

**Chart 11. Growth Planning**

Current Tennessee Law	Proposed Changes	Other States' Laws
<p>Current law requires each county, with exception of the three metropolitan governments, and the cities in the county to have an approved growth plan. At a minimum, the plan must show urban growth boundaries for the cities. Territory outside the UGB must be designated as planned growth areas or rural areas. Within an urban growth boundary, a city possesses the exclusive right to annex territory. Any new incorporation must be formed within a county's planned growth area.</p>	<p>Public Chapter 441 directed the Commission to study the issue of annexation as part of a comprehensive review and evaluation of the efficacy of state policies set forth in Tennessee Code Annotated Title 6, Chapters 51 (Change of Municipal Boundaries) and 58 (Comprehensive Growth Plan).</p>	<p>Twenty states have mandatory comprehensive planning laws for local governments.</p> <p>Four of these states—Hawaii, Maryland, Oregon, and Washington—require growth boundaries.</p>

**Other States' Laws on Comprehensive Planning and Growth Boundaries**

State	Comprehensive Planning	Urban Growth Boundaries
Alabama	Permissive	
Alaska	Mandatory	
Arizona	Mandatory	Permissive
Arkansas	Permissive	
California	Mandatory	Permissive through LAFCO or home rule charters
Colorado	Mandatory under specific circumstances	Permissive but mandatory for annexation to occur
Connecticut	Mandatory	Permissive
Delaware	Mandatory	Permissive but mandatory for annexation to occur
Florida	Mandatory	Permissive
Georgia	Permissive but mandatory if they want to remain eligible for state and federal assistance programs	
Hawaii	Mandatory	Mandatory
Idaho	Mandatory	Permissive but mandatory for annexation to occur

State	Comprehensive Planning	Urban Growth Boundaries
Illinois	Permissive	
Indiana	Permissive	
Iowa	Permissive	
Kansas	Permissive	
Kentucky	Mandatory	
Louisiana	Permissive	
Maine	Permissive	Permissive but mandatory if growth plan is adopted
Maryland	Mandatory	Mandatory - annexations must be accordance with comprehensive plan
Massachusetts	Permissive but mandatory if they want to remain eligible for state grants	
Michigan	Permissive	Permissive through home rule charters
Minnesota	Permissive	Permissive
Mississippi	Permissive	
Missouri	Permissive	
Montana	Permissive	
Nebraska	Mandatory city plan for cities of the metropolitan class (Omaha)	
Nevada	Mandatory for cities of 25,000 or more and counties of 45,000 or more	
New Hampshire	Permissive	
New Jersey	Permissive	Permissive through home rule charters
New Mexico	Permissive	
New York	Permissive	
North Carolina	Permissive	
North Dakota	Permissive	
Ohio	Permissive	
Oklahoma	Permissive	
Oregon	Mandatory	Mandatory
Pennsylvania	Mandatory	

State	Comprehensive Planning	Urban Growth Boundaries
Rhode Island	Mandatory	Municipal boundaries locked in by statute
South Carolina	Permissive	
South Dakota	Mandatory for cities permissive for counties	Permissive
Tennessee*	Permissive; growth boundary map required	Mandatory
Texas	Permissive	
Utah	Mandatory	
Vermont	Permissive but mandatory for certain state grants and if they want to adopt development regulations	
Virginia	Mandatory	Permissive
Washington	Mandatory for certain counties	Mandatory
West Virginia	Permissive	Permissive
Wisconsin	Permissive	
Wyoming	Permissive	

\*Tennessee's growth planning law, Tennessee Code Annotated Title 6, Chapter 58, is separate from the statute authorizing comprehensive planning, Tennessee Code Annotated Title 13, Chapters 3 and 4.