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### LSG Floor Report For POSTPONED BUSINESS – Tuesday, April 23, 2019

Bill	Caption	Committee	Analysis & Evaluation	Recommendation
<b>HB 2969</b> By: Sanford   Krause   Rodriguez   King, Phil   Bell, Cecil	Relating to prohibited adverse employment action against a first responder based on mental illness.	State Affairs  Vote: 13 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent	HB 2969 will offer protections for first responders (peace officer, fire protection personnel, and emergency medical services personnel) who disclose a mental illness to their superior from discriminatory action that may be taken by their employers. HB 2969 will prohibit the employer of a first responder from suspending, terminating, or taking any other adverse employment action against a first responder solely because the employer knows or believes they have a mental illness, except when the action is deemed necessary to ensure public safety.  HB 2969 gives a person the right to assert a violation against their employer or as a defense in a judicial or administrative proceeding. The aggrieved person may also seek compensatory damages, reasonable attorney's fees and court costs, and any other appropriate relief. Sovereign immunity to suit is waved and abolished to the extent of liability created by HB 2969.	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Merci Mohagheghi (713) 382-7007 Merci@TexasLSG.org
<b>HB 286</b> By: Thompson, Ed   Wu	Relating to promotion of the use of recyclable materials as feedstock for processing and manufacturing.	Environmental Regulation  Vote: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 PNV, 2 Absent	HB 286 focuses on educating processing and manufacturing facilities and spreading info on the economic benefits of recycling. HB 286 would educate about how recycling and reusing saves money and resources—the economic focus could increase the number of people adopting the cause. HB 286 is a huge step in making a real movement toward recycling infrastructure in manufacturing rather than just the recycling and collecting waste process that we see in communities.  HB 286 requires the commission to join up with Texas Economic Development and Tourism Office to produce a plan to promote the recycling market and stimulate use of recyclable materials as feedstock in processing and manufacturing. The plan requires research on current recycling by principal processors and manufacturers to identify where there is room for improvement and opportunity to use more recyclable materials. HB 286 also requires the commission to develop an educational program to be distributed VIA billboards, public service announcements, social media, etc., informing people about the economic benefits of recycling and how to avoid contamination of feedstock.	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Sophia Creede (832) 865-4774 Sophia@TexasLSG.org
<b>HB 925</b> By: Springer   Frank	Relating to the composition of the board of directors of the Gateway Groundwater Conservation District.	Natural Resources  Vote: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 PNV, 5 Absent	The Gateway Groundwater Conversation District was created by Hardeman and Foard counties through election in 2001. The counties of Childress, Cottle, and Motley later joined in subsequent years. King County was recently annexed in 2018 yet does not have representation on the District's board due to current language in the Special District Local Laws Code.  HB 925 would rectify this by requiring equal representation from all counties. HB 925 achieves this by changing the language from “not fewer than 5 and not more than 11 directors” to “not more than two directors for each county in the district.” HB 925 would also authorize the board to change the total number of directors if the district were to annex territory in the future.	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Merci Mohagheghi (713) 382-7007 Merci@TexasLSG.org

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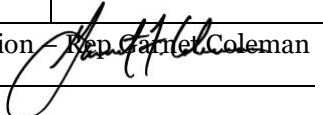
<p><b>HB 1558</b> By: Paddie   Springer</p>	<p>Relating to the severance tax exemption for oil and gas produced from certain inactive wells.</p>	<p>Ways &amp; Means  Vote: 11 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>HB 1558 clarifies eligibility criteria for the two-year inactive well exemption on oil and gas production taxes. These exemptions are intended to incentivize the use of orphaned wells and reduce the state's financial obligation and liability in addressing abandoned sites. The bill specifies that a well does not qualify if it is part of an enhanced oil recovery project; was drilled but not completed; or has no record of hydrocarbon production. The bill would also reduce the duration of the tax exemption from ten years to five years, as well as remove obsolete statutory provisions relating to the designation of three-year inactive wells.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Eliot Davis (713) 855-3285 Eli@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p><b>HB 1378</b> By: Frullo</p>	<p>Relating to the authority of the Lubbock County Hospital District of Lubbock County, Texas, to employ and commission peace officers.</p>	<p>County Affairs  Vote: 9 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 PNV, 0 Absent</p>	<p>Currently, under Texas law, the <i>Special District Local Laws Code</i> regarding Health and Hospital Districts within Chapter 1053 does not relinquish power solely to the Lubbock County Hospital District to employ any officer whose duties are centered around or correlate to public safety. HB 1378 amends the <i>Code of Criminal Procedure</i> as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It will add an additional section under <i>Subchapter C of Chapter 1053</i> by granting the board the authority to employ peace officers;</li> <li>• Define the jurisdiction of peace officer which includes anything owned or controlled by the district</li> <li>• Grants peace officer's the same Authority under Chapter 14 of the <i>Code of Criminal Procedure</i></li> <li>• Expand <i>Code of Criminal Procedure, Art. 2.12 (18)</i> by including Lubbock as a county authorize to commission peace Officers.</li> </ul> <p>Presently, the county's method of hiring armed security officers is done by third party with the oversight of the Texas Department of Public Safety. If this legislation becomes law, it will allow the county to have more control over the selection process of the armed officers.</p> <p>Proponents of HB 1378, which include top decision makers of the UMC Health system, appear to believe that it gives the Hospital District a range options to tailor their security needs more specifically to address existing safety risks and future increased safety risk.</p> <p>HB 1378 will allow the Lubbock Hospital District to follow suit with other Hospital Districts that reside in Texas such as Dallas County, Tarrant County, Bexar County, and El Paso County.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Brandi Granderson (202)808-6140 Brandi.Granderson_HC@house.texas.gov</p>
<p><b>HB 629</b> By: Landgraf</p>	<p>Relating to establishing a protective order registry and the duties of court personnel and other persons and entities in regard to the registry.</p>	<p>Homeland Security &amp; Public Safety  Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>There is not an official way for anyone to know who has a protective order issued against them. This raises concerns due to past cases in which victims are injured by an aggressor who had a protective order issued against them. It has been brought up that if there were a registry for protective orders, victims would have the choice to know if their significant other has one issued against them.</p> <p>HB 629, known as Monica's Law, aims to address this issue by creating an online registry that shows who has had a protective order issues against them after the due process of the law has been followed. Monica was a victim of domestic violence who was murdered by her aggressor who had a protective order issued against him by someone else. The concept of this registry is to let people know who their partner could potentially be and allow them to be safe. The registry would only register an offender after the protective order is issued, if the protective order is revoked or dissolved, the name of the offender would be taken off the registry. The victims also have the option to have their name in the registry.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Santiago Cirnigliaro (713) 435-9049 Santiago@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p><b>HB 851</b> By: Huberty   Cain   Murphy   Ashby   Dutton</p>	<p>Relating to the use of individual graduation committees and other alternative methods to satisfy certain public high school graduation</p>	<p>Public Education  Vote: 12 Ayes 0 Nays</p>	<p>Individual Graduation Committees (IGCs) are essential for students who were on track to graduate from high school but because they failed to meet certain requirements their graduation eligibility was then revoked. IGCs offer an alternative graduation plan for students who have a multitude of barriers to cross which often prevents them from meeting certain graduation requirements outside of the IGC. An example of a student failing a graduation requirement can include a student with a learning disability that causes them to fail a required End-Of-Course Exam (EOC) 3 or more times preventing them from being on track for graduation. These committees allow for school</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Marissa Gorena (956) 867-7232 Marissa@texaslsg.org</p>

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	requirements.	0 PNV 1 Absent	districts to analyze their students more efficiently and serve their needs. Currently, there are expiration dates in statute governing IGCs that are set to expire in 2019.  HB 851 amends the Education Code by removing language relating to provisions for the Individual Graduation Committees, which includes the entirety of current student portfolios, and extends the requirement for the commissioner of education to establish IGCs.	
<b>HB 1998</b> By: Goldman	Relating to the importation and use for manufacturing purposes of malt beverages by the holder of a brewer's permit or manufacturer's license.	Licensing & Administrative Procedures  Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent	Currently, in Texas law, malt-based products cannot be imported from out of state although bottlers previously had the permission to transport it from out of state. The import of the malt-based products from out of state is cheaper than producing it from within the state and keeps bottling companies at a competing market rate.  Amends the code so malt beverages can be imported for manufacturing purposes from out of state lines. Allowing the malt based bottling companies to be able to compete with their rivals and keep their rates at market value.	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Santiago Cernigliaro (713) 435-9049 Santiago@TexasLSG.org
<b>HB 2976</b> By: Howard   Israel   Rodriguez   Hinojosa	Relating to authority of the Travis County Healthcare District to appoint, contract for, or employ physicians.	County Affairs  Vote: 8 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent	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.  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.  HB 2976 will limit employment contracts to not exceed four years and prohibit the authorizing board from supervising or controlling the practice of medicine.  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.  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.	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Brandi Granderson (202) 808-6140 Brandi.Granderson_HC@house.texas.gov
<b>HB 1209</b> By: Rodriguez   Morrison   Moody   Minjarez	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	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"> <li>• a licensed health care services provider who examined the victim</li> <li>• a licensed mental health services provider who examined or evaluated the victim</li> </ul>	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Sharon Jacob 920-675-9865 Sharon@TexasLSG.org

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		2 Absent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>an individual who provided family violence services to the victim through an authorized family violence center</li> </ul> <p>Implementing the provisions of this bill is not expected to have a significant fiscal impact on either state or local governments.</p>	
<b>HB 3766</b> By: Burrows   Springer   Goldman   Leman	Relating to the storage of grapes in a public warehouse.	Agriculture & Livestock  Vote: 9 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 PNV, 0 Absent	Grape producers in Texas are currently forced to turn over the title of their grapes to a 3rd party that stores or processes wine from the producer's grapes into bulk wine. This is an issue because it creates an unfair market for the grape growers and can force the growers to sell their grapes below market value. When the grapes enter storage in a public warehouse, grape producers must give up their rights to their grapes. Grapes are currently the only commodity in Texas that does not have protection or rights to retain title to their product. HB 3766 amends the Texas Agriculture Code to create a receipt to allow grape growers to retain title over their grapes. This modification in language to the Agriculture Code will include grapes in the public warehouse operator definition. The bill also addresses that the product of grapes does turn into alcohol and defines that, regardless of the ability to turn into alcohol, it is legal to remain in storage in a public warehouse.	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Marissa Gorena (956) 867-7232 Marissa@TexasLSG.org
<b>HB 1214</b> By: Cyrier   Zerwas   Price   Turner, Chris   Rose	Relating to the allocation to and use by the Parks and Wildlife Department and Texas Historical Commission of certain proceeds from the imposition of state sales and use taxes on sporting goods.	Appropriations  Vote: 23 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 4 Absent	HB 1214 amends the Tax Code to require the legislature to appropriate money collected from the sporting goods sales tax to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department at a 94% share and to the Texas Historical Commission at 6%. If the Historical Commission sunset bill passes these percentages would change to 93.4% and 6.6% respectively. This bill also aims to change the historic site account from a GR fund to a GR- dedicated account. With the increase in population our state parks and historical sites are seeing more visitors every year. This predictable funding would allow for state parks and historical sites to meet construction, operations and customer demands.	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Brittany Sharp (210) 748-0646 Brittany@TexasLSG.org
<b>HJR 39</b> By: Cyrier   Price   Zerwas   Turner, Chris   Rose	Proposing a constitutional amendment relating to the appropriation of the net revenue received from the imposition of state sales and use taxes on sporting goods.	Appropriations  Vote: 23 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 4 Absent	This resolution looks to amend the constitution in order to allow for the automatic appropriation of funds received to the Parks and Wildlife Department and the Texas Historical Commission from the sporting goods sales tax. With the increase in population our state parks and historical sites are seeing more visitors every year. This predictable funding would allow for state parks and historical sites to meet construction, operations and customer demands. This HJR serves an enabling legislation for HB 1214.	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Brittany Sharp (210) 748-0646 Brittany@TexasLSG.org
<b>HJR 145</b> By: Davis, Sarah	Proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds to provide financial assistance to political subdivisions located in areas of the state affected by a disaster.	Appropriations  Vote: 24 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 3 Absent	This resolution looks to amend the constitution in order to authorize the disaster reinvestment and infrastructure planning board to issue general obligation bonds of no more than \$500 million for the disaster reinvestment and infrastructure revolving fund. This HJR serves as enabling legislation for HB 274.	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Brittany Sharp (210) 748-0646 Brittany@TexasLSG.org
<b>LSG Floor Report For EMERGENCY Calendar – Tuesday, April 23, 2019</b>				
<b>HB 2300</b> By: Morrison   White   Murr   Guillen   King, Phil	Relating to the creation of the disaster recovery loan program; making an appropriation.	Appropriations  Vote: 23 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 4 Absent	HB 2300 establishes the Disaster Recovery Loan Program to be administered by TDEM. This program would provide short-term loans for disaster recovery projects in a political subdivision.  To be eligible for this program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A county, municipality, or school district must be located wholly or partly in an area declared to be a disaster area by the Governor or President of the United States.</li> <li>The subdivision must submit its operating budget for the most recent fiscal year</li> </ul>	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Brittany Sharp (210) 748-0646 Brittany@TexasLSG.org

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- The subdivision must submit an application for a loan from FEMA’s community disaster loan program.
- TDEM and FEMA must have estimated that infrastructure damages are greater than 50% of the subdivision’s total revenue.

Additionally, the loan may be forgiven if the state auditor determines the community cannot repay the loan. Many small communities are unable to meet to 10% match requirement for FEMA. This will provide communities with major infrastructure damages the funds they need to start recovering

## LSG Floor Report For MAJOR STATE Calendar – Tuesday, April 23, 2019


<p><b>HB 20</b> By: Capriglione   Zerwas   Longoria   Howard   Bonnen, Greg</p>	<p>Relating to the allocation of certain constitutional transfers of money to the economic stabilization fund, the Texas legacy fund, and the state highway fund and to the management and investment of the economic stabilization fund, the Texas legacy fund, and the Texas legacy distribution fund.</p>	<p>Appropriations  Vote: 21 Ayes 1 Nays 0 PNV 5 Absent</p>	<p>HB 20 establishes the Texas Legacy Fund (TLF) and the Texas Legacy Distribution Fund (TLDF). Serving as the enabling legislation for HJR 10, HB 20 requires the Comptroller to set the sufficient balance in the Economic Stabilization Fund (ESF) at 7% of GR.</p> <p>Any amount in excess of that would flow into the Texas Legacy Fund, which would allow the Comptroller to invest in funds with a much higher return, albeit higher risk. Only the earnings earned from these investments would be allowed to be transferred into the TLDF and used for dedicated long-term obligations.</p> <p>Establishing these funds would make Texas the 9th state in the nation to do so, as many mineral rich states have funds comparable to the Texas Legacy Fund. This will allow the state to fund long- term obligations without having to increase taxes. Additionally, the Comptroller is authorized to manage assets and investments of the Economic Stabilization Fund (ESF), TLF, and TLDF in order to provide predictable revenue while also preserving the purchasing power of the principal amount of the TLF.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Brittany Sharp (210) 748-0646 Brittany@TexasLSG.org</p>
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## LSG Floor Report For CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS Calendar – Tuesday, April 23, 2019

<p><b>HJR 10</b> By: Capriglione   Zerwas   Bonnen, Greg   Rose</p>	<p>Proposing a constitutional amendment providing for the creation of the Texas legacy fund and the Texas legacy distribution fund, dedicating the Texas legacy distribution fund to certain state infrastructure projects or the reduction of certain long-term obligations, and providing for the transfer of certain general revenues to the economic stabilization fund, the Texas legacy fund, and the state highway fund.</p>	<p>Appropriations  Vote: 21 Ayes 1 Nays 0 PNV 5 Absent</p>	<p>HJR 10 proposes a constitutional amendment to establish the Texas Legacy Fund (TLF) and the Texas Legacy Distribution Fund (TLDF). HJR 10 requires the Comptroller to transfer portions of interest earned (earnings only) from the TLF to the TLDF in order to provide predictable revenue while also preserving the purchasing power of the principal amount of the TLF. Expenses of managing the investments would be paid for by the fund and would not require additional appropriations. HJR 10 ensures that the State Highway Fund (SHF) will receive its 50% allotment of severance tax regardless of whether ESF funds are above or below its sufficient balance. A transfer of \$500 million from the ESF to the Texas Legacy Fund will serve as the principal balance. This amount of money is subject to change depending on final numbers in HB 1 and SB 500.</p> <p>Funds from the TLDF can be used to pay for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• state debt obligations earlier that depend on GR</li> <li>• Unfunded liabilities of the ERS or TRS system</li> <li>• Projects to repair, renovate, or construct state infrastructure other than transportation infrastructure and higher education facilities</li> <li>• Or other long-term obligations approved by the legislature by a vote of two-thirds</li> </ul> <p>Establishing these funds would make Texas the 9th state in the nation to do so, as many mineral-rich states have funds comparable to the Texas Legacy Fund. This will allow the state to fund long term obligations without having to increase taxes. The enabling legislation for HJR 10 is HB 20.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Brittany Sharp (210) 748-0646 Brittany@TexasLSG.org</p>
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<p><b>HJR 143</b> By: Bonnen, Greg</p>	<p>Proposing a constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to vest the power to invest and manage certain public funds in certain officers, boards, and entities.</p>	<p>Pensions, Investments &amp; Financial Services</p> <p>Vote: 11 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>HJR 143 would add language to the Texas Constitution regarding the management of public funds. This would allow legislature to manage or invest any public funds held by public officers of the state, a board of public officers, or entity governed by appointees of public officers. This excludes the permanent public university fund.</p> <p>HJR 143 would increase oversight by the legislature regarding the spending of funds by these entities. Some concerns remain on whether the legislature would have the capability and final say as to how funds are being spent and seize funds from a state agency or board or halt activity of that entity.</p> <p>The enabling legislation, HB 4452, has been left pending in committee. It is unsure on whether HJR 143 will be able to move forward without action on the enabling legislation.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Elizabeth Churaman (281)-686-4544 Elizabeth@texaslsg.org</p>
<p><b>HJR 117</b> By: Larson   Sheffield</p>	<p>Proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing a statewide referendum allowing voters to indicate a preference for exempting this state from daylight saving time or observing daylight saving time year-round.</p>	<p>State Affairs</p> <p>Vote: 11 Ayes 1 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>What is being called an antiquated practice of switching the clocks, HJR 117 will enable a referendum allowing voters to decide, on November 5, 2019, whether to be exempt from daylight saving time and stay on standard time, or stay in daylight-savings time year-round.</p> <p>Congress still holds the final authority on the daylight-savings time year-round initiative, so the referendum would be non-binding. Other states have also passed similar legislation, but no action has been taken at the federal level. In addition, even if Texas were to exempt itself from daylight-savings time, it may seem counterintuitive if the 49 other states continue to observe it.</p>	<p><b>Will of the House</b> Evaluated by: Merci Mohagheghi (713) 382-7007 Merci@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p><b>LSG Floor Report For GENERAL STATE Calendar – Tuesday, April 23, 2019</b></p>				
<p><b>HB 156</b> By: Moody</p>	<p>Relating to the supervision by a personal bond office of individuals granted an occupational driver's license; providing for an administrative fee.</p>	<p>Criminal Jurisprudence</p> <p>Vote: 8 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>Currently, those that who are granted an occupational driver's license are only supervised through the local community supervision and corrections department. HB 156 will alleviate probation backlog by allowing personal bond offices to also supervise. Although not all counties in Texas have personal bond offices, as they are mainly located within larger counties, HB 156 will not require the use of such but merely as an alternative to community supervision. HB 156 also states that a personal bond office may collect a reasonable administrative fee between \$25-60 from a supervised license holder. However, local community supervision and corrections departments cannot collect administrative fees from individuals already ordered to pay such fees to a personal bond office.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Merci Mohagheghi (713) 382-7007 Merci@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p><b>HB 685</b> By: Clardy   White   Ashby   Lambert</p>	<p>Relating to immunity from liability of a court clerk and county for the disclosure or release of certain court documents and information contained in the court documents.</p>	<p>Judiciary &amp; Civil Jurisprudence</p> <p>Vote: 8 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>Currently, the court records are being converted from physical storage to electronic storage. There have been concerns that third party companies have accessed the online court databases, downloaded court information and sold it to the public.</p> <p>HB 685 amends the government code to establish that clerks cannot be held liable for the selling of this information by a third party if they have done nothing wrong for the release of information. HB 685 protects the court clerks from being held responsible for bad practices done by third parties.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Santiago Cirnigliaro (713) 435-9049 Santiago@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p><b>HB 3042</b> By: Turner, Chris   Pacheco</p>	<p>Relating to the Texas college work-study program and to establishing a program for the off-campus employment of certain students at public or private institutions of</p>	<p>Higher Education</p> <p>Vote: 11 Ayes 0 Nays</p>	<p>The current Texas College Work Study Program does not have a heavy emphasis on the 60x30 Texas plan, as it only offers a minute percentage of the available work study opportunities off-campus. There is also not an emphasis on the importance of paid internship opportunities for students attending institutions of higher education, and there are many students who cannot afford to accept unpaid internships just to receive the experience employers require today.</p> <p>HB 3042 authorizes the Texas Working Off-Campus Reinforcing Knowledge and Skills (WORKS) internship program</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Marissa Gorena (956) 867-7232 Marissa@texaslsg.org</p>

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	higher education.	<input type="radio"/> PNV <input type="radio"/> Absent	that will be a separate state-funded program using a portion of the appropriated funds from the current Texas College Work-Study Program. HB 3042 requires the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) to contract with off-campus employers to create a user-friendly, centralized statewide database for students to seek paid internship opportunities. The Texas WORKS internship program will greatly help advance the state's efforts of meeting the 60x30 goal for Texas students today.	
<b>HB 1734</b> By: Holland   Leach   Gervin- Hawkins   Martinez   Longoria	Relating to litigation involving certain defects in school district facilities and enforcement of certain duties following that litigation; authorizing a civil penalty.	Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence  Vote: 6 Ayes 2 Nays <input type="radio"/> PNV 1 Absent	In certain lawsuits involving school districts and defects within their buildings that are settled or verdict is reached, there have been concerns raised that the school districts are using the settlement or verdict money for projects that do not involve the defects.  HB 1734 addresses these concerns by outlining how the verdict or settlement money should be spent. HB 1734 amends the education code to require school districts to provide a written notice of the action required to be completed on a building to the commissioner of education and outlines that the money should be spent for repairs on the said facility. HB 1734 outlines that the case may be dismissed if the requirements are not followed properly and the paperwork must be filed within 30 days of knowledge of the defect being detected. If the paperwork is not filed correctly, the Attorney General (AG) can penalize the school district for up to \$20,000.  HB 1734 disproportionately affects and limits smaller school districts since they are unable to meet the deadlines for filing the proper paperwork. Smaller school districts cannot usually retain experienced, full-time lawyers who can file the proper paperwork and the burden falls on the superintendent or staff who are unfamiliar with the process.  HB 1734 places a large amount of authority on the AG's office. If a school district were to prevail in a lawsuit, the AG would be authorized to investigate a school district and bring forth a cause of action for things such as failing to provide an itemized copy of repairs, or not reporting properly to the comptroller. If the school district is fined the \$20,000 for filing the wrong paperwork, then HB 1734 will also affect taxpayers since they fund the school districts, resulting in local taxpayers paying for construction projects twice—for initial construction and subsequent fines by the AG's office. HB 1734 would limit a school district's ability to recover the costs for these defects.	<b>Unfavorable</b> Evaluated by: Santiago Cirnigliaro (713) 435-9049 Santiago@TexasLSG.org
<b>HB 1374</b> By: Hernandez   Neave	Relating to grants for the development and operation of pretrial intervention programs for pregnant defendants and defendants who are the primary caretaker of a child.	Corrections  Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays <input type="radio"/> PNV 0 Absent	Pretrial diversion programs forgive good people who made a mistake. These programs are typically geared towards first-time offenders facing misdemeanors and when the defendant completes the Pretrial Diversion Program there is a chance that the court will dismiss the charge. These programs are often specific to certain charges, for example, a first time DWI or Class B retail theft. Primary caregivers face a specific set of challenges and serve as a potential population for a tailored pretrial diversion program, as well.  HB 1374 allows the Texas Department of Criminal Justice's Community Justice Assistance Division to award a grant for the development of pretrial diversion programs specific to individuals who are pregnant or serve as the primary caregivers to minors. There is an effort this session to give opportunity to first-time offenders who are also parents to avoid jail time and keep children out of the foster care system. This saves state dollars and reduces recidivism.	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Sophia Creede (832) 865-4774 Sophia@TexasLSG.org
<b>HB 3171</b> By: Krause	Relating to the classification and operation of mopeds and certain motorcycles.	Transportation  Vote: 10 Ayes 0 Nays <input type="radio"/> PNV 3 Absent	Technology has advanced and traditional carbon-emitting, engine-powered mopeds are being replaced with zero-emission battery-powered mopeds. Electric mopeds are street legal, slow-moving vehicles that cannot exceed 30 miles per hour, but they are categorized with motorcycles. To drive these electric mopeds legally, one must complete the motorcycle safety and driving test. These vehicles are different in intensity, speed, power, and danger.  HB 3171 revises classification of certain mopeds and licensing requirements. Mopeds are environmentally and cost friendly, they are good for the road. People trying to use them do not need more obstacles to do so, not the same as motorcycles which are bigger and can reach higher speeds.	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Sophia Creede (832) 865-4774 Sophia@TexasLSG.org

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<p><b>HB 282</b> By: Neave</p>	<p>Relating to the training of peace officers on cases involving child abuse and neglect, family violence, and sexual assault.</p>	<p>Homeland Security &amp; Public Safety</p> <p>Vote: 8 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>Police officers are usually the first people to have contact with sexual assault survivors after an attack. However, it has been a concern that the police officers are not properly trained to handle the trauma that the survivors are dealing with. The first contact with the victim is crucial to the investigation and crucial for the prosecution of the offender since it is the first instance of the victim recalling of the events of the attack. For the victims, this can be very traumatizing since it is reliving an attack that just occurred.</p> <p>HB 282 addresses these concerns regarding law enforcement by amending the occupations code in order to include training that would identify sexual assault cases, as well as provide a trauma informed approach to the crime scene by the police officer. HB 282 also creates a specialized optional certification for responding to cases of sexual assault. The goal of the bill is to have a provide a trauma informed response to cases of sexual assault.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Santiago Cirnigliaro (713) 435-9049 Santiago@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p><b>HB 2779</b> By: Wray</p>	<p>Relating to the exemption for certain savings plans from attachment, execution, or other seizure for a creditor's claim.</p>	<p>Pensions, Investments &amp; Financial Services</p> <p>Vote: 11 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>HB 2779 amends the Property Code to broaden the definition of qualified savings plan in relation to seizure for a creditor's claim against the individual. Additionally, there is language included to exempt certain items from collection continuously for 60 days after the claim, but they will continue to be exempt if they qualify as rollover contribution. Also included in these provisions in the case of child support liens include higher education savings plans.</p> <p>HB 2779 would help protect those in collection from having claims seize all financial assets, which along with a claim causing financial damage to credit, could place the consumer in a financial position of inability to pay. Provisions of child support liens being included as the exemption is even more constrictive in the repayment seizure.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Elizabeth Churaman (281)-686-4544 Elizabeth@texaslsg.org</p>
<p><b>HB 284</b> By: Perez</p>	<p>Relating to disclosure requirements of certain facilities that provide care for persons with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders.</p>	<p>Human Services</p> <p>Vote: 5 Ayes 3 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>According to the Department of State Health Services, there are approximately 390,000 individuals living in Texas with Alzheimer's disease (or a related disorder) with a projected substantial increase over upcoming years. Alzheimer's disease involves progressive degeneration of an individual's brain and requires extensive care and support to ensure the safety and quality of life for that individual. The state certifies institutions which meet quality standards to provide specialized care and treatment for individuals with Alzheimer's disease or related disorders. Institutions do not currently need to be licensed in order to provide those services but cannot advertise that they are certified. Licensure requires quality standards such as increased staff, additional safety or supervision measures, detailed care plans, etc. However, it is difficult for family members or guardians to navigate the arena of nursing facilities and may not understand the differences between an institution which provides Alzheimer's care and an institution which is licensed to provide those specialized services, especially if institutions may be falsely advertising those services.</p> <p>HB 284 requires nursing facilities to give written notice whether the facility is certified or not certified through the state for Alzheimer's (or related disorders) treatment to their residents, any resident applying for services, or the resident's next of kin/guardian. In addition, assisted living facilities shall provide their residents with written notice whether the facility is licensed or not to provide services to residents with Alzheimer's disease or other related disorders. The committee substitute for HB 284 differs from the original in that it limits the written notice to no longer include any individual who requests the information regardless of their affiliation with the nursing facility and does not require the facility to physically post their licensure or lack of licensure status in the facility.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Ali Schoon 515-313-3712 Ali@TexasLSG.org</p>




<p><b>HB 2697</b> By: Meyer</p>	<p>Relating to the prosecution of the offense of fraudulent use or possession of identifying information.</p>	<p>Pensions, Investments &amp; Financial Services</p> <p>Vote: 10 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>HB 2697 amends the Business &amp; Commerce Code to allow for more protection of those who have information taken or utilized financially without their consent. By changing the standard from <u>consent</u> to <u>effective consent</u>, this would allow for the coverage of those who are abused financially as a means of control to have more options for legal recourse as financial ruin can follow someone escaping abuse disallowing them to rebuild efficiently.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Elizabeth Churaman (281)-686-4544 Elizabeth@texaslsg.org</p>
<p><b>HB 574</b> By: Dutton</p>	<p>Relating to the consequences of successfully completing a period of deferred adjudication community supervision.</p>	<p>Corrections</p> <p>Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>Individuals who successfully completed deferred adjudication can run into issues when acquiring housing, employment opportunities, and professional licenses. The whole point of deferred adjudication is to provide people an out for their mistake. Judges give deferred adjudication when the whole picture doesn't depict the individual as a concern to society, and this person doesn't need long-term punishment. But even when they complete deferred adjudication, employers, housing providers, and licensing powers can ask if they have been on deferred adjudication and deny them on that basis.</p> <p>HB 574 prohibits denial of housing, employment, or issuance of professional licenses solely based on completed deferred adjudication community supervision.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Sophia Creede (832) 865-4774 Sophia@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p><b>HB 771</b> By: Davis, Sarah</p>	<p>Relating to the placement of warning signs in areas where the use of a wireless communication device is prohibited.</p>	<p>Transportation</p> <p>Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 4 Absent</p>	<p>Currently, texting and driving is incredibly common. Municipalities, counties, or other political subdivisions are required to post signage about texting and driving at each entrance to school zones. Unfortunately, this can be a costly burden beyond their means.</p> <p>HB 771 lowers the fiscal burden on cities by expanding who can purchase and install signs to all applicable local authorities, and changes the requirement to post the signs, to requirement to post the signs <b>OR approve</b> the posting of said signs.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Sophia Creede (832) 865-4774 Sophia@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p><b>HB 329</b> By: Nevárez</p>	<p>Relating to concurrent state and federal jurisdiction over units of the national park system in this state.</p>	<p>Culture, Recreation &amp; Tourism</p> <p>Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>In order to better serve and protect within the borders of the expansive Big Bend National Park, HB 329 compels the governor to request concurrent jurisdiction over certain park territories previously conceded to the U.S. National Park Service in the 1930's. This would allow for state and local law enforcement to readily access the area and allow for more prompt response times and fewer hindered investigations in an area with already limited resources.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Eliot Davis (713) 855-3285 Eli@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p><b>HB 3913</b> By: Huberty</p>	<p>Relating to an exception from required disclosure under the public information law for certain personal information obtained by certain flood control districts.</p>	<p>Natural Resources</p> <p>Vote: 8 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 3 Absent</p>	<p>HB 3913 would prevent flood control districts in a county with a population of 3.3 million or more (Harris County) from disclosing certain personal information under the state's public information that was obtained in connection with operations related to a declared disaster or flood. Information that is currently available to be obtained through the state's public information law is any information containing a person's name, a home or business address, a home or cell phone number, an email address, social media account information, and social security number. HB 3913 is a direct response to the availability of that information which made flood victims of Hurricane Harvey vulnerable to harassment through the solicitation of sales and services.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Merci Mohagheghi (713) 382-7007 Merci@TexasLSG.org</p>

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<p><b>HB 373</b> By: Allen   Bowers</p>	<p>Relating to conditions of community supervision prohibiting contact with certain persons.</p>	<p>Corrections  Vote: 6 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent</p>	<p>Many of the people advocating for criminal justice reform are people who have been previously incarcerated. Evidence also shows that it also can be rewarding when people reentering society seek guidance and mentorship from those who are further along in the process of recovering from prison time.</p> <p>HB 373 states that judges cannot prohibit defendants on supervision from contacting or interacting with individuals who have been previously incarcerated if they are part of an organization that deals with addressing criminal justice issues, advocating for criminal justice reform, and other programs to assist formerly incarcerated. HB 373 specifies that it is up to the community supervision and corrections department's director to determine what activities are acceptable. Supervision departments not allowing defendants to interact with others who have been in prison for criminal justice and rehabilitative purposes is not a big problem. This is a county by county issue and you don't see it happening often, but HB 373 will put it in statute.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Sophia Creede (832) 865-4774 Sophia@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p><b>HB 724</b> By: Larson</p>	<p>Relating to the authorization by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality of the discharge, diversion, and transfer or other reuse of treated brackish groundwater and return flows derived from treated brackish groundwater.</p>	<p>Natural Resources  Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent</p>	<p>HB 724 would require the Texas Commissions on Environmental Quality to authorize the extraction, treatment, and use of brackish groundwater as an effort to bolster the state's existing water supplies as treated brackish groundwater can supplement or replace, in part, the use of fresh groundwater and surface water.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Merci Mohagheghi (713) 382-7007 Merci@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p><b>HB 2758</b> By: Hernandez</p>	<p>Relating to changing the eligibility of persons charged with certain trafficking and prostitution offenses to receive community supervision, including deferred adjudication community supervision.</p>	<p>Corrections  Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>Individuals who exploit sex trafficking victims are sometimes given deferred adjudication or community supervision and this punishment does not match the crime, especially when the victim is given a harsher sentence. This allows offenders to return to their communities and continue running criminal enterprises. Currently, there is a loophole for traffickers because they are eligible for probation for the charge of Continuous Trafficking of Persons, which is actually more serious.</p> <p>HB 2758 eliminates this loophole and makes defendants ineligible for probation or deferred adjudication for the following offenses: Promotion of Prostitution, Aggravated Promotion of Prostitution, or Continuous Trafficking of Persons. There is a high concentration of human trafficking in Texas that needs to be suppressed. Running a human trafficking operation is evil and warrants harsher punishment.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Sophia Creede (832) 865-4774 Sophia@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p><b>HB 566</b> By: White   Wu</p>	<p>Relating to the eligibility of certain criminal defendants for an order of nondisclosure of criminal history record information.</p>	<p>Criminal Jurisprudence  Vote: 8 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>When an individual is charged with more than one offense during the same criminal episode their history record shows all of the charges regardless of whether or not they have been acquitted or dismissed. Additionally, offenses that result in a charge being refiled, reduced or enhanced often receive a new case number which remains in the defendant's criminal history. The impact of such is the perception of a more extensive criminal record than what is accurate and can have a negative impact on the defendant's chances at rehabilitation.</p> <p>HB 566 will allow individuals to petition a court for an order of nondisclosure of criminal history record for charges that were dismissed or resulted in acquittal and were part of a criminal episode in which other charges resulted in conviction or deferred adjudication. An individual will only be allowed to petition the court either on or after the second anniversary of the date of being fully discharged or successfully completing deferred adjudication community supervision for the other offenses arising from the criminal episode. If an individual were to be convicted of an offense, other than a traffic fine, during this two-year waiting period they would not be able to file for said petition.</p> <p>HB 566 would not apply to any individual convicted of or placed on deferred adjudication for offenses requiring</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Merci Mohagheghi (713) 382-7007 Merci@TexasLSG.org</p>

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			registration as a sex offender or involving aggravated kidnapping, stalking, murder, trafficking, abandoning or endangering a child, and/or any offense involving family violence.	
<b>HB 680</b> By: Deshotel   Lopez	Relating to the powers and duties of the Texas Workforce Commission and local workforce development boards regarding the provision of child care.	International Relations & Economic Development  Vote: 6 Ayes 1 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent	<p>Access to quality yet affordable child-care is a huge barrier for low-income families and single parents. The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) provides child care subsidies for these families in an effort to provide affordable child care to those who otherwise wouldn't have access. The TWC spends almost half of its budget on child care subsidies but little is known about the quality of care for those receiving the subsidies. HB 680 requires further information to be included in the commission's reports about this program to increase transparency and measure the quality of the child care providers.</p> <p>The Texas Rising Star (TRS) program measures the quality of care for providers utilizing subsidies based on 2, 3, or 4 star certifications, with 4 stars being the highest certification requirement and indicating the highest level of care. HB 680 increases data reporting requirements to include information about providers using child care subsidies and their TRS certification compared to the quality of care for other providers in each local workforce development area. The TWC will also report the number of children on child care subsidy wait lists.</p> <p>HB 680 increases the coordination between the Texas Education Agency (TEA), school districts, etc. to better prepare children for school readiness and their transition to pre-kindergarten or kindergarten. These collaborations should also increase access to the child care subsidy program.</p> <p>HB 680 allows local workforce boards to contract with TRS certified providers in the program to specifically reserve subsidized slots in areas which are underserved, have partnerships with the school district/head start program, or are actively seeking to increase the quality of care of its providers. These underserved areas include areas in which providers cannot meet the capacity of child care needs for working families. Reserving slots directly with TRS certified providers guarantees access to quality providers for those participating in the program and aims to decrease waiting lists for the program in high needs areas. Local workforce boards will evaluate the effectiveness of these contracts and how they impact quality child care for the program and provide a report to the commission with its results.</p> <p>HB 680 adds requirements to local workforce boards to ensure that any subsidized child-care providers which receive professional development through the Texas Workforce Commission can use their development training towards requirements for a certification or degree program. The local workforce board will also ensure that these trainings meet the requirements of the Texas Rising Star Program. Child care providers have high turnover rates and through these additional requirements, HB 680 increases professional investment in child care teachers.</p>	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Ali Schoon 515-313-3712 Ali@TexasLSG.org
<b>HB 1937</b> By: Goldman   Murphy   Rodriguez	Relating to a franchise or insurance tax credit for low-income housing developments.	Ways & Means  Vote: 8 Ayes 1 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent	<p>HB 1937 incentivizes affordable housing development by offering insurance and franchise tax credits for low-income housing defined as: eligible for federal tax credit; financed with exempt bonds; complies with requirements for a federal tax credit and the Civil Rights Act; and must be maintained and operated as a qualified development according to Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA).</p> <p>With an average 1,500 people moving to Texas each day and over a third estimated to be renters, the demand for affordable housing is growing but supply lags. Given low-income housing is often less profitable regardless of</p>	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Eliot Davis (713) 855-3285 Eli@TexasLSG.org

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			<p>increases in demand, these low-income housing tax credits (LIHTC) create additional private interest to invest in development and HB 1937 would assure maximization of the indirect federal subsidy. While the 70% option is fully utilized by Texas developers, this bill would add additional state-matched incentive to make the 30% federal subsidy option more financially feasible.</p> <p>Additionally, the bill authorizes the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) to issue tax allocation certificates of up to \$35 million annually. HB 1937 also provides for compliance monitoring and reporting, as well as requires the Comptroller to adopt necessary rules, procedures and forms.</p>	
<b>HB 1079</b> By: Price   King, Ken   Smithee   Springer	Relating to a study by the Texas Department of Transportation of the feasibility of certain improvements to Interstate Highway 27.	<p>Transportation</p> <p>Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 4 Absent</p>	<p>There is room for improvement when it comes to transportation of goods and services across the border into America and even Canada. There is potential to decrease congested ports of entry which could increase facilitate trade relations between Mexico, Canada, and the United States.</p> <p>HB 1079 starts this process by requiring the Texas Department of Transportation to conduct and complete a study regarding the possibilities and benefits of extending of Highway 27.</p>	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Sophia Creede (832) 865-4774 Sophia@TexasLSG.org
<b>HB 625</b> By: Neave	Relating to notice and request for a hearing regarding a vehicle that has been towed or booted.	<p>Judiciary &amp; Civil Jurisprudence</p> <p>Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>Currently, if a car has been towed, the owner only has 14 days to refute the claim and only 14 days to file paperwork with the courts in order to challenge the tow if the tow is illegal. There have been instances where citizens have been illegally targeted by towing companies by having the tow trucks parked and on the lookout for drivers that are illegally parked.</p> <p>HB 625 extends the 14 day deadline to 60 days for vehicles who have been picked up from the towing storage facility before the 20th day from the tow. This would allow owners of vehicles to have a proper amount of time to find out where their car is, what happened, and file the proper paperwork to challenge the tow if the tow was an illegal tow.</p>	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Santiago Cirnigliaro (713) 435-9049 Santiago@TexasLSG.org
<b>HB 843</b> By: Springer	Relating to the inclusion of satisfactory performance on certain postsecondary readiness assessment instruments in the indicators for evaluating the performance of public schools.	<p>Public Education</p> <p>Vote: 11 Ayes 0 Nays 1 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>Under current law, the Education Code prohibits the TEA from allowing the English III and Algebra II end-of-course (EOC) to be used for accountability purposes. Additionally, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) deems student's college ready under the TSI if they have passed the English III and Algebra II EOC's. The issue school districts face today is that they cannot receive College, Career and Military Readiness (CCMR) credit for the students who are TSI exempt with the English III and Algebra II EOC's.</p> <p>HB 843 addresses this issue school districts face by requesting that the TEA use the students that successfully completed the English III and Algebra II EOC's to be counted toward the CCMR for the school ratings.</p>	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Marissa Gorena (956) 867-7232 Marissa@texaslsg.org
<b>HB 994</b> By: Guillen	Relating to the procedures for protests and appeals of certain ad valorem tax determinations.	<p>Ways &amp; Means</p> <p>Vote: 8 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 3 Absent</p>	<p>HB 994 allows counties meeting certain pilot program requirements (bracketed to Atascosa County), to expedite and streamline the appeal process by considering the appeal in justice of the peace (JP) court rather than exclusively in district court when the portion of the value in dispute is \$5,000 or less. The bill provides the following revisions to increase transparency and accountability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allows for owners to appeal appraisal to JP court</li> <li>• Requires that the board and chief appraiser review evidence and argument prior to hearing</li> <li>• Entitles chief appraiser to copy of affidavit</li> </ul> <p>The bill also requires the Office of Court Administration to conduct a study and report on the effectiveness in increasing efficiency and accessibility with recommendations to the following legislature. The committee substitute limits the provisions to residential homestead properties appraised at \$500k or less; and for claims regarding excessive value.</p>	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Eliot Davis (713) 855-3285 Eli@TexasLSG.org

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<p><b>HB 2452</b> By: Goldman</p>	<p>Relating to complaints filed with the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation.</p>	<p>Licensing &amp; Administrative Procedures</p> <p>Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent</p>	<p>The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) investigates a large amount of complaints a year. Some complaints may be extremely complex and may require expert knowledge on the subject matter in order to resolve the issues that were brought forward. Extensive knowledge on a specific matter may come from third parties that are considered experts and the TDLR contracts with them for assistance.</p> <p>HB 2452 gives immunity to the third party experts who provide their expertise in order to help the TDLR with an issue. The third party will receive immunity unless it can be proven that they willingly and knowingly committed fraud while providing their expertise. HB 2452 also gives the TDLR the discretion to accept a complaint from someone within their system but not investigate the complaint if not enough information was given through the complaint.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Santiago Cirnigliaro (713) 435-9049 Santiago@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p><b>HB 3188</b> By: Gervin-Hawkins</p>	<p>Relating to the retirement system in certain municipalities for firefighters and police officers.</p>	<p>Pensions, Investments &amp; Financial Services</p> <p>Vote: 11 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>HB 3118 amends current code to streamline death annuities processing for firefighters and police officers in municipalities with a population between 1.3 million and 1.5 million. This would change some benefit structures for those who will receive benefits in the future. Some changes would include recalculation of benefits, changes in beneficiaries, and eligibility based on time of service and status when killed in line of duty. HB 3118 amends Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes provisions regarding retirement pertaining to firefighters and police officers. Language includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The board of trustees has complete authority on the disbursement of funds for benefit.</li> <li>• Disbursement of funds for beneficiaries would be dispersed at the amount if the officer had returned to active employment after military services and then had dies in the line of duty</li> <li>• Disability benefits being dispersed based on the establishment of disability and if the member is in good standing with the organization; restricts the eligibility of those injured during suspensions including those who are terminated.</li> <li>• Disability retirement would be based on time of service, applicable monthly salary and average daily salary.</li> <li>• Retiree receiving disability if required by the board will undergo medical examination no later than 60 months after award of disability retirement; examination shall determine continuation, decrease or any changes to disability receipt.</li> <li>• Those retired before August 30, 1971 will have disability recalculated based If the retiree served three years of more before the date of retirement: (2.25% x number of years served as a fund member x the retiree's average total salary) OR If the retiree served at least two months and less than three years before the date of retirement: (2.25% x number of years served as fund member) x (average monthly total salary as of the date of retirement x 12) OR If the member has served less than two months before the date of retirement: (2.25% x number of years served as a fund member) x (average daily total salary as of date of retirement x 360). Except in the case of discontinuance. When making these calculation, fractional years shall be calculated based on full months served in department.</li> <li>• Board may restore disability annuity that has been reduced must be the same as the annuity before reduction plus any applicable cost of living adjustments that occurred during the period the annuity was reduced.</li> <li>• Modifies 100% vestment from '20 years' of service to 'normal retirement age', 70.5 years of age.</li> <li>• Adds that a child adopted after retirement is not entitled to death benefits after retiree is deceased.</li> <li>• Annuity death benefits will be based on total salary received 12 months prior to death.</li> <li>• Death benefits shall be distributed to spouses or dependent children whose marriage was terminated before October 1, 1995 if there is not current beneficiary. These benefits would be adjusted for current cost of living. Surviving common law marriages must be recorded under Family Code to be awarded benefits.</li> <li>• Spousal election of a lump-sum annuity will not affect benefits payable to a dependent child while annuity is payable to spouse.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Elizabeth Churaman (281)-686-4544 Elizabeth@texaslsg.org</p>

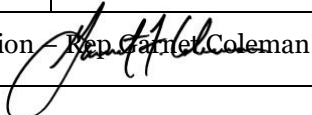
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			Benefits can be denied if the death of the member is a result of a beneficiary of the death annuity.	
<b>HB 1038</b> By: Burns	Relating to a petition by residents of certain counties for an election regarding voter approval of municipal annexation.	Land & Resource Management  Vote: 7 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent	Currently, any city in a county with less than 500,000 people still has this authority to forcibly annex unless 10% of registered voters to sign a petition to place this on a ballot in a county wide election. HB 1038 halts the annexation process during the petition and election process. When a City is planning an annexation tax payers' money has been spent on required preparation, which includes posting required notices, internal staff time etc. However, if the petition has enough signatures to have a place on the ballot in a county wide election to omit the city's authority to forcibly annex then, the will of the voters would opt this area out of being annexed. Continuing the process after the county has approved the petition would be a further waste of taxpayer's money. HB 1038 closes a loophole which would provide fairness for both parties.	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Donisha Cotlone (832) 496-4424 Donisha@TexasLSG.org
<b>HB 2502</b> By: Moody	Relating to a mandatory term of confinement for defendants placed on community supervision for the criminal offense of leaving the scene of a motor vehicle accident resulting in the death of a person.	Corrections  Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent	The penalties for fleeing the scene of an accident involving death and manslaughter while intoxicated are different in harshness. A defendant who committed manslaughter while intoxicated is required to complete a certain period of confinement while leaving a scene of an accident resulting in death does not.  HB 2502 addresses this discrepancy by requiring individuals who leave the scene of an accident that resulted in death to also serve a 120-day term of confinement. This disrupts the incentive to flee from a crime to avoid a harsher punishment knowing that intoxication can't be proven later, for a lesser charge.	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Sophia Creede (832) 865-4774 Sophia@TexasLSG.org
<b>HB 1089</b> By: Darby	Relating to the classification of certain entities as primarily engaged in retail trade for purposes of the franchise tax.	Ways & Means  Vote: 8 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 3 Absent	Since the margin rate for retailers and wholesalers was established by the 79 <sup>th</sup> legislature, the tax code has been amended several times to address rental industries disadvantaged by the formula. HB 1089 would classify entities engaged primarily in activities involving rental of industrial uniforms, garments and linen supplies among "retail trade" entities subject to franchise tax under current law. Similar to the rental of tools, heavy construction equipment and event supplies, the definition of industrial garment services is determined by the Standard Classification Manual codes and the same retail trade tax rates, calculations and provisions would apply. This could drop margin tax for these large, state-wide textile service companies by 50%. While it is intended that this reduction foster economic growth, concerns exist as to the effect on the Foundation School Fund.	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Eliot Davis (713) 855-3285 Eli@TexasLSG.org
<b>HB 1168</b> By: Anchia   King, Phil   Tinderholt   Turner, Chris   Meza	Relating to the offense of possessing a weapon in a secured area of an airport.	Homeland Security & Public Safety  Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent	There have been certain laws that have passed in order to protect the safety of citizens within airports. A civilian is not allowed to carry a weapon in the airport or on the airport grounds. However, there have been recent insider threats from employees who can legally carry and are not prohibited by law from carrying their weapon on certain parts of the airport that are not considered a secure area under the penal code.  HB 1168 amends the penal code to redefine and expand the secure area definition in order to include an area of an airport terminal or adjacent aviation parking area. HB 1168 does not include the tarmac sections reserved for private aircrafts since they can legally carry on their premises. HB 1168 avoids the smuggling of weapons onto flights by the internal staff at the airports and allows state agencies to collaborate with federal agencies to keep airports safe.	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Santiago Cirnigliaro (713) 435-9049 Santiago@TexasLSG.org

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<p><b>HB 1346</b> By: Thompson, Ed</p>	<p>Relating to the eligibility requirements for the diesel emissions reduction incentive program.</p>	<p>Environmental Regulation</p> <p>Vote: 8 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 PNV, 1 Absent</p>	<p>In 2001, the Texas Emissions Reduction Plan (TERP) was created to incentivize individuals, businesses, and local governments to reduce vehicle and equipment emissions and improve air quality to comply with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requirements. To be considered for grants to improve on-road and non-road diesel vehicles and equipment with heavy emissions, the equipment must reside in a non-attainment area for 75% of operation for the following 5 (five) years. This minimizes people committing and upgrading equipment because Texans can only apply if they are in certain areas and operational for a certain number of years.</p> <p>HB 1346 grants more flexibility regarding who can apply for TERP grants for on-road and non-road diesel equipment by allowing TERP to establish new parameters regarding years of use, and the percentage of travel in non-attainment areas. This would likely lead to more grant applications being considered which will maximize opportunity to reduce emissions.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Sophia Creede (832) 865-4774 Sophia@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p><b>HB 1325</b> By: King, Tracy O.   Larson   Gutierrez   Rodriguez   Burrows</p>	<p>Relating to the production and regulation of hemp and products made from hemp; requiring authorization to produce hemp; authorizing penalties; authorizing fees.</p>	<p>Agriculture &amp; Livestock</p> <p>Vote: 8 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 PNV, 1 Absent</p>	<p>Hemp is both a commodity and viable agricultural crop. The production and yield of hemp is unique since it is both drought and heat resistance and one of the least water intensive cash crops. Industrial hemp can be used in just about any product and has a wide variety of uses.</p> <p>In 2018 congress passed the Farm Bill that included a federal Hemp Act and allowed for hemp to be made legal by decriminalizing the cultivation, processing, and production of this commodity with seed certification that would contain less than 0.3% THC. Texas is currently one of 8 states that have not yet allowed farmers to grow hemp as a commodity and the state is losing out on what could have a positive fiscal impact on the state. Texas farmers are currently restricted from growing, selling, transporting, or processing hemp.</p> <p>HB 1325 puts Texas in alignment with federal law and legalizes the cultivation, transportation, processing, and sale of hemp and hemp-derived products in the state through the establishment of the State Hemp Program. HB 1325 would allow for Texas farmers to monitor the hemp crops, as they are highly regulated, and will be subjected to extra testing in the seed certification process to comply with the 0.3% THC limit through the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). Stakeholders in the program will be required to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide an application to participate in the state hemp program as a hemp producer to include the GPS coordinates for the perimeter of each location where the person intends to cultivate or process hemp</li> <li>• Test crop samples both randomly, preharvest, and sometimes postharvest, and for testing to be performed by TDA</li> <li>• Establish a seed certification program through the TDA, along with documentation for testing entities to collect and transport samples for testing</li> <li>• All hemp product must be labeled with detailed information about ingredients and sources along with a shipping certificate in the case of transporting hemp or hemp products</li> </ul> <p>HB 1325 places in statue the rules and regulation regarding the production of industrial hemp in the state by requiring the TDA to consult with the Governor and the Attorney General to develop these rules. HB 1325 allows for the creation of a State Hemp Program account that will be allocated to the General Revenue Fund under the TDA.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Marissa Gorena (956) 867-7232 Marissa@TexasLSG.org</p>

<p><b>HB 2955</b> By: Price   Murr   Moody   Minjarez</p>	<p>Relating to oversight of specialty court programs.</p>	<p>Judiciary &amp; Civil Jurisprudence</p> <p>Vote: 8 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>Texas specialty courts are courts that handle drug courts, DWI, mental health courts and veterans' courts. There are currently 190 specialty courts in the state of Texas and funding comes from Texas Governors Criminal Justice Division(CJD) for 89 of those courts. The CJD however is charged with providing oversight for all other 101 specialty courts in the state of Texas.</p> <p>HB 2955 gives the Office of Court Administration and the Texas Judicial Council the authority to aid these specialty courts. HB 2955 mandates the OCA to provide technical assistance, coordinate information, and provide best practice guidelines for the specialty courts. The bill maintains functionality within the Texas judicial systems.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Santiago Cirnigliaro (713) 435-9049 Santiago@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p><b>HB 2327</b> By: Bonnen, Greg</p>	<p>Relating to preauthorization of certain medical care and health care services by certain health benefit plan issuers.</p>	<p>Insurance</p> <p>Vote: 7 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent</p>	<p>HB 2327 amends the current Insurance Code to include language that would require health maintenance organizations (HMO) or insurance providers that require preauthorization's for medical or health services to have public access to the requirements of about the preauthorization process. Provisions of the posting would require that it be in plain language, accessible without a login of personal information, detailed description of the procedure of preauthorization, and have a current list of health care services that require preauthorization.</p> <p>HB 2327 would create more consumer and provider transparency for the process of changing medical services. This would shorten the waiting period between medical services such as being referred to a specialist or undergoing another treatment. This would increase utilization of services and consistent medical care for consumers who feel bogged down by time consuming referrals and long between services waiting periods.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Elizabeth Churaman (281)-686-4544 Elizabeth@texaslsg.org</p>
<p><b>HB 1402</b> By: Walle   Meyer</p>	<p>Relating to the purposes of and income eligibility limits for participation in programs offered by the Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation.</p>	<p>International Relations &amp; Economic Development</p> <p>Vote: 7 Ayes 1 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>The Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation (TSAHC), a nonprofit created by the legislature, helps provide affordable housing to low-income Texans in underserved areas and support for low-income, first time home buyers. As many developments include both housing and commercial portions, it is difficult for the TSAHC to allocate funds to only one portion of the development. HB1402 allows the public scope of TSAHC to include economic development opportunities. The corporation will have action over low-income mixed development projects in underserved communities. HB1402 amends previous code to include not only low and very low-income individuals but also includes moderate income individuals to receive certain housing loans through the TSAHC.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Ali Schoon 515-313-3712 Ali@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p><b>HB 1455</b> By: Hunter   Raney   Zedler</p>	<p>Relating to the audit of wholesale invoices during certain audits of pharmacists and pharmacies.</p>	<p>Insurance</p> <p>Vote: 8 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>HB 1455 adds language to the insurance code allowing pharmacies to not be penalized for audit discrepancies when purchasing medication from whole sale distributors. Current Insurance Code does not have language protecting those who purchase medication whole sale and break down the large amount into individual prescribed doses.</p> <p>HB 1455 would require that pharmacies provide wholesale receipts during an audit and documentation of dispensed prescriptions as to verify the amount of medication that is currently present and leaving the pharmacy. The addition of this language would prevent frivolous audits and protect pharmacies in Texas. Additionally, in the purchase of whole sale medication there is a potential for cost savings to be passed onto consumers.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Elizabeth Churaman (281)-686-4544 Elizabeth@texaslsg.org</p>
<p><b>HB 1669</b> By: Lucio III</p>	<p>Relating to a comprehensive plan for increasing and improving the workforce in this state that serves persons with mental health and substance use issues.</p>	<p>Public Health</p> <p>Vote: 8 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 3 Absent</p>	<p>There are concerns about the state shortage of licensed mental health and behavioral health professionals. However, because various levels of governmental agencies and groups have offered studies and recommendations, it is imperative that any action taken in this area is informed by the data and input offered by these stakeholders.</p> <p>HB 1669 requires that HHSC study and develop a plan to improve the Texas workforce that serves individuals with mental health and substance disorders. The plan must include a strategy and timeline for implementation that includes short-, medium-, and long-term goals as well as methods for evaluating outcomes.</p> <p>The plan must be created using information collected from available studies, reports, and recommendations, whether</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Sharon Jacob 920-675-9865 Sharon@TexasLSG.org</p>

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			regarding this population within the state or in other geographic areas.	
<b>HB 1618</b> By: Cyrier   Bell, Cecil	Relating to the provision of state death benefits to certain members of the Texas military forces.	Appropriations  Vote: 23 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 4 Absent	HB 1618 allows for survivors of a member of the Texas Military forces who are on active duty, who are unable to receive federal death benefits, to be eligible for state death benefits. These benefits include a onetime \$500,000 payment to the surviving parties. HB 1618 seeks to honor the service of those who have died in the line of duty while a member of the Texas Military forces.	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Brittany Sharp (210) 748-0646 Brittany@TexasLSG.org
<b>HB 3786</b> By: Coleman   Wu	Relating to a study conducted by counties on the effectiveness of establishing a family drug court; establishing a family drug court grant program.	County Affairs  Vote: 8 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent	Currently, Texas law does not mandate the creation of family drug courts within the county; nor does it provide regulation standards for any governmental studies related to the effectiveness of such courts or explicitly state the appropriated source for funding of the program. In the absence of family drug courts in certain counties, the proposed legislation of HB 3786 seeks to create county directives for a commissioner’s court to conduct program effectiveness studies that would analysis how the creation of such court will serve the county as a whole.  HB 3786 provides guidance on whom shall conduct the county’s study such as the sheriff or county attorney; and it gives direction on where the conductor of the study should request information pertinent to the study.  HB 3786 clearly states specific modules the study must cover which include the following: 1) the creation of specialized family drug courts; and 2) case management. Additionally, it outlines detailed funding criteria and limitations for the sources of revenue that is in direct correlation with the family drug court program. The Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) will serve as administers of the funding component.	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Brandi Granderson (202)808-6140 Brandi.Granderson_HC@house.texas.gov
<b>HB 1711</b> By: Paddie   Canales   Nevárez   Landgraf	Relating to the issuance of digital license plates; authorizing a fee.	Transportation  Vote: 9 Ayes 1 Nays 0 PNV 3 Absent	The vehicle registration process is expensive and time consuming. There is new technology emerging worldwide: digital license plates. HB 1711 provides the option for issuance of digital license plates.  The purpose for this legislation is to add functionality regarding motor vehicle license plates. Digital license plates have GPS capabilities, Radio Frequency ID technology that can link with toll booths and parking meters, automatic registration renewal, ability to purchase multiple specialty license plates (revenue stream) and ability to post public safety notices. Furthermore, digital license plates use E-ink technology which is reflective and visible during day and night.  Law enforcement agencies rely on plate readers and their technology systems are not built for digital license plates. However, the Radio Frequency ID technology works better in some ways—officers can acquire registration and license plate information without reading the plate. This doesn’t force digital license plates on Texans, it allows citizens to acquire them. They are relatively expensive due to the E-ink technology (\$400+).	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Sophia Creede (832) 865-4774 Sophia@TexasLSG.org

<p><b>HB 2748</b> By: Perez</p>	<p>Relating to regulation of the retail sale of fireworks.</p>	<p>County Affairs</p> <p>Vote: 7 Ayes 2 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>Currently, under Texas Law, there are restrictions on time frames when fireworks can be sold. HB 2748 seeks to address this issue by providing for the year-round sale of fireworks through a licensed jobber.</p> <p>HB 2748 authorizes a jobber to sell fireworks year-round who has a retail location and possess a licensed permit through the state fire marshal's office.</p> <p>HB 2748 removes previous specifications that a jobber only purchases fireworks for resale to retailers and specifications that require you to become a licensed jobber due to the possession, storage, and/or selling of particular fireworks.</p> <p>HB 2748 eradicates deadlines and controls over time periods in which the commissioner's court may restrict or prohibit the sale or use of fireworks.</p> <p>However, there are public safety and environmental concerns. More children will be at risk because of the increased availability of fireworks. In addition, dryer weather climates, in combination with the availability of fireworks year-round, is a breeding ground for massive wild fires. These decisions should be left for local jurisdictions to decide.</p>	<p><b>Unfavorable</b> Evaluated by: Brandi Granderson (202)808-6140 Brandi.Granderson_HC@house.texas.gov</p>
<p><b>HB 2004</b> By: Leach</p>	<p>Relating to the dismissal of certain actions relating to Medicaid fraud.</p>	<p>Judiciary &amp; Civil Jurisprudence</p> <p>Vote: 8 Ayes 1 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>Under the Texas Medicaid Fraud Prevention Act (TMFPA), if a suit is brought forward regarding Medicaid fraud by a private citizen, the Attorney General (AG) can decide if they would like to prosecute a company for fraud. The case is filed under seal by the court for 6 months in order to allow time for the AG to decide if they would like to prosecute or not. If the AG decides to not prosecute, then the seal is lifted, and the case may be dismissed. However, the AG may still be an interested party to the case due to if fraud is found to be evident, the state would get money as well as the private citizen would get up to 30% of the verdict money or settlement. Under current law in Texas, the AG does not need to consent to dismiss the case if they have decided to not be a part of the case, regardless if they are an interested party.</p> <p>HB 2004 amends the Human Resources Code in order to allow the AG to give consent for the plaintiff to dismiss a case even after the case is unsealed. By giving consent, the attorney general allows for the valid cases to not be dismissed and allows for invalid cases to be dismissed if they have been filed for private gain. It allows the state to have a say if the private citizens are suing for private gains.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Santiago Cirnigliaro (713) 435-9049 Santiago@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p><b>HB 2729</b> By: Minjarez</p>	<p>Relating to the administration, duties, and operation of the Edwards Aquifer Authority; authorizing a fee.</p>	<p>Natural Resources</p> <p>Vote: 8 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 PNV, 3 Absent</p>	<p>In 1993, what is known as the Edwards Aquifer Act, Chapter 626 was enacted by the state in order to protect a federal takeover. However, the Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA) still relies upon provisions in other chapters for administrative purposes, which has created confusion around the management of groundwater. HB 2729 revises and updates provision relating to the EAA by removing its authority from remaining provisions of Chapter 36 of the Water Code and move any relative administrative provision to Chapter 626 Edwards Aquifer Act.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Merci Mohagheghi (713) 382-7007 Merci@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p><b>HB 2038</b> By: Darby</p>	<p>Relating to certain offenses relating to disturbing or taking marl, sand, gravel, shell, or mudshell or disturbing oyster beds or fishing waters; increasing the criminal penalty.</p>	<p>Culture, Recreation &amp; Tourism</p> <p>Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays</p>	<p>In order to ensure sustainability and deter the rise in unpermitted disturbances of marl, sand, gravel, shell and mudshell in the state's oyster beds and fishing waters, HB 2038 would increase the criminal penalty for this illegal activity from a Class C to a Class B misdemeanor. The bill specifies any disturbance or removal outside of what is necessary or incidental to navigation or dredging, or done without proper permitting is prohibited. HB 2038 could take effect immediately with two-thirds vote in each house.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Eliot Davis (713) 855-3285 Eli@TexasLSG.org</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o PNV</li> <li>o Absent</li> </ul>		
<p><b>HB 2119</b> By: Cortez</p>	<p>Relating to the application for and loans from the Texas military value revolving loan account.</p>	<p>Defense &amp; Veterans' Affairs</p> <p>Vote: 9 Ayes o Nays o PNV o Absent</p>	<p>HB 2119 amends the Government Code by changing existing language to allow the Texas Military Preparedness Commission (TMPC) to utilize telecommunication methods to allow for member participation for the consideration and consultation of current loans from the Texas military revolving loan account. HB 2119 adds language to allow for the use of funds by those who receive funds from the account to utilize them to pay off other debt incurred to finance a project that the funds were previously approved for. Additionally, There is an added provision of the TMPC will consult with the Texas Public Finance Authority while utilizing new loan application forms.</p> <p>HB 2119 takes burden off of defense communities that would be in contact with TMPC while in the process of applying for and utilizing funds for projects. The increase of consultation with Texas Public Finance Authority would increase financial stability of the awards and further evaluation of the ability to repay funds.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Elizabeth Churaman (281)-686-4544 Elizabeth@texaslsg.org</p>
<p><b>HB 2422</b> By: Anderson, Charles "Doc"   King, Tracy O.   Nevárez   Leman   Price</p>	<p>Relating to the coordination of certain broadband projects by the Texas Department of Transportation.</p>	<p>State Affairs</p> <p>Vote: 11 Ayes o Nays o PNV 2 Absent</p>	<p>In an effort to help serve rural Texans need for broadband access HB 2422 would create a "dig once" policy, as a cost-saving provision, by requiring the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to coordinate, and collaborate with private entities, efforts to plan, relocate, install, or improve broadband conduit in highway rights-of-way in conjunction with any current or planned highway construction. HB 2422 required that TxDOT give special consideration to projects that will improve access to broadband for rural or underserved communities. HB 2422 does not authorize TxDOT to require a conduit or facility in a right-of-way to be relocated at the conduit or facility owner's expense. TxDOT will submit an annual report to the legislature that explains actions taken by the department in carrying out the provisions of HB 2422, any gains in broadband speed or access associated with voluntary joint trenching opportunities, and any costs or cost savings to the state, private entities, or end users of broadband services associated with voluntary joint trenching opportunities.</p> <p>Bringing together the coordination of services through a statewide strategy plan to help incentivize bringing broadband access to rural or underserved communities in Texas will have a big impact considering our increasing reliance on high-speed internet in areas such as education, health care, and economic development.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Merci Mohagheghi (713) 382-7007 Merci@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p><b>HB 2348</b> By: King, Tracy O.</p>	<p>Relating to the prohibition of certain employment discrimination regarding an employee who is a volunteer emergency responder.</p>	<p>Business &amp; Industry</p> <p>Vote: 8 Ayes o Nays o PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>Currently, an employer may penalize a volunteer emergency responder for any impact to their paid work as a result of their response to an emergency in the employee's capacity as a volunteer emergency responder. HB 2348 seeks to codify that an employer may not discriminate against an employee who is also a volunteer emergency responder through termination, suspension, or other actions as a result of the employee's absence or late arrival because the employee is responding to an emergency as a volunteer emergency responder. In such a situation, if the employee is unable to notify the employer of the absence or delay, the employee must submit written verification of participation in the emergency activity to the employer. While the employer may reduce the employee's wages for the time lost to emergency response activity or dock existing leave time, the employer may not suspend or terminate the employee. An employee who has been suspended or terminated wrongly is entitled to reinstatement to the employee's former position or a comparable position, compensation of lost wages, and reinstatement of any lost benefits or seniority rights. Any employee who has experienced a violation of the provisions is authorized by the bill language to bring civil action against the employer in the county of employment within a year of the incident.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Sharon Jacob 920-675-9865 Sharon@TexasLSG.org</p>

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<p><b>HB 1784</b> By: Capriglione</p>	<p>Relating to management and storage of state records and information.</p>	<p>State Affairs  Vote: 11 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent</p>	<p>Based on the recommendations made from the Texas Digital Storage Study HB 1784 will require that the director and librarian of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) to employ a state information governance coordinator for the purpose of ensuring records management programs are implemented by state agencies for all media types, to increase overall awareness and outreach for state agency records management programs, and to coordinate with the Department of Information Resources (DIR) to ensure that state agencies comply. HB 1784 would also change the name of statewide data coordinator to chief data officer. Each state agency with more than 150 full-time employees will need to employ a full-time data management officer who will work closely with the chief data officer in ensuring efficiency and efficacy of record management and data classification policies.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Merci Mohagheghi (713) 382-7007 Merci@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p><b>HB 390</b> By: Blanco   Frullo   Lozano   Sheffield   Nevarez</p>	<p>Relating to defense economic readjustment zones.</p>	<p>International Relations &amp; Economic Development  Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>The Defense Economic Readjustment Zone (DERZ) program was established in 1997 as a way to assist areas which were impacted by the closure of military installations or changes in federal military contracts in Texas through job creation, new contracts, and tax rebates for qualified businesses in the program. Several previous annual reports by the Texas Economic Development Bank stated that the DERZ program was significantly underutilized due to a time consuming designation process and the definition of “adversely affected” defense dependent community which does not take into account how much economic activity is driven by defense contracts in that community. HB 390 removes certain bureaucratic requirements in the process for designation as a readjustment zone and aims to streamline the process so that the program can be used as originally intended.</p> <p>Currently, there is a lengthy nomination process in order to even apply as a readjustment zone. HB 390 removes that nomination process and clarifies that a municipality or county automatically qualifies for designation as a readjustment zone if they are a defense-dependent community; meaning they include a portion of a federally owned/operated military installation, facility or mission that was functioning on May 19, 1997. The municipality or county must apply for a designation through the “bank” (Texas Economic Development Bank). Prior to applying, the county must enter an agreement with the municipality which has jurisdiction of the territory for that project. The agreement should clarify which entity has authority over the project and state that both entities approve the application. The governing body responsible is the governing body of the municipality or county determined to have authority over the project as stated in the interlocal agreement. HB 390 also clarifies that a municipality or county still qualifies regardless of its inclusion of an enterprise zone under the Texas Enterprise Zone Act. Once designated, applications may be submitted to the bank for qualified businesses in the community to be designated as readjustment projects eligible to receive tax refunds based on their job creation and capital investment. The bank will consider applications competitively based on which qualified business will result in the most economic development for a defense-dependent community in Texas. In addition, HB 390 adds that within an application, the number of new and permanent jobs created/retained for that project should include the titles of those jobs and the salary range for each job in those titles. HB 390 clarifies that a retained job is a job which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• existed 91 days prior to the date the project is designated as a defense readjustment project</li> <li>• will continue to provide employment to a qualified full-time employee at least 1,820 hours each year and is still in existence 3 years after receipt of a state benefit</li> </ul> <p>The application should also indicate what level of designation is requested and if it requests to be a qualified as a double or triple jumbo defense adjustment project by the bank.</p> <p>Current statute determines what businesses qualify within a readjustment zone to receive benefits. One of the standards being that the new jobs created by the business must consist of 25% of employees who are residing in the municipality/county, are economically disadvantaged persons, or are dislocated defense workers. HB 390 includes veterans within this required standard.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Ali Schoon 515-313-3712 Ali@TexasLSG.org</p>

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The DERZ program as currently enacted states that a designation as a readjustment zone may only be enacted for up to 7 years. HB 390 removes this provision and states that the designation will be indefinite as long as the entity continues to qualify as a readjustment zone. The bank may remove the designation before September 1, 2019 if the area no longer qualifies under current statute as written or if the bank determines the governing body of the readjustment zone hasn't complied with commitments as required to be a readjustment zone.

Currently, no more than 2 readjustment projects may be designated in one readjustment zone. HB 390 repeals this section and states that six projects may be designated if the municipality or county has a population less than 250,000 or up to nine years if their population is greater than 250,000.

HB 390 adds clarification standards for how much tax refund is available for each project depending on the capital investment, the designation level of the project, and the amount of jobs created/retained. HB 390 instructs the bank to allocate the maximum number of created/retained jobs to be included in the possible refund. This incentive tier is based on the Texas Enterprise Zone program's tax refund incentives; providing higher incentives for more jobs created/retained by the investment. The following are the available refunds based on the capital investment in the project:

- capital investment of \$40,000 - \$399,999 can receive a refund up to \$2,500 per job with a maximum refund of \$25,000 for the creation/retention of 10 jobs
- \$400,000 - \$999,999 can receive a refund up to \$2,500 per job with a maximum refund of \$62,000 for the creation/retention of 25 jobs
- \$1million to \$4,999,999 can receive a refund up to \$2,500 per job with a maximum refund of \$312,500 for the creation/retention of 125 jobs
- \$5million or more can receive a refund up to \$2,500 per job with a maximum refund of \$1.25million for the creation/retention of 500 jobs
- \$150million to \$249,999,999 can receive a refund up to \$5,000 per new permanent job with a maximum refund of \$2.5million for the creation of 500 new permanent jobs if the bank designates it as a double jumbo defense readjustment project
- \$250million or more can receive a refund up to \$7,500 per new permanent job and a maximum refund of \$3.75million for the creation of at least 500 new permanent jobs if the bank designates it as a triple jumbo defense readjustment project
  - double jumbo and triple defense readjustment projects may not consider retained jobs to be eligible for refunds

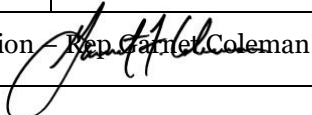
HB 390 also limits the refund amount a project may receive in each fiscal year based on its designation level- a defense readjustment project has a \$250,000 maximum refund in a fiscal year, a double jumbo defense readjustment project has a \$500,000 maximum refund in a fiscal year, and a triple jumbo defense readjustment project has a \$750,000 maximum refund in a fiscal year. The readjustment project may apply for additional refunds they may be owed in the subsequent fiscal year. The Comptroller is responsible for administering all tax refunds within the DERZ program.

HB 390 states that the municipality which is designated as a readjustment zone may refund its local sales taxes by a qualified business on all taxable items purchased at the qualified business site pertaining to the project and repeals previous limitations on what items could be considered for a local sales tax refund.

			<p>Rather than submitting a separate annual report to the legislature, LBB, and governor's office as in current statute, HB 390 states that the bank will provide all previously included information regarding readjustment zones and projects to the Texas Economic Development and Tourism Office (TEDTO) for their annual report to the legislature including the evaluation of the effectiveness of the DERZ program, how state and local incentives were used, and any suggestions for future legislation in regards to the program. It is important for the program's effectiveness to be evaluated and its requirements adjusted as necessary to ensure Texas communities are experiencing economic development and growth as a result of the DERZ program.</p> <p>HB 390 will cut bureaucratic processes for this program and allow for its greater utilization within defense-related communities and mitigate negative impacts from any changes in federal defense contracts.</p>	
<b>HB 2424</b> By: Ashby	Relating to the creation of a micro-credential certification program for public school educator continuing education.	<p>Public Education</p> <p>Vote: 12 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>Micro-credentials are digital forms of certification for various topic or subject areas that can be issued for formal or informal professional learning experiences to support educators refining their skills and developing new ones in the process to further student success in the classroom. Currently teachers across the state are required to take 150 continuing profession education (CPE) courses, but there is no existing section for educators to list their specific credentials.</p> <p>HB 2424 establishes an expanded micro-credentialing program to be funded from available funds under micro-credential certification programs that is beneficial to educators. HB 2424 authorizes the State Board of Education and the TEA to establish rules that will create a micro-credential program to follow current requirements for CPE and allow educators to promote their specific credentials.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b></p> <p>Evaluated by: Marissa Gorena (956) 867-7232 Marissa@texaslsg.org</p>
<b>HB 3361</b> By: Canales	Relating to court reporter service fees in certain counties.	<p>Judiciary &amp; Civil Jurisprudence</p> <p>Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>In Hidalgo county, there has been a shortage of court reporters for civil cases. Currently, the Hidalgo County Clerk's service fee is \$15 dollars. There are concerns that the service fee is too low and should be raised.</p> <p>HB 3361 amends the government code in order to increase the service fee in only Hidalgo County for county clerks from \$15 dollars to \$30. HB 3361 allows for the fee to be increased and assist in increasing the payments for court reporter related services.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b></p> <p>Evaluated by: Santiago Cirnigliaro (713) 435-9049 Santiago@TexasLSG.org</p>
<b>HB 2806</b> By: Morrison   Cyrier	Relating to the creation of the Texas music incubator rebate program to provide for rebates of a portion of certain taxes collected from certain music venues and promoters of certain music festivals.	<p>Culture, Recreation &amp; Tourism</p> <p>Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>HB 2806 establishes the Texas music incubator rebate program in efforts to support local music venues and festivals through a tax incentive program. Despite the economic contribution of more than \$23 Billion annually, local music venues and providers have struggled recently, and this was especially apparent during the long recovery of Harvey. The bill would provide rebates to eligible venues and promoters on certain sales and mixed beverage taxes up to \$100,000, along with eligibility requirements including the venue/promoter must be established as such for two years or more or must be located within declared disaster area.</p> <p>HB 2806 would establish a dedicated fund in general revenue with \$10,000,000 in mixed beverage tax and \$100,000 in sales tax to be administered by the Office of the Governor and exhausted yearly as rebates. Additionally, the Texas Music Office of the Governor would have the discretion and flexibility to grant rebates to venues that would provide the most economic benefit to the community.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b></p> <p>Evaluated by: Eliot Davis (713) 855-3285 Eli@TexasLSG.org</p>

<p><b>HB 2476</b> By: Guillen</p>	<p>Relating to the operations, communications, and notice procedures of state agencies.</p>	<p>State Affairs</p> <p>Vote: 13 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>The reporting requirements for state agencies and commissions are said to be outdated and unnecessary which leaves many of those reports unread. Current statute also requires specific methods to be used to transmit or receive certain documents, such as printing or by mail. HB 2476 would allow for a state agency to choose the most efficient means available to transmit reports and mail documents, but does not authorize the electronic transmission or receipt of documents that are prohibited to be done in this manner under federal law; to evaluate the necessity of each agency report; and to require the comptroller of public accounts to conduct a study, no later than November 1, 2020, on the mail operations of each executive branch state agency that receives an appropriation for a mailing requirement.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Merci Mohagheghi (713) 382-7007 Merci@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p><b>HB 2588</b> By: Phelan   Miller   Ashby   Reynolds   Cortez</p>	<p>Relating to the award of grants by the Texas Workforce Commission to facilitate the participation of certain veterans and military personnel in apprenticeship training programs.</p>	<p>Defense &amp; Veterans' Affairs</p> <p>Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>HB 2588 adds language to the Labor Code for the Texas Workforce Commission to develop and administer a grant to one or multiple non-profits for apprenticeship programs for veterans and active-duty military personnel who are in the process of transitioning to civilian employment.</p> <p>HB 2588 contains provisions for requiring the TWC to develop rules for the administration of funds the appropriate use of funds for the apprenticeship program. The utilization of this program would be beneficial for veterans transitioning as well as providing transposable skills for personnel that may seek other employment after the program.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Elizabeth Churaman (281)-686-4544 Elizabeth@texaslsg.org</p>
<p><b>HB 2585</b> By: Leach   Martinez</p>	<p>Relating to civil works projects and other construction projects of governmental entities.</p>	<p>State Affairs</p> <p>Vote: 12 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>HB 2585 would establish that a governmental entity may use a framework for the use of contractor pre-qualifications for those seeking certain civil works contract in an attempt to decrease disputes, improve competition, ensure quality of offerors, and promote objective evaluations of contractor qualifications. HB 2585 would require the governmental entity to establish minimum requirements for potential offers and a scoring process with a final pass or fail determination to identify qualified potential offerors who may submit competitive bids.</p> <p>A problematic requirement of HB 2585 would the weighted values assigned for price for a civil works project included in a governmental entity's request for competitive sealed proposals to be at least 50% of the total weighted value of all selection criteria. As well as the authorization, in the interest of the public, to assign to price a weighted value of no less than 40% of the total weighted value of all selection criteria. This could be problematic in that not all utility projects are the same, and the legislature by enacting Chapter 2269 has recognized that some projects need to be constructed not based on the lowest price but rather on other qualifications needed for complex and specialized projects. By making price valued at a minimum of 40% in the selection criteria price it will become the single highest value and hence most important criteria considered for selection. This will take away the valuable tool of being able to select contractors based on their qualifications rather than their ability to provide their lowest price.</p>	<p><b>Will of the House</b> Evaluated by: Merci Mohagheghi (713) 382-7007 Merci@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p><b>HB 3011</b> By: Turner, Chris</p>	<p>Relating to requiring the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to provide to a school district certain information used in determining academic accountability ratings for the district.</p>	<p>Higher Education</p> <p>Vote: 11 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>Currently, school districts are not given the entire data set for their A-F accountability rating, nor are they allowed to view that data set for their schools. This data set is conducted by a third-party service and there have been instances of inaccurate data markings, often from student error, which can severely affect the accreditation status of a school. Part of these data sets are used by the TEA to determine the accountability rating for public schools are submitted to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) via the Texas Success Initiative Assessment (TSIA). TSIA scores are included in the aggregate data set when TEA conducts its rating for a school district, which the school district is unable to view.</p> <p>HB 3011 addresses the issue school districts face of not being able to view the data sets used to determine their accountability rating, by requesting that the THECB provide copies of all source data that is submitted to TEA to public school districts.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Marissa Gorena (956) 867-7232 Marissa@texaslsg.org</p>

<p><b>HB 1632</b> By: Bell, Keith   VanDeaver   González, Mary   Meyer   Bernal</p>	<p>Relating to students eligible to receive compensatory, intensive, and accelerated instructional services.</p>	<p>Public Education  Vote: 12 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>Currently, the portion of the Education Code relating to identifying students who are at risk of dropping out does not include students with dyslexia or a related disorder and does not include those that are educationally disadvantaged. School districts can currently provide supplemental educational assistance for students who are identified as at risk of dropping out, but the groups of students listed above are not included in the categories.</p> <p>HB 1632 strikes language relating to students who are eligible for free or reduced lunch from the identifiers for students who are at risk of dropping out of school, but this group of students is still protected with HB 1632 substituting it by adding language for students who are educationally disadvantaged. HB 1632 also requires students with dyslexia or a related disorder and those that are educationally disadvantaged to be accounted for in the identification of students who are at risk of dropping out of school. HB 1632 allows for students who have dyslexia, or educationally disadvantaged, to benefit from receiving compensatory, intensive, or accelerated instruction services through the Education Code language change and addition of these students.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Marissa Gorena (956) 867-7232 Marissa@texaslsg.org</p>
<p><b>HB 2837</b> By: Canales</p>	<p>Relating to the operation of and equipment for vehicles.</p>	<p>Transportation  Vote: 10 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 3 Absent</p>	<p>There are parts of current law that the Texas Department of Public Safety’s Highway Division would like to see cleaned up to increase road safety. These have an impact on law enforcement operations and highway safety enforcement powers either by causing confusion or preventing smooth safety regulations.</p> <p>HB 2837 is a clean-up bill with several functions. HB 2837 takes out the requirement for Texas drivers towing trailers to have Commercial Driver’s Licenses which helps Texans towing trailers get to livestock shows without problems; this also cuts unnecessary stops for police officers. HB 2837 also improves driver safety by allowing the agricultural community to drive slowly on improved shoulders which decongests traffic. HB 2837 further allows law enforcement’s discretion in using their lights or siren instead of both and to choose where to park their patrol cars when conducting traffic enforcement which allows better safety for police officers. HB 2837 also clears up when breaks are required for small trailers due to conflicting weight ratings in current legislation, helping citizens and state vehicle inspectors. Finally, there are two penalty laws for license plate flippers that are similar but conflicting—one charges the crime as a Class A misdemeanor while the other charges for a Class C misdemeanor. HB 2837 removes language classifying the offense as a Class C misdemeanor.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Sophia Creede (832) 865-4774 Sophia@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p><b>HB 2872</b> By: Burrows   Murphy</p>	<p>Relating to the collection, remittance, and administration of certain taxes on motor vehicles rented through a marketplace rental provider.</p>	<p>Ways &amp; Means  Vote: 10 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>HB 2872 requires any marketplace rental provider, including electric and online venues, to collect and remit local and state gross receipts tax on all marketplace motor vehicle rentals to local municipality or county and the Comptroller. Gross receipts as defined in the committee substitute, is the total amount to be paid for the rental of a motor vehicle not including charges for insurance, damage, motor fuel or discounts. This expands the tax base to capture the growing peer-to-peer marketplace and companies such as Turo and Getaround and assumes the same tax rate for motor vehicle rental use of 10% as the traditional car rental companies (ex. Enterprise, Avis, Alamo).</p> <p>The intent is to increase fairness in the industry by collecting existing taxes, however opponents argue traditional companies subject to a 10% rate on rental services do not incur the initial sales tax on vehicle purchases as owners have in peer-to-peer programs and therefore, this additional tax will be passed on to consumers. They say that rental services in this peer-to-peer realm should be taxed at the lower 6.25% standard sales and use rate for rental of tangible personal property.</p>	<p><b>Will of the House</b> Evaluated by: Eliot Davis (713) 855-3285 Eli@TexasLSG.org</p>
<p><b>HB 2757</b> By: Leach</p>	<p>Relating to the rule of decision in a court of this state.</p>	<p>Judiciary &amp; Civil Jurisprudence  Vote: 9 Ayes</p>	<p>The American Law Institute (ALI) is an organization that publishes scholarly work as well as laws that are used by courts as an example as to how the law is interpreted and defined. In 2018, the ALI approved a restatement of liability insurance law and there have been growing concerns that the ALI went beyond their threshold and reflects the aspirations and intentions of new law as interpreted by the ALI rather than what the courts meant.</p> <p>HB 2757 amends the Civil Practice and Remedies Code in order to specify that the law that must be followed and</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Santiago Cirnigliaro (713) 435-9049 Santiago@TexasLSG.org</p>


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		<p>o Nays o PNV o Absent</p>	<p>interpreted is the constitution of Texas and cases that set precedents by a Texas court. The bill clarifies that the ALI's interpretations and restatements of the law are not controlling.</p>	
<p><b>HB 906</b> By: Thompson, Senfronia   Phelan   Moody   Bonnen, Greg   Coleman</p>	<p>Relating to the establishment of a collaborative task force to study certain public school mental health services.</p>	<p>Public Health  Vote: 10 Ayes o Nays o PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>HB 906 establishes a university-based Collaborative Task Force, hereafter referred to as the Task Force, to study and evaluate mental health service in public schools. It mandates that the Task Force analyze:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>state-funded mental health services provided at a public school to students, student's families, and employees</li> <li>training provided to public-school-employed educators to provide mental health services</li> <li>the impact of school-provided mental health services on the physical and emotional well-being of those who have received the services as well as the number of violent incidents at the schools</li> </ul> <p>The task force will be composed of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the commissioner of the TEA or an individual designated by the commissioner</li> <li>• three parents of students enrolled in public schools who receive mental health services from the school</li> <li>• one incensed professional counselor</li> <li>• one licensed clinical social worker</li> <li>• one certified school counselor</li> <li>• one psychiatrist</li> <li>• two administrators from public schools that provide mental health services</li> <li>• one member of a foundation that either invests in such mental health services or offers such training</li> <li>• one employee of an institution of higher education</li> <li>• one licensed specialist in school psychology</li> <li>• one person appointed by the Task Force from any entity deemed necessary by the Task Force</li> </ul> <p>Members will not receive compensation or reimbursement for their service on the Task Force. The commissioner of the TEA shall designate as the lead institution one instruction of higher education with mental health service evaluation experience. Two supporting institutions of higher education with similar experience will offer any necessary assistance. In choosing institutions, the commissioner should give preference to at least one predominantly black institution.</p> <p>The Task Force will gather data on various aspects of mental health services at public schools including: the number of students enrolled in each school, the number of individuals receiving such mental health service, the number of individuals for whom the school has resources to provide mental health services, and the demographics of the individuals receiving these mental health services. The Task Force will also study the impact of the services regarding: outcomes and effectiveness of the services and trainings, student academic achievement, student disciplinary proceedings, prevention and intervention services, substance abuse, suicides, relationship-building skills, physical and emotional well-being, and violence in the schools. In addition, the Task Force will also identify best practices for implementation of services and training as well as any patterns of disparities. No more than 10% of TEA state funds may be used to fund the Task Force and the Task Force may only utilize 10% of all allotted funds for the purpose of administration. Every two years, the Task Force will submit a report of results and a summary of activities to the Governor, Lt.</p>	<p><b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Sharon Jacob 920-675-9865 Sharon@TexasLSG.org</p>

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			Governor, and the Speaker. The work of the Task Force would help ensure that funds allotted for mental health services are being used appropriately, efficiently, and effectively. HB 906 was originally set on the Local and Consent Calendar but was withdrawn due to contest.	
<b>HB 1399</b> By: Smith   Phelan   Moody	Relating to the creation and storage of DNA records for a person arrested for certain felony offenses.	Homeland Security & Public Safety  Vote: 9 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent	Currently, if someone is convicted of a felony crime, their DNA is collected and stored in a facility. This is used when a cold case may arise, and they cross examine the DNA from the crime scenes and DNA's that they have stored. However, DNA is not collected upon arrest of certain crimes and if the offender is not convicted, their DNA is not kept and stored.  HB 1399 amends the government code in order to have certain suspects have their DNA taken at the time they are arrested for certain felony crimes. HB 1399 helps avoid repeat offenders from committing these crimes and helps law enforcement find the perpetrators faster. Law enforcement can collect DNA from a person if they are arrested for the most serious crimes such as sexual assault/abuse, theft, aggravated robbery, promotion of prostitution, and possession of child pornography. There have been concerns that HB 1399 could disproportionately affect certain populations since they can be charged with certain crimes. However, HB 1399 collects the DNA but does not immediately charge a person for a past crime if the DNA matches with a crime scene. If the DNA from an offender is matched with a previous unsolved case, then HB 1399 gives law enforcement the authority to reinvestigate the case with the new DNA.	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Santiago Cirnigliaro (713) 435-9049 Santiago@TexasLSG.org
<b>HB 2861</b> By: Landgraf	Relating to the authority of the Texas Department of Transportation to provide road services on federal military property.	Transportation  Vote: 10 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 3 Absent	HB 2861 encourages the Texas Department of Transportation and the U.S. Department of Defense to partner together for transportation projects on federal military property. This will save money and provide benefits for Texas motorists. HB 2861 does not force the two entities to work together, but simply authorizes partnership on transportation projects.	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Sophia Creede (832) 865-4774 Sophia@TexasLSG.org
<b>HB 1625</b> By: Bell, Keith   Lang   King, Phil   Murr	Relating to the creation of the criminal offense of false report of criminal conduct committed by emergency responder.	Criminal Jurisprudence  Vote: 6 Ayes 1 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent	HB 1625 would create a Class A misdemeanor offense if a person, with the intent to deceive, is found to knowingly make a false report that a peace officer or emergency services personnel, while on-duty, engaged in conduct that violates state penal law, and makes the report of said offense to any law enforcement agency for the purpose of initiating a criminal investigation. There is already current statute in place that takes care of false reporting against a peace officer, Penal Code Chapter 37. HB 1625's attempt to add the language of "emergency services personnel" to be protected under current statute it would add another section reiterating the offense of false claims against a peace officer while enhancing the punishment from a Class B to a Class A misdemeanor, while also allowing for the claimant to be prosecuted under this new section, the correction section, or both. This would de-legitimize a false claim made by an individual towards a peace officer. In addition, the Class A misdemeanor offense is excessive, considering current law classifies such claims against other personnel as a Class B misdemeanor.	<b>Favorable, with Concerns</b> Evaluated by: Merci Mohagheghi (713) 382-7007 Merci@TexasLSG.org
<b>HB 3264</b> By: Buckley	Relating to a study by the Texas Water Development Board of groundwater conditions in certain counties.	Natural Resources  Vote: 10 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 PNV,	HB 3264 would require the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) to conduct a comprehensive study of groundwater conditions in certain areas of Central Texas as there has not been such a study conducted in the area since 1999. Given population growth and urbanization in the past decade since the last study there has been significant change in the levels of groundwater usage that needs to be reassessed of the effects of current and projected groundwater production on groundwater conditions. The executive administrator of the TWDB will need to have completed the compilation, evaluation, and assessment of the data; prepare a report of the finding; and make	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Merci Mohagheghi (713) 382-7007 Merci@TexasLSG.org

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		1 Absent	copies of the report available to the public no later than September 1, 2020. HB 3264's provisions will expire on September 1, 2021.	
<b>HB 4674</b> By: Bailes	Relating to the creation of the Chambers County Municipal Utility District No. 2; granting a limited power of eminent domain; providing authority to issue bonds; providing authority to impose assessments, fees, and taxes.	Land & Resource Management  Vote: 7 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent	HB 4674 would establish the creation of the Chambers County Municipal Utility District No. 2.  Generally, Municipal Utility District (MUDs) creations are sent to the Local and Consent Calendar, however, the author will layout amendments to the MUD creation. The amendment requires the local residence homestead exemption option to be offered ensuring that the exemptions will not result in an increase or impair a reduction of the districts total tax rate for the year. The amendment also requires all MUD board meetings to be held within the District or no further than 10 miles outside of district to ensure constituents have access to attend the meetings.	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Donisha Cotlone (832) 496-4424 Donisha@TexasLSG.org
<b>HB 4451</b> By: Pacheco   Cortez	Relating to state recognition of the Tap Pilam Coahuiltecan Nation.	State Affairs  Vote: 11 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 2 Absent	HB 4451 would designate and recognize the Tap Pilam Coahuiltecan Nation as a Native American Indian Tribe. By officially recognizing this tribe their members will then become eligible for all programs, services, and other benefits provided to state-recognized Native American Indian Tribes by the United States, this state, or any other state.	<b>Favorable</b> Evaluated by: Merci Mohagheghi (713) 382-7007 Merci@TexasLSG.org