

## Legislative Terms for Reference

Act	A bill that has passed both the House and Senate and makes it through the Executive Branch (Governor's Office).
Amendment	A change made or proposed to a bill.
Biennium	A two-year term of legislative activity. This is the cycle used by the Tennessee General Assembly.
Bill	A draft of a proposed law presented to the legislature for consideration.
Co-sponsor	Legislators who support a piece of legislation and "sign on" in support of the bill.
Committee	A group of legislators appointed to consider and make recommendations regarding proposed bills.
<b>Fiscal Note</b>	The estimated cost of a proposed bill.
Filing Deadline	The date all proposed bills must be filed.
<b>Joint Session</b>	A combined meeting of the Senate and House.
Session	Period in which the legislature meets. In Tennessee this begins in January and usually ends by May or June.
Sponsor	The legislator who filed the legislation.
Status	The progress of a bill at any time in the legislative process.
Sunset	An expiration date of a measure.
Testimony	A sworn written or spoken statement given to a legislative committee about a particular piece of legislation.

## For a more complete glossary of legislative terms visit:

http://www.ncsl.org/research/about-state-legislatures/glossary-of-legislative-terms.aspx

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