



# TEXAS LEGISLATIVE STUDY GROUP

*An Official Caucus of the Texas House of Representatives*

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## Representative Desk

LSG Floor Report For GENERAL HOUSE STATE CALENDAR- Monday, August 30, 2021				
Author	Caption	Committee	Analysis & Evaluation	Recommendation
HB 5 By: Bonnen	Relating to making supplemental appropriations and giving direction regarding appropriations.	Appropriations  Vote: 22 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 5 Absent	<p>HB5 makes several supplemental appropriations including Article X funding, contingency appropriations, funding for foster care capacity, and funding for cybersecurity. The appropriations made in HB5 total \$1.25 billion.</p> <p>The funds in HB5 are outlined below:            \$315.9 million from GR to legislative agencies in Article X. Restoring Article X funding, vetoed by the Governor in June, will ensure that the hard-working staff of legislative agencies including the Senate and the House retain their pay and benefits for the next 2 fiscal years.</p> <p>Contingency Appropriations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriates \$100 million from GR to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to ensure school districts do not lose funds because of the property tax relief laid out in SB8. These funds are contingent upon the passage of SB8.</li> <li>• Appropriates \$ 114.9 million from GR to TEA to ensure school districts do not lose funds because of the property tax relief laid out in SB12. These funds are contingent upon the passage of SB12.</li> <li>• Appropriates \$14.6 million from GR to TEA contingent upon the passage of HB28/SB3. These funds will be used for the mandatory civics training program outlined in the bill.</li> <li>• Appropriates \$701 million from GR to Teacher Retirement System contingent upon the passage of SB7. Appropriating this money from GR ensures that the actuarial soundness of the pension fund will not be affected.</li> <li>• Appropriates \$2.3 million and up to 6 FTEs from GR, \$2 million from the GRD Statewide Electronic Filing System Account to the Office of Court Administration contingent upon the passage of SB6 for the development of the public safety report system.</li> <li>• Appropriates \$4.3 million to reimburse the Secretary of State for the retrofitting of auditable voting machines, replacement of certain systems that cannot be upgraded, and development of secure tracking systems for mail ballots contingent upon the</li> </ul>	<p><b>Favorable</b>            Evaluated By:            Brittany Sharp  <a href="mailto:Brittany@TexasLSG.org">Brittany@TexasLSG.org</a>            (210) 748-0646</p>

OK for Distribution - Rep Garnet Coleman

			<p>passage of SB1.</p> <p>Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) - Foster Care - \$90 million                  There are approximately 15,000 Texas children in foster care. Due to heightened monitoring, COVID-19, staffing challenges, and insufficient funds, our foster care system has seen a large increase of children without a placement (CWAP), surpassing four hundred children in June 2021. Our foster care system has been routinely underfunded, leading to large systemic issues. Although these funds are necessary and will address the immediate needs for provider capacity and the item on the call, these funds do not address the systemic issues within our foster care system that will prevent this type of crisis in the future.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$70 million from GR for supplemental payments to retain providers and increase provider capacity.</li> <li>• \$20 million from GR for grants to foster care providers to expand facilities and enhance existing facilities to serve children with the highest level of need.</li> <li>• DFPS must prepare a report on efforts that the department has implemented in relation to the money appropriated above.</li> </ul> <p>Department of Information Resources - Cybersecurity - \$17.4 million</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$6.5 million/1 FTE for Endpoint Detection Response</li> <li>• \$6.9 million/7 FTEs for the Security Operations Center</li> <li>• \$4 million/1 FTE for Multifactor Authentication Expansion</li> </ul>	
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**LSG Floor Report For GENERAL SENATE STATE CALENDAR- Monday, August 30, 2021**

<p>SB 4</p> <p>Sponsor: Klick   Noble   Oliverson   Cook   Frank</p> <p>By: Lucio</p>	<p>Relating to abortion complication reporting and the regulation of drug-induced abortion procedures, providers, and facilities; creating a criminal offense.</p>	<p>Public Health</p> <p>Vote:                  6 Ayes                  2 Nays                  0 PNV                  3 Absent</p>	<p>During the regular session, the Texas Legislature passed SB8 and HB1280, dramatic restrictions to an already restrictive abortion process in Texas. SB8 prohibits abortions after a "fetal heartbeat" can be detected, usually around 5-6 weeks after conception, often before a woman would even know she is pregnant. It would also allow for any person anywhere to sue a person who performed or helped someone get an abortion in violation of the ban. SB 8 is currently facing litigation. HB1280 would outlaw abortions all together if the U.S. Supreme Court was to overturn <i>Roe v. Wade</i>. If these two bills were not restrictive enough, the Governor added restrictions on abortion-inducing drugs to the special session call.</p> <p>Currently in Texas, abortion inducing drugs can be prescribed up to 10 weeks or 70 days, which is in line with best practices according to the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG). These drugs are currently required to be prescribed by a physician, and multiple in person physician visits are required like all other abortions provided in Texas. Despite these restrictions already being in place, SB4 further limits safe abortion-inducing drugs by:</p>	<p><b>Unfavorable</b></p> <p>Evaluated By:                  Brittany Sharp  <a href="mailto:Brittany@TexasLSG.org">Brittany@TexasLSG.org</a>                  (210) 748-0646</p>
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prohibiting the use of these drugs after 7 weeks/49 days gestational age;</li> <li>• Prohibiting the mailing of these drugs to patients;</li> <li>• Creates substantial, medically unnecessary, and burdensome reporting requirements for physicians, including reporting pregnancy complications in future pregnancies; and</li> <li>• Creating a state jail felony for providers who violate this law.</li> </ul> <p>Medication induced abortion is the safest and least invasive form of abortion. If this bill becomes law it will push women into getting more invasive and expensive surgical abortions or into buying these medications on the black market, which may be unsafe.</p> <p>In addition to severely limiting a women's right to access safe reproductive care, the bill may have several consequences. It adds misoprostol and methotrexate, two cheap and common generic medications that can be used for abortion to the list of abortion-inducing drugs. However, misoprostol is also commonly used to prevent stomach ulcers and induce pregnancy. Methotrexate is used in cancer treatments. Though there is an affirmative defense to prosecution for the dispensing of misoprostol and methotrexate after 7 weeks, the fear of a state jail felony may cause many physicians and healthcare administrators to avoid the prescribing and dispensing of these inexpensive and useful drugs. Further, the alternatives to misoprostol and methotrexate are more expensive and could impact the cost of Medicaid in Texas.</p>	
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