



TENNESSEE  
Hamblen County  
SERVICE • COMMUNITY • INDUSTRY  
FINANCE DEPARTMENT

February 20, 2026

Joint Hamblen County Economic Development Board  
Marshall Ramsey, President  
P.O. Box 9  
Morristown, TN 37815

We have begun the 2026-2027 budget process. In order to be considered for a contribution from Hamblen County, we are requesting certain information from your organization in accordance with Section 5-9-109, *Tennessee Code Annotated (TCA)*.

**This year, we are requesting that your documents be submitted electronically to the Finance Department at the following email addresses:**

Amanda Hale – [ahale@co.hamblen.tn.us](mailto:ahale@co.hamblen.tn.us)

Dennis Fox – [dfox@co.hamblen.tn.us](mailto:dfox@co.hamblen.tn.us)

Please provide the following items **electronically**:

- 1) proof of 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), or 501(c)(6) IRS tax status,  
*Please note this is a letter from the IRS, not a letter of sales tax exemption from the Tennessee Department of Revenue*
- 2) your organization's most current audit or annual report detailing all receipts and expenditures, and
- 3) your organization's most current budget.

Please note that in accordance with State law, the above requested information must be submitted and on file. Noncompliance with this request may prevent your organization from receiving funds. Please understand that this letter does not guarantee that you will receive a contribution. Any contribution requires county commission approval. You may be asked to appear before the Budget Committee on **Saturday, May 16, 2026**, to explain your request. The Finance Department will notify you if the Budget Committee wants to hear from you.

Please return a copy of this letter along with the requested information above to the Hamblen County Mayor's office by **Monday, March 23, 2026**. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

*Amanda Hale*

Amanda Hale  
Hamblen County Finance Director

2025-2026 Contribution:

**\$91,000**

**Amanda Hale, Finance Director**

511 West Second North Street • Morristown, TN 37814 • *office*. 423.586.1931 • *fax*. 423.585.4699

[www.HamblenCountyTN.gov](http://www.HamblenCountyTN.gov) • *email*. [ahale@co.hamblen.tn.us](mailto:ahale@co.hamblen.tn.us)

*Joint Economic & Community Development  
Board of Hamblen County, TN*

PO Box 9    Morrystown, TN 37815    Tel: 423/586-6382    Fax: 423/586-6576

March 4, 2026

Ms. Amanda Hale, Finance Director  
Hamblen County  
511 West Second North Street  
Morrystown, TN 37814

Dear Ms. Hale:

The Joint Economic & Community Development Board of Hamblen County, TN respectfully requests funding in the amount of **\$91,000.00** for the upcoming fiscal year.

Section 15 of PC 1101, as codified in T.C.A. §6-58-114, directed the establishment of Joint Economic and Community Development Boards (JECDBs) as entities for broadening the base for economic and community development. The Act provides that funding be apportioned among the counties and municipalities based on population distribution within the county. Each JECDB will be jointly funded by each participating government in the county based upon its share of the total population of the county plus the population of each city within the county. A copy of this act is enclosed for your information.

This funding will be used to foster, promote and finance industrial growth and development in and around Morrystown and Hamblen County. This includes support of the Workforce Development initiative as well as existing industry initiatives. The Joint Economic & Community Development Board of Hamblen County, TN at its January meeting approved the attached budget.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Marshall Ramsey  
Secretary

MR/jb

Enclosure

**CHAPTER NO. 1101**  
**SENATE BILL NO. 3278**

**By Rochelle**

Substituted for: House Bill No. 3295

By Kisber, Walley, Rinks, McDaniel, Curtiss

AN ACT To amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 5; Title 6; Title 7; Title 13; Title 49; Title 67 and Title 68, relative to growth.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. As used in this act, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (1) "Committee" means the local government planning advisory committee established by ~~4~~4-3-727.
- (2) "Council" means the joint economic and community development council established by Section 15 of this act.
- (3) "Growth Plan" means the plan each county must file with the committee by July 1, 2001, as required by the provisions of Section 8.
- (4) "Planned growth area" means an area established in conformance with the provisions of Section 7(b) and approved in accordance with the requirements of Section 5.
- (5) "Rural area" means an area established in conformance with the provisions of Section 7(c) and approved in accordance with the requirements of Section 5.
- (6) "Urban Growth Boundary" means a line encompassing territory established in conformance with the provisions of Section 7(a) and approved in accordance with the requirements of Section 5.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 6, is amended by adding Sections 3 through 16 as a new Chapter 58.

SECTION 3. With this act, the General Assembly intends to establish a comprehensive growth policy for this state that:

- (1) Eliminates annexation or incorporation out of fear;
- (2) Establishes incentives to annex or incorporate where appropriate;
- (3) More closely matches the timing of development and the provision of public services;
- (4) Stabilizes each county's education funding base and establishes an incentive for each county legislative body to be more interested in education matters; and
- (5) Minimizes urban sprawl.

SECTION 4.

(a) The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to any county having a metropolitan form of government. Provided, however, each such county shall receive full benefit of all incentives available pursuant to Section 10, and each such county shall escape the sanctions imposed by Section 11. Provided, further, any municipality that lies within a county having a metropolitan form of government and another county must establish an urban growth boundary in conjunction with the county containing the territory that is not within the county having a metropolitan form of government.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this act to the contrary, **IF** a metropolitan government charter commission is duly created within any county after the effective date of this act but prior to July 1, 2001, **AND IF** the metropolitan charter proposed by such commission is either rejected or otherwise not ratified by the voters prior to July 1, 2001, **THEN** the sanctions established by Section 11 shall not be imposed in such county prior to July 1, 2002.

SECTION 5.

(a)

(1) Except as otherwise provided pursuant to subdivision (a)(9), effective September 1, 1998, there is created within each county a coordinating committee which shall be composed of the following members:

(A) The county executive or the county executive's designee, to be confirmed by the county legislative body; provided, however, a member of the county legislative body may serve as such designee subject to such confirmation;

(B) The mayor of each municipality or the mayor's designee, to be confirmed by the municipal governing body;

(C) One (1) member appointed by the governing board of the municipally owned utility system serving the largest number of customers in the county;

(D) One (1) member appointed by the governing board of the utility system, not municipally owned, serving the largest number of customers in the county;

(E) One (1) member appointed by the board of directors of the county's soil conservation district, who shall represent agricultural interests;

(F) One (1) member appointed by the board of the local education agency having the largest student enrollment in the county;

(G) One (1) member appointed by the largest chamber of commerce, to be appointed after consultation with any other chamber of commerce within the county; and

(H) Two (2) members appointed by the county executive and two (2) members appointed by the mayor of the largest municipality, to assure broad representation of environmental, construction and homeowner interests.

(2) It shall be the duty of the coordinating committee to develop a recommended growth plan not later than January 1, 2000, and to submit such plan for ratification by the county legislative body and the governing body of each municipality. The recommended growth plan shall identify urban growth boundaries for each municipality within the county and shall identify planned growth areas and rural areas within the county, all in conformance with the provisions of Section 7. In developing a recommended growth plan, the coordinating committee shall give due consideration to such urban growth boundaries as may be timely proposed and submitted to the coordinating committee by each municipal governing body. The coordinating committee shall also give due consideration to such planned growth areas and rural areas as may be timely-proposed and submitted to the coordinating committee by the county legislative body. The coordinating committee is encouraged to utilize planning resources that are available within the county, including municipal or county planning commissions. The coordinating committee is further encouraged to utilize the services of the local planning office of the Department of Economic and Community Development, the county technical assistance service, and the municipal technical advisory service.

(3) Prior to finalization of the recommended growth plan, the coordinating committee shall conduct at least two (2) public hearings. The county shall give at least fifteen (15) days advance notice of the time, place and purpose of each public hearing by notice published in a newspaper of general circulation throughout the county.

(4) Not later than January 1, 2000, the coordinating committee shall submit its recommended growth plan for ratification by the county legislative body and by the governing body of each municipality within the county. Provided, however, and notwithstanding any provision of this act to the contrary, if a municipality is completely contiguous to and surrounded by one or more municipalities, then the corporate limits of the surrounded municipality shall constitute the municipality's urban growth boundaries and such municipality shall not be eligible to ratify or reject the recommended growth plan. Not later than one hundred twenty (120) days after receiving the recommended growth plan, the county legislative body or municipal governing body, as the case may be, shall act to either ratify or reject the recommended growth plan of the coordinating committee. Failure by such county legislative body or any such municipal governing body to act within such one hundred twenty (120) day period shall be deemed to constitute ratification by such county or municipality of the recommended growth plan.

(5) If the county or any municipality therein, rejects the recommendation of the coordinating committee, then the county or municipality shall submit its objections, and the reasons therefor, for resolution in accordance with subsection (b). In resolving disputes arising from disagreements over which urban growth boundary should contain specific territory, due consideration shall be given if one (1) of the municipalities is better able to efficiently and effectively provide urban services within the disputed territory. Due consideration shall also be given if one (1) of the municipalities detrimentally relied upon

priority status conferred under prior annexation law and, thereby, justifiably incurred significant expense in preparation for annexation of the disputed territory.

(6)

(A) A municipality may make binding agreements with other municipalities and with counties to refrain from exercising any power or privilege granted to the municipality by this title, to any degree contained in the agreement including, but not limited to, the authority to annex.

(B) A county may make binding agreements with municipalities to refrain from exercising any power or privilege granted to the county by Title 5, to any degree contained in the agreement including, but not limited to, the authority to receive annexation date revenue.

(C) Any agreement made pursuant to this subdivision need not have a set term, but after the agreement has been in effect for five (5) years, any party upon giving ninety (90) days written notice to the other parties is entitled to a renegotiation or termination of the agreement.

(7)

(A) Notwithstanding any provisions of this chapter or any other provision of law to the contrary, any annexation reserve agreement or any agreement of any kind either between municipalities or between municipalities and counties setting out areas reserved for future municipal annexation and in effect on the effective date of this act are ratified and remain binding and in full force and effect. Any such agreement may be amended from time to time by mutual agreement of the parties. Any such agreement or amendment may not be construed to abrogate the application of any provision of this chapter to the area annexed pursuant to the agreement or amendment.

(B) In any county with a charter form of government, the annexation reserve agreements in effect on January 1, 1998, are deemed to satisfy the requirement of a growth plan. The county shall file a plan based on such agreements with the committee.

(8)

(A) No provision of this chapter shall prohibit written contracts between municipalities and property owners relative to the exercise of a municipality's rights of annexation or operate to invalidate an annexation ordinance done pursuant to a written contract between a municipality and a property owner in existence on the effective date of this act.

(9)

(A) Instead of the coordinating committee created under subsection (a)(1), in any county in which the largest municipality comprises at least sixty percent (60%) of the population of the entire county and on the effective date of this act there is no other municipality in the county with a population in excess of one thousand (1,000), according to the 1990 federal census or any subsequent federal census, the coordinating committee in such county shall be the municipal planning commission of the largest municipality and the county planning commission, if the county has a planning commission. The mayor of the largest municipality and the county executive of such county may jointly appoint as many additional members to the coordinating committee as they may determine. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) with respect to the adoption or ratification of the recommended growth plan, in any county to which subdivision (9)(A) applies, upon adoption of a recommended growth plan, the coordinating committee shall submit its recommendation to the county legislative body for ratification. The county legislative body may only disapprove the recommendation of the coordinating committee if it makes an affirmative finding, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, that the committee acted in an arbitrary, or capricious manner or abused its official discretion in applying the law. If the county legislative body disapproves the recommendation of the coordinating committee, then the dispute resolution process of this section shall apply.

(B) Instead of the coordinating committee created pursuant to subsection (a)(1), if the county legislative body and the governing body of each municipality located therein all agree that another entity shall perform the duties assigned by this act to the coordinating committee, then such other entity shall perform such duties of the coordinating committee, and such coordinating committee shall not be created or continued, as the case may be.

(b)

(1) If the county or any municipality rejects the recommended growth plan, then the coordinating committee shall reconsider its action. After such reconsideration, the coordinating committee may recommend a revised growth plan and may submit such revised growth plan for ratification by the county legislative body and the governing body of each municipality. If a

recommended growth plan or revised growth plan is rejected, then the county or any municipality may declare the existence of an impasse and may request the Secretary of State to provide an alternative method for resolution of disputes preventing ratification of a growth plan.

(2) Upon receiving such request, the Secretary of State shall promptly appoint a dispute resolution panel. The panel shall consist of three (3) members, each of whom shall be appointed from the ranks of the administrative law judges employed within the administrative procedures division and each of whom shall possess formal training in the methods and techniques of dispute resolution and mediation. Provided, however, if the county and all municipalities agree, the Secretary of State may appoint a single administrative law judge rather than a panel of three (3) members. No member of such panel, nor the immediate family of any such member or such member's spouse, may be a resident, property owner, official or employee of the county or of any municipality therein.

(3) The panel shall attempt to mediate the unresolved disputes. If, after reasonable efforts, mediation does not resolve such disputes, then the panel shall propose a non-binding resolution thereof. The county legislative body and the municipalities shall be given a reasonable period in which to consider such proposal. If the county legislative body and the municipal governing bodies do not accept and approve such resolution, then they may submit final recommendations to the panel. For the sole purpose of resolving the impasse, the panel shall adopt a growth plan. In mediating the dispute or in making a proposal, the panel may consult with the University of Tennessee or others with expertise in urban planning, growth, and development. The growth plan adopted by the panel shall conform with the provisions of Section 7.

(4) The Secretary of State shall certify the reasonable and necessary costs incurred by the dispute resolution panel, including, but not necessarily limited to, salaries, supplies, travel expenses and staff support for the panel members. The county and the municipalities shall reimburse the Secretary of State for such costs, to be allocated on a pro rata basis calculated on the number of persons residing within each of the municipalities and the number of persons residing within the unincorporated areas of the county; provided, however, if the dispute resolution panel determines that the dispute resolution process was necessitated or unduly prolonged by bad faith or frivolous actions on the part of the county and/or any one (1) or more of the municipalities, then the Secretary of State may, upon the recommendation of the panel, reallocate liability for such reimbursement in a manner clearly punitive to such bad faith or frivolous actions.

(5) If a county or municipality fails to reimburse its allocated or reallocated share of panel costs to the Secretary of State after sixty (60) days notice of such costs, the Department of Finance and Administration shall deduct such costs from such county's or a municipality's allocation of state shared taxes.

(d)

(1) No later than July 1, 2001, the growth plan recommended or revised by the coordinating committee and ratified by the county and each municipality therein or alternatively adopted by a dispute resolution panel shall be submitted to and approved by the local government planning advisory committee. **IF** urban growth boundaries, planned growth areas and rural areas were recommended or revised by a coordinating committee and ratified by the county and each municipality therein, **THEN** the local government planning advisory committee shall grant its approval, and the growth plan shall become immediately effective. In addition, in any county with a charter form of government, the annexation reserve agreements in effect on January 1, 1998, are deemed to satisfy the requirement of a growth plan, and the local government planning advisory committee shall approve such plan. In all other cases, **IF** the local government planning advisory committee determines that such urban growth boundaries, planned growth areas and rural areas conform with the provisions of Section 7, **THEN** the local government planning advisory committee shall grant its approval and the growth plan shall immediately become effective; **HOWEVER, IF** the local government planning advisory committee determines that such urban growth boundaries, planned growth areas and/or rural areas in any way do not conform with the provisions of Section 7, **THEN** the committee shall adopt and grant its approval of alternative urban growth boundaries, planned growth areas and/or rural areas for the sole purpose of making the adjustments necessary to achieve conformance with the provisions of Section 7. Such alternative urban growth boundaries, planned growth areas and/or rural areas shall supersede and replace all conflicting urban growth boundaries, planned growth areas and/or rural areas and shall immediately become effective as the growth plan.

(2) After the local government planning advisory committee has approved a growth plan, the committee shall forward a copy to the county executive who shall file the plan in the register's office. The register may not impose a fee on the county executive for this service.

(e)

(1) After the local government planning advisory committee has approved a growth plan, the plan shall stay in effect for not less than three (3) years absent a showing of extraordinary circumstances. After the expiration of the three (3) year period, a municipality or county may propose an amendment to the growth plan by filing notice with the county executive and with the

mayor of each municipality in the county. Upon receipt of such notice, such officials shall take appropriate action to promptly reconvene or re-establish the coordinating committee. The burden of proving the reasonableness of the proposed amendment shall be upon the party proposing the change. The procedures for amending the growth plan shall be the same as the procedures in this section for establishing the original plan.

(2) In any county with a charter form of government with annexation reserve agreements in effect on January 1, 1998, any municipality or the county may immediately file a proposed amendment after the effective date of this act in accordance with this subsection (e).

SECTION 6. (a) The affected county, an affected municipality, a resident of such county or an owner of real property located within such county is entitled to judicial review under this section, which shall be the exclusive method for judicial review of the growth plan and its urban growth boundaries, planned growth areas and rural areas. Proceedings for review shall be instituted by filing a petition for review in the chancery court of the affected county. Such petition shall be filed during the sixty (60) day period after final approval of such urban growth boundaries, planned growth areas and rural areas by the local government planning advisory committee. In accordance with the provisions of the Tennessee rules of civil procedure pertaining to service of process, copies of the petition shall be served upon the local government planning advisory committee, the county and each municipality located or proposing to be located within the county.

(b) Judicial review shall be de novo and shall be conducted by the chancery court without a jury. The petitioner shall have the burden of proving, by a preponderance of the evidence that the urban growth boundaries, planned growth areas and/or rural areas are invalid because the adoption or approval thereof was granted in an arbitrary, capricious, illegal or other manner characterized by abuse of official discretion. The filing of the petition for review does not itself stay effectiveness of the urban growth boundaries, planned growth areas and rural areas; provided, however, the court may order a stay upon appropriate terms if it is shown to the satisfaction of the court that any party or the public at large is likely to suffer significant injury if such stay is not granted. If more than one (1) suit is filed within the county, then all such suits shall be consolidated and tried as a single civil action.

(c) IF the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the urban growth boundaries, planned growth areas and/or rural areas are invalid because the adoption or approval thereof was granted in an arbitrary, capricious, illegal or other manner characterized by abuse of official discretion, THEN an order shall be issued vacating the same, in whole or in part, and remanding the same to the county and the municipalities in order to identify and obtain adoption or approval of urban growth boundaries, planned growth areas and/or rural areas in conformance with the procedures set forth within Section 5.

(d) Any party to the suit, aggrieved by the ruling of the chancery court, may obtain a review of the final judgment of the chancery court by appeal to the court of appeals.

## SECTION 7.

(a)

(1) The urban growth boundaries of a municipality shall:

(A) Identify territory that is reasonably compact yet sufficiently large to accommodate residential and nonresidential growth projected to occur during the next twenty (20) years;

(B) Identify territory that is contiguous to the existing boundaries of the municipality;

(C) Identify territory that a reasonable and prudent person would project as the likely site of high density commercial, industrial and/or residential growth over the next twenty (20) years based on historical experience, economic trends, population growth patterns and topographical characteristics; (if available, professional planning, engineering and/or economic studies may also be considered);

(D) Identify territory in which the municipality is better able and prepared than other municipalities to efficiently and effectively provide urban services; and

(E) Reflect the municipality's duty to facilitate full development of resources within the current boundaries of the municipality and to manage and control urban expansion outside of such current boundaries, taking into account the impact to agricultural lands, forests, recreational areas and wildlife management areas.

(2) Before formally proposing urban growth boundaries to the coordinating committee, the municipality shall develop and report population growth projections; such projections shall be developed in conjunction with the University of Tennessee. The municipality shall also determine and report the current costs and the projected costs of core infrastructure, urban

services and public facilities necessary to facilitate full development of resources within the current boundaries of the municipality and to expand such infrastructure, services and facilities throughout the territory under consideration for inclusion within the urban growth boundaries. The municipality shall also determine and report on the need for additional land suitable for high density, industrial, commercial and residential development, after taking into account all areas within the municipality's current boundaries that can be used, reused or redeveloped to meet such needs. The municipality shall examine and report on agricultural lands, forests, recreational areas and wildlife management areas within the territory under consideration for inclusion within the urban growth boundaries and shall examine and report on the likely long-term effects of urban expansion on such agricultural lands, forests, recreational areas and wildlife management areas.

(3) Before a municipal legislative body may propose urban growth boundaries to the coordinating committee, the municipality shall conduct at least two (2) public hearings. Notice of the time, place and purpose of the public hearing shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality not less than fifteen (15) days before the hearing.

(b)

(1) Each planned growth area of a county shall:

(A) Identify territory that is reasonably compact yet sufficiently large to accommodate residential and nonresidential growth projected to occur during the next twenty (20) years;

(B) Identify territory that is not within the existing boundaries of any municipality;

(C) Identify territory that a reasonable and prudent person would project as the likely site of high or moderate density commercial, industrial and/or residential growth over the next twenty (20) years based on historical experience, economic trends, population growth patterns and topographical characteristics; (if available, professional planning, engineering and/or economic studies may also be considered);

(D) Identify territory that is not contained within urban growth boundaries; and

(E) Reflect the county's duty to manage natural resources and to manage and control urban growth, taking into account the impact to agricultural lands, forests, recreational areas and wildlife management areas.

(2) Before formally proposing any planned growth area to the coordinating committee, the county shall develop and report population growth projections; such projections shall be developed in conjunction with the University of Tennessee. The county shall also determine and report the projected costs of providing urban type core infrastructure, urban services and public facilities throughout the territory under consideration for inclusion within the planned growth area as well as the feasibility of recouping such costs by imposition of fees or taxes within the planned growth area. The county shall also determine and report on the need for additional land suitable for high density industrial, commercial and residential development after taking into account all areas within the current boundaries of municipalities that can be used, reused or redeveloped to meet such needs. The county shall also determine and report on the likelihood that the territory under consideration for inclusion within the planned growth area will eventually incorporate as a new municipality or be annexed. The county shall also examine and report on agricultural lands, forests, recreational areas and wildlife management areas within the territory under consideration for inclusion within the planned growth area and shall examine and report on the likely long-term effects of urban expansion on such agricultural lands, forests, recreational areas and wildlife management areas.

(3) Before a county legislative body may propose planned growth areas to the coordinating committee, the county shall conduct at least two (2) public hearings. Notice of the time, place and purpose of the public hearing shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county not less than fifteen (15) days before the hearing.

(c)

(1) Each rural area shall:

(A) Identify territory that is not within urban growth boundaries;

(B) Identify territory that is not within a planned growth area;

(C) Identify territory that, over the next twenty (20) years, is to be preserved as agricultural lands, forests, recreational areas, wildlife management areas or for uses other than high density commercial, industrial or residential development; and

(D) Reflect the county's duty to manage growth and natural resources in a manner which reasonably minimizes detrimental impact to agricultural lands, forests, recreational areas and wildlife management areas.

(2) Before a county legislative body may propose rural areas to the coordinating committee, the county shall conduct at least two (2) public hearings. Notice of the time, place and purpose of the public hearing shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county not less than fifteen (15) days before the hearing.

(d) Notwithstanding the extraterritorial planning jurisdiction authorized for municipal planning commissions designated as regional planning commissions in Title 13, Chapter 3, nothing in this act shall be construed to authorize municipal planning commission jurisdiction beyond an urban growth boundary; provided, however, in a county without county zoning, a municipality may provide extraterritorial zoning and subdivision regulation beyond its corporate limits with the approval of the county legislative body.

SECTION 8. Not later than July 1, 2001, a growth plan for each county shall be submitted to and approved by the local government planning advisory committee in accordance with the provisions of Section 5. After a growth plan is so approved, all land use decisions made by the legislative body and the municipality's or county's planning commission shall be consistent with the growth plan. The growth plan shall include, at a minimum, documents describing and depicting municipal corporate limits, as well as urban growth boundaries, planned growth areas, if any, and rural areas, if any, approved in conformance with the provisions of Section 5. The purpose of a growth plan is to direct the coordinated, efficient, and orderly development of the local government and its environs that will, based on an analysis of present and future needs, best promote the public health, safety, morals and general welfare. A growth plan may address land-use, transportation, public infrastructure, housing, and economic development. The goals and objectives of a growth plan include the need to:

- (1) Provide a unified physical design for the development of the local community;
- (2) Encourage a pattern of compact and contiguous high density development to be guided into urban areas or planned growth areas;
- (3) Establish an acceptable and consistent level of public services and community facilities and ensure timely provision of those services and facilities;
- (4) Promote the adequate provision of employment opportunities and the economic health of the region;
- (5) Conserve features of significant statewide or regional architectural, cultural, historical, or archaeological interest;
- (6) Protect life and property from the effects of natural hazards, such as flooding, winds, and wildfires;
- (7) Take into consideration such other matters that may be logically related to or form an integral part of a plan for the coordinated, efficient and orderly development of the local community; and
- (8) Provide for a variety of housing choices and assure affordable housing for future population growth.

#### SECTION 9.

(a)

(1) After the effective date of this act but before the approval of the growth plan by the local government planning advisory committee, a municipality may annex territory by ordinance as provided by [§ 6-51-102](#) unless the county legislative body adopts a resolution disapproving such annexation within sixty (60) days of the final passage of the annexation ordinance.

(2) If the county disapproves the annexation by adopting a resolution within the sixty (60) day period, then the ordinance shall not become operative until ninety (90) days after final passage subject to the proceedings under this section.

(3) If a quo warranto action is filed to challenge the annexation, if and after the requirements of subsection (b) below are met, a county filing the action has the burden of proving that:

(A) The annexation ordinance is unreasonable for the overall well-being of the communities involved; or

(B) The health, safety, and welfare of the citizens and property owners of the municipality and territory will not be materially retarded in the absence of such annexation.

(4) If the court without a jury finds that the ordinance by a preponderance of the evidence satisfies the requirements of subdivision (a)(3), the annexation ordinance shall take effect.

(b)

(1) If a county disapproves the annexation as provided in subsection (a) and if the county is petitioned by a majority of the property owners by parcel within the territory which is the subject of the annexation to represent their interests, a county shall be deemed an aggrieved owner of property giving the county standing to contest an annexation ordinance. In determining a majority of property owners, a parcel of property with more than one (1) owner shall be counted only once and only if owners comprising a majority of the ownership interests in the parcel petition together as the owner of the particular parcel.

(2) A petition by property owners under this section shall be presented to the county clerk, who shall forward a copy of such petition to the county executive, county assessor of property and the chairperson of the county legislative body. After examining the evidence of title based upon the county records, within fifteen (15) days of receiving the copy of the petition, the assessor of property shall report to the county executive and the chairperson of the county legislative body whether or not in his or her opinion a majority of the property owners by parcel have petitioned the county according to this section.

(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a petition by property owners to the county under this section to contest an annexation shall be brought within sixty (60) days of the final passage of the annexation ordinance, and if the county legislative body adopts a resolution to contest the annexation, the county shall file suit to contest the annexation pursuant to this section within ninety (90) days of the final passage of the annexation ordinance.

(4) If the county or any other aggrieved owner of property does not contest the annexation ordinance under ~~6~~6-51-103 within ninety (90) days of final passage of the annexation ordinance, the ordinance shall become operative ninety (90) days after final passage thereof.

(5) If the county legislative body does not vote to permit the county to contest an annexation, the provision of Section 6-51-103 shall apply.

(c) After the effective date of this act, and before the approval of the growth plan by the local government planning advisory committee, a municipality may not extend its corporate limits by means of corridor annexation of a public right-of-way, or any easement owned by a governmental entity or quasi-governmental entity, railroad, utility company, or federal entity such as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or the Tennessee Valley Authority, or natural or man-made waterway, or any other corridor except under the following circumstances:

(1) The annexed area also includes each parcel of property contiguous to the right-of-way, easement, waterway or corridor adjacent on at least one (1) side; or

(2) The municipality receives the approval of the county legislative body of the county wherein the territory proposed to be annexed lies; or

(3) The owners of the property located at the end of the corridor petitioned the municipality for annexation, such owners agree to pay for necessary improvements to infrastructure on such property, such owners' property totals three (3) acres or more and is located within one and one-half (1.5) miles of the existing boundaries of the municipality, and the corridor annexation does not constitute an extension of any previous corridor annexation.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent a municipality from proposing extension of its corporate limits by the procedures in Sections 6-51-104 and 105. Provided, further, if the territory proposed to be annexed does not have any residents, such annexation may be accomplished only with the concurrence of the county as provided in (a) above.

(e) After the effective date of this act a municipality may not annex by ordinance upon its own initiative territory in any county other than the county in which the city hall of the annexing municipality is located, unless one (1) of the following applies:

(1) A municipality that is located in two (2) or more counties as of November 25, 1997, may annex by ordinance in all such counties, unless the percentage of the municipal population residing in the county or counties other than that in which the city hall is located is less than seven percent (7%) of the total population of the municipality; or

(2) A municipality may annex by ordinance with the approval by resolution of the county legislative body of the county in which the territory proposed to be annexed is located; or

(3) A municipality may annex by ordinance in any county in which, on January 1, 1998, the municipality provided sanitary sewer service to a total of one hundred (100) or more residential customers, commercial customers, or a combination thereof.

(4) This subsection (e) shall not affect any annexation ordinance adopted on final reading by a municipality prior to the effective date of this act, if such ordinance annexed property within the same county where the municipality is located or annexed property in a county other than the county in which the city hall is located if the property is used or is to be used only for industrial purposes.

(f)

(1) After the effective date of this act but prior to January 1, 1999, a new city may be incorporated under the provisions of this act as long as the population requirements and the distance requirements of Sections 6-1-201, 6-18-103 or 6-30-103 and the requirements of Section 13(c) of this act are met.

(2) After January 1, 1999, a new municipality may only be incorporated in accordance with this act and with an adopted growth plan.

(3)

(A) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, if any territory with not less than two hundred twenty-five (225) residents acted pursuant to Chapter 98 of the Public Acts of 1997 or Chapter 666 of the Public Acts of 1996 from January 1, 1996, through November 25, 1997, and held an incorporation election, and a majority of the persons voting supported the incorporation, and results of such election were certified, then such territory upon filing a petition as provided in [6-1-202](#), may conduct another incorporation election.

(B) If such territory votes to incorporate, the new municipality shall have priority over any prior or pending annexation ordinance of an existing municipality which encroaches upon any territory of the new municipality. Such new municipality shall comply with the requirements of Section 13(c) of this act.

#### SECTION 10.

(a) Upon approval of the growth plan by the local government planning advisory committee but beginning no earlier than July 1, 2000, each municipality within the county and the county shall receive an additional five (5) points on a scale of one hundred (100) points or a comparable percentage increase as determined by the commissioner in any evaluation formula for the allocation of private activity bond authority and for the distribution of grants from the department of economic and community development for the:

(1) Tennessee Industrial Infrastructure Program;

(2) Industrial Training Service Program; and

(3) Community Development Block Grants.

(b) Upon approval of the growth plan by the local government planning advisory committee but beginning no earlier than July 1, 2000, each municipality within the county and the county shall receive an additional five (5) points on a scale of one hundred (100) points or a comparable percentage increase as determined by the commissioner if permissible under federal requirements in any evaluation formula for the distribution of grants from the Department of Environment and Conservation for state revolving fund loans for water and sewer systems; provided, however, no such preferences shall be granted if prohibited by federal law or regulation.

(c) Upon approval of the growth plan by the local government planning advisory committee but beginning no earlier than July 1, 2000, each municipality within the county and the county shall receive an additional five (5) points on a scale of one hundred (100) points or a comparable percentage increase as determined by the executive director in any evaluation formula for the distribution of HOUSE or HOME grants from the Tennessee Housing Development Authority or low income tax credits or private activity bond authority; provided, however, no such preferences shall be granted if prohibited by federal law or regulation.

SECTION 11. Effective July 1, 2001, the following loan and grant programs shall be unavailable in those counties and municipalities that do not have growth plans approved by the local government planning advisory committee, and shall remain unavailable until growth plans have been approved:

(1) Tennessee Housing Development Agency Grant Programs;

- (2) Community Development Block Grants;
- (3) Tennessee Industrial Infrastructure Program Grants;
- (4) Industrial Training Service Grants;
- (5) Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act funds or any subsequent federal authorization for transportation funds; and
- (6) Tourism Development Grants.

#### SECTION 12.

(a) Within a municipality's approved urban growth boundaries, a municipality may use any of the methods in Title 6, Chapter 51 to annex territory. Provided, however, if a quo warranto action is filed to challenge the annexation, the party filing the action has the burden of proving that:

- (1) An annexation ordinance is unreasonable for the overall well-being of the communities involved; or
  - (2) The health, safety, and welfare of the citizens and property owners of the municipality and territory will not be materially retarded in the absence of such annexation.
- (b) In any such action, the action shall be tried by the circuit court judge or chancellor without a jury.
- (c) A municipality may not annex territory by ordinance beyond its urban growth boundary without following the procedure in subsection (d).

(d)

- (1) If a municipality desires to annex territory beyond its urban growth boundary, the municipality shall first propose an amendment to its urban growth boundary with the coordinating committee under the procedure in Section 5.
- (2) As an alternative to proposing a change in the urban growth boundary to the coordinating committee, the municipality may annex the territory by referendum as provided in ~~◆◆~~6-51-104 and 6-51-105.

#### SECTION 13.

(a)

(1) After January 1, 1999, a new municipality may only be created in territory approved as a planned growth area in conformity with the provisions of Section 5;

(2) A county may provide or contract for the provision of services within a planned growth area and set a separate tax rate specifically for the services provided within a planned growth area; and

(3) A county may establish separate zoning regulations within a planned growth area, for territory within an urban growth boundary or within a rural area.

(b) An existing municipality which does not operate a school system or a municipality incorporated after the effective date of this act, may not establish a school system.

(c) A municipality, incorporated after the effective date of this act, shall impose a property tax that raises an amount of revenue not less than the amount of the annual revenues derived by the municipality from state shared taxes. The municipality shall levy and collect the property tax before the municipality may receive state shared taxes. Furthermore, the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 6-51-115(b), shall apply within the territory of such newly incorporated municipality as if such territory had been annexed rather than incorporated.

(d)

(1) If the residents of a planned growth area petition to have an election of incorporation, the county legislative body shall approve the corporate limits and the urban growth boundary of the proposed municipality before the election to incorporate may be held.

(2) Within six (6) months of the incorporation election, the municipality shall adopt by ordinance a plan of services for the services the municipality proposes to deliver. The municipality shall prepare and publish its plan of services in a newspaper of general circulation distributed in the municipality. The rights and remedies of ~~6~~6-51-108 apply to the plan of services adopted by the municipality.

SECTION 14. Until December 31, 2002, the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (TACIR) shall monitor implementation of this act and shall periodically report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly. Each agency of the executive branch, each municipal and county official, each local government organization, including any planning commission and development district, shall cooperate with the commission and provide necessary information and assistance for the commission's reports. TACIR reserve funds may be expended for the purpose of performing duties assigned by this section.

#### SECTION 15.

(a) It is the intent of the General Assembly that local governments engage in long-term planning, and that such planning be accomplished through regular communication and cooperation among local governments, the agencies attached to them, and the agencies that serve them. It is also the intent of the General Assembly that the growth plans required by this bill result from communication and cooperation among local governments.

(b) There shall be established in each county a joint economic and community development board which shall be established by interlocal agreement pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 5-1-113. The purpose of the board is to foster communication relative to economic and community development between and among governmental entities, industry, and private citizens.

(c) Each joint economic and community development board shall be composed of representatives of county and city governments, private citizens, and present industry and businesses. The final makeup of the board shall be determined by interlocal agreement but shall, at a minimum, include the county executive and the mayor or city manager, if appropriate, of each city lying within the county and one (1) person who owns land qualifying for classification and valuation under Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 67, Chapter 5, Part 10. Provided, however, in cases where there are multiple cities, smaller cities may have representation on a rotating basis as determined by the interlocal agreement.

(d) There shall be an executive committee of the board which shall be composed of members of the joint economic and community development board selected by the entire board. The makeup of the executive committee shall be determined by the entire joint economic and community development board but shall, at a minimum, include the county executive and the mayors or city manager of the larger municipalities in the county.

(e) The terms of office shall be determined by the interlocal agreement but shall be staggered except for those positions held by elected officials whose terms shall coincide with the terms of office for their elected positions. All terms of office shall be for a maximum of four (4) years.

(f) The board shall meet, at a minimum, four (4) times annually and the executive committee of the board shall meet at least eight (8) times annually. Minutes of all meetings of the board and the executive committee shall be documented by minutes kept and certification of attendance. Meetings of the joint economic and community development board and its executive committee are subject to the open meetings law.

(g)

(1) The activities of the board shall be jointly funded by the participating governments. The formula for determining the amount of funds due from each participating government shall be determined by adding the population of the entire county as established by the last federal decennial census to the populations of each city as determined by the last federal decennial census, or special census as provided for in Section 6-51-114, and then determining the percentage that the population of each governmental entity bears to the total amount.

(2) If a special census has been certified pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 6-51-114, during the five (5) year period after certification of the last federal decennial census, the formula shall be adjusted by the board to reflect the result of the special census. Provided, however, the board shall only make such an adjustment during the fifth year following the certification of a federal decennial census.

(3) The board may accept and expend donations, grants and payments from persons and entities other than the participating governments.

(4) If, on the effective date of this act, a county and city government have a joint economic and community development council which has an established funding mechanism to carry out a unified economic and community development program for the entire county, such funding mechanism shall be utilized in lieu of the formula established in this subsection.

(h) An annual budget to fund the activities of the board shall be recommended by the executive committee to the board which shall adopt a budget before the first day of April of each year. The funding formula established by this act shall then be applied to the total amount budgeted by the board as the participating governments' contributions for the ensuing fiscal year. The budget and a statement of the amount due from each participating government shall be immediately filed with the appropriate officer of each participating government. In the event a participating government does not fully fund its contribution, the board may establish and impose such sanctions or conditions as it deems proper.

(i) When applying for any state grant a city or a county shall certify its compliance with the requirements of this section.

(j) If there exists within a county a similar organization on the effective date of this act, that organization may satisfy the requirements of this section. The county executive shall file a petition with the committee who shall make a determination whether the existing organization is sufficiently similar to the requirements of this section. When the committee has made its determination, an affected municipality or county may rely upon that status of the existing organization to satisfy the certification requirements of subsection (i).

SECTION 16. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to any annexation ordinance that was pending, but not yet effective, on November 25, 1997.

SECTION 17.

SECTION 18. (a) Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 7-2-101, is amended by adding the following as subdivision (4):

(4) The commission may be created upon receipt of a petition, signed by qualified voters of the county, equal to at least ten percent (10%) of the number of votes cast in the county for governor in the last gubernatorial election.

(A) Such petition shall be delivered to the county election commission for certification. After the petition is certified, the county election commission shall deliver the petition to the governing body of the county and the governing body of the principal city in the county. Such petition shall become the consolidation resolution of the county and the principal city in the county. The resolution shall provide that a metropolitan government charter commission is established to propose to the people the consolidation of all, or substantially all, of the government and corporate functions of the county and its principal city and the creation of a metropolitan government for the administration of the consolidated functions.

(B) Such resolution shall either:

(i) Authorize the county executive or county mayor to appoint ten (10) commissioners, subject to confirmation by the county governing body, and authorize the mayor of the principal city to appoint five (5) commissioners, subject to confirmation by the city governing body; or

(ii) Provide that an election shall be held to select members of the metropolitan government charter commission; provided, however, if the governing body of the county and the governing body of the principal city cannot agree on the method of selecting members of the metropolitan government charter commission within sixty (60) days of certification, then an election shall be held to select members of the metropolitan government charter commission as provided in Section 7-2-102.

(C) It is the legislative intent that the persons appointed to the charter commission shall be broadly representative of all areas of the county and principal city and that every effort shall be made to include representatives from various political, social, and economic groups within the county and principal municipality.

(D) When such resolution shall provide for the appointment of commissioners of the county and city, the metropolitan government charter commission shall be created and duly constituted after appointments have been made and confirmed.

(E) When such resolution shall provide for an election to select members of the metropolitan government charter commission, copies thereof shall be certified by the clerk of the governing bodies to the county election commission, and thereupon an election shall be held as provided in Section 7-2-102.

(F) When the consolidation resolution provides for the appointment of members of the metropolitan government charter commission, such appointments shall be made within thirty (30) days after the resolution is submitted to the governing bodies of the county and the principal city.

(G) If the referendum to approve consolidation fails, another commission may not be created by petition for three (3) years.

(b) Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 7-2-101(1)(B)(i), is amended by deleting the words "presiding officer of the county governing body" and substituting instead the words "county executive or county mayor".

(c) Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 7-2-101(2)(B), is amended by deleting the words "presiding officer of the county governing body" and substituting instead the words "county executive or county mayor".

(d) Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 7-2-101(2)(B)(i), is amended by deleting wherever they may appear, the words "presiding officer of the county governing body" and substituting instead the words "county executive or county mayor".

SECTION 19. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 6-51-102, is amended by deleting subsection (b) and substituting instead the following:

(b)

(1) Before any territory may be annexed under this section by a municipality, the governing body shall adopt a plan of services establishing at least the services to be delivered and the projected timing of the services. The plan of services shall be reasonable with respect to the scope of services to be provided and the timing of the services.

(2) The plan of services shall include, but not be limited to: police protection, fire protection, water service, electrical service, sanitary sewer service, solid waste collection, road and street construction and repair, recreational facilities and programs, street lighting, and zoning services. The plan of services may exclude services which are being provided by another public agency or private company in the territory to be annexed other than those services provided by the county.

(3) The plan of services shall include a reasonable implementation schedule for the delivery of comparable services in the territory to be annexed with respect to the services delivered to all citizens of the municipality.

(4) Before a plan of services may be adopted, the municipality shall submit the plan of services to the local planning commission, if there is one, for study and a written report, to be rendered within ninety (90) days after such submission, unless by resolution of the governing body a longer period is allowed. Before the adoption of the plan of services, a municipality shall hold a public hearing. Notice of the time, place, and purpose of the public hearing shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality not less than fifteen (15) days before the hearing. The notice shall include the locations of a minimum of three (3) copies of the plan of services which the municipality shall provide for public inspection during all business hours from the date of notice until the public hearing.

(5) A municipality may not annex any other territory if the municipality is in default on any prior plan of services.

(6) If a municipality operates a school system, and if the municipality annexes territory during the school year, any student may continue to attend his or her present school until the beginning of the next succeeding school year unless the respective boards of education have provided otherwise by agreement.

SECTION 20. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 6-51-102(a)(2), is amended by adding the following new subdivisions:

(2)

(A) If an annexation ordinance was not final on November 25, 1997, and if the municipality has not prepared a plan of services, the municipality shall have sixty (60) days to prepare a plan of services.

(B)

(1) For any plan of services that is not final on the effective date of this act or for any plan of services adopted after the effective date and before the approval of the growth plan by the committee, the county legislative body of the county where the territory subject to the plan of services is located may file a suit in the nature of a quo warranto proceeding to contest the reasonableness of the plan of services.

(2) If the county is petitioned by a majority of the property owners by parcel within the territory which is the subject of the plan of services to represent their interests, a county shall be deemed an aggrieved owner of property giving the county standing to contest the reasonableness of the plan of services. In determining a majority of property owners, a parcel of property with more than one (1) owner shall be counted only once and only if owners comprising a majority of the ownership interests in the parcel petition together as the owner of the particular parcel.

(3) A petition by property owners under this section shall be presented to the county clerk, who shall forward a copy of such petition to the county executive, county assessor of property and the chairperson of the county legislative body. After examining the evidence of title based upon the county records, within fifteen (15) days of receiving the copy of the petition, the assessor of property shall report to the county executive and the chairperson of the county legislative body whether or not in his or her opinion a majority of the property owners by parcel have petitioned the county according to this section.

(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a petition by property owners to the county under this section to contest the reasonableness of the plan of services shall be brought within sixty (60) days of the final adoption of the plan of services, and if the county legislative body adopts a resolution to contest the plan of services, the county shall file suit to contest the plan of services pursuant to this section within ninety (90) days of the final adoption of the plan of services.

(C) If the court finds the plan of services to be unreasonable, or to have been done by exercise of powers not conferred by law, an order shall be issued vacating the same, and the order shall require the municipality to submit a revised plan of services for the territory within thirty (30) days; provided, however, by motion the municipality may request to abandon the plan of services, and in such case the municipality is prohibited from annexing by ordinance any part of such territory proposed for annexation for not less than twenty-four (24) months. In the absence of such finding, an order shall be issued sustaining the validity of such plan of services ordinance, which shall then become operative thirty-one (31) days after judgment is entered unless an abrogating appeal has been taken therefrom.

(D) If a municipal plan of services has been challenged in court under this section and if the court has rendered a decision adverse to the plan, then a municipality may not annex any other territory by ordinance until the court determines the municipality is in compliance.

#### SECTION 21.

(a) Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 6-51-108(b), is amended by deleting the first sentence and substituting instead the following:

Upon the expiration of six (6) months from the date any annexed territory for which a plan of service has been adopted becomes a part of the annexing municipality, and annually thereafter until services have been extended according to such plan, there shall be prepared and published in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality a report of the progress made in the preceding year toward extension of services according to such plan, and any changes proposed therein. The governing body of the municipality shall publish notice of a public hearing on such progress reports and changes, and hold such hearing thereon.

(b) Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 6-51-108, is amended by deleting the next to the last sentence in subsection (b) and by adding the following as new subsections (c) and (d):

(c) A municipality may amend a plan of services by resolution of the governing body only after a public hearing for which notice has been published at least fifteen (15) days in advance in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality when:

(1) The amendment is reasonably necessary due to natural disaster, act of war, act of terrorism, or reasonably unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of the municipality; or

(2) The amendment does not materially or substantially decrease the type or level of services or substantially delay the provision of services specified in the original plan; or

(3) The amendment:

(i) Proposes to materially and substantially decrease the type or level of services under the original plan or to substantially delay those services; and

(ii) Is not justified under (c)(1); and

(iii) Has received the approval in writing of a majority of the property owners by parcel in the area annexed. In determining a majority of property owners, a parcel of property with more than one (1) owner shall be counted only once and only if owners comprising a majority of the ownership interests in the parcel petition together as the owner of the particular parcel.

(d) An aggrieved property owner in the annexed territory may bring an action in the appropriate court of equity jurisdiction to enforce the plan of services at any time after one hundred eighty (180) days after an annexation by ordinance takes effect and until the plan of services is fulfilled, and may bring an action to challenge the legality of an amendment to a plan of services if such action is brought within thirty (30) days after the adoption of the amendment to the plan of services. If the court finds

that the municipality has amended the plan of services in an unlawful manner, then the court shall decree the amendment null and void and shall reinstate the previous plan of services. If the court finds that the municipality has materially and substantially failed to comply with its plan of services for the territory in question, then the municipality shall be given the opportunity to show cause why the plan of services was not carried out. If the court finds that the municipality's failure is due to natural disaster, act of war, act of terrorism, or reasonably unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of the municipality which materially and substantially impeded the ability of the municipality to carry out the plan of services, then the court shall alter the timetable of the plan of services so as to allow the municipality to comply with the plan of services in a reasonable time and manner. If the court finds that the municipality's failure was not due to natural disaster, act of war, act of terrorism, or reasonably unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of the municipality which materially and substantially impeded the ability of the municipality to carry out the plan of services, then the court shall issue a writ of mandamus to compel the municipality to provide the services contained in the plan, shall establish a timetable for the provision of the services in question, and shall enjoin the municipality from any further annexations until the services subject to the court's order have been provided to the court's satisfaction, at which time the court shall dissolve its injunction. If the court determines that the municipality has failed without cause to comply with the plan of services or has unlawfully amended its plan of services, the court shall assess the costs of the suit against the municipality.

SECTION 22. For any land that is presently used for agricultural purposes, a municipality may not use its zoning power to interfere in any way with the use of such land for agricultural purposes as long as the land is used for agricultural purposes.

SECTION 23. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 6, Chapter 51, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

Section \_\_. No provision of this act applies to an annexation in any county with a metropolitan form of government in which any part of the general services district is annexed into the urban services district. Provided, however, any section of Title 6, Chapter 51, Part 1, specifically referenced on the effective date of this act in the charter of any county with a metropolitan form of government shall refer to the language of such sections in effect on January 1, 1998.

SECTION 24. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 6-51-115, is amended by designating the existing section as subsection (a), renumbering present subsections as subdivisions, and adding the following as new subsections:

(b) In addition to the preceding provisions of this section, when a municipality annexes territory in which there is retail or wholesale activity at the time the annexation takes effect or within three (3) months after the annexation date, the following shall apply:

(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 57-6-103 or any other law to the contrary, for wholesale activity involving the sale of beer, the county shall continue to receive annually an amount equal to the amount received by the county in the twelve (12) months immediately preceding the effective date of the annexation for beer establishments in the annexed area that produced Wholesale Beer Tax revenues during that entire twelve (12) months. For establishments that produced Wholesale Beer Tax revenues for at least one (1) month but less than the entire twelve (12) month period, the county shall continue to receive an amount annually determined by averaging the amount of Wholesale Beer Tax revenue produced during each full month the establishment was in business during that time and multiplying this average by twelve (12). For establishments which did not produce revenue before the annexation date but produced revenue within three (3) months after the annexation date, and for establishments which produced revenue for less than a full month prior to annexation, the county shall continue to receive annually an amount determined by averaging the amount of Wholesale Beer Tax revenue produced during the first three (3) months the establishment was in operation and multiplying this average by twelve (12). The provisions of this subdivision are subject to the exceptions in subsection (c). A municipality shall only pay the county the amount required by this subdivision, for a period of fifteen (15) years.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 67-6-712 or any other law to the contrary, for retail activity subject to the Local Option Revenue Act, the county shall continue to receive annually an amount equal to the amount of revenue the county received pursuant to Section 67-6-712(a)(2)(A) in the twelve (12) months immediately preceding the effective date of the annexation for business establishments in the annexed area that produced Local Option Revenue Act revenue during that entire twelve (12) months. For business establishments that produced such revenues for more than a month but less than the full twelve (12) month period, the county shall continue to receive an amount annually determined by averaging the amount of Local Option Revenue produced by the establishment and allocated to the county under Section 67-6-712(a)(2)(A) during each full month the establishment was in business during that time and multiplying this average by twelve (12). For business establishments which did not produce revenue before the annexation date and produced revenue within three (3) months after the annexation date, and for establishments which produced revenue for less than a full month prior to annexation, the county shall continue to receive annually an amount determined by averaging the amount of Local Option Revenue produced and allocated to the county under Section 67-6-712(a)(2)(A) during the first three (3) months the establishment was in operation and multiplying this average by twelve (12). The provisions of this subdivision are subject to the exceptions in subsection (c). A municipality shall only pay the county the amount required by this subdivision, for a period of fifteen (15) years.

(c) Subsection (b) is subject to these exceptions:

(1) Subdivision (b)(1) ceases to apply as of the effective date of the repeal of the Wholesale Beer Tax, should this occur.

(2) Subdivision (b)(2) ceases to apply as of the effective date of the repeal of the Local Option Revenue Act, should this occur.

(3) Should the General Assembly reduce the amount of revenue from the Wholesale Beer Tax or the Local Option Revenue Act, accruing to municipalities by changing the distribution formula, the amount of revenue accruing to the county under subsection (b) will be reduced proportionally as of the effective date of the reduction.

(4) A county, by resolution of its legislative body, may waive its rights to receive all or part of the revenues provided by subsection (b). In these cases, the revenue shall be distributed as provided in Sections 57-6-103 and 67-6-712 of the respective tax laws unless otherwise provided by agreement between the county and municipality.

(5) Annual revenues paid to a county by or on behalf of the annexing municipality are limited to the annual revenue amounts provided in subsection (b) and known as "annexation date revenue" as defined in subdivision (e)(2). Annual situs-based revenues in excess of the "annexation date revenue" allocated to one (1) or more counties shall accrue to the annexing municipality. Any decrease in the revenues from the situs-based taxes identified in subsection (b) shall not affect the amount remitted to the county or counties pursuant to subsection (b) except as otherwise provided in this subsection. Provided, however, a municipality may petition the Department of Revenue no more often than annually to adjust annexation date revenue as a result of the closure or relocation of a tax producing entity.

(d)

(1) It is the responsibility of the county within which the annexed territory lies to certify and to provide to the department of revenue a list of all tax revenue producing entities within the proposed annexation area.

(2) The Department of Revenue shall determine the local share of revenue from each tax listed in this section generated within the annexed territory for the year before the annexation becomes effective, subject to the requirements of subsection (b). This revenue shall be known as the "annexation date revenue".

(3) The Department of Revenue with respect to the revenues described in subdivision (b)(2), and the municipality with respect to the revenues described in subdivision (b)(1), shall annually distribute an amount equal to the annexation date revenue to the county of the annexed territory.

SECTION 25. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 13-3-102, is amended by inserting in the first sentence between the words "is" and "more" the language "outside the municipality's urban growth boundary or, if no such boundary exists,".

SECTION 26. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 13-3-401(2), is amended by inserting between the words "is" and "more" the language "outside the municipality's urban growth boundary or, if no such boundary exists,".

SECTION 27. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 6-1-201(b), is amended by adding the following language as subdivision (1):

If any part of the unincorporated territory proposed for incorporation is within five (5) miles of an existing municipality of one hundred thousand (100,000) or more according to the most recent federal census and if the governing body of such municipality adopts a resolution by a two-thirds (2/3) vote indicating that the municipality has no desire to annex the territory, such territory may be included in a proposed new municipality. A petition for incorporation shall include a certified copy of such resolution from the affected municipality.

SECTION 28. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 6-1-202, is amended by deleting subsection (a) and substituting instead the following:

The county election commission shall hold an election for the purpose of determining whether this charter shall become effective for any municipality or newly incorporating territory upon the petition in writing of at least thirty-three and one-third percent (33 1/3%) of the registered voters of the municipality or territory. The petition shall include a current list of the registered voters who live within the proposed territory. The petition shall state in a sufficient manner the boundaries of the proposed municipal corporation, which may be done by a general reference to the boundaries then existing if there is one. Upon receipt of the petition the county election commission shall examine the petition to determine the validity of the signatures in accordance with Section 2-1-107. The county election commission shall have a period of twenty (20) days to certify whether the petition has the sufficient number of signatures of registered voters. If the petition is sufficient to call for

an election on the issue of incorporation, the county election commission shall hold an election, providing options to vote "FOR" or "AGAINST" the incorporation of the new charter, not less than forty-five (45) days nor more than sixty (60) days after the petition is certified. The date of the election shall be set in accordance with Section 2-3-204. The county election commission shall, in addition to all other notices required by law, publish one (1) notice of the election in a newspaper of general circulation within the territory of the municipality or of the proposed municipality, and post the notice in at least three (3) places in the territory.

SECTION 29. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to that end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 30. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

**PASSED: May 1, 1998**

**APPROVED this 19<sup>th</sup> day of May 1998**

Joint Economic and Community Development  
Board of Hamblen County, TN  
Proposed Budget

**Income**

City of Morristown Contribution	\$71,500.00
Hamblen County Contribution	\$91,000.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$162,500.00</b>

**Expenses**

Marketing & Recruitment	\$90,500.00
Existing Industry Support	\$52,000.00
Workforce Development	\$20,000.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$162,500.00</b>