

TENNESSEE GOVERNMENT UPDATE

NEWS FOR THE CLIENTS AND FRIENDS OF BASS, BERRY & SIMS PLC

Friday, June 4, 2010

With Republican and Democratic primary elections exactly two months away yesterday, the Tennessee Senate passed a state budget late last night - a budget that, apparently, has the support of Republicans and Democrats, the House and the Senate, and Governor Bredesen. The House is scheduled to take up the same budget today in anticipation of the 106th General Assembly adjourning tomorrow. *The Tennessean* [has the details](#).

Party primary elections for gubernatorial and legislative candidates are August 5. The discussion in the Republican gubernatorial primary heated up this week with a [Nashville City Paper story](#) about funding for the Tennessee Valley Corridor, a favorite project of Congressman Zack Wamp.

Wamp blamed the Haslam camp for the story and questioned whether Knoxville Mayor Bill Haslam supported organized gambling. Knoxville's [Metro Pulse found gambling licenses](#) in Louisiana with Haslam's name on them.

In a [Chattanooga Times Free Press story](#), Lieutenant Governor Ron Ramsey, the third Republican candidate, noted that he thought the Tennessee Valley Corridor project did not pass the "smell test." Wamp's spokesperson asserted that both Haslam and Ramsey have participated in Tennessee Valley Corridor events.

Mike McWherter, a banker and beer distributor from Jackson, Tennessee, is the sole candidate for the Democratic nomination.

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