



**State of Tennessee**  
**PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 1047**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 3208**

**By Representative Womick**

**Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 3603**

**By Senators Haynes, Henry, Harper, Burks**

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 5; Title 12; Title 43 and Title 67, relative to fairs.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:  
SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, is amended by adding the following language as a new chapter:

4-57-101. This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Tennessee State Fair and Exposition Act."

4-57-102. It is the intent of the general assembly that the commission created herein shall be the sole body in Tennessee charged with administering a state fair and exposition.

4-57-103. For the purposes of this chapter unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Commission" means the Tennessee state fair and exposition commission;

(2) "Fair" or "exposition" means an exhibition of agricultural, business, manufacturing, or other industries and labor, education service organizations, social and religious groups or any other events or activities consistent with the general welfare and interests of the people of the state, and includes such services as are necessary for the care and comfort or amusement of the public. Such services include rest areas, sanitary and other such comforts, and concessions for food, drink, amusements, and the sale of trinkets;

(3) "Exhibition" means one (1) or more displays or demonstrations which are of educational or entertainment value to those witnessing such exhibition;

(4) "Department" means the department of agriculture; and

(5) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of agriculture.

4-57-104. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary establishing a state fair board, there is hereby created within the department of agriculture a state fair and exposition commission which shall be composed of the following members to be appointed by the governor:

(1) The commissioner of agriculture, the commissioner of tourist development and the commissioner of economic and community development, or their designees, who shall be ex officio members with voting rights on such commission;

(2) The dean of the University of Tennessee extension;

(3) The president of the Tennessee Farm Bureau;

(4) One (1) member nominated by the mayor of the host county of the fair or exposition; and

(5) Such other members as the governor may appoint to carry out the purposes of the commission.

4-57-105. The commission is authorized and empowered to:

(1) Contract with a Tennessee not for profit corporation for the purpose of operating, managing and conducting at least one (1) fair or exposition annually, under the supervision of the commission, with such additional fairs, expositions, or exhibitions as the commission determines are in the general public interest;

(2) Enter into any contracts and agreements necessary and do and perform any acts necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter;

(3) Maintain and manage property held by the state for the purpose of conducting fairs, expositions, and exhibits;

(4) Accept gifts, contributions and bequests of unrestricted funds from individuals, foundations, corporations and other organizations or institutions for the purpose of furthering the objectives of the commission's programs;

(5) Accept on behalf of the state conveyances of property for the purposes of conducting fairs, expositions, and exhibits, subject to any terms and conditions agreed to by the commission;

(6) Sell or convey all or a portion of the property, land, or buildings under its management subject to the approval of the state building commission;

(7) Grant leases on all or any part of the property, land, or buildings under the management of the commission to private or public organizations, which appear to be in the best interests of the state;

(8) Recommend to the commissioner such rules and regulations that should be promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5, in order to carry out the purposes of the commission; and

(9) Form advisory panels, as needed, from qualified persons within the state to obtain their advice and counsel on matters pertaining to the state fair. Members of these panels shall serve at the will and pleasure of the commission and shall receive no compensation.

4-57-106. The use of the name "Tennessee State Fair" or "Tennessee State Exposition" in Tennessee to denote a fair serving the state shall only be granted by the department of agriculture with the approval of the commission.

4-57-107. The division of state audit shall include as part of its scheduled audit of the department of agriculture a review of the Tennessee state fair and exposition commission including, but not limited to, the commission's authority and function.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring

it.

HOUSE BILL NO. 3208

PASSED: APRIL 30, 2012

  
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BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
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RON RAMSEY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 21<sup>st</sup> day of May 2012

  
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BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR