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LSG Floor Report For POSTPONED BUSINESS – Tuesday, April 16, 2019

Bill	Caption	Committee	Analysis & Evaluation	Recommendation
HB 686 By: Clardy White Ashby Lambert	Relating to making permanent the former temporary increases in records archive fees and records management and preservation fees charged by district and county clerks.	Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent	When filling a court document with the county district clerks, a fee of 10 dollars is charged to the person who filed the documents. The \$10 fee is used to preserve and maintain the court documents that can be decades old. In past sessions, the fee was increased from 5 dollars to 10 on a temporary basis to cover the costs of preserving the documents. House bill 686 aims to preserve the filling fee at 10 dollars permanently and not reduce it back to 5. This would allow the district clerks to maintain and preserve the court documents appropriately. The bill does not increase the fee, it just removes the temporary provision and keeps the fee at the current rate.	Favorable Evaluated by: Santiago Cirnigliaro (713) 435-9049 Santiago@TexasLSG.org
HB 80 By: Ortega Button Howard Sheffield Stucky	Relating to a study and report regarding shortages in certain health professions.	Higher Education Vote: 9 Ayes 1 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent	Health Profession shortages can be seen across the state with Texas not participating in Medicaid expansion, there is an increasing number of people who are uninsured and unable to receive health-related care, and this can be especially detrimental to those residing in areas that are medically underserved. HB 80 aims to amend the Education Code by adding a section that requests a study be conducted for shortages in certain health professions, including dentistry, to address areas that are medically underserved. This bill would require THECB to work with the Health Professional Resource Center, the Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies, and the Texas Demographic Center, to conduct a statewide study to identify regional shortages in health professions. With the data collected, THECB would be allowed to make recommendations for the establishment of future programs and address the increased need for certain existing programs based on the needs of the state.	Favorable Evaluated by: Marissa Gorena (956) 867-7232 Marissa@texaslsg.org

LSG Floor Report For MAJOR STATE Calendar – Tuesday, April 16, 2019

HB 1535 By: Flynn Paddie Lambert Nevarez Thompson, Senfronia	Relating to the continuation and functions of the State Securities Board.	Pensions, Investments & Financial Services Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent	HB 1535 is a Sunset bill for the State Securities Board (SSB). The SSB is responsible for monitoring the securities marketplace and protecting Texas residents from fraudulent or negligent practice securities professionals or criminal opportunists. F The SSB currently oversees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registering dealer and investment advisor entities • Evaluating security offerings that must be registered with the agency • Assisting with criminal prosecution of agencies in state and federal court • Inspection of advisor companies • Investigating violations of agency statute and rules and taking actions against those in violation 	Favorable Evaluated by: Elizabeth Churaman (281)-686-4544 Elizabeth@texaslsg.org
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			<p>HB 1535 makes key changes to the SSB:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Regarding SSB statute and procedure <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Clarify statute in the prosecution assistance and create staff resources for clarification and training. b. Authorize agency to order refunds for violations of statutes in both contested and uncontested cases c. Removing branch office registration d. Develop penalty matrix for both administrative penalties and final enforcement actions 2) Regarding the continuation of regulation <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Continuation of the board for 12 years b. Updating board member training <p>HB 1535 would postpone the expiration of the SSB until September 1, 2031. There would be the creation of updated training for board members and revision of current complaint information regarding violations, and updates to the provisions used for dispute resolution. HB 1535 would require the SSB to establish a process to allow the commissioner to determine whether to provide assistance in prosecution. HB 1535 would also require the attorney general to sample some cases the SSB helped with to assess that appropriate procedure was followed.</p>	
<p>HB 1540 By: Thompson, Senfronia Flynn Lambert Paddie Nevárez</p>	<p>Relating to the continuation and functions of the Texas Funeral Service Commission; authorizing fees.</p>	<p>Public Health</p> <p>Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent</p>	<p>The Texas Funeral Service Commission (TFSC) regulates individuals and businesses that provide funeral and death services. It consists of 11 employees, two of whom travel throughout the state to conduct inspections. In 2001, the Sunset Commission gave a scathing review of the Commission, but the latest iteration shows significant progress. In 2018, alongside a recommendation to continue the agency for another 12 years, the Sunset Commission made several recommendations for the TFSC that are provided for by this bill.</p> <p>HB 1540 continues the TFSC with additional language requiring the standardization of licensing requirements, clarification of the TFSC's authority to protect the public, and discontinuation of TFSC's authority to regulate non-perpetual cemeteries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • repeals TFSC's authority to issue provisional licenses to out of state applicants • requires the agency to adopt a staggered license renewal process • authorizes the TFSC to take disciplinary action against facilities under their purview who are practicing without a license • authorizes the TFSC to require an issued refund from a license holder to a person harmed by a license holder's violation or failure to fulfill terms of an agreement. • removes fee-setting authority from statute and places it under the TFSC's authority • reduces the frequency for inspection from two years to three years for a licensed crematory or funeral establishment • increases the frequency by at which TFSC reports are required from biennially to annually • loses authority over non-perpetual cemeteries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ removes the member representing a registered cemetery and introduces a member who represents a crematory • adds a section to address the confidentiality of complaint information • adds provisions to allow for the duplicate licensures necessary to comply with requirements • adds provisions allowing a funeral director to direct an unlicensed person to remove a body, with the stipulation that the funeral director will be held accountable <p>The provisions of this bill would incur a cost of \$500 from the general revenue per fiscal year due to the decrease in revenue from the discontinuation of non-perpetual care cemeteries.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Sharon Jacob 920-675-9865 Sharon@TexasLSG.org</p>

<p>HB 1504 By: Paddie</p>	<p>Relating to the continuation and functions of the Texas Medical Board; authorizing a fee.</p>	<p>Public Health</p> <p>Vote: 9 Ayes 1 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>The Texas Medical Board (TMB) licenses and regulates medical practitioners in the state of Texas. The Board is composed of about 185 full-time staff who work throughout the state. HB 1504 allows for the Texas Medical Board to continue for another 12 years with a number of changes to the Board. Notable among these changes is the establishment of a newly created radiology assistant certification. Other changes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a requirement for fingerprint background checks for applicants under the acupuncture and surgical assistant professions • a requirement to establish an expedited licensing process for certain out-of-state applicants • maintenance of a record of outpatient settings in which physicians provide anesthesia • authorization for the extension of a preliminary complaint investigation, with good reason, for up to 15 days after the original completion date • prohibits TMB from resolving a complaint through a remedial plan more than once in five years per license holder • requires the update of a physician's TMB public profile to be updated to include information after a formal complaint, a board issue of a final order regarding a formal complaint, dismissal of a formal complaint, resolution of an investigation culminating in no action <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ requires complaint and investigation information to be removed within 10 working days if no action was taken as a result or the complaint or if the complaint was dismissed • removes the requirement that any TMB charges against anyone under TMB jurisdiction must be in the form of a written affidavit • requires the creation of a radiology assistant certification contingent on the determination of required education and training qualifications for the certificate • revises training requirements for members of the TMB, acupuncture, medical radiological technology, and respiratory care boards <p>An increase of \$15,000 to the general revenue is anticipated as a result of the provisions of this bill due to an increase in application fees for the newly created radiology assistant certificate.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Sharon Jacob 920-675-9865 Sharon@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p>LSG Floor Report For CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS Calendar – Tuesday, April 16, 2019</p>				
<p>HJR 96 By: Tinderholt Smithee Geren Israel Nevárez</p>	<p>Proposing a constitutional amendment to allow the transfer of a law enforcement animal to a qualified caretaker in certain circumstances.</p>	<p>Homeland Security & Public Safety</p> <p>Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>Currently, law enforcement animals go on sale after they fulfill their duties and are retired from their service since they are considered property and the government cannot make a transfer of property without authorizing a fee. These animals, while working as law enforcement, are usually handled by one person and get used to their commands. By putting them up for sale, it separates the animal from the handler who established a relationship with.</p> <p>HJR 96 aims to change the sale of these animals by proposing a constitutional amendment to allow these animals to be gifted to their handlers once the animal retires from service free from any fees. The amendment includes all animals that are considered law enforcement animals. The goal of the amendment is to allow the animals to stay with their handlers and avoid them from going to an unknown owner.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Santiago Cirnigliaro (713) 435-9049 Santiago@TexasLSG.org</p>

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<p>HJR 72 By: White</p>	<p>Proposing a constitutional amendment permitting a person to hold more than one office as a municipal judge at the same time.</p>	<p>Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence Vote: 8 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>Currently, an unelected unpaid municipal judge can only serve on the bench to which they are appointed to. There are concerns that small counties do not even have attorneys living within their city limits, much less have a court within their municipalities. This creates concerns due to some cities not having a court overseeing them. HJR 72 aims to address these concerns by amending the Texas constitution to allow an elected or appointed municipal judge to serve in more than one municipality at a time. This would allow smaller counties to have their own courts and have oversight over their systems.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Santiago Cirnigliaro (713) 435-9049 Santiago@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p>HJR 12 By: Zerwas Davis, Sarah Thompson, Senfronia Morrison Coleman</p>	<p>Proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to increase the maximum bond amount authorized for the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas.</p>	<p>Public Health Vote: 7 Ayes 1 Nays 0 PNV 3 Absent</p>	<p>HJR 5 proposes a constitutional amendment to increase the maximum bond amount authorized by the Texas Public Finance Authority for the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT) from \$3 billion to \$6 billion. This will ensure a stable source of funding for CPRIT for the provision of grants intended for cancer prevention research. Statute will limit CPRIT from appropriating more than \$300 million in grants per fiscal year, aside from unspent funds from previous years. The cost to the state for only the publication of the resolution is \$177,289.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Sharon Jacob 920-675-9865 Sharon@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p>LSG Floor Report For GENERAL STATE Calendar – Tuesday, April 16, 2019</p>				
<p>HB 902 By: Landgraf Phelan Holland Noble Button</p>	<p>Relating to increasing the criminal penalty for assault of a pregnant woman.</p>	<p>Criminal Jurisprudence Vote: 8 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>HB 902 would increase the penalty for an assault offense, from a Class A misdemeanor to a third-degree felony if it is committed against a person the actor knows is pregnant at the time of the offense. The previous penalty carried the penalty of being confined to a county jail for no more than 1 year. HB 902 would increase that to confinement in prison for a term of 2 to 10 years, both with optional fines.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Merci Mohagheghi (713) 382-7007 Merci@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p>HB 8 By: Neave Howard Minjarez Button Lang</p>	<p>Relating to the criminal statute of limitations for certain sexual offenses and the collection, analysis, and preservation of evidence of sexual assault and other sex offenses.</p>	<p>Homeland Security & Public Safety Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>There are current concerns regarding the backlog of rape kits in the state of Texas. There are cases of rape kits that have gone untested for so long that once they are tested and the perpetrator is found, the statute of limitations has expired, and the offender cannot be charged. This poses a threat to public safety since these people are still free on the streets as well as it does not allow the victim to achieve full closure or a sense of safety.</p> <p>In the current procedures, if a kit has not been tested within 90 days, then it is considered a backlog kit. Currently, as soon as the kit is collected then the statute of limitations begins whether the victim has even decided to report or not. If a victim decides they do not want to report the crime, then the kit is sent to a forensic warehouse and kept for 2 years. There are concerns that the state does not actually know the full scope of how many rape kits have not been tested or how many rape kits are in Texas.</p> <p>HB 8 is an omnibus bill that aims to address the backlog of rape kits by addressing several concerns and amending certain procedures within the current system.</p> <p>HB 8 aims to streamline the process of testing for rape kits by establishing an audit to determine how many rape kits are in Texas currently, and what the status of these kits are. The bill aims to address the timeline for submission for these rape kits by stating that rape kits must be collected within 7 days by law enforcement and tested within 90 days</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Santiago Cirnigliaro (713) 435-9049 Santiago@TexasLSG.org</p>

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			<p>by the lab to be uploaded to the online database where the information of the kit is kept. The bill also addresses the maintenance of rape kits for unreported cases. If a victim does not report the crime, the kit would be kept in the warehouse for 5 years instead of just 2. The third thing the bill aims to do is to allow for the statute of limitations to not begin on the crime for a rape kit that has not been tested until that kit is tested. This would allow for victims whose rape kits are on backlogs to still have an opportunity to have justice served as well as keep criminal who commit these crimes off the streets.</p> <p>The current fiscal note for the bill is to streamline this process. By allocating the proper funding, the Department of Public Safety will be able to hire proper personnel as well as have accessible funds to properly test the kits in a timely manner. The Legislative Budget Board cannot anticipate the exact costs to streamline the system but anticipates for the fiscal note to be significant.</p> <p>The goal of the bill is to streamline the current backlog of rape kits and put Texas back on the front line for addressing sexual assaults and providing victims with a chance to feel safe.</p>	
<p>HB 616 By: Neave</p>	<p>Relating to reimbursement for a certain portion of a forensic medical examination of a sexual assault survivor and for the evidence collection kit required for the examination.</p>	<p>Homeland Security & Public Safety</p> <p>Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>The current reimbursement process for rape kits In Texas has been one of the reasons there is a backlog in rape kits. The Crime Victims Compensation fund (CVC) currently covers the expense of conducting the rape kit exam. The reimbursement process is as follows: The Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) conduct the forensic exam and request a reimbursement from the law enforcement agency. The law enforcement agency asks for a reimbursement from the CVC. The CVC then reimburses the law enforcement to which then reimburses the SANE nurses or hospital which conducted the exam.</p> <p>HB 616 aims to expedite the reimbursement process by allowing the hospitals to request the reimbursements directly from the CVC. The hospitals are already capable of doing the paperwork to request the reimbursement and this would allow the law enforcement agencies to focus on the investigation. HB 616 aims to streamline the reimbursement process and decrease the backlog in current rape kits by expediting this process.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Santiago Cirnigliaro (713) 435-9049 Santiago@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p>HB 2298 By: Parker Button Shaheen Leach Meyer</p>	<p>Relating to designating January 28 as Sexual Assault Survivors Day.</p>	<p>Culture, Recreation & Tourism</p> <p>Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>In efforts to promote awareness of sexual assault prevention as well as recognize the courage of survivors, HB 2298 would designate January 28th as Sexual Assault Survivors Day.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Eliot Davis (713) 855-3285 Eli@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p>HB 979 By: Hernandez Smith</p>	<p>Relating to designating January 28 as Sexual Assault Survivors Day.</p>	<p>Homeland Security & Public Safety</p> <p>Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>DNA databases are generated and used to identify offenders of certain crimes. In previous sessions, the Texas legislature created a DNA database to hold DNA from offenders who committed certain crimes such as child enticement, aggravated kidnapping, and assault or family violence offenses. However, certain crimes were left off that database and DNA is not being collected or stored. Due to the nature of reoffending on these crimes, there have been concerns that they have not been added to the collection for this DNA database.</p> <p>HB 979 aims to address these concerns by adding the crimes of assault, deadly conduct, and unlawful restraint to the DNA collection database. The DNA from the offender would only be collected upon final conviction and be stored with the rest of the specimens. The goal of the bill is to potentially find re offenders faster by matching their stored DNA to the other crime scenes. This would allow for the victims to get closure as well as assist law enforcement to get</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Santiago Cirnigliaro (713) 435-9049 Santiago@TexasLSG.org</p>

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			reoffenders off the streets.	
HB 467 By: Hernandez	Relating to sexual assault and domestic violence awareness continuing education for cosmetology license holders.	Licensing & Administrative Procedures Vote: 8 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 3 Absent	Salons are some of the few places that victims of sexual abuse and domestic violence victims are allowed to go to without their abusers. It is believed that with the relationship that the victim may have with their stylist, a victim may ask them for help since they are not a family member and may trust them. However, cosmetologists are not currently receiving any domestic violence or sexual abuse training while completing their education to receive their cosmetology license. HB 467 aims to provide cosmetologists with a clear understanding of what domestic violence and sexual assault may look like as well as provide cosmetologists with possible resources to assist their clients. HB 467 would incorporate sexual abuse and domestic violence training into the human trafficking curriculum that cosmetologists take. The goal of the bill is to potentially save lives by giving victims simple resources such as a hotline number or a recommendation for a domestic violence class.	Favorable Evaluated by: Santiago Cirnigliaro (713) 435-9049 Santiago@TexasLSG.org
HB 667 By: King, Ken Flynn	Relating to the prosecution of and punishment for the offense of sexual assault; enhancing a criminal penalty.	Criminal Jurisprudence Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent	HB 667 would increase the offense of sexual assault, of what is currently in the Penal Code, from second degree to first degree felony if the victim was a person to whom the actor was prohibited from marrying or purporting to marry, and would add the language: or a person with whom the actor was prohibited from engaging in sexual intercourse or deviate sexual intercourse and knows to be of family relation, whether by blood or adoption. This addition is an attempt to bring clarity when determining whether the victim is someone with the whom the actor is prohibited from engaging in sexual conduct.	Favorable Evaluated by: Merci Mohagheghi (713) 382-7007 Merci@TexasLSG.org
HB 1735 By: Howard	Relating to sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking at public and private postsecondary educational institutions; providing an administrative penalty.	Higher Education Vote: 10 Ayes 1 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent	There is a growing number of reports of rape and sexual assaults that occur across college campuses in the nation. There have been steps as of 2015 in the Texas Legislature, to increase reform to help victims of sexual assault on college campuses by requiring public and private institutions of higher education to provide a policy for campus sexual assault. HB 1735 aims to provide a comprehensive update to the above-mentioned required policies on institutions of higher education. The update would account for a necessary follow up by institutions of higher education to prevent and respond to any allegation of sexual assault or harassment, stalking, and dating violence. This will further support survivors and educate students to provide for a far disciplinary process. HB 1745 will require institutions of higher education to provide to both the accuser and accused with counseling, ability to drop a course where both the parties are enrolled in and provide an investigation for both parties. Every student on the campus of an institution of higher education deserves the right to a safe environment while pursuing their academic career through established equitable procedures that address sexual violence.	Favorable Evaluated by: Marissa Gorena (956) 867-7232 Marissa@texaslsg.org
HB 1661 By: Herrero Goldman	Relating to the prosecution of the criminal offense of continuous violence against the family.	Criminal Jurisprudence Vote: 8 Ayes	HB 1661 would provide for the prosecution to pursue charges for an offense of continuous violence against the family in any county in which the individual intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly caused bodily injury to certain other persons. This would close a loophole in which increased penalty can currently only be applied for continuous violence against the family in a single county as well as requiring that the victim to go back to the county where the assault took place.	Favorable Evaluated by: Merci Mohagheghi (713) 382-7007 Merci@TexasLSG.org

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		0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent		
HB 531 By: Miller	Relating to the retention by hospitals and physicians of certain medical records of a sexual assault victim.	Public Health Vote: 10 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent	Currently, hospitals and physicians are only required to keep medical records for 10 years for all patients, including sexual assault victims. Due to the backlog of sexual assault kits, this time frame may not be enough to ensure that victims receive their appropriate rights to due process. To put in context the scope of this issue, in 2014, there were 18,756 sexual assault cases reported in Texas involving 19,834 victims. HB 53 addresses this issue by amending the Health and Safety Code and the Occupations Code to prohibit hospitals or physicians from destroying medical records from the forensic medical examination of a sexual assault victim for 15 years following the initial creation date of the record. Implementing the provisions of HB 53 should not result in a significant fiscal impact to the state or local governments.	Favorable Evaluated by: Sharon Jacob 920-675-9865 Sharon@TexasLSG.org
HB 1589 By: Ortega Button Allison Guerra Sheffield	Relating to providing notification to certain pregnant women regarding their eligibility for coverage under Medicaid and the Healthy Texas Women program.	Public Health Vote: 10 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent	Medicaid for pregnant women only lasts until two months after the baby is born. At this point, the mother is automatically enrolled in Healthy Texas Women (HTW), a state program for uninsured women. The mother is notified of this switch during the final month of her Medicaid eligibility, that is, one month after the baby is born. Despite the automatic enrollment, participation in HTW by this auto-enrolled population remains low. It is speculated that the low participation may be due to the fact that the mother has many other things to worry about during the first month after the baby's birth and may not have the time or energy to educate herself on HTW and how to best utilize the service. HB 1589 addresses the issue by amending the Government Code to instruct HHSC to consult with the Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Task Force to determine when and how women are notified of HTW program benefits after auto-enrollment but recommends the notice to be provided to the mother before the third trimester of her pregnancy. HB 1589 requires HHSC to include in the written notice: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reassurance that the woman has continuous Medicaid coverage through the second month after the birth of the child • the woman's eligibility status for HTW • notice that, if she is eligible, enrollment will be automatic and will begin upon the end of her Medicaid coverage. This earlier notification may allow for mothers to be aware of the upcoming switch in programs at a time that is more conducive to planning. The requirements of HB 1589 should not have a fiscal impact as they could be accomplished using existing resources.	Favorable Evaluated by: Sharon Jacob 920-675-9865 Sharon@TexasLSG.org
HB 85 By: González, Mary	Relating to the prosecution of the offense of indecency with a child.	Criminal Jurisprudence Vote: 5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 4 Absent	HB 85 will simply take out from what is commonly called the Romeo and Juliet law the term "and of the opposite sex" from the Penal Code. This is to provide adolescents in a same-sex relationship the opportunity to use the affirmative defense to prosecution as it is already applied to certain consensual relationships between individuals of the opposite sex and of similar age.	Favorable Evaluated by: Merci Mohagheghi (713) 382-7007 Merci@TexasLSG.org

<p>HB 39 By: Zerwas Davis, Sarah Thompson, Senfronia Morrison Turner, Chris</p>	<p>Relating to the repeal of certain time limitations on the award of grants by the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas Oversight Committee.</p>	<p>Public Health Vote: 7 Ayes 1 Nays 0 PNV 3 Absent</p>	<p>HB 39 repeals the section of the Health and Safety code that blocks the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas from awarding money after August of 2022. This reverses SB 81 of the 85th legislative session and reauthorizes the program to avoid a lapse in services. According to the Institute, a single year of lapsed funding could result in lack of access to 320,000 Texans across all 254 counties as well as a loss of \$720 million and 10,000 jobs.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Sharon Jacob 920-675-9865 Sharon@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p>HB 492 By: Shine Darby Murphy Stephenson Raney</p>	<p>Relating to a temporary local option exemption from ad valorem taxation of a portion of the appraised value of certain property damaged by a disaster.</p>	<p>Ways & Means Vote: 10 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>HB 492 amends the Tax Code to provide a local option percentage property tax exemption on a portion of appraisal value on qualified property damaged by disaster that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is located in declared disaster area, • Is improvement to real property, personal property used for production of income, or manufactured homes, • Has greater than or equal to 15% damage according to the Chief Appraiser. <p>The bill proposes four levels of exemption based on extent of damage ranging from 15% to 100% exemption. Taxing unit must adopt within 60 days of the disaster and the value remains exempted until the property is reappraised.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Eliot Davis (713) 855-3285 Eli@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p>HB 449 By: Turner, Chris Neave</p>	<p>Relating to a requirement that a public or private institution of higher education include a disciplinary notation on a student's transcript under certain circumstances.</p>	<p>Higher Education Vote: 8 Ayes 1 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent</p>	<p>Currently, several Texas institutions, including schools within the University of Texas and Texas Tech Systems, notate on a student's transcript if the student has committed a code of conduct violation resulting in expulsion or suspension. However, the use of notations is not universal among all Texas institutions of higher education. As a result, institutions may not be made aware of a transfer students expulsion or suspension, even for incidents as serious as sexual assault or battery. They may also be unaware that the student withdrew during an active disciplinary investigation.</p> <p>HB 449 amends the Education Code by adding a section for certain disciplinary notation to be required on student transcripts. This bill addresses the concerns regarding students who have been suspended or expelled or have pending disciplinary charges and withdrew from the institution and want to enroll in another to make sure the next university the student intends on enrolling in is aware.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Marissa Gorena (956) 867-7232 Marissa@texaslsg.org</p>
<p>HB 871 By: Price Guillen Sheffield Ashby González, Mary</p>	<p>Relating to use of telemedicine medical service by certain trauma facilities.</p>	<p>Public Health Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent</p>	<p>Current regulations require a hospital with a level 4 trauma designation (the lowest level of trauma designations) to have at all times a physician standing by or able to report to the ER within 30 minutes. Many hospitals with this designation, most rural hospitals for example, contract visiting physicians to satisfy this requirement when the local physicians are unavailable. There are concerns that the contracted physicians may not always have the training and experience necessary for this position. Especially considering the possibility of a misaligned level of experience, this is a very costly solution. Telemedicine offers a far more efficient and cost-effective answer, but current statutes do not allow hospitals that use ER telemedicine to maintain their trauma center status.</p> <p>HB 871 attempts to address this issue by amending the Health and Safety Code to allow health facilities in counties with a population of fewer than 30,000 to be carved out of the in-person physician availability requirement for trauma centers. Additionally, the executive commissioner of the HHSC will be prohibited from creating rules that require an in-person physician with appropriate training and experience to satisfy the requirements for a trauma center designation. The executive commissioner will also be prohibited from prohibiting the use of telemedicine services enumerated by the bill.</p> <p>These changes will allow for 105 hospitals in Texas to maintain or acquire a trauma center designation while simultaneously lowering their costs through the use of telemedicine, increasing access to care for many Texans. The physician that is on-call through the telemedicine service will be able to instruct and advise a physician, advanced</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Sharon Jacob 920-675-9865 Sharon@TexasLSG.org</p>

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			<p>practice registered nurse, or physician assistant who is located on-site. As the provisions of this bill can be implemented with existing resources according to DSHS and HHSC, there should be no fiscal impact to the state or local government.</p>	
<p>HB 885 By: Raney Stucky Anchia Harless Lambert</p>	<p>Relating to wage requirements for community rehabilitation programs participating in the purchasing from people with disabilities program.</p>	<p>International Relations & Economic Development</p> <p>Vote: 7 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent</p>	<p>The Texas Purchasing from People with Disabilities program, run through the Texas Workforce Commission, provides employment opportunities to individuals with a disability to be employed within Community Rehabilitation Programs. Community Rehabilitation Programs are government entities which provide services and products to local communities such as medical test kits, landscaping, office supplies, etc. Currently, individuals with disabilities, which may prevent them from performing work tasks at equal rate to another employee, are not required to be paid federal minimum wage in these Community Rehabilitation Programs. Many of these programs are already providing minimum wage to its employees with disabilities but there are currently 222 employees being paid less than the federal minimum wage through these programs. HB885 aims to require <i>all</i> programs to pay at least the federal minimum wage. HB885 would not impact other private entities.</p> <p>The TWC will provide assistance for these Community Rehabilitation Programs to develop a strategic plan to reach minimum wage payment for its workers with disabilities by September of 2022. The TWC will also provide information regarding how increase in wage could impact their federal or state benefits in addition to providing referrals to a benefits counselor upon request. Community Rehabilitation Programs may request to extend their deadline by up to 12 months if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • they have been in collaboration with the TWC to implement their transition to a federal minimum wage and have made progress towards that end goal • displayed their intent to be in the best interest of their workers with disabilities • provided a new transition plan including how the extension will help the program accomplish minimum wage for its employees • request the extension before March of 2022 <p>HB885 requires that the Community Rehabilitation Programs retain all workers with disabilities to the best of their ability after wages are increased. If the program is unable to retain all of their initial workers, the TWC and any pertinent government entity, will work with the former workers to gain access to alternative employment or job training to find a job which provides minimum wage. Through HB885 the TWC will also be required, upon request, to assist any worker with disabilities to secure a job which pays minimum wage regardless of their participation in a Community Rehabilitation Program. If the Community Rehabilitation Program, along with the TWC, determines that an employee's circumstances might lead to their departure from the program and their inability to access employment elsewhere, this particular instance will be exempt from paying the federal minimum wage. Any future participants in the program must pay their employees with disabilities at least the federal minimum wage in order to participate.</p> <p>HB885 ensures the dignity and worth of work from an individual with disabilities is upheld through these Community Rehabilitation Programs.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Ali Schoon 515-313-3712 Ali@TexasLSG.org</p>


<p>HB 861 By: Anchia</p>	<p>Relating to the calculation of penalties and interest resulting from the final determination of an ad valorem tax appeal that changes a property owner's tax liability.</p>	<p>Ways & Means Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent</p>	<p>Currently, a taxpayer can appeal a property appraisal value in district court provided they pay, on-time, either: taxes as assessed; amount of taxes not in dispute; or amount equal to prior year. However, the penalties and interest start accruing from this original deadline if appeal verdict results in owed taxes. HB 861 proposes penalties and interest would start accruing only after the newly established date of delinquency, removing taxpayer barriers to the appraisal process.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Eliot Davis (713) 855-3285 Eli@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p>HB 1896 By: Phelan</p>	<p>Relating to the applicability of the requirements relating to the adoption of a new state agency rule by the Parks and Wildlife Department.</p>	<p>Culture, Recreation & Tourism Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>HB 1896 would add Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to the state agencies exempt from a certain provision currently barring them from adopting rules that have a fiscal note showing costs on regulated persons. This would allow TPWD the discretion to collect fees and fund newly established programs as the TCEQ, RRC, Racing Commission, PUC, GLO, Dept of Agriculture and Department of Motor Vehicles were similarly permitted by the 85th session.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Eliot Davis (713) 855-3285 Eli@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p>HB 2166 By: Kacal</p>	<p>Relating to the administration of seed and plant certification in this state by the State Seed and Plant Certification Council and the Texas Crop Improvement Association.</p>	<p>Agriculture & Livestock Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>Seed certification is essential for farmers to ensure that there will be a high degree of certainty their crop varieties will produce in uniform. Maintaining the genetic purity, identity, and quality of seed and plant varieties is a voluntary job that the seed certification program currently does. The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) is the designated state seed certifying agency, as there is only allowed one in every state. There are has been an increase of fees associated with the seed certification program and to help with these fees, HB 2166 aims to transfer the seed certification program to a council and designated non-profit; the State Seed and Plant Certification Council and the Texas Crop Improvement Association.</p> <p>There are 36 states administer the Seed Certification Program through a non-profit Crop Improvement Association and HB 2166 would make Texas the 37th state, as Texas is only 1 of the 2 who use a state agency for this process.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Marissa Gorena (956) 867-7232 Marissa@texaslsg.org</p>
<p>HB 3063 By: Smithee Tinderholt Geren</p>	<p>Relating to the transfer of a retired law enforcement animal.</p>	<p>Homeland Security & Public Safety Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>Currently, law enforcement animals go on sale after they fulfill their duties and are retired from their service since they are considered property and the government cannot make a transfer of property without authorizing a fee. These animals, while working as law enforcement, are usually handled by one person and get used to their commands. By putting them up for sale, it separates the animal from the handler who established a relationship with.</p> <p>HB 3063 amends a section of the government code that prohibits the gifting of animals, since they are considered property. The bill allows local and state governments to gift the law enforcement animals to their handlers free of charge. The goal of the bill is to allow the animals to stay with their handlers and avoid them from going to an unknown owner.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Santiago Cirnigliaro (713) 435-9049 Santiago@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p>HB 2963 By: Clardy</p>	<p>Relating to the conveyance of certain state forest land in Cherokee County under the control of the board of regents of The Texas A&M University System.</p>	<p>Higher Education Vote: 11 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>There is a certain piece of state forest land in Cherokee County that is not currently authorized by the Texas A&M University System and Texas A&M would like to swap land, that is of the same value and measurement, with an individual who owns that track of land.</p> <p>HB 2963 would authorize the trading of this specific piece of noncontiguous land between the individual and the Texas A&M University System as it would be beneficial for both parties. This bill would provide Texas A&M access to that land.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Marissa Gorena (956) 867-7232 Marissa@texaslsg.org</p>

<p>HB 3405 By: Johnson, Jarvis</p>	<p>Relating to the establishment of a sickle cell task force.</p>	<p>Public Health Vote: 8 Ayes 1 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent</p>	<p>In Texas, Sickle Cell Disease and Sickle Cell Trait screening are part of the comprehensive newborn screening that is given to every baby born in Texas. Around 180 Texan children are diagnosed with SCD every year and over 5,000 are identified as having the genetic Sickle Cell Trait (SCT). Because SCD affects such a small percentage of the population and because it's most common in individuals of African descent, it has not received the appropriate attention and awareness in the medical community or in the general population.</p> <p>HB 3405 amends the Health and Safety Code to propose creating a Sickle Cell Task Force in accordance with the recommendations of the Sickle Cell Advisory Committee that was established in 2016. Working under the Executive Commissioner of the HHSC, the Task Force will work with DSHS to develop statewide sickle cell awareness campaigns, institute statewide sickle cell surveillance, partner with state healthcare agencies and programs to improve awareness of SCD and SCT as well as access to services and utilize community health workers to improve patient care. The Task Force will be composed of seven individuals: two members from SCD-related community-based organizations, two hematology-specialized physicians, two members of the public who either have SCD or is a parent of an individual with SCD or SCT, and one representative of a health-related institution. Members of the task force will not be compensated but will be eligible for reimbursement for necessary expenses incurred while performing the duties of the task force.</p> <p>The Task Force will compile its findings, recommendations, and summary of actions into a report submitted to the governor and the legislature.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Sharon Jacob 920-675-9865 Sharon@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p>HB 2032 By: Turner, John Allison Coleman Price Sheffield</p>	<p>Relating to the health literacy advisory committee and health literacy in the state health plan.</p>	<p>Public Health Vote: 9 Ayes 1 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>Health literacy, as defined by the Affordable Care Act and HB 2032, is the degree to which individuals have the capacity to obtain, process, and understand basic health information and health services needed to make appropriate health decisions. Limited health literacy has been shown to lead to negative health outcomes. However, according to the US Department of Health and Human Services, a third of all US adults, around 77 million people, have basic to below basic health literacy. This means that they would struggle with following directions on a prescription drug label. Limited health literacy affects Texans of all ages as well as racial and ethnic groups, but disproportionately affects Hispanic populations and elderly populations. Publicly insured and underinsured individuals were also shown to have lower health literacy skills than privately insured individuals. Low health literacy is estimated to cost the US economy billions per year. Addressing this issue could allow Texas to both save money and improve the health of its residents.</p> <p>HB 2032 aims to do so by amending the Health and Safety code to define "health literacy" and propose the creation of a state Health Literacy Advisory Committee. The Committee will be responsible for creating a plan for increasing health literacy in Texas and updating it at least once every two years. In doing so, the Committee will study the economic impact of low health literacy on state healthcare programs and insurance coverage on Texans. The bill language also requires the Committee to identify risk factors for low health literacy, examine methods for various stakeholders to address the issue, identify ways to use plain language instructions, and identify ways in which increasing health literacy can improve outcomes.</p> <p>The Committee must consist of representation of various stakeholders including the academic community, consumer groups, health plans, pharmacies, and the professional associations of physicians, dentists, hospitals, and nurses. Committee members will not receive compensation for their service but will be eligible for the reimbursement of travel expenses. The Committee will be subject to the state open meetings statute.</p> <p>No significant fiscal impact to the state or local governments as a result of this bill is anticipated.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Sharon Jacob 920-675-9865 Sharon@TexasLSG.org</p>

<p>HB 2968 By: Frullo Howard</p>	<p>Relating to procedures for the issuance of certain private activity bonds.</p>	<p>Higher Education Vote: 10 Ayes 1 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>Currently, the demand for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's (THECB) access loan program has grown as the availability of their tax-exempt bond funding has remained stagnant, which places limitations on funding to support the program. HB 2968 increases THECB bonding authority from 75 million per project to 200 million. Doing so will ensure adequate funding to the program to guarantee loans are accessible to meet the needs of students achieving their higher education.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Marissa Gorena (956) 867-7232 Marissa@texaslsg.org</p>
<p>HB 2868 By: Phelan</p>	<p>Relating to the procurement of interior design services by a governmental entity.</p>	<p>State Affairs Vote: 13 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>HB 2868 will add interior design as a professional service under the Professional Services Procurement Act. HB 2868 clarifies that this will only become applicable to contracts entered into on or after October 1, 2019. The purpose of this addition is that a government entity must select a professional service provider on the basis of demonstrated competence and qualifications to perform the services, which HB 2868 will help to ensure.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Merci Mohagheghi (713) 382-7007 Merci@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p>HB 2027 By: Bowers Allen</p>	<p>Relating to information regarding the procedures and available resources for the sealing of juvenile records.</p>	<p>Juvenile Justice & Family Issues Vote: 8 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>Currently, for all juveniles referred to the juvenile probation department or discharged without adjudication, the department must provide a written explanation of the process to seal juvenile records to the child or the child's guardian. This bureaucratic process is difficult for individuals to navigate without additional help and may result in the juvenile's records not being sealed. Juveniles who do not have their records sealed experience significant barriers to success later in life. HB2027 adds to statute to require these entities provide a list of resources (including attorneys willing to help at low or no cost) to assist in getting the juvenile's records sealed. In addition, the department must orally explain the process of sealing records and discuss any questions the child or child's parent/guardian may have. HB2074 will require the Texas Juvenile Justice Department to publish on their website a brochure which explains the process of sealing juvenile records and include a list of resources to assist in the process. The State Bar of Texas will also include a list of attorneys who offer representation to individuals who apply for their records to be sealed on their website; along with a description of which attorneys provide representation in the administrative judicial regions. HB2074 aims to guide children and their parents through the process of sealing juvenile records; removing barriers and providing assistance through the bureaucratic process by engaging local resources.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Ali Schoon 515-313-3712 Ali@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p>HB 1051 By: VanDeaver Ashby Longoria Zerwas White</p>	<p>Relating to an adult education program provided under an adult high school diploma and industry certification charter school program, eligibility of certain students for Foundation School Program benefits, and reporting requirements regarding certain students.</p>	<p>Public Education Vote: 12 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>For the past 5 years, Adult High School and Industry Certification Pilot programs have exceeded expectations in helping Texas meet its 60X30TX goals by graduating more than 500 students. Graduates are making more money to provide for their families and contribute to the economic development of Texas. HB 1051 amends the Adult High School Diploma and Industry Certification Charter School Program section to establish permanency for these once pilot programs and addresses eligibility, funding, and procedures for TEA to ensure the program is carried out efficiently. Prior to the expansion of the programs, HB 1051 requires the TEA to consider an expansion amendment submitted by June 30th and notify non-profit entity by August 31st of the year that the Texas Legislature appropriates money to fund the programs. HB 1051 allows attendance for students who are 18 and older who have not been enrolled in high school within the last 9 months to be coded as dropouts upon enrollment. Each school district and open-enrollment charter must report number of students enrolled in these programs annually through Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS).</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Marissa Gorena (956) 867-7232 Marissa@texaslsg.org</p>

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			<p>While prioritizing students without a GED for enrollment, students with GED have an opportunity to receive their high school diploma. These programs are 75% teacher lead, free child care for students, life coaching with a required 1 coach per 100 students' ratio, mental health counselling, and support for students with disabilities.</p> <p>HB 1051 provides a permanent opportunity for adults who endured difficulties during their time in high school to obtain their high school diploma and reap the benefits of a higher salary to better provide for themselves and their families.</p>	
<p>HB 14 By: Stucky Thompson, Senfronia King, Phil Meyer Minjarez</p>	<p>Relating to a student loan repayment assistance program for certain full-time peace officers in this state.</p>	<p>Higher Education</p> <p>Vote: 10 Ayes 1 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>There is a current shortage of individuals who choose to go into law enforcement or choose to be a Peace Officer in the state. Peace Officers play a vital role to ensure the safety and security for the public in our state. This bill would aid with the shortage of Peace Officers across the state by creating a loan repayment assistance program for those that qualify. The program is for individuals who obtain a minimum of 60 credit hours at either a Community College or 4-year institution and go on to become a Peace Officer and serve at least one year or maintain full-time employment that could apply to the Coordinating Board for student loan assistance.</p> <p>HB 14 amends the Education Code by adding a subsection for the Peace Officer Loan Repayment Assistance Program of an amount equal to the lesser of either \$4,000 or 20% of the total amount of assistance needed the applicant stated in the application to address the shortage of Peace Officers in the state.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Marissa Gorena (956) 867-7232 Marissa@texaslsg.org</p>
<p>HB 333 By: Nevárez</p>	<p>Relating to an optional county fee on vehicle registration to be used by a regional mobility authority.</p>	<p>Transportation</p> <p>Vote: 11 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent</p>	<p>Certain counties along the Texas-Mexico border are experiencing a lack of resources regarding transportation and mobility. To make transportation more efficient, many entities including transportation officials, business owners, and residents, are interested in setting up a Regional Mobility Authority in the Middle Rio Grande area— Dimmit, Frio, Kinney, Maverick, Uvalde, Val Verde, and Zavala Counties.</p> <p>The purpose of HB 333 is to facilitate setting up an RMA in the future by statutorily allowing the imposition of an additional vehicle registration fee for transportation reform projects. The fee mentioned will not be implemented until an RMA is in place in the Middle Rio Grande.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Sophia Creede (832) 865-4774 Sophia@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p>HB 191 By: Stephenson González, Mary Stucky Anderson, Charles "Doc"</p>	<p>Relating to the disposal of pesticides.</p>	<p>Agriculture & Livestock</p> <p>Vote: 11 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent</p>	<p>Currently there are some areas of Texas where the disposal of unwanted pesticides is not being done in a manner that would be prevented from seeping into ground water. There is no current program to dispose of pesticides and it is left up to the rancher or farmer to pay for the disposal and cleanup of unwanted pesticides. There is a lack of organized collection sites for unwanted pesticides, and there is a lack of how this process should be done which leads individuals to store unwanted pesticides in unsafe conditions.</p> <p>HB 191 would amend the Agriculture Code to require the Department of Agriculture (TDA) to work with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service to provide a pesticide waste and pesticide container collection statewide. This bill would allow for services relating to pesticide waste and pesticide container collection to be contracted, and for \$400,000 to be used for this pesticide waste cleanup service.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Marissa Gorena (956) 867-7232 Marissa@texaslsg.org</p>
<p>HB 369 By: Cain Longoria Dutton Oliverson Frullo</p>	<p>Relating to jurisdiction in a suit for adoption of a child and the mandatory transfer of certain suits affecting the parent-child relationship to the court in which a suit for adoption is pending.</p>	<p>Juvenile Justice & Family Issues</p> <p>Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV</p>	<p>Currently, an adoption suit can be filed in the county where the child resides or in the county where the petitioner resides regardless of if another court has continuous jurisdiction. The court is not required to transfer any suit regarding the parent-child relationship to the court where the adoption suit is filed. HB369 changes statute to state that if the adoption suit is filed in the child's county of residence and requests a transfer, the court which has continuing, exclusive jurisdiction shall transfer any proceedings to that court and the court with the adoption suit now has jurisdiction. This helps remove jurisdictional issues which sometimes arise from the differences in statute.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Ali Schoon 515-313-3712 Ali@TexasLSG.org</p>

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HB 66 By: Romero	Relating to student success-based funding recommendations for certain continuing workforce education courses offered by public junior colleges.	Higher Education Vote: 11 Ayes o Nays o PNV o Absent	<p>The Texas model for Community College Success Points bases its model off the fact there needs to be a measure for the performance of the institutions and the way the institutions promote their efforts to increase the rate of student progression. This is measured by milestone completion by the students to gauge the community college's progress with their students. The milestones include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College Ready • 1st College level math • 1st college level reading/writing • 15 School Credit Hours • 30 School Credit Hours • Degree or Certificate • Degree or Certificate in Critical Field (STEM) • Transfer student with 15 School Credit Hours <p>Under the current system, any program that does not meet the 360 contact hours requirement is not eligible for funding. Most community college programs in the state are less than 360, so they are not able to receive funding.</p> <p>HB 66 aims to allow non-credit continuing education workforce programs below 360 contact hours eligible for formula funding. HB 66 proposes that the funding formulas be expanded for the Texas Community College Success Points funding formula by amending the Education Code to require the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to recommend an appropriation of student success-based incentive funds for public junior colleges. This expansion in HB 66 would provide for inclusion, and expand the opportunities for students as funding increases, therefore expanding the workforce in Texas and keeps the state on track for the 60x30 plan.</p>	Favorable Evaluated by: Marissa Gorena (956) 867-7232 Marissa@texaslsg.org
HB 982 By: Parker	Relating to the administration of "pay for success" contracts for state agencies.	State Affairs Vote: 13 Ayes o Nays o PNV o Absent	Currently, the implementation of "pay for success" contracts, also known as social impact bonds, to state agencies requires that the legislature would have to appropriate funds for this specific purpose. HB 982 would continue this source of capitol but would also allow for gifts, grants, and donations to be received. HB 982 would also clarify that a contract executed under the authority of this section is not enforceable until funds are received. HB 982 would amend HB 3014 from the 84th session to reflect what its original intention was, to allow for these pay for success trust funds to receive private sector dollars.	Favorable Evaluated by: Merci Mohagheghi (713) 382-7007 Merci@TexasLSG.org
HB 2771 By: Lozano	Relating to the authority of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to issue permits for the discharge into water in this state of produced water, hydrostatic test water, and gas plant effluent resulting	Environmental Regulation Vote: 8 Ayes o Nays o PNV 1 Absent	<p>Under current law, oil operators must get permits from both the Railroad Commission of Texas and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to discharge dirty, chemical water into state waters—ponds, bays, inlets, lakes, estuaries, springs, creeks, streams, marshes, canals, reservoirs, rivers, other bodies of surface water, inland/coastal, natural/artificial, fresh/salt. In 2018, EPA found that Centralized Wastewater Treatment Plant (CWTP) standards for wastewaters from oil and gas as insufficient due to all the chemicals in the oil and gas wastewaters; this is currently being investigated.</p> <p>HB 2771 would allow TCEQ to issue permits for fracking water and other water from the oil and gas industry, filled</p>	Unfavorable Evaluated by: Sophia Creede (832) 865-4774 Sophia@TexasLSG.org

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	from certain oil and gas activities.		<p>with unknown contaminants, to be discharged into surface water, potentially polluting Texas' groundwater drinking supply. The EPA is investigating potential changes to wastewater discharge permits currently and HB 2771 is trying to transfer delegation authority from the EPA to the TCEQ. Placing TCEQ in charge will loosen the regulatory framework and oil and gas industries would only have to obtain one permit. This sets a dangerous precedent and puts the safety of safe drinking waters around the state at risk. In addition, other states have dozens of employees that oversee this process; the fiscal note for HB 2177 suggests that TCEQ would only utilize nine (9) employees for the process, allowing this program to go under-regulated by the agency.</p> <p>The process oil and gas companies go through to dump wastewater will be easier, but once waterways are contaminated, there is no turning back. Furthermore, because TCEQ must get its power from the EPA, the state must request from EPA the power to run this program on its own. However, that transfer of power would come within a year of the bill's passage – well before the TCEQ could prove it is capable of performing the permitting processes outlined in the bill.</p>	
HB 1854 By: Dutton	Relating to loss of continuing, exclusive jurisdiction of a court in certain suits affecting the parent-child relationship.	<p>Juvenile Justice & Family Issues</p> <p>Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	Currently, an adoption suit may be filed in a county where the child or filing parent resides regardless of if another court has continuing, exclusive jurisdiction. This is contradicting as then the other court has jurisdiction potentially even after an adoption is rendered. HB1854 seeks to clarify statute so that a court loses continuing, exclusive jurisdiction to modify orders pertaining to the parent-child relationship if an adoption is rendered in the county where the child or the petitioning parents reside. HB1854 clarifies that previous orders of adoption on or after September 1, 2015 and before September 1, 2019 are not subject to this change and their orders are final.	Favorable Evaluated by: Ali Schoon 515-313-3712 Ali@TexasLSG.org
HB 1996 By: Leman	Relating to admonitions given by a court to a defendant before accepting a plea of guilty or nolo contendere.	<p>Criminal Jurisprudence</p> <p>Vote: 8 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	HB 1996 will require that a court make admonitions both orally and in writing to a defendant before accepting a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, and for the court to receive a statement signed by the defendant and their attorney that the defendant understands the admonition and is aware of the consequences of the plea. This would be important in context if the defendant is not a U.S. and that such a plea may result in deportation, the exclusion from admission to the United States, or the denial of naturalization under federal law.	Favorable Evaluated by: Merci Mohagheghi (713) 382-7007 Merci@TexasLSG.org
HB 3323 By: Burns	Relating to requiring a school district to post the district's employment policy on the district's Internet website.	<p>Public Education</p> <p>Vote: 12 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>Currently, school district policies can often have other forms or reference regulations within their employment policies that are not readily available for their employees to access.</p> <p>HB 3323 amends the Education Code by adding a subsection that would require an Independent School District (ISD) to establish on their website the employment policies and full texts of any existing regulations or forms within the policies they have. The ISD would need to meet this requirement if there is an existing website for the ISD.</p>	Favorable Evaluated by: Marissa Gorena (956) 867-7232 Marissa@texaslsg.org
HB 3252 By: Allen	Relating to the posting of certain notices in a primary election.	<p>Elections</p> <p>Vote: 8 Ayes 1 Nays 0 PNV</p>	Currently, party convention notices can only be posted on election day during primaries. HB 3252 extends Party Convention notices during early voting, which is when most people vote during primaries. HB 3252 also updates the language currently in the election code that requires county clerks to post on Party website, which they have no access to. This bill requires county clerks to post primary election notices on County websites. These much-needed updates to the Election Code ensures that eligible Texas voters have access to much needed information regarding Primary Elections.	Favorable Evaluated by: Donisha Cotlone (832) 496-4424 Donisha@TexasLSG.org

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HB 2127 By: Harris Bailes	Relating to the licensure and registration of persons engaged in certain activities pertaining to compressed natural gas or liquefied natural gas containers and systems.	Energy Resources Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent	HB 2127 would amend the Natural Resources Code, removing certain licensing requirements (redundant with established industry requirements) and providing for a less burdensome registration process of persons engaged in manufacturing or sales of CNG or LNG containers. No fiscal impact anticipated, as the Railroad Commission is capable of implementing with existing resources. The removal of permitting may regain business lost to other states without this additional requirement.	Favorable Evaluated by: Eliot Davis (713) 855-3285 Eli@TexasLSG.org
HB 1717 By: White	Relating to a person holding office as a municipal judge in more than one municipality at the same time.	Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence Vote: 8 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent	Currently, an unelected unpaid municipal judge can only serve on the bench to which they are appointed to. There are concerns that small counties do not even have attorneys living within their city limits, much less have a court within their municipalities. This creates concerns due to some cities not having a court overseeing them. HB 1717 aims to address these concerns by allowing appointed municipal judges to serve on more than one municipal court. The change only applies to municipal judges who are appointed by the cities but would be allowed to serve on more than one municipality. The provisions do not apply to judges who have been elected. The goal of the bill is to assist smaller municipalities to have their own courts within their city limits.	Favorable Evaluated by: Santiago Cirnigliaro (713) 435-9049 Santiago@TexasLSG.org
HB 621 By: Neave	Relating to prohibited adverse employment action against an employee who in good faith reports child abuse or neglect.	Business & Industry Vote: 8 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent	HB 621 amends the Family Code to prohibit any adverse action by an employer against a child-care or education professional who reports child abuse or neglect in good faith. The bill language defines "adverse employment action" to mean any action that affects an employee's compensation, promotion, transfer, work assignment, or performance evaluation, or any other employment action that would dissuade a reasonable employee from making or supporting a report of abuse or neglect. Should an employer take any such action against such an employee, the employee is authorized by the statute to pursue a suit for damages or to require the employer to withdraw the action. By removing this disincentive, HB 621 seeks to protect employees and encourage them to make reports of abuse or neglect without fear of employment consequences.	Favorable Evaluated by: Sharon Jacob 920-675-9865 Sharon@TexasLSG.org
HB 259 By: Thompson, Ed Bonnen, Greg Johnson, Julie Turner, Chris Paul	Relating to named driver insurance policies and certain related exclusions.	Insurance Vote: 8 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent	HB 259 would amend Insurance Code to bar named driver insurance policies. This type of coverage would be underwritten as endorsements on new or renewed policies as exclusions of coverage by specific drivers named in the endorsement. In the market currently, there have been those who choose to ignore specified driver policy or do not understand the coverage that they may or may not have with this type of policy. HB 259 provides the opportunity for policy holders to still have specified driver policies in households with multiple drivers. There have been concerns expressed by retailers that barring this type of coverage may affect one specific facet of the insurance market that looks to have the cheapest rate possible with automobile insurance or effect other types of insurance coverage. Consumers in the market have also expressed concerns that this would target a specific demographic that may only target named-driver policies only and the ability to essentially create a named driver policy with policy specific endorsements. With these changes to Insurance code there would be clarity of coverage for	Favorable, with Concerns Evaluated by: Elizabeth Churaman (281)-686-4544 Elizabeth@texaslsg.org

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			consumers as well are more coverage for other parties who may be involved in automobile accidents.	
HB 380 By: Geren	Relating to the authority of a district court to hear and determine certain ad valorem tax appeals.	Ways & Means Vote: 9 Ayes 2 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent	<p>The current process for disputing property tax appraisals unfairly benefits appraisal review boards, and leaves little recourse to property owners attempting to resolve their disputes with the board. Often times, the Appraisal District uses the defense that a taxpayer didn't "exhaust administrative remedies" against the taxpayer, who is then left with no ability to resolve the issue they were protesting to begin with.</p> <p>HB 380 addresses this problem by clarifying that District Courts have the final jurisdiction on all matters concerning taxation of a property owner.</p> <p>Under HB 380, if an appraisal review board makes the claim that a property owner failed to exhaust administrative remedies, the court can remand the protest back to the board and provide the property owner the opportunity to cure his or her failure to exhaust administrative remedies. The board shall then grant them a hearing on the protest to address the substantive issues brought by the property owner in the protest.</p> <p>In addition, if both the appraisal review board and property owner agree, the parties may waive remand of the action back to the appraisal review board and allow the courts determine the appeal on the merits.</p> <p>HB 380 levels the playing field for taxpayers protesting their property tax appraisals by providing property owners with much-needed recourse in resolving their property tax disputes.</p> <p>This bill is an exact-language version of HB 2653 from the 85(R) session and HB 165 from the 85(1) special session. In both instances, the bill ran out of time before the deadline. HB 165 from 85(1) passed the House Floor 143-0.</p>	Favorable Evaluated by: Eliot Davis (713) 855-3285 Eli@TexasLSG.org
HB 553 By: Thompson, Senfronia	Relating to notice regarding summer weekend possession of a child under a standard possession order in a suit affecting the parent-child relationship.	Juvenile Justice & Family Issues Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent	<p>HB553 adds to the Family Code, in cases of designating possession for summer weekends for conservators who live 100 miles or less apart, the possessory conservator is required to give 15 days written notice before the Friday which begins the designated weekend as to when and where the managing conservator is to pick up the child. This is an important clarification for the process of designating weekends between managing conservators and possessory conservators. With this provision, the managing conservator will be given proper notice to arrange travel for both themselves and the child.</p>	Favorable Evaluated by: Ali Schoon 515-313-3712 Ali@TexasLSG.org
HB 368 By: Cain Capriglione Toth Howard Thierry	Relating to the use of legislatively produced audio or visual materials in political advertising.	House Administration Vote: 7 Ayes 1 Nays 0 PNV 3 Absent	<p>Concerns and lawsuits have been raised by a current member of the legislature wanting to use legislative footage. However, current statute prohibits the use of audio or visual materials produced by the legislature (house chamber, committee, or agency of the legislature) in political advertisements.</p> <p>Currently, the Ethics Commission is no longer enforcing this section, this provision in statute should be removed. The Ethics Commission outlined recommendations to the Legislature prior to the 86th session. Among the recommendations included regarding this issue was either:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Removing this section of the code, or 	Favorable Evaluated by: Raul Lopez 512-787-7199 Raul@TexasLSG.org

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			<p>2. Prohibit current elected officials from using this type of footage in campaign ads, but allow members of public to use it.</p> <p>HB 368 removes the prohibition currently in statute, opting for the first option.</p>	
<p>HB 971 By: Clardy Minjarez</p>	<p>Relating to proficiency certification of law enforcement officers with military service.</p>	<p>Homeland Security & Public Safety</p> <p>Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>In order to become a peace officer, everyone must go through the basic training and procedures, regardless of the persons background and experience. In order to become an advanced, intermediate, or master peace officer one needs additional credits to be applied in order to receive that license. Having a college degree can assist in providing some of those credit hours towards that license. For example, if you have a bachelor’s degree, you only need 2 years of experience as a peace officer and no additional credit hours. If you don’t have a college degree, you need 8 years of experience as a peace officer and 400 credit hours. However, people who have served in the military for 4 years currently are not receiving any credit towards further licensing to become an advanced, intermediate, or master peace officer and have to complete all of the requirements.</p> <p>HB 971 aims to address these concerns by allowing the Texas Commission On Law Enforcement(TCOLE) to have rule making authority to give certain credits to service members who have been honorably discharged from the military towards further certifications. The credits given to these veterans would be decided by TCOLE and they would apply the credits towards the certification to apply the time they served in the military to serve as credit hours towards their certification.</p> <p>There are concerns that TCOLE would have complete authority, yet no oversight from the legislature in giving credit hours towards veterans to become advanced, intermediate, and master peace officers. There has not been any specification as to how many credit hours would be granted for serving in the military. Additionally, there concerns that time spent overseas does not appropriately correlate with skills necessary to patrol civilians.</p>	<p>Favorable, with Concerns Evaluated by: Santiago Cirnigliaro (713) 435-9049 Santiago@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p>HB 2474 By: Guillen</p>	<p>Relating to the continuation of medical assistance for certain individuals.</p>	<p>Human Services</p> <p>Vote: 8 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>Currently, individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) on Medicaid may experience a loss in medical coverage due to clerical errors made by their guardians or the employee from HHSC during the benefit renewal process. Any loss of coverage can lead to serious health problems for individuals with IDD who rely heavily on medical services. In some cases, their providers do not know their coverage has lapsed which results in the provider paying out of pocket for their services if the lapse continues past 90 days when Medicaid can reimburse for services. In addition, fixing any errors is a complicated process and is an increased burden not only on HHSC but also the family members or providers for the individual with IDD. HB2474 aims to impact this issue by requiring HHSC to not suspend or terminate eligibility for medical assistance benefits if the individual is being deemed ineligible due to a technical or clerical error.</p> <p>Individuals who receive care through the Home and Community-based Services (HCS) waiver program, the Texas Home Living (TxHmL) waiver program, or resides in an ICF-IDD facility to continue to receive medical assistance benefits if they were deemed ineligible due to a technical or clerical error once they have submitted an application to re-determine eligibility. In the meantime, HHSC may <i>not</i> suspend or terminate the recipient’s eligibility and will inform the individual’s health care providers that they may be at risk to lose their benefits. If the technical or clerical error was done by an employee with HHSC, their medical assistance benefits will not be suspended or terminated, and they do not need to submit an application to do so.</p> <p>The committee sub for HB2474 also requires that HHSC submit a report to the legislature each year in regards to the</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Ali Schoon 515-313-3712 Ali@TexasLSG.org</p>

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			termination or suspension of medical assistance benefits for individuals with IDD in the aforementioned programs including information such as the number of individuals whose eligibility was terminated, the reason for termination, and the amount of reimbursements paid to providers retroactively to accommodate for lapsed coverage.	
HB 1960 By: Price Anderson, Charles "Doc" Cyrier González, Mary	Relating to the creation of the governor's broadband development council.	State Affairs Vote: 12 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent	To address the concerns of the increased difficulty of conducting various business transactions without proper broadband connection in the e-commerce sector, specifically in rural areas of Texas, HB 1960 will create a broadband development council within the governor's office to address this issue. The council's focus will be focused on "unserved areas, which mean a census block without access to broadband capabilities. The council will be composed of 17 voting members from various sectors and agencies. Their duties will be to research the progress of broadband development in unserved areas; identify barriers to residential and commercial broadband deployment in unserved areas; study technology-neutral solutions to overcome said barriers; and to analyze how statewide access to broadband would benefit the overall community. The council may also research another matter related to broadband only if a majority of the council approves researching it. Before November 1 of each year the council will be required to prepare and deliver an electronic report of its findings and recommendations to the governor, lieutenant governor, and each member of the legislature. HB 1960 will be incredibly impactful to many rural communities' development from educational opportunities to the delivery of health care services to economic development as broadband access is a key metric in today's modern economy.	Favorable Evaluated by: Merci Mohagheghi (713) 382-7007 Merci@TexasLSG.org
HB 3227 By: Howard Johnson, Jarvis Allen White	Relating to a female inmate's access to programs offered to inmates of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.	Corrections Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent	Females inmates have less opportunity than male inmates regarding educational, vocational, substance use treatment, rehabilitation, life skills training, and prerelease programs. For example, men have access to associate's, bachelor's, and master's degrees while women only have associate's or bachelor's options. There are more male inmates than female inmates in Texas which makes it easier to fill up classrooms; it is harder to pay professors when class size is too small. There are other obstacles, for example, cost of tuition, or female prisons located too far from campuses. HB 3227 requires the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) to promote access to these programs by requiring Windham School District and TDCJ to provide yearly reports for legislators and for the public VIA their website. The yearly report will provide current programs women have access to and proof of efforts to expand those programs. HB 3227 is a fruitful because inmates who receive educational programming are 43% less likely to be imprisoned again.	Favorable Evaluated by: Sophia Creede (832) 865-4774 Sophia@TexasLSG.org
HB 2984 By: Allison González, Mary Minjarez	Relating to the essential knowledge and skills of the technology applications curriculum.	Public Education Vote: 12 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent	STEM careers are on the rise as technology is being integrated in different sectors of the workforce across the nation. Learning coding languages and computer science concepts are becoming more in demand for the job market, but currently there are not enough Texas students who have the opportunity, or means, to take a computer science course as there is not an existing Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) adopted curriculum for technology applications. HB 2984 aims to ensure that all public-school students have the chance at developing the knowledge and skills necessary to thrive in their future careers in cyber security or computer science by amending the Education Code to require the State Board of Education to adopt the TEKS for a technology applications curriculum. This curriculum would include various coding languages, and computer programming skills for students in grades K-8.	Favorable Evaluated by: Marissa Gorena (956) 867-7232 Marissa@texaslsg.org

<p>HB 2976 By: Howard Israel Rodriguez Hinojosa</p>	<p>Relating to authority of the Travis County Healthcare District to appoint, contract for, or employ physicians.</p>	<p>County Affairs</p> <p>Vote: 8 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>Currently, under Texas law since 2005, the Health and Safety Code directs the Travis County hospital district to assume sole responsibility for indigent needs centered around medical and hospital care. Ironically, the healthcare system of Travis County does not mirror the same ownership as other counties of Texas. Thus, the healthcare system is not owned by the county; yet, the county's healthcare system is contractually controlled through a private healthcare system.</p> <p>HB 2976 appears to leverage the Travis county's power by amending the Health and Safety Code by granting authority to the county to appoint, contract, or employ physicians by the hospital board that it deems necessary for efficient operation of the district.</p> <p>HB 2976 will limit employment contracts to not exceed four years and prohibit the authorizing board from supervising or controlling the practice of medicine.</p> <p>HB 2976 will allow the board to adopt policies targeting credentials, quality assurance, reviews revolving around utilization, due process, and professional peers. Notwithstanding the board's adopted policies, HB 2976 explicitly directs the board to report any actions or events that appear to compromise medical care of a patient to the Texas Medical Board.</p> <p>Stakeholders of HB 2976 have contended for years that Travis County's restricted authority to maintain its pool of physicians have hindered the progressive efforts to mirror other hospital districts within Texas. If HB 2976 is passed into law, it will allow Travis County to follow suit with other counties with the same governing authority.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Brandi Granderson (202) 808-6140 Brandi.Granderson_HC@house.texas.gov</p>
<p>HB 1074 By: Price Anchia Frullo Minjarez</p>	<p>Relating to the prohibition against age discrimination in certain employment training programs.</p>	<p>International Relations & Economic Development</p> <p>Vote: 8 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>HB1074 was brought forth by the AARP due to the increase of individuals working later in life and their need for training to expand their skill sets and remain up to date on technological advances. Currently, a section of the Labor Code states that in the cases of workforce training or apprenticeship, discrimination based on age for individuals between the ages of 40 and 56-years-old is prohibited; stating age discrimination can legally occur for those over 56 years of age. HB1074 repeals this section of the Labor Code to ensure that training programs or apprenticeships will not discriminate against older adults.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Ali Schoon 515-313-3712 Ali@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p>HB 3217 By: Ashby Huberty</p>	<p>Relating to certain eligibility requirements for issuance of a teaching certificate.</p>	<p>Public Education</p> <p>Vote: 12 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>Teachers in Texas play a vital role in shaping the future of young Texans that sit in their classrooms. These teachers will have students that come from diverse backgrounds and different educational needs; therefore, our Texas Teachers need to be sufficiently prepared to create an effective learning environment for all students in the classrooms.</p> <p>Currently there is a set 18 school credit hour (SCH) limit, or 15% of 120 SCH, that a student can receive from their College of Education at their institution. HB 3217 removes the provision in the Education Code that currently limits education courses, with respect to pedagogy, and allows for the attainment of additional credit hours through field-based experiences to incentivize individuals to attain a bachelor's degree with a major in Education at a 4-year institution.</p> <p>The concern with this bill is not with reinstating education as a degree, but the removal of the cap on required</p>	<p>Favorable, with Concerns Evaluated by: Marissa Gorena (956) 867-7232 Marissa@texaslsg.org</p>

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			education courses for teaching certification. Standards should be kept high for the teaching profession and this should not be at the cost of taking less or even more courses with the cap removal in order to attract students to the profession and degree of education. If the set 18 SCH cap is removed to receive additional SCH this could lead to Texas Teachers not being sufficiently prepared.	
HB 1209 By: Rodriguez Morrison Moody	Relating to the right to vacate and avoid residential lease liability following the occurrence of family violence.	Business & Industry Vote: 7 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent	HB 1209 amends the Property Code to add documentation that can be provided to a landlord or a representative of a landlord by a tenant to allow a victim of domestic violence to break their lease without penalty and leave a potentially dangerous situation. Originally, only a temporary injunction, temporary ex parte order (court order that is issued when one party is not present at the hearing), or a protective order were accepted for this purpose. This bill adds to this list an order for emergency protection or a copy of documentation of family violence from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a licensed health care services provider who examined the victim • a licensed mental health services provider who examined or evaluated the victim • an individual who provided family violence services to the victim through an authorized family violence center Implementing the provisions of this bill is not expected to have a significant fiscal impact on either state or local governments.	Favorable Evaluated by: Sharon Jacob 920-675-9865 Sharon@TexasLSG.org
HB 3459 By: Coleman	Relating to the creation and operations of a health care provider participation program by the Harris County Hospital District.	County Affairs Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent	HB 3459 seeks authorize the hospital district of Harris County to create a healthcare participation program by an affirmative vote. Currently, within the Health and Safety Code, Texas state law does not afford Harris County the power to create a healthcare participation program. If the proposed legislation of HB 3459 is passed into law, it will allow Harris County to administer and operate the program till December 2021. HB 3549 provides for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • .25% of any mandatory payments authorize by the board to cover the county’s administrative expenses; and • an annual public hearing on the amounts of any mandatory payments Advocates of the HB 3459 believe that Harris County residents will receive similar benefits as other local communities such as the creating of alternative provision for receiving federal matching funds.	Favorable Evaluated by: Brandi Granderson (202) 808-6140 Brandi.Granderson_HC@house.texas.gov
HB 16 By: Leach Bonnen, Greg Klick Oliverson Morrison	Relating to the enforcement of the rights of a living unborn child after an abortion; creating a civil cause of action; providing a civil penalty; creating a criminal offense.	Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence Vote: 6 Ayes 3 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent	In current statute, there are already provisions that state that a doctor must do everything in their power in order to help and save a person that is alive as well as provide any medical assistance available. The statute states that a baby that is still alive after an attempted abortion has every right as any other person receiving medical care. HB 16 amends the family code to establish a patient physician relationship between the child born alive after an attempted abortion and giving them the right to receive access to the same medical care as everyone else. The bill aims to add a civil penalty of up to \$100,000 dollars as well as a third-degree felony for the physicians who do not provide proper medical care. The bill would also give the parents of that child the ability to sue the physician if proper medical care was not provided. There are concerns with this bill that it would indirectly affect access to abortions in Texas. By adding a civil and criminal penalty for something that physicians are already providing, it could consequently deter the physicians from providing this abortion service and limiting the rights of women in this state.	Unfavorable Evaluated by: Santiago Cirnigliaro (713) 435-9049 Santiago@TexasLSG.org

<p>HB 2000 By: Turner, Chris Zerwas Price</p>	<p>Relating to authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds to fund capital projects at certain public institutions of higher education.</p>	<p>Higher Education Vote: 9 Ayes 1 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>Given the rapid population growth in Texas, additional bonds are necessary for certain institutions of higher education to finance important construction and infrastructure improvements. Historically, General Revenue funds have been used to finance the debt service on Tuition Revenue Bonds (TRBs) for institutions of higher education with an increase of \$397.4 Million over the last 6 years.</p> <p>HB 2000 would authorize \$3.3 Billion in TRBs for certain higher education institutions to finance certain capital and improvement projects that are necessary for their institution. Maximum amounts are detailed below, and bonds are issued at a 6% interest rate with a 20-year debt level service amortization. The only exception is with the of Texas State Technical College which is at 5% interest rate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texas A&M System \$ 767.5 million, • University of Texas System \$ 1,344.8 million, • University of Houston System \$351.0 million, • Texas State University System \$ 369.6 million, • University of North Texas System \$ \$321.5 million, • Texas Tech University System \$ 322.6 million, • Texas Woman's University \$100.0 million, • Midwestern State University \$10.0 million, • Stephen F. Austin University \$48.0 million, • Texas State Technical System \$134.6 million, • Texas Southern University \$50 million. 	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Marissa Gorena (956) 867-7232 Marissa@texaslsg.org</p>
<p>HB 953 By: K. King</p>	<p>Relating to certain contributions by an open-enrollment charter school to the Teacher Retirement System of Texas.</p>	<p>Pensions, Investments & Financial Services Vote: 9 Ayes 1 Nays 1 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>HB 953 would amend the Government Code to require open-enrollment charter schools to pay into Teacher Retirement System (TRS) for every employee who is paid above the salary minimum and participates in TRS. Currently, ISDs are required to pay into TRS for employees who participate in TRS and are above the salary minimum. With the payment into TRS, this would increase the fiscal stability of TRS by \$41,420,509 through the biennium ending August 31,2021. HB 953 would level the playfield for those who participate in TRS benefiting as there is more equitable contribution from open-enrollment charter schools and ISDs where both parties have teachers participating in TRS.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Elizabeth Churaman (281)-686-4544 Elizabeth@texaslsg.org</p>
<p>HB 3092 By: Paul</p>	<p>Relating to notice of an epizootic infectious disease occurring in an animal shelter.</p>	<p>Public Health Vote: 10 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>HB 3092 requires shelters to provide notice to any individual who has adopted an animal from the shelter of any epizootic infectious disease (such as parvovirus, canine distemper, and feline rhino tracheitis) that appears in the shelter within 15 days before or after the date of adoption. The notice may be given in written, electronic, or telephonic form. A shelter will not be subject to any civil penalty as a result of violating this law.</p> <p>There are concerns that this law may create a negative perception about the health of shelter animals.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Sharon Jacob 920-675-9865 Sharon@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p>HB 113 By: Minjarez Martinez Thierry</p>	<p>Relating to the vehicle description on an application for the registration of an automated motor vehicle.</p>	<p>Transportation Vote: 11 Ayes 0 Nays</p>	<p>Automated motor vehicles (AVs) don't adhere to the same registration requirements as driver-operated motor vehicles. With AVs on Texas roads there is need for updated legislation to keep up with technology growth. AVs don't get registered as AVs, so there is no real way to keep track of how many are out there.</p> <p>HB 113 serves as a simple change to the registration process by requiring applicants to indicate if the vehicle is an</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Sophia Creede (832) 865-4774 Sophia@TexasLSG.org</p>

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		0 PNV 2 Absent	automated motor vehicle. This allows the state to keep count of and begin collecting data regarding AVs.	
HB 1665 By: Patterson	Relating to certain workers' compensation reporting requirements.	Business & Industry Vote: 7 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent	HB 1665 amends the Labor Code to require that if a hiring contractor and an independent contractor have filed a joint agreement with the division of worker's compensation within the Texas Department of Insurance, the two parties should only notify the division at the division's request. The code will continue to require notification to the hiring contractor's workers' compensation insurance carrier. The bill language additionally stipulates that any such notification made from the contracting party to either the insurance carrier or the division must be made in writing.	Favorable Evaluated by: Sharon Jacob 920-675-9865 Sharon@TexasLSG.org

LSG Floor Report For GENERAL STATE Calendar – SENATE BILLS – Tuesday, April 16, 2019

SB 12 By: Huffman Birdwell Buckingham Campbell Flores Hall Hinojosa Hughes Johnson Kolkhorst Nelson Nichols Paxton Perry Powell Rodríguez Taylor Watson West Zaffirini SP: G. Bonnen	Relating to the contributions to and benefits under the Teacher Retirement System of Texas.	Pensions, Investments & Financial Services Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent	<p>SB 12 will increase state and teacher contributions to the Teacher Retirement System (TRS) to improve fiscal soundness of the TRS fund as well as create the availability of funds for teachers to have a living wage in retirement. SB 12 would shorten the solvency period of TRS, creating more long-term stability for those who will utilize TRS in the future as a means of retirement. For current retirees, there would be a supplemental, one-time payout of up to \$2,400 which would not be recognized as a 13th check as to not jeopardize current benefit payouts to those withdrawing from TRS.</p> <p>SB 12 will increase state and teacher contributions to the following percentages. The contribution beginning in the same fiscal year would be amended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY 2019: 7.8% • FY 2020: 8.05% • FY 2021: 8.3% • FY 2022: 8.55% • FY 2023: 8.8% <p>There is a negative fiscal impact of \$ 1,360,015,672 through the biennium ending in August 31,2021.</p>	Favorable Evaluated by: Elizabeth Churaman (281)-686-4544 Elizabeth@texaslsg.org
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