

**TENNESSEE SENATE DISTRICT 21**

**VOTER EDUCATION SERIES**



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**PART 3:**  
**CURRENT STATUS OF TENNESSEE**  
**SENATE DISTRICT 21 - ISSUES OF**  
**IMPORTANCE**

# TSD21

## Voter Education Series



## PART 3: OBJECTIVES

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### Upon the completion of this section observers will:

- **Hear** an overview of the current status of socioeconomic conditions prevalent in Tennessee Senate District 21
- **Learn** about the allocation of and missed opportunities for use of state budget funding since the 2014 Tennessee Senate District 21 Election
- **Be** presented with a proactive agenda to strengthen the economic, social, health and educational wellbeing of all constituents of Tennessee Senate District 21

# TENNESSEE SENATE DISTRICT 21 HISTORICAL OVERVIEW



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- Since 2010, the 21<sup>st</sup> senatorial district of Tennessee has experienced two redistricting. The first after the 2010 U.S. Census, where it structurally made a loop around parts of Southern and Northern Nashville-Davidson County. The Second redistricting occurred after the 2020 U.S. Census, due to demographic growth in the city because of population shifts. Previously, the senator of this district represented a good portion of the Urban region of Davidson County, however, it now represents a smaller region of the urban area and mostly the southern region that is more residential. As the 2022 election cycle approaches Senate District 21, more focus is likely to be on suburban issues. This is a fresh start for leadership.

# Constituent Frustration Expressed via Low Voter Turnout



## TN Senate District 21 Voter Turnout:

**Affected by Apathy and Unawareness (Approximately 131,000 registered voters) over the last three cycles, on average only 36% of registered voters participate in elections**

<b>Election 2018</b>	55,991(42%) - Incumbent: Jeff Yarbrow (0 challengers)
<b>Election 2014</b>	38,116 (29%) - Incumbent: Jeff Yarbrow (1 challenger)
<b>Election 2010</b>	47,892 (36%) - Incumbent: Douglas Henry (1 Challenger)

# MISSED OPPORTUNITIES WITH TENNESSEE SENATE DISTRICT 21 FUNDING:



<b>Estimated Four Year Tennessee State Budget Apportionment for Senate District 21, Based on the 2021-2022 Fiscal Budgets</b>		
<b>Source:</b> State of Tennessee Annual Fiscal Budgets	State Allocation	TN Senate District 21 Allocation  (based on equal distribution to 33 senatorial districts and the 18 council districts in Senate District 21)
<b>K-12 Education</b>	<i>\$5,602,518,200</i>	TNSD21 – <i>\$17,031,873</i>  Per Council District- <i>\$946,215</i>
<b>Health: Mental, Wellness</b>	<i>\$5,372,478,100</i>	TNSD21 – <i>\$16,280,236</i>  Per Council District- <i>\$904,457</i>
<b>Law/Safety</b>	<i>\$1,828,714,700</i>	TNSD21 – <i>\$5,541,559</i>  Per Council District- <i>\$307,864</i>
<b>Economic/Community Development</b>	<i>\$1,775,403,000</i>	TNSD21 – <i>\$5,380,009</i>  Per Council District- <i>\$298,889</i>
<b>Total:</b>	<b><i>\$14,579,114,000</i></b>	TNSD21 – <b><i>\$4,417,913</i></b>  Per Council District- <b><i>\$245,440</i></b>

# K-12 EDUCATION



K-12 Education	\$5,602,518,200	TNSD21 - \$17,031,873 Per Council District - \$946,215
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- In Tennessee Senate District 21 at least one of the schools on the Department of Education's priority list are attended by residents of senate district 21 voting precincts
- Despite the presence of Federal (Race to the Top) funds, Tennessee Contribution to Local Education Agency (Davidson County Public School System) and other funding programs too many students who live in senate district 21 continue to struggle academically
- The Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce have consistently identified parent involvement as the most important factor to lowering the achievement gap for students in the public school system; particularly from senate district 21 voting precincts

The focus of this campaign is to craft public policy that empowers parent constituents of the senate district by establishing

- 21st Century Community Learning Centers
- Family centered educational support systems
- Funding streams for academic enrichment
- Increasing parent choice for schools

DISTRICT 21 ISSUE

PROPOSED ACTION

# HEALTH: MENTAL AND WELLNESS



Health:	\$5,372,478,100	TNSD21 - \$16,280,236
Mental, Wellness		Per Council District- \$904,457

According to the Tennessee Institute of Public Health, there are four key issues that affect the overall health of Tennesseans to include constituents of Senate District 21. The determinants are:

- Health care 10%,
- Health behaviors 40%,
- Socioeconomic factors 40%
- Physical environment 10%

The latter are manifested in Senate District 21 in forms of alcohol and drug abuse, street and domestic violence, HIV and other STD's, heart disease and hypertension just to name a few.

Constituents need senate leadership that will ensure adequate education and treatment for all residents and not a select few. Accordingly, this campaign advocates for the following:

- Broader access to Community Health Education and resources
- Mental Health resources and focused mental health treatment

## DISTRICT 21 ISSUES

## PROPOSED ACTIONS

# LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY



Law/Safety	\$1,828,714,700	TNSD21 - \$5,541,559 Per Council District- \$307,864
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Over the last two decades, many constituents of senate district 21 have been plagued with a particular set of socioeconomic challenges. The recipe for long term stagnation has been comprised of broken families, dire poverty, academic-underachievement, poor physical and social-emotional health. All of the previously mentioned issues combined constitute the cause of unsafe neighborhoods for business owners, residents and all involved.

## DISTRICT 21 ISSUE

We need senate district 21 leadership that will utilize their role in the State Legislature in a manner that guarantee constituents gain maximum benefit of resources such as:

- Federal (Community Policing Funding)
- State (Family and Juvenile Court Grants)
- Other available or created resources to build and sustain safe and viable neighborhoods

## PROPOSED ACTIONS

# ECONOMIC/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



Economic/Community Development	\$1,775,403,000	TNSD21 -\$5,380,009 Per Council District- \$298,889
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Currently, Nashville-Davidson County is actively engaged in planning for civic growth leading into 2025. The city's population is projected to increase from its current population of 626,681 to well over one million by 2025. Business expansions are expected along with population growth. The constituents of Senate District 21 need and deserve fully responsive senate representation that will ensure their access to federal and state resources that support vibrant business development within voting precincts of the district that have long been economically deprived.

## DISTRICT 21 ISSUE

This campaign advocates for the creation of a Tennessee Senate District 21 Economic Empowerment Zone driven by the following with advocacy goals:

- Funding for Entrepreneurial Training
- Focused initiatives to decrease the district-wide unemployment rate
- Better Job Readiness Support

## PROPOSED ACTIONS

# NEED FOR SENATE DISTRICT 21 UNIFICATION



Over the last ten plus years the Urban Core of Nashville-Davidson County has been largely gentrified. East, South and West Nashville all are fully changed. Parts of North Nashville are currently under new housing, economic and social transformation. It is estimated that eighty-nine people are relocating to the Nashville area each day.

The migration surge poses challenge for residents who have lived in Nashville all of their lives. Some of the concerns that have been raised as a result of gentrification are:

- Affordable Housing
- Increased Concerns of Public Safety
- Failing Schools
- Economic Disparities

Tennessee Senate District 21 needs and deserves leadership to bring a balance to both old and new residents of the senate district.

The mantra of the Constituent Advocacy Campaign is “E Pluribus Unum” from twenty-one council districts exist Tennessee Senate District 21.

This message is consistent for residents that make up all forty-seven voting precincts within the district. Constituents need an “Advocate for the people and not merely a politician”.

## DISTRICT 21 ISSUES

## PROPOSED ACTIONS



## **PREAMBLE OF THE 21<sup>st</sup> SENATORIAL DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE**

***We the People of the 21<sup>st</sup> Senatorial District of Tennessee, in Order to form a more perfect Senatorial District, Ensure Justice, Promote Public Harmony, Provide for common protection , Promote General Interests, and Secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our children, do ordain and consent to the common Organization of the electorate of Tennessee Senate District 21.***

TENNESSEE SENATE DISTRICT 21

VOTER EDUCATION SERIES



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STAY TUNED FOR PART 4:

HOW TO HOLD YOUR ELECTED  
OFFICIAL ACCOUNTABLE