



HOUSE BILL 2446

By Hicks G

**AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68,
relative to grants to volunteer fire departments.**

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

**SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-102-154(d), is amended by
deleting the language:**

The total amount of grants awarded each year must be equally divided among the three
(3) grand divisions of the state.

**SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-102-154(e)(1), is amended by
deleting the language:**

, other than fire trucks or vehicles

**SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it,
and applies to grants awarded after June 30, 2026.**

Amendment No. 2 to HB2446

Hicks G
Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 2338*

House Bill No. 2446

by deleting all language after the enacting clause and substituting:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 102, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) The volunteer firefighter vehicle grant program is established to annually provide grants to select volunteer fire departments to assist with local match requirements for federal grants to purchase vehicles. The commissioner of commerce and insurance shall establish the amount the state contributes. However, the grant program must not fund the total local match portion in any year.

(b) The commissioner shall strive to distribute grant program funding proportionally based on the number of recognized volunteer fire departments serving each of the three (3) grand divisions of this state.

(c) The commissioner shall decide which grants to award and shall disburse the grants to the selected volunteer fire departments. The commissioner shall strive to expend all funds appropriated to the grant program each year, and any funds remaining must remain available for expenditure for the program created by subsection (a) and the volunteer firefighter equipment and training grant program created in § 68-102-154(b)(1). Any funds remaining must not revert to the general fund but remain available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years for either grant program.

(d) It is the legislative intent to fund the grant program created by subsection (a) by providing an initial appropriation of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in the appropriation act for fiscal year 2026-2027.

(e) The commissioner shall promulgate rules to establish guidelines for evaluating grant requests and determining which volunteer fire departments receive grants pursuant to this section. The rules must be promulgated in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

SECTION 2. For the purpose of promulgating rules, this act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on July 1, 2026, the public welfare requiring it.