

106th General Assembly of Tennessee

**Bills of Interest to
Electric Utilities**

Public Chapter 825

Sen. Norris/Rep. Fitzhugh

- Study the effectiveness of Tennessee's current Underground Damage Prevention Program
- Continues this study committee another year
- Report to legislature by January 17, 2011

Public Chapter 1010

Sen. Stewart/Rep. Harmon

- Amber strobe light, or amber LED required to be attached to back end of pole being hauled on a pole trailer
- Must be used from ½ hour before sunset to ½ hour after sunrise or anytime lights are required to be displayed
- Effective July 1, 2010

Public Chapter 938

Sen. Yager/Rep. Ferguson

- **TCA 55-9-402(e)(1)** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, nothing in this section shall prohibit a highway maintenance or utility vehicle, or any other type vehicle or equipment participating, in any fashion, with highway or utility construction, maintenance, or inspection, from operating a white, amber, or white and amber light system on any location on the vehicle or equipment, ~~other than in the tail light lamp, stoplight—area, or factory installed emergency flasher and backup light area,~~ if the light system is a strobe, flashing, oscillating, or revolving system, while the vehicle or equipment is parked upon, entering or leaving any highway or utility construction, maintenance, repair or inspection site.
- Effective May 26, 2010

Public Chapter 939

Sen. Ketron/Rep. Curtiss

- 72 hour notice to Dept. of Commerce and Insurance required prior to any blasting
- Exception for public utility providers requiring blasting to restore services in unusual circumstances
- Effective July 1, 2010

Public Chapter 1071

Sen. Burks/Rep. Yokley

- Special joint committee to study the feasibility of providing relief to senior citizens by freezing or capping their utility rates
- 3 senators, 3 house members, 1 TACIR member & 1 member of the utility management review board
- Report to the legislature by Feb. 1, 2011

Public Chapter 921

Sen. Beavers/Rep. Shipley

- Ignition interlock device required for DUI conviction if:
 - BAC of .15% or higher, and
 - Person is accompanied by a person under 18, and
 - Person is involved in a traffic accident and the cause of the accident is the person's intoxication
- Exception for driving company vehicles may be made by the court
- Effective January 1, 2011

Public Chapter 850

Sen. Burks/Rep. Curtiss

- Katie Beth's Law
- Swimming pools over 36" deep must have audible alarm when a person or object weighing 15 pounds or more enters the water
- Part of electrical inspector's job before approval of a pool's wiring
- Effective January 1, 2011

Bills that Did Not Pass

- E911 funding (Rep. Curtiss)
- Authority to cut trees within R-O-W without customer's permission (Rep. Hawk)
- Rates for pole attachment fees