



Council on  
Developmental Disabilities

# Tennessee Bill Tracking



# Legislative Advocacy from a Citizen's Perspective

# Your presenters

Chrissy Hood, Council member, South Central TN



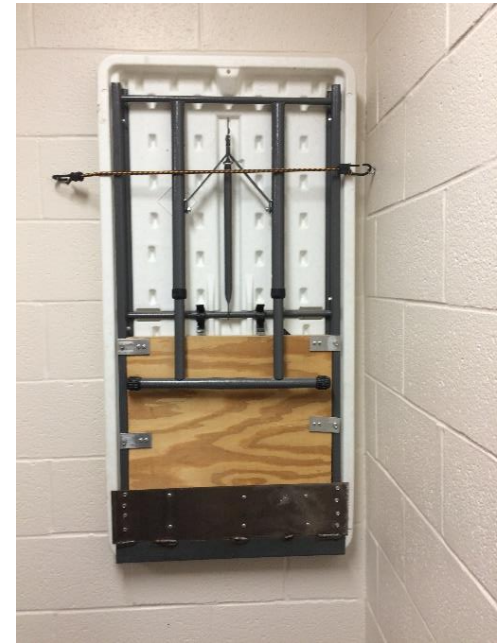
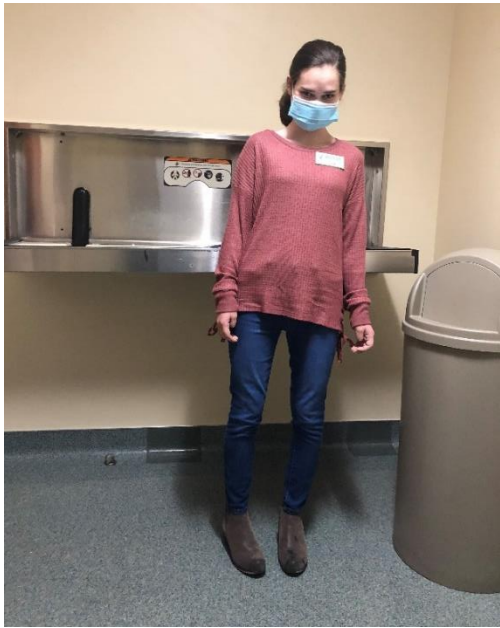
Roddey Coe, Council member, Southeast TN





**Share your story.**

**Your *experience* is the best expertise.**



# Tell your story to your legislators.





# Tell your story to *everyone*.

## SB602/HB905: Universal Changing Tables

SB602/HB905 promotes community inclusion by offering a safe, private, and hygienic toileting option to all Tennesseans.

Sponsors: Sen. Watson (R-Hixson) and Rep. Doggett (R-Pulaski).

### The Problem

*Everyone deserves a safe, dignified, and hygienic toileting experience.*

- Currently, Tennesseans who need access to adult-sized changing tables have to choose between changing in an unhygienic setting (like on a restroom floor) or staying home, isolated from our communities.
- Approximately 200,000 Tennesseans, 4% of the population, needs assistance with one or more activities of daily living such as toileting.
- This issue crosses every demographic in Tennessee, including our veterans.
- It also affects their family members, friends, and caregivers who want to spend time together in community.

### The Solution

*Universal changing tables help everyone.*

**SB602/HB905 will ensure new or renovated public buildings have a height-adjustable, adult-sized changing table.**

Public buildings are:

- Buildings owned or leased by the state of Tennessee and
- Buildings used primarily by the general public as a place of gathering or amusement: theaters, restaurants, hotels, factories, office buildings, stadiums, hospitals, voting areas, shopping areas, convention centers and all other public accommodations.

*The disability community is the one minority group that any of us could join at any time. Many of us will age into this group.*

***Universal design benefits all Tennesseans.***

## Tennessean.

### True accessibility means dignity, adult changing tables in public restrooms| Opinion

*I will be asking lawmakers to pass legislation to increase universal changing spaces, which have height-adjustable, adult-sized changing tables.*

**Chrissy Hood** Guest columnist

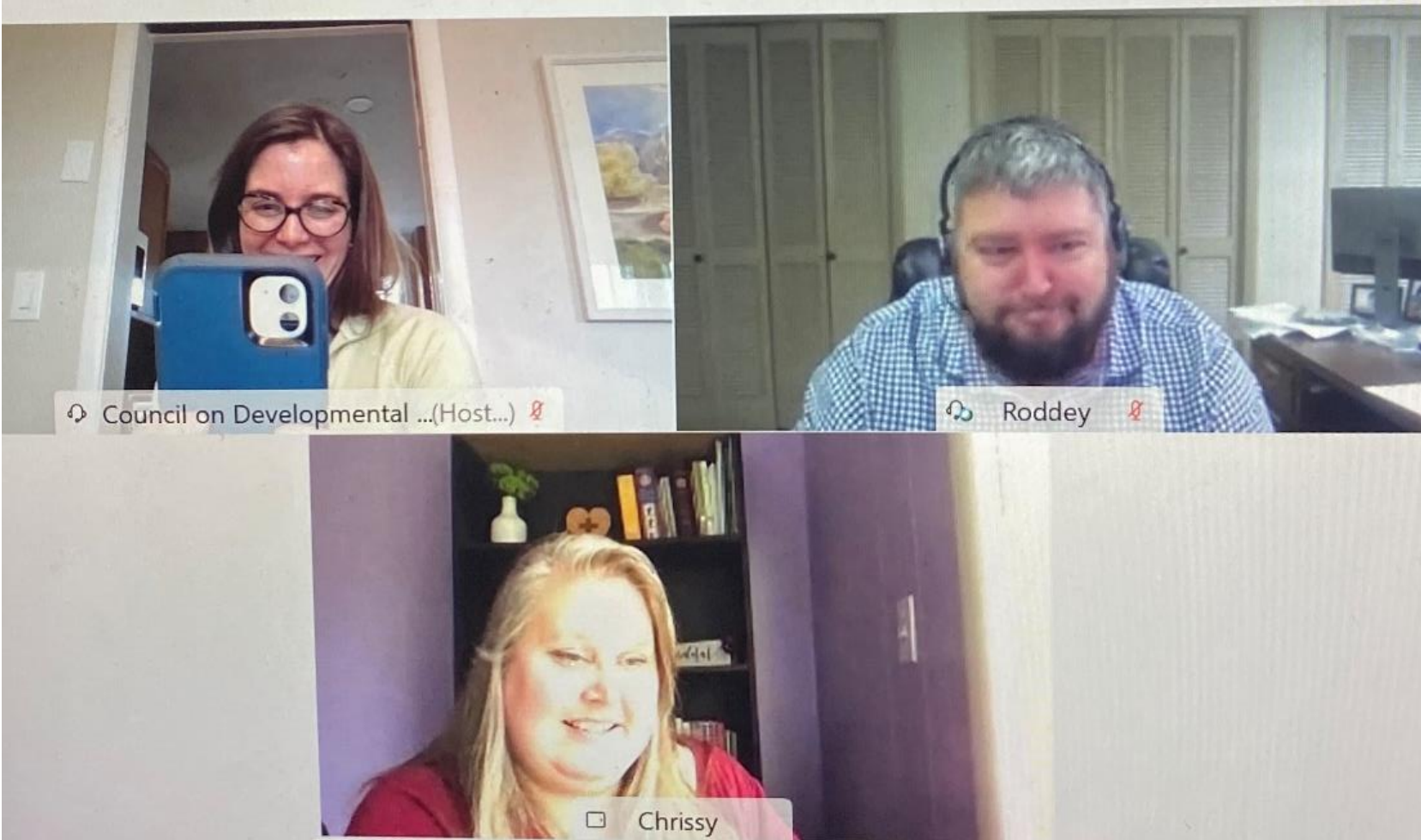


**Changing Spaces Tennessee**

@changingspacestn · Disability Service

Send Message

# Your Idea Could Become a Bill!





# Whatever happens...celebrate!



No matter what happens, the process will raise awareness about an issue and make an impact.



## Bill Tracking (Highlights)

# Bills that may become law this year

- Universal changing tables ([SB602/HB905](#))
  - [Download one page overview](#)
  - [Read media coverage](#)
  
- Texting 911 ([SB182/HB173](#))
  - [Download one page overview](#)
  - [Watch video overview](#)
  - [Read media coverage](#)

# Bills that may become law this year

- Raise DSP wages (HB130/SB114)
  - Related media: Pay bump bill would get 'direct support providers' for disabled to \$15/hour by 2024
- Teacher Discipline Act (SB230/HB16)
  - Related media: Tennessee discipline bill raises concerns about potential bias against Black or disabled students

# Bills that may become law this year

- End subminimum wage for people with disabilities (SB1292/HB1454)
- State as a model employer (SB100/HB112)
- Precious Cargo Act (SB110/HB40)





**Stay Up to Date**

# Weekly Updates

- Policy Watch, Disability Rights TN
- Weekly Awareness, The Arc TN
- Weekly Policy News, TN Disability Coalition
- Weekly Policy News, TN Council on DD

# Thank you!

## Contact us:

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