

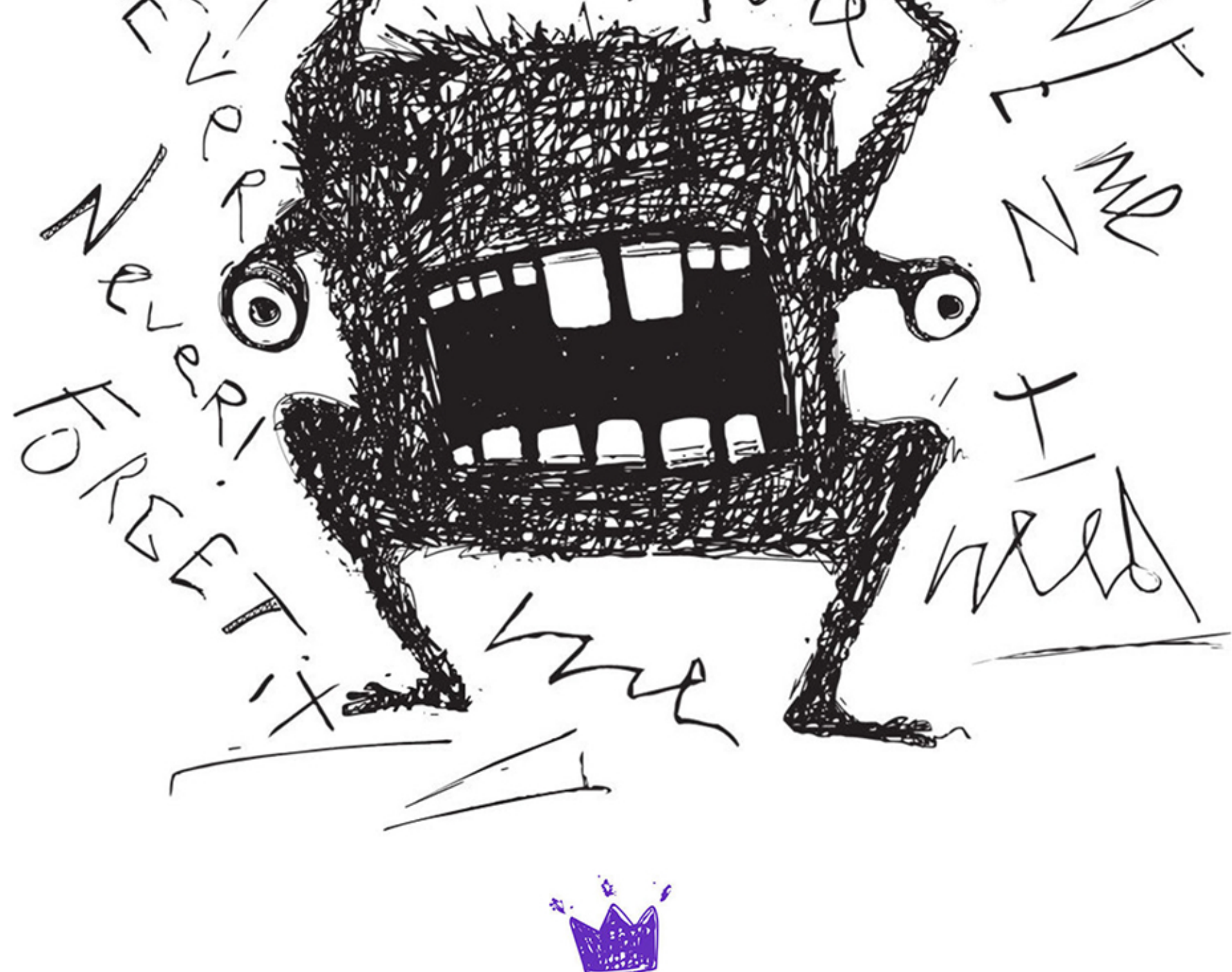
It was a tumultuous session of fighting, locked doors, and jockeying for votes.

So, WHAT was accomplished during the 111th TN General Assembly?

Here's the GOOD,



the BAD, and the UGLY.



– TNCPPC Supported –

Statutes of Limitations / Sex Abuse of a Minor | [Bill SB1252 / HB0565](#) | *Senator Gresham (Somerville) and Representative Dunn (Knoxville)*

As introduced, extends civil and criminal statutes of limitation for certain acts of abuse against minors; increases the penalty for intentional failure to report child abuse or child sexual abuse. [Read bill summary.](#)

TNCPPC supported the bill, and it sailed through both chambers, but there were some differences between SB1252 and HB0565. The Senate and House formed a Conference Committee to work out the differences. [What the heck is a conference committee? Click and see box 9\(a\).](#)



– TNCPPC Supported –

Education Saving Account (ESA) | [Bill HB0939 / SB0795](#) | *Senator Johnson (Franklin) and Representative Lamberth (Portland)*

This bill allows parents to use THEIR education tax dollars to customize their children's education—even if outside of district lines. It empowers parents to choose the best school for their children. [Read bill summary.](#)

It's been a bump and grind to get this far. Here's a blow by blow account:

The hottest points of contention were:

- the expense of the pilot project,
- testing and proof of income and
- cost of the 3-year ESA.

The holdup has always been getting through the House—until this year.

- Even so, it was nip and tuck—the House was deadlocked.
- The Speaker of the House FROZE* the voting for 40 minutes. (* a legislative timeout to reconsider).
- It worked! Representative Zachary changed his mind and his vote to Yea in exchange for some slight modifications.
- Here is a quick summary of modifications made throughout this bill's run through the legislature: 1) Shelby and Davidson Counties will be the only two in the pilot project. 2) Students in Achievement School District would be eligible. 3) Home-Schooled students are not eligible.

The bill PASSED; it is going to the Governor for his signature.

TNCPPC will review the bill—now that all the content is finalized—to determine Catholic Schools' participation.



– TNCPPC Supported –

Human Life Protection Act | [Bill HB1029 / SB1257](#) | aka *Roe vs. Wade Bill* -also- aka *Trigger Bill* | *Senator Gresham (Somerville) and Representative Lynn (Mt. Juliet)*

As written this bill states IF and WHEN the U.S. Supreme Court overturns *Roe v. Wade* (or amends the U.S. Constitution to allow states to prohibit abortion)—abortion will be banned in TN. [Read bill summary.](#)

TNCPPC supported the bill, and it PASSED. Going to the Governor for his signature.



– TNCPPC Supported –

Reporting sexual abuse of a minor | [Bill HB0574 / SB0487](#) | *Senator Bowling (Tullahoma) and Representative Faison (Cosby)*

As introduced, this bill changes the age that triggers the requirement of a physician to report suspected sexual abuse of a minor—who is seeking an abortion—from under 13 years of age to under 18 years of age. [Read bill summary.](#)

TNCPPC supported the bill, and it PASSED. Going to the Governor for his signature.



– TNCPPC Supported –

Abolish death penalty for severely mentally ill | [Bill HB1455 / SB1124](#) | *Senator Briggs (Knoxville) and Representative Ramsey (Maryville)*

As introduced, this bill prohibits a court from sentencing a defendant convicted of first-degree murder to death if the defendant proves by a preponderance of the evidence that, at the time of the offense, the defendant had a severe mental illness. [Read bill summary.](#)

TNCPPC Supports. This bill was rolled over to next year.

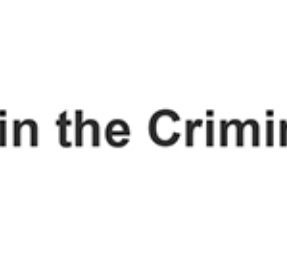


– TNCPPC Opposed –

Barring pregnant immigrant women from prenatal care and food assistance | [Bill HB1238 / SB1279](#) | *Senator Pody (Lebanon) and Representative Griffey (Paris)*

As introduced, this bill requires verification of United States citizenship or lawful presence for applicants 18 years or older, who apply for prenatal care and the special supplemental food (administered by the department of health) for women, infants and children. [Read bill summary.](#)

TNCPPC Opposed. Failed in the Criminal Justice Subcommittee of Judiciary

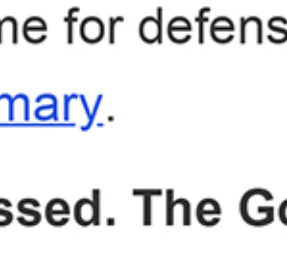


– TNCPPC Opposed –

Increases odds of execution for death row inmates with severe mental illness | [Bill HB0258 / SB0400](#) | *Senator Stevens (Huntingdon) and Representative Littleton (Dickson)*

This law removes checks and balances in a death penalty case by eliminating the Death Penalty Appeal! Death Row Inmates with severe mental illness have LESS time for defense and a GREATER chance for execution. [Read bill summary.](#)

TNCPPC Opposed. Bill passed. The Governor signed it into law on April 9, 2019.



– TNCPPC Opposed –

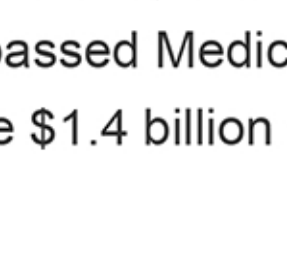
A poor substitute for expanding Medicaid. | [Bill HB1280 / SB1428](#) | *Senator Bailey (Sparta) and Representative Hill (Blountville)*

WHY?

- THIS LAW turns Federal Funding for TennCare into a BLOCK GRANT. Block Grants are not governed by FEDERAL REGULATIONS—and Federal Regulations protect citizens from shoddy treatment by state or HMOs
- THIS BILL does not offer affordable coverage to uninsured families
- THIS BILL does not address TN's Rural Hospital Crisis; we just lost our 11th hospital in Celina, TN.
- Because we have not passed Medicaid Expansion, TN has lost and will continue to lose \$1.4 billion a year in federal healthcare funding.

[Read bill summary.](#)

TNCPPC Opposed. The bill passed.



– TNCPPC Opposed –