



**Williamson County Republican Party
Williamson County, Tennessee
March 2, 2026**

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 2419 (HB2419) AND SENATE
BILL 2311 (SB2311) TO PROVIDE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL FOR
MUNICIPAL ANNEXATIONS**

WHEREAS, on September 1, 1998, the Tennessee General Assembly enacted Public Chapter 1101, codified in Tennessee Code Annotated § 6-58-101 et seq., commonly known as the Comprehensive Growth Plan, to address disputes regarding municipal annexation and promote coordinated growth planning between counties and municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the Act required counties and municipalities to jointly adopt growth plans by December 31, 2000, identifying reasonably compact territories sufficient to accommodate anticipated residential and nonresidential growth over the next twenty (20) years, based on historical experience, economic trends, population growth patterns, and topographical characteristics; and

WHEREAS, municipalities were required to designate Urban Growth Boundaries (UGBs) within which growth was anticipated, and were generally restricted to annexing property within those boundaries and contiguous to existing city limits; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, Public Chapter 707 amended Title 6, Chapter 51, generally eliminating municipalities' authority to annex property by ordinance without owner consent and instead allowing annexation by resolution at the request or consent of property owners, provided the property lay entirely within a municipality's UGB; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, Public Chapter 399 amended Tennessee Code Annotated Section 6-51-104 to allow municipalities to annex noncontiguous property as long as it lay entirely within the municipality's UGB; and

WHEREAS, the original intent of Public Chapter 1101 was to reduce conflict between counties and municipalities over annexation, avoid corridor and checkerboard annexations, and ensure coordinated, sustainable growth management; and

WHEREAS, over the last twenty-five (25) years, and particularly following the 2017 amendment, there has been increased conflict between counties and municipalities regarding annexation practices; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Growth Plan has been utilized in ways that have enabled noncontiguous and piecemeal annexations, undermining coordinated growth management, fiscal sustainability, and county planning authority; and

WHEREAS, Williamson County has experienced significant residential growth, placing increased demands on county-funded infrastructure, public safety, education, and essential services; and

WHEREAS, municipalities have increasingly utilized the amended provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated Title 6, Chapters 51 and 58, to expand residential development in ways that impose substantial costs on county services without adequate county oversight or approval; and

WHEREAS, Item 25 of the Williamson County Republican Party platform states "We believe in responsible planned community growth and development, consistent with infrastructure capacity and advance, budget neutral payment of expansion costs. We value the preservation of the character of our rural communities."; and

WHEREAS, the Williamson County Republican Party Executive Board finds that these annexations and growth pressures create ongoing fiscal and service burdens on county residents and government without corresponding representation or recourse, which is inconsistent with our platform; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee House Bill 2419 (HB2419), sponsored by Representative Monty Fritts, and its companion Senate Bill 2311 (SB2311), sponsored by Senator Joey Hensley, in the 114th General Assembly, directly addresses these concerns by amending Tennessee Code Annotated Title 6, Chapter 51, Part 1, to require that, before adopting an annexation ordinance, a municipality must:

- (1) Submit to the county legislative body in the affected county a financial impact study detailing short-term and long-term effects on county infrastructure, public services (including schools), and county taxpayers, along with a statement of financial viability demonstrating the municipality's ability to provide services such as water, sewer, roads, police, fire protection, and other obligations; and
- (2) Obtain approval by a majority vote of the county legislative body, with the county having at least sixty (60) calendar days to review the documentation and vote, and the annexation deemed denied if not approved within ninety (90) days (with failure to act not constituting approval); and

WHEREAS, these provisions would enhance county oversight, protect county taxpayers from disproportionate burdens, foster greater cooperation between cities and counties, and better ensure that municipal annexations align with fiscal responsibility and sustainable growth; and

WHEREAS, Williamson County's legislative delegation to the Tennessee General Assembly includes Senator Jack Johnson (State Senate District 27), representing most of Williamson County, Representative Gino Bulso (State House District 61); Representative Jake McCalmon (State House District 63); Representative Lee Reeves (State House District 65); Representative Todd Warner (State House District 92); and Senator Joey Hensley (State Senate District 28);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Williamson County Republican Party (WCRP) strongly endorses and supports the passage of Tennessee House Bill 2419 (HB2419) and Senate Bill 2311 (SB2311) in their introduced form, without amendments that would weaken county approval requirements or oversight provisions, as they represent critical reforms to protect county interests and taxpayers in annexation matters; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body urges the Tennessee General Assembly, Governor Bill Lee, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Lieutenant Governor and Williamson County's legislative delegation to prioritize, advance, and enact this legislation during the current 2026 session; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Governor of the State of Tennessee, the Speaker of the Tennessee House of Representatives, the Lieutenant Governor, Representative Monty Fritts, Senator Joey Hensley, all members of Williamson County's legislative delegation, and the Williamson County Commission.

Adopted this 2nd Day of March 2026.