and federal authorities.

There is NO Federal Government without the States. There is NO Local Government without the State. I strongly believe in the 10th Amendment of the US Constitution - "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."

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6) AI Data Centers: What is your position on the rapid expansion of AI data centers in Tennessee? How would you address concerns about increased electricity rates, pollution, water usage, and taxpayer subsidies while still encouraging economic growth?

AI Data Centers are a reality! Every time we download pictures or apps on our phones or tablets, that data has to be stored somewhere. I do not think we should allow China or other adversarial nations to be the ones keeping Tennessean's data. It must be something that Americans lead on like we have with so many other technologies. We can not lean into the future with fear.

The Data Centers should not disturb the peace of a community with noise or pollution. The electrical and water rates of Data Centers should be paid by the users and not the community. Our local rates should not increase to accommodate this new infrastructure.

7) Education Funding and Immigration: What is your stance on the use of taxpayer funds in Tennessee to support the education of illegal aliens and their children who have recently arrived in the state? Please provide a detailed explanation of your position, including how you believe such funding impacts both the state's budget and the broader community.

The state has a moral obligation to provide public education to every child regardless of immigration status. Article XI - Section 12 of the State Constitution states, "The State of Tennessee recognizes the inherent value of education and encourages it support. The General Assembly shall provide for the maintenance, support and eligibility standards of a system of free public schools." Educating illegal immigrants costs state and local taxpayers untold millions of dollars. Although the state is required by law to fund an education for all students, I support tax dollars being used for those legally seeking to immigrate to our state and local communities.

8) Government Assistance & Fraud: In light of fraud found in many states' government assistance programs, what policies can you craft for auditing and prevention of fraud in Tennessee?

The General Assembly has a Government Operations Committee that looks at these concerns year round. I had the privilege of serving on that committee during my service in the 113th General Assembly.

9) Unborn Life: In light of the May 14th Supreme Court ruling continuing mail access to mifepristone at this time, what legislation would you craft to protect our women, children and citizens of Tennessee, or make available the reversal pill?

I am for protecting the unborn. I have a 100% rating with the Tennessee Right to Life. I am supportive of legislation to outlaw abortion pills via mail.

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10) Ballot Security: Given the high difficulty of fully auditing electronic voting machines and past incidents of such machines being hacked in important elections, what measures would you support to increase transparency in ballot processing? Would you support end-to-end video recording of ballot chain of custody, automatic public access to ballot handling recordings, and making it easier for candidates to request hand counts in close elections?

For four consecutive years Tennessee has been rated as the NUMBER ONE state for voter integrity! I am proud of that. I don't see or know of much fraud happening in our state.

I am for end to end video recording of ballot chain of custody and the public's right to access these procedures. I am not against candidates requesting hand counting of the election if they are not putting that expense on the taxpayers.

11) School Choice: What is your position on expanding school choice in Tennessee, including education savings accounts or vouchers? How would you ensure that public funds follow the child to schools that align with parental values and do not disproportionately benefit secular, non-Christian, or ideologically opposed institutions?

I am for parental choice when it comes to education. School Choice has been a part of the Republican platform for decades. School choice has been the mechanism to help many poor people out of their zoned failing public schools. Competition in a free market should be extended to both private and public education.

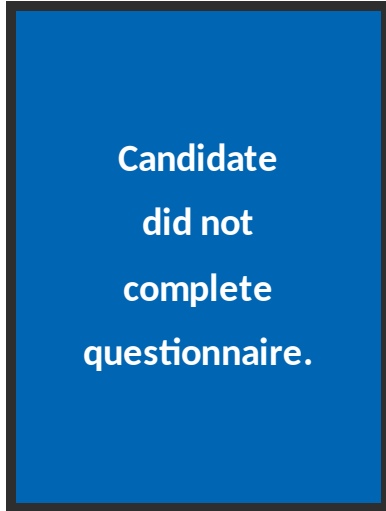
I am for the 1st Amendment that guarantees religious freedom to every American. Parents might be secularist or of some other faith but I will always stand for their right to be different than me in their conscience. They are not required to be Christians to benefit from the state and enjoy the freedoms of their fellow citizens.

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TN House of Representatives District 27th Candidates

(in alphabetical order)



Paige Quirin
Democratic



Michele Reneau
Republican

Independent Survey by



**Candidate
did not
complete
questionnaire.**

PAIGE QUIRIN

We made multiple attempts to communicate with Paige Quirin; however, the Candidate did not complete the survey by the submission deadline.

Candidate Information

District: District 27th

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MICHELE RENEAU

Candidate Information

Party:	Republican
District:	District 27th
Campaign Website:	electmichele.com
Email Address:	hello@electmichele.com
Occupation/Vocation:	Small Business Owner
Years as a resident of Tennessee:	17

1) Purpose: What do you view as the purpose and role of the TN House of Representatives?

Representatives are closest to the people and should be representative of the people's voice in the government. They have the power to make laws, have oversight of the operations of the government, and make the budget.

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2) Candidate's Focus/Expertise/Initiatives: What are your areas of special focus and/or expertise?

My focus is on strengthening families, improving education, protecting individual liberty, and advancing the Make America Healthy Again movement. My past work prioritizes parental rights thru access to mature minor's medical records, reduced screen time in elementary classrooms, and greater transparency in healthcare. I support food freedom, healthier school meals, informed consent, medical privacy, and fewer unnecessary regulations on families, farmers, and small businesses. Guided by the Constitution, I work to limit government overreach, protect personal choice, and ensure parents—not bureaucracies—remain the primary decision-makers for their children.

3) Accomplishments & Priorities: If you are the incumbent: What key accomplishments would you like to highlight, and what are your main priorities moving forward that you want to share with Christian voters? If you are a challenger: What are your top priorities and planned initiatives if elected, and what would you most want Christian voters to know about your vision for the office?

Key accomplishments include expanding parental access to children's medical records, reducing screen dependence in elementary classrooms, supporting healthier school meals, protecting small businesses.. I have also worked to strengthen privacy, property rights, public safety, and accountability in state government. Moving forward, my priorities are strengthening families, improving education, protecting individual liberty, lowering the burden of government, supporting local farmers and entrepreneurs, and advancing policies that help Tennesseans live healthier lives. I will continue carefully reviewing legislation, defending constitutional rights, and listening to the people of District 27.

4) Moral Values: Should governmental laws, ordinances, regulations, etc. follow the moral principles of the Ten Commandments? Please elaborate on your viewpoint and reasoning.

Yes. John Adams stated, "Our constitution was made only for moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." The Ten Commandments provide a moral foundation essential for societal order and justice. Since laws must be grounded in some form of morality, aligning them with these timeless ethical guidelines (such as Thou shalt not kill, steal) ensures that they uphold values such as respect, honesty, and integrity, and property rights, which are crucial for the stability of any society.

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5) Federalism and State Sovereignty: What is your position on the sovereignty of Tennessee within the United States, and do you believe that the powers of individual states should be considered superior to those of the federal government? Please explain your views in detail, including how you interpret the balance of power between state and federal authorities.

I will uphold Tennessee's sovereignty within the United States. States' powers are vital for maintaining governance tailored to local needs, and should prevail over federal authority in matters not explicitly delegated to the federal government by the Constitution. This ensures that states retain autonomy in areas like education, healthcare, and law enforcement, reflecting their citizens' values and preferences. States maintain all powers not expressly assigned to the federal government unless that power threatens the sovereignty to the citizens of that state. The federal government was created by the states and is supposed to be inferior to states.

6) AI Data Centers: What is your position on the rapid expansion of AI data centers in Tennessee? How would you address concerns about increased electricity rates, pollution, water usage, and taxpayer subsidies while still encouraging economic growth?

I support economic growth but believe AI data centers must pay their own way and not shift costs onto families or small businesses. I favor local control, industrial zoning, transparent disclosure of electricity and water demands, and accountability for noise, pollution, and infrastructure impacts. Data centers should fund the power, water, roads, and other services they require rather than relying on taxpayer subsidies or preferential utility rates.

7) Education Funding and Immigration: What is your stance on the use of taxpayer funds in Tennessee to support the education of illegal aliens and their children who have recently arrived in the state? Please provide a detailed explanation of your position, including how you believe such funding impacts both the state's budget and the broader community.

Providing taxpayer-funded education to illegal aliens undermines immigration laws and incentivizes unlawful entry into the country. Allocating resources to non-citizens diverts funds away from other critical needs such as infrastructure, healthcare, and education for legal residents and citizens. Given the limited nature of state budgets, it is essential to prioritize spending on those who are legally entitled to such benefits. This additional financial burden could lead to higher taxes or cuts in other essential services. We should work to de-incentivize reasons illegals want to come to Tennessee.

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8) Government Assistance & Fraud: In light of fraud found in many states' government assistance programs, what policies can you craft for auditing and prevention of fraud in Tennessee?

Tennessee should protect assistance programs for those who genuinely need them while aggressively preventing fraud. I support requiring regular independent audits, real-time eligibility verification, cross-checking income, residency, incarceration and death records, and stronger data-sharing among agencies. High-risk payments should receive additional review, and agencies should publicly report improper payments, recoveries and corrective actions. Tennessee should also strengthen whistleblower protections, pursue repayment and prosecution for intentional fraud, and hold contractors accountable for weak controls. These reforms should build on the work of the Comptroller, TennCare Office of Inspector General and TBI while preserving due process so honest applicants are not unfairly denied benefits.

9) Unborn Life: In light of the May 14th Supreme Court ruling continuing mail access to mifepristone at this time, what legislation would you craft to protect our women, children and citizens of Tennessee, or make available the reversal pill?

I would strengthen Tennessee's prohibition on mailing abortion-inducing drugs into the state, hold out-of-state providers accountable, and require thorough reporting and investigation of complications. We should also ensure that women who regret taking mifepristone can quickly reach a licensed Tennessee physician to discuss every medically appropriate option. Ideally, progesterone treatment—commonly known as abortion-pill reversal—should be more readily accessible through emergency medical providers and pharmacies, with appropriate medical guidance and clear information about its potential benefits, risks, and limitations.

10) Ballot Security: Given the high difficulty of fully auditing electronic voting machines and past incidents of such machines being hacked in important elections, what measures would you support to increase transparency in ballot processing? Would you support end-to-end video recording of ballot chain of custody, automatic public access to ballot handling recordings, and making it easier for candidates to request hand counts in close elections?

Yes. Every vote should produce a voter-verifiable paper ballot that can be independently audited. I support bipartisan chain-of-custody procedures, continuous video recording wherever ballots are received, transported, stored, opened, duplicated or counted, and timely public access to those recordings—with safeguards for voter privacy and ballot secrecy. I would also require documented seal checks, public observation, retention of ballot images and audit records, and stronger post-election audits comparing paper ballots with electronic totals. Candidates should have a clear, affordable process to request a hand count when results fall within a defined close-election threshold or documented irregularities exist. Transparency must be built into every stage so voters do not have to simply trust the technology or the officials administering it.

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11) School Choice: What is your position on expanding school choice in Tennessee, including education savings accounts or vouchers? How would you ensure that public funds follow the child to schools that align with parental values and do not disproportionately benefit secular, non-Christian, or ideologically opposed institutions?

I support expanding educational options through open enrollment, charter schools, homeschool freedom, and fewer barriers to private education. However, I opposed Tennessee's voucher program because public funding can bring government control, and create long-term costs. Any program using taxpayer dollars should be transparent, fiscally sustainable and accountable to parents. The best protection for parental values is genuine choice: allowing families to select participating schools based on curriculum, beliefs, safety and academic quality, while ensuring schools clearly disclose their policies before enrollment.

Independent Survey by



TN House of Representatives District 29th Candidates

(in alphabetical order)

Candidate
did not
complete
questionnaire.

Ryan V. Scofield
Democratic

Candidate
did not
complete
questionnaire.

Greg Vital
Republican

Independent Survey by



**Candidate
did not
complete
questionnaire.**

RYAN V. SCOFIELD

We made multiple attempts to communicate with Ryan V. Scofield; however, the Candidate did not complete the survey by the submission deadline.

Candidate Information

District: District 29th

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**Candidate
did not
complete
questionnaire.**

GREG VITAL

We made multiple attempts to communicate with Greg Vital; however, the Candidate did not complete the survey by the submission deadline.

Candidate Information

District: District 29th

Independent Survey by



TN House of Representatives District 30th Candidates

(in alphabetical order)

Candidate
did not
complete
questionnaire.

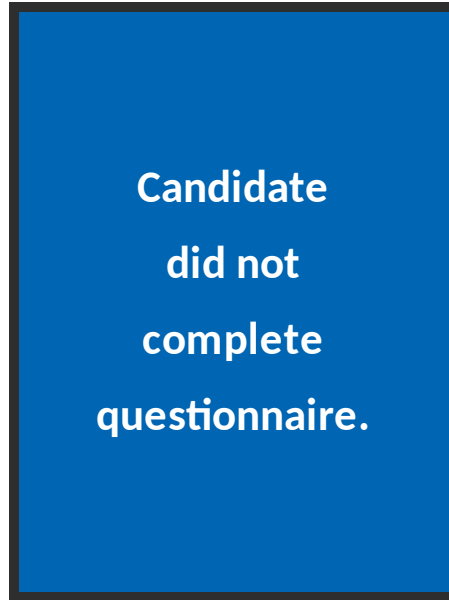
Esther Helton Haynes
Republican

Candidate
did not
complete
questionnaire.

Art Rymer
Democratic

Independent Survey by





ESTHER HELTON HAYNES

We made multiple attempts to communicate with Esther Helton Haynes; however, the Candidate did not complete the survey by the submission deadline.

Candidate Information

District: District 30th

Independent Survey by



**Candidate
did not
complete
questionnaire.**

ART RYMER

We made multiple attempts to communicate with Art Rymer; however, the Candidate did not complete the survey by the submission deadline.

Candidate Information

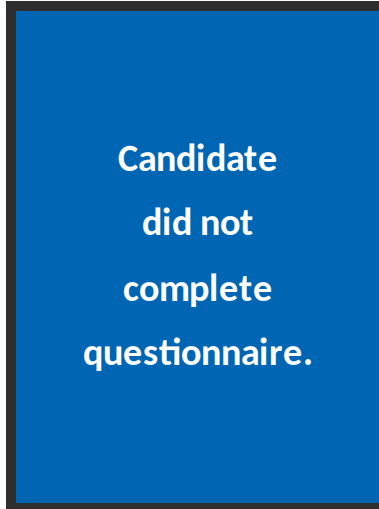
District: District 30th

Independent Survey by



TN House of Representatives Uncontested Candidates

(in alphabetical order)



Yusuf A. Hakeem (District 28th)
Democratic

Independent Survey by



**Candidate
did not
complete
questionnaire.**

YUSUF A. HAKEEM

We made multiple attempts to communicate with Yusuf A. Hakeem; however, the Candidate did not complete the survey by the submission deadline.

Candidate Information

District: District 28th

Independent Survey by



2026 Tennessee General Election Voter Guide

Candidates for

TN State Senate

Survey Questions for 2026 General TN State Senate Candidates

- 1) **Purpose:** What do you view as the purpose and role of the TN State Senate?
- 2) **Candidate's Focus/Expertise/Initiatives:** What are your areas of special focus and/or expertise?
- 3) **Accomplishments & Priorities:** If you are the incumbent: What key accomplishments would you like to highlight, and what are your main priorities moving forward that you want to share with Christian voters? If you are a challenger: What are your top priorities and planned initiatives if elected, and what would you most want Christian voters to know about your vision for the office?
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- 8) **Government Assistance & Fraud:** In light of fraud found in many states' government assistance programs, what policies can you craft for auditing and prevention of fraud in Tennessee?
- 9) **Unborn Life:** In light of the May 14th Supreme Court ruling continuing mail access to mifepristone at this time, what legislation would you craft to protect our women, children and citizens of Tennessee, or make available the reversal pill?
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Independent Survey by



TN State Senate District 11th Candidates

(in alphabetical order)



Tim Roberts
Democratic



Bo Watson
Republican

Independent Survey by





TIM ROBERTS

Candidate Information

Party:	Democratic
District:	District 11th
Campaign Website:	votetimroberts.com
Email Address:	troberts502@gmail.com
Occupation/Vocation:	Disabled Stay at Home Dad
Years as a resident of Tennessee:	35 Dad lived in NW GA

1) Purpose: What do you view as the purpose and role of the TN State Senate?

To facilitate the means for every Tennesseean in the pursuit of Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. To debate, review, and enact legislation to aid in that pursuit. Not to benefit corporations, big tech, or political leadership.

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2) Candidate's Focus/Expertise/Initiatives: What are your areas of special focus and/or expertise?

I want to introduce legislation that would require every bill, resolution, or government document to be written at the average reading level in the state.

I want to put a ban in for profit prisons.

Repeal the grocery tax.

All school lunches and breakfast provided at no extra charge to families.

These are just a few of the items I want to address.

3) Accomplishments & Priorities: If you are the incumbent: What key accomplishments would you like to highlight, and what are your main priorities moving forward that you want to share with Christian voters? If you are a challenger: What are your top priorities and planned initiatives if elected, and what would you most want Christian voters to know about your vision for the office?

4) Moral Values: Should governmental laws, ordinances, regulations, etc. follow the moral principles of the Ten Commandments? Please elaborate on your viewpoint and reasoning.

No, I do not. Only because I believe religion does not have a place in our government. While the Ten Commandments can be the moral principles on which we base our own individual beliefs on, religion has no place in our government or as the basis of our rules, respectfully.

5) Federalism and State Sovereignty: What is your position on the sovereignty of Tennessee within the United States, and do you believe that the powers of individual states should be considered superior to those of the federal government? Please explain your views in detail, including how you interpret the balance of power between state and federal authorities.

The way we were taught in school was the order was Federal, State, then local. I still believe that. That does not mean that you do not push back against laws that our state might not agree with.

6) AI Data Centers: What is your position on the rapid expansion of AI data centers in Tennessee? How would you address concerns about increased electricity rates, pollution, water usage, and taxpayer subsidies while still encouraging economic growth?

No more AI data centers in Tennessee, period. It does not benefit the everyday citizen, only the wealthy. There are other areas in which we can generate economic growth in our state without selling out our future to the elite.

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7) Education Funding and Immigration: What is your stance on the use of taxpayer funds in Tennessee to support the education of illegal aliens and their children who have recently arrived in the state? Please provide a detailed explanation of your position, including how you believe such funding impacts both the state's budget and the broader community.

All children should be educated, fed, and taken care of while in the state of Tennessee, no matter their immigration status. Holding children responsible for something they have no control over is about the furthest away from being Christ like one could possibly be. I believe that it is such a miniscule amount compared to the overall budget it is a non issue. If it was, the governor could have not given a nearly 1 billion dollar rebate to large corporations last year.

8) Government Assistance & Fraud: In light of fraud found in many states' government assistance programs, what policies can you craft for auditing and prevention of fraud in Tennessee?

Personally, I would look into how corporations are abusing our system well before I will start investigating citizens that are largely just trying to survive. I find it strange honestly that this question blames citizens and not large corporations for the amount of fraud committed. Doesn't seem like a question for a church questionnaire. Maybe for a political party, but not a church. Respectfully.

9) Unborn Life: In light of the May 14th Supreme Court ruling continuing mail access to mifepristone at this time, what legislation would you craft to protect our women, children and citizens of Tennessee, or make available the reversal pill?

What exactly would I be protecting them from? The pill has to be ordered. It is not given out anywhere. This question seems to be asked liked the previous question. Not from a church perspective, but a political party. I worry that the lines between the two are being intentionally blurred.

10) Ballot Security: Given the high difficulty of fully auditing electronic voting machines and past incidents of such machines being hacked in important elections, what measures would you support to increase transparency in ballot processing? Would you support end-to-end video recording of ballot chain of custody, automatic public access to ballot handling recordings, and making it easier for candidates to request hand counts in close elections?

But auditing electronic voting machines is not highly difficult. And it certainly is not a given. The question is slanted and biased from the beginning. Again, this is being asked not from a church perspective, but a political party. How do you answer a question that was not asked in good faith? What evidence of any of these assertions do you have occurring in Tennessee?

We have very secure elections in Tennessee.

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11) School Choice: What is your position on expanding school choice in Tennessee, including education savings accounts or vouchers? How would you ensure that public funds follow the child to schools that align with parental values and do not disproportionately benefit secular, non-Christian, or ideologically opposed institutions?

School choice should be repealed and those having found to have profited from it in our general assembly should be charged accordingly. If you want education to be fixed, fully fund education in Tennessee.

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BO WATSON

Candidate Information

Party:	Republican
District:	District 11th
Campaign Website:	BoForTN.com
Email Address:	Info@bofortn.com
Occupation/Vocation:	Physical Therapist
Years as a resident of Tennessee:	65.5

1) Purpose: What do you view as the purpose and role of the TN State Senate?

As a member of the Tennessee Senate, I swear an oath to support the state and federal constitutions and swear to vote impartially without prejudice, corruption, or self-interest, and furthermore the oath requires that I will not assent to any action of the Senate that is injurious to the People of Tennessee.

I represent the voice of the 11th Senate District in all legislation that comes before the General Assembly.

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2) Candidate's Focus/Expertise/Initiatives: What are your areas of special focus and/or expertise?

State Finance/Budget- 20 years experience on Senate Finance Ways and Means | Chairman since 2016 | Member Council of State Governments Fiscal Affairs Committee

Healthcare- 22 years on House and Senate Health Committees | 40+ years as hospital physical therapist | Co-Chair National Conference of State Legislatures Health Innovations Task Force

Commerce/Business- 12 years experience on Senate Commerce

Insurance- 12 years experience Senate Insurance and previous experience on TennCare Oversight (House)

State Government Rules and Regulations- House and Senate Government Operations Committee. Senate Chairman.

3) Accomplishments & Priorities: If you are the incumbent: What key accomplishments would you like to highlight, and what are your main priorities moving forward that you want to share with Christian voters? If you are a challenger: What are your top priorities and planned initiatives if elected, and what would you most want Christian voters to know about your vision for the office?

-Maintain Tennessee's position as one of the "Best Fiscally Managed States" with a AAA bond rating from all agencies. Balance our budget every year as required by the state's constitution.

-Maintain our low tax rate. Low taxes are important to business and citizens in Tennessee.

-Maintain our state's low indebtedness. Tennessee has one of the lowest debt per capita of all states in the U.S.

-Build on our conservative policies that have made Tennessee so attractive to businesses and people.

-Continue to reform K-12 education with policies that give students and families options in determining what is the best environment for their education. Increasing parental engagement is essential.

-Protect our 2nd Amendment Right.

-Protect the sanctity of life. Pro-Life legislator.

4) Moral Values: Should governmental laws, ordinances, regulations, etc. follow the moral principles of the Ten Commandments? Please elaborate on your viewpoint and reasoning.

The Tennessee Senate has passed and I have supported laws that clearly state that our system of government and laws is based on the Judeo-Christian principles as presented in the scriptures of the Old and New Testament including the moral fabric of Tennessee as described in the Ten Commandments.

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5) Federalism and State Sovereignty: What is your position on the sovereignty of Tennessee within the United States, and do you believe that the powers of individual states should be considered superior to those of the federal government? Please explain your views in detail, including how you interpret the balance of power between state and federal authorities.

I am a strong supporter of the 10th Amendment and believe all powers except those powers given specifically to the federal government in the U.S. Constitution should be left to the states.

It was the states that created both the federal government and our local government. While all power comes from the consent of the people, it is the states that determine how that power is distributed between the states, the federal and local governments.

States must guard their sovereignty rigorously against federal intrusion.

6) AI Data Centers: What is your position on the rapid expansion of AI data centers in Tennessee? How would you address concerns about increased electricity rates, pollution, water usage, and taxpayer subsidies while still encouraging economic growth?

As President Trump has noted, data centers have great potential for some communities, and we certainly do not want outside influences to control our data. That being said, I believe decisions regarding data centers are best made at the local government level. Local governments have the best information about the impact a data center will have on natural resources, workforce development, and potential tax benefits, such as reducing property taxes for local residents. We certainly don't need data centers in and around our neighborhoods. We also must recognize that technologies like quantum may significantly change what data centers of the future look like, making them smaller and less demanding on natural resources and energy.

7) Education Funding and Immigration: What is your stance on the use of taxpayer funds in Tennessee to support the education of illegal aliens and their children who have recently arrived in the state? Please provide a detailed explanation of your position, including how you believe such funding impacts both the state's budget and the broader community.

I have offered and supported legislation that restricts the use of tax payer funds for the education of those in the US and the State of Tennessee Illegally.

We do not know the impact on our state and local budget because we are not allowed under current federal law to ask a student's immigration status. Until the U.S. Supreme Court revisits the 1981, 5-4 decision, that established a free public education, the state and local governments have no option but to continue the current funding practice.

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8) Government Assistance & Fraud: In light of fraud found in many states' government assistance programs, what policies can you craft for auditing and prevention of fraud in Tennessee?

Tennessee has a good legislative review process through our House and Senate Government Operations Committees and the House and Senate Fiscal Review Committees. The committees are charged with oversight and review of governmental agencies and contracts. We have created fraud prevention units within the Bureau of TennCare as well as the Attorney General's office. Tennessee does its best to ensure that we protect Tennessee taxpayers' dollars. Where fraud is found it is prosecuted to the full extent of the law. The state's Comptroller of the Treasury carries out audits of agencies, programs and local governments. I support providing the resources to these oversight agencies so they can effectively carry out their responsibilities to root out any waste, fraud or abuse.

9) Unborn Life: In light of the May 14th Supreme Court ruling continuing mail access to mifepristone at this time, what legislation would you craft to protect our women, children and citizens of Tennessee, or make available the reversal pill?

I have a consistent pro-life record.

I have supported legislation in the Senate addressing this issue. I believe we should do all we can legislatively to protect the life of the unborn and the mother. Drugs like mifepristone are not without risk to the mother and we should insure that our laws are as strict as the constitution will allow and will withstand legal scrutiny.

10) Ballot Security: Given the high difficulty of fully auditing electronic voting machines and past incidents of such machines being hacked in important elections, what measures would you support to increase transparency in ballot processing? Would you support end-to-end video recording of ballot chain of custody, automatic public access to ballot handling recordings, and making it easier for candidates to request hand counts in close elections?

Tennessee is the highest ranked state for election integrity and Hamilton County has been a role model for other counties around the State of Tennessee. To my knowledge there has not been an election in the past 25 years in Hamilton County in which the integrity of the election has been successfully challenged. We have passed numerous laws in the past 10 years that insure that only qualified citizens are allowed to vote and that the standards for the chain of custody are high. I supported to continue to invest in processes and procedures that insure the confidence of the voter in our elections and allow for open review when necessary as I believe the current law allows.

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11) School Choice: What is your position on expanding school choice in Tennessee, including education savings accounts or vouchers? How would you ensure that public funds follow the child to schools that align with parental values and do not disproportionately benefit secular, non-Christian, or ideologically opposed institutions?

I support increasing students and parents choice in determining the best educational environment for them whether that be traditional public school, private school, Christian school, charter school, virtual school or home school. Parents and families need options for their children. One size does not fit all.

I have supported legislation that insures that schools focus on the basics- reading and math, and there be instruction that teaches the accurate history of the United States and stresses American exceptionalism. I am a supporter of the Bible in the Schools program and believe that incorporating Christian values/morals is NOT a violation of the 1st amendment.

School choice is a part of the Republican Party's 2024 Platform adopted at the national Republican convention.

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