

AFP TENNESSEE 2021 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Americans for Prosperity is dedicated to bringing people together to change our public policies and our government for the better. Our mission is to help every person rise and reach their full potential by removing the barriers holding them back.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

AFP believes an effective criminal justice system protects people and preserves public safety, respects dignity, restores victims, removes barriers to opportunity, and ensures equal justice for all under the law. AFP-TN's four criminal justice reform priorities are: **civil asset forfeiture protections, expungement for the legally innocent, victims' restitution reform, and addressing the over-criminalization of addiction.** Our state should prioritize services that provide a path for people to rejoin their communities. Each dollar spent will yield 5X that amount in savings by reducing recidivism.

EDUCATIONAL FREEDOM

Open enrollment is one key policy that will enable families to select the best public school for their children, instead of forcing them into their assigned school; open enrollment is essentially public school choice within the same school district. The Basic Education funding formula (BEP) should be adjusted to meet students' needs. Ideally, we should begin work to **fix the BEP** so that funding will follow the child to whatever education option best meets their needs. **Backpack funding** would give families true educational freedom to pursue the best education opportunities for every child statewide while adjusting to the COVID landscape. This would be especially helpful now as our students are lagging behind. Backpack funding could allow for inter-district open enrollment, allowing students to pursue CTE classes in neighboring districts that could jump start their careers.

HEALTH CARE

An effective health care system helps people access better care at a lower cost—where health care providers compete to offer the best products and services at the best prices to meet the needs of patients. AFP-TN's health care priorities are: **Repealing Certificate of Need (CON) laws, empowering health care providers with Full Practice Authority (FPA), and permanently removing regulations** that inhibit pandemic response.

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

Lower taxes, less government, and more freedom. Our organization fights everyday to lower tax burdens, refocus government to its proper role, end cronyism, and make sure every person has the opportunity to achieve prosperity. We will continue our work to reduce the burden of **occupational licensing**, eliminating barriers that prevent people from working in their occupation of choice. In order for our economy to recover stronger, we must **guard against cronyism and reduce unnecessary government spending.**