



Legislative Recap: Week of January 7th

The 111th Tennessee General Assembly officially convened on Tuesday, January 8th at noon. The Senate formally elected Lieutenant Governor Randy McNally. The House of Representatives elected Williamson County Republican, Glen Casada as the new Speaker of the House. Speaker Casada received 75 votes, 72 from Republicans and 3 votes from Democrats. Speaker Casada succeeded Beth Harwell who served as Speaker of the House for eight years. After Speaker Casada took the oath of office, he addressed members of the House stating, “I accept this gavel in a spirit of partnership, not partisanship. I promise that at the table of governing, everyone is welcome.”

On Wednesday, January 9th, Constitutional officers were elected. Members of the legislature met to vote for a state Comptroller of the Treasury and State Treasurer. They re-elected Tennessee’s existing officers for both positions. The House and Senate voted for Justin Wilson as Comptroller and David Lillard Jr. as Treasurer for two-year terms. As treasurer, Lillard will oversee state investments. As comptroller, Wilson is responsible for auditing state and local government entities. Lillard and Wilson were both sworn in on the House floor.

The Tennessee General Assembly gathered for its third day of session on Thursday morning. Members received ethics training and members of the fiscal review committee were appointed. There were many changes made to the committee appointments for the 111th General Assembly. Details for each committee are also available for review. Following Thursday’s session both the House and the Senate will stand in adjournment until Friday, January 18th ahead of Governor-Elect Bill Lee’s inauguration. They will go into session followed by a Joint Convention for the inauguration on Saturday, January 19th. The House will then recess until January 23rd, and the Senate will recess until January 28th.