TENNESSEE POLITICAL INSIDERS ANNUAL SURVEY:
TOPLINE RESULTS

February 8, 2019

Conducted by:
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Capitol Resources, LLC
Capitol Resources, LLC recently conducted an anonymous survey on the news source and policy/advocacy organization preferences and habits of Tennessee policy insiders. The purpose of this survey was to discover what sources are considered valuable and trustworthy by policy makers and shapers.

Survey recipients included elected/appointed officials, staff, and other members of the capitol community. The following questions were asked:

- Please indicate how much you read the following print media or websites that provide news and commentary about Tennessee government and politics...
- The following nonprofit organizations publish research, produce media content, host events, meet with officials, engage in litigation, or otherwise conduct programs intended to influence the public policy debate or legislative process in Tennessee. Please indicate how much you see or hear their work mentioned in connection with state or local policy issues...
- Using the same list of nonprofit organizations, and setting aside whether you agree with their overall philosophies or specific recommendations, please indicate how often you study, cite, or otherwise use their programs and services when you work on public policy in Tennessee...

This document contains the top five results for each question.
Question #1

Please indicate how much you read the following print media or websites that provide news and commentary about Tennessee government and politics:

- **The Tennessee Journal**
  - Regularly: 59.6%
  - Often: 19.9%
  - Occasionally: 14.4%
  - Never: 11.7%
  - N/A: 4.9%

- **Tennessean**
  - Regularly: 49.3%
  - Often: 24.2%
  - Occasionally: 20.2%
  - Never: 6.3%

- **Knox News Sentinel**
  - Regularly: 19.7%
  - Often: 18.8%
  - Occasionally: 44.0%
  - Never: 15.3%

- **Chattanooga Times Free Press**
  - Regularly: 15.3%
  - Often: 16.1%
  - Occasionally: 47.5%
  - Never: 17.5%

- **The Commercial Appeal**
  - Regularly: 10.8%
  - Often: 14.4%
  - Occasionally: 50.7%
  - Never: 22.9%
  - N/A: 0%
Policy Entities Surveyed

- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
- American Association of Retired Persons (AARP)
- American Federation for Children
- Americans for Prosperity
- Beacon Center of Tennessee
- Tennessee CAN
- State Collaborative on Reforming Education (SCORE)
- Tennesseans for Student Success
- Nashville Chamber of Commerce (and other regional chambers)
- Tennessee Chamber of Commerce
- Tennessee State Employees Association
- Tennessee Education Association
- Tennessee Organization of School Superintendents
- Tennessee School Board Association
- Tennessee Hospitality Association
- Tennessee Hospital Association
- Tennessee Medical Association
- District Attorneys General Conference
- Tennessee Sheriffs Association
- Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police
- Right on Crime
- Tennessee County Services Association
- Tennessee Municipal League
- Sycamore Institute
- Think Tennessee
The following nonprofit organizations publish research, produce media content, host events, meet with officials, engage in litigation, or otherwise conduct programs intended to influence the public policy debate or legislative process in Tennessee. Please indicate how much you see or hear their work mentioned in connection with state or local policy issues:

- **Beacon Center of Tennessee**
  - Regularly: 35.67%
  - Often: 31.21%
  - Occasionally: 26.75%
  - Never: 5.73%
  - N/A: 10.83%

- **Tennessee Medical Association**
  - Regularly: 30.57%
  - Often: 32.48%
  - Occasionally: 26.11%
  - Never: 10.83%
  - N/A: 14.01%

- **Tennessee Chamber**
  - Regularly: 26.11%
  - Often: 32.48%
  - Occasionally: 30.57%
  - Never: 14.01%
  - N/A: 8.28%

- **Tennessee Education Association**
  - Regularly: 24.84%
  - Often: 24.20%
  - Occasionally: 36.31%
  - Never: 8.28%
  - N/A: 10.83%

- **State Collaborative on Reforming Education (SCORE)**
  - Regularly: 24.20%
  - Often: 34.39%
  - Occasionally: 33.12%
  - Never: 8.28%
  - N/A: 10.83%
Question #3

Using the same list of nonprofit organizations, and setting aside whether you agree with their overall philosophies or specific recommendations, please indicate how much influence you believe they have in the formulation and debate of Tennessee public policy:

- **Tennessee Medical Association**: 49.68% High Level, 36.31% Moderate Level, 7.64% Low Level, 3.18% No Influence
- **Tennessee Chamber**: 38.85% High Level, 41.40% Moderate Level, 14.01% Low Level, 5.10% No Influence
- **Beacon Center of Tennessee**: 36.94% High Level, 43.31% Moderate Level, 12.10% Low Level, 5.73% No Influence
- **District Attorneys General Conference**: 31.85% High Level, 40.76% Moderate Level, 15.92% Low Level, 3.82% No Influence
- **Tennessee Hospital Association**: 31.85% High Level, 48.41% Moderate Level, 13.38% Low Level, 3.18% No Influence
Question #4

Using the same list of nonprofit organizations, and setting aside whether you agree with their overall philosophies or specific recommendations, please indicate how often you study, cite, or otherwise use their programs and services when you work on public policy in Tennessee:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Regularly</th>
<th>Often</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee Medical Association</td>
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<td>Beacon Center of Tennessee</td>
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<tr>
<td>District Attorneys General Conference</td>
<td>10.19%</td>
<td>16.56%</td>
<td>29.94%</td>
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<td>35.67%</td>
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Questions?

Contact Adam Nickas at anickas@capitolresourcesllc.com