



Chair, Rep. Garnet Coleman

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Representative

Desk

LSG Floor Report For General State Calendar – Friday, April 19, 2013

Bill	Caption	Committee	Analysis & Evaluation	Recommendation
HB 362 By Rep. Guillen	Relating to the transfer of adult education and literacy programs from the Texas Education Agency to the Texas Workforce Commission.	Economic & Small Business Development	<p>HB 362 seeks to ensure that adult basic education and literacy programs improve workforce readiness by transferring these programs and credits from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC). This bill authorizes the commission to have adequate staffing, programming, development support, standardized literacy assessment, and requires them to provide a bi-annual report of the education and employment outcomes to the Legislature.</p> <p>HB 362 establishes an advisory committee to advise TWC on a statewide curriculum guideline that ensures a balanced education and workplace skills development while partnering with community organizations that specialize in literacy development. HB 362 establishes competitive performance incentive grant funding on a performance-based process.</p>	<u>Favorable</u> Evaluated by: Yvonne Okonkwo 512-763-0031 yvonne@texaslsg.org
HB 502 By Rep. Hernandez Luna	Relating to the practice of dentistry.	Public Health	<p>HB 502 prohibits unlicensed individuals from practicing dentistry by administering teeth whitening treatments. It does not include over-the-counter teeth whitening products.</p> <p>Currently, unlicensed vendors in places like mall kiosks can administer powerful chemical treatments to individuals without a proper dental exam, which puts their oral health at risk.</p>	<u>Favorable</u> Evaluated by: Han Bui 512-763-0031 Han@texaslsg.org
HB 630 By Rep. Larson	Relating to the filling of vacancies on a political party's county executive committee.	Elections	<p>HB 630 redefines rules that a political party must follow in order to fill vacancies for precinct chairs and the County Chair. The bill requires parties to set their own rules for determining what constitutes a quorum when voting to fill a vacancy for precinct chairs. This provision of the bill is favorable.</p> <p>However, the bill also requires that a majority of precinct chairs in a county are present in order to reach a quorum for the purpose of filling a vacancy for the office of County Chair. This provision could present a problem in larger counties where it is more difficult to attract a majority of precinct chairs and could result in extended County Chair vacancies.</p>	<u>Favorable with Concerns</u> Evaluated by: Kelle Martin 512-763-0031 Kelle@texaslsg.org

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<p>HB 1325 By Rep. Miller, Doug</p>	<p>Relating to the dismissal of certain actions arising from exposure to asbestos and silica.</p>	<p>Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence</p>	<p>HB 1325 requires multidistrict litigation (MDL) pretrial courts to dismiss all asbestos-related or silica-injury cases that were pending on or after August 31, 2005, unless the plaintiff provides medical records showing proof of chemical exposure to the court by September 1, 2013. This bill intends to significantly reduce the estimated tens of thousands of inactive docket programs that are lying sedentary in the MDL pre-trial courts.</p> <p>HB 1325 intends to solve this problem while preserving the plaintiff’s rights by allowing inactive docket claimants the opportunity to file a physician report to reactivate their case. When a plaintiff’s suit is involuntarily dismissed, HB 1325 would allow the claimant the opportunity to re-file their case if their medical records reveal symptoms of alleged chemical exposure. The case will be treated as if it had remained pending the whole time.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Yvonne Okonkwo 512-763-0031 yvonne@texaslsg.org</p>
<p>HB 1752 By Rep. Patrick</p>	<p>Relating to creating the Texas Teacher Residency Program.</p>	<p>Higher Education</p>	<p>HB 1752 establishes a Texas Teacher Residency Program. The program will be designed to award a master’s degree and teaching certificate to participating students. Universities will form partnerships with an area school district or open enrollment charter school to provide participants with teaching employment opportunities during their education. The program is required to provide participants a livable stipend, establish a commitment to serve “hard to staff” secondary schools, and mentorship for participants. Upon successful completion of this program, participants will become eligible for Teach for Texas educational loan repayment assistance. The program seeks to improve teacher quality and is modeled after medical school residency programs.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Torey Ian Powell 512-763-0031 torey@texaslsg.org</p>