

# TICUA Policy Update

---

February 25, 2010

## Legislature Target End of Session

Both the House and the Senate have set target dates for closing committees. The Senate has set April 7<sup>th</sup> for all committees to close so that they can focus on passing the State's FY2010-11 budget. The House set a similar target. They hope to have all sub-committees closed by the end of March and full committees by the first week of April. It is suspect whether or not the target dates can be met, but it does signal that the Legislature is serious about finishing their work on time.

## TICUA Bills Moving Toward Completion

The Senate has passed two of three bills of interest to TICUA. The UPMIFA and data protection bills have passed the Senate and are awaiting House action. The House will be voting on both of those bills this next week. The procurement bill will be on the Senate floor next week and the House companion bill was just passed by the State sub-committee and will go before the full State and Local committee this next week.

## 200 More Students Took Action This Week

This week alone over 200 more sent thank you notes to members of the General Assembly to express their gratitude for the Tennessee Student Assistance Award (TSAA). This brings to total email volume to over 1,000. Students from TICUA member institutions, as well as the public colleges and universities, are involved in the email campaign.

The TSAA is the state's only purely need-based aid program and serves about 25,000 students attending post-secondary institutions in Tennessee. Over 4,300 students receive \$4,000 grants through this program to attend a TICUA member institution. Governor Bredesen's budget calls for a \$3.2 million recurring improvement in the student aid program.

Please encourage students who receive the TSAA to continue writing their emails of thanks today!