



Chair, Rep. Garnet Coleman

Treasurer, Rep. Elliott Naishtat

Vice Chair, Rep. Lon Burnam

Representative

Desk

LSG Floor Report For Postponed Business – Monday, April 22, 2013

Bill	Caption	Committee	Analysis & Evaluation	Recommendation
HB 1902 By Rep. Eiland	Relating to the refund of unearned premium for a personal automobile or residential property insurance policy.	Insurance	HB 1902 requires insurance company entities to return the unearned premium to the policyholder by the fifteenth business day. Currently, an insurer must return an unearned premium to policyholders in a timely manner upon cancellation of a policy. There is not a set date in Texas Insurance Code statute.	Favorable Evaluated by: Yvonne Okonkwo 512-763-0031 Yvonne@texaslsg.org
HB 1905 By Rep. Eiland	Relating to certain promotional practices not considered to be prohibited discrimination, rebates, or inducements in insurance	Insurance	HB 1905 allows Insurance Companies to give small trinkets, gifts, and other company items valued at less than \$25, such as pens, notepads, calendars, and magnets. Currently, Life and Health Insurance agents are forbidden from giving modest company trinkets or promotional items to their customers because of inducement and rebate prohibitions.	Favorable Evaluated by: Yvonne Okonkwo 512-763-0031 yvonne@texaslsg.org
HB 519 By Rep. Zerwas	Relating to voluntary donations to the Glenda Dawson Donate Life-Texas Registry.	Transportation	HB 519 requires the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) to designate a nonprofit organization to maintain and administer the Glenda Dawson Donate Life-Texas Registry, which is an organ and tissue donor registry. The monetary donations will be kept in a trust fund by the state comptroller outside the state treasury. The bill requires money in the fund to be disbursed at least monthly to the nonprofit organization chosen to pay administrative costs, and allows the nonprofit organization to charge fees related to the operation and maintenance of the registry. Background: The Glenda Dawson Donate Life-Texas Registry works in conjunction with DSHS by allowing Texans to register as organ and tissue donors when renewing a driver's license. The program is funded by a \$1 voluntary contribution that can be made at time of renewal or when registering a motor vehicle.	Favorable Evaluated by: Kelle' Martin 512-763-0031 Kelle@texaslsg.org

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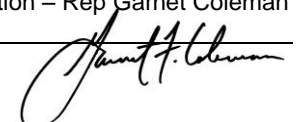
LSG Floor Report For Major State Calendar – Monday, April 22, 2013

Bill	Caption	Committee	Analysis & Evaluation	Recommendation
HB 1685 By Rep. Price	Relating to the continuation of the self-directed and semi-independent status of the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy, the Texas Board of Professional Engineers, and the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners	Licensing & Administrative Procedures	<p>HB 1685 is the Sunset bill for the Self-Directed and Semi-Independent (SDSI) Agency Project Act. The bill enacts the recommendations made by the Sunset Commission. The act authorizes the State Board of Public Accountancy, Texas Board of Professional Engineers, and Texas Board of Architectural Examiners to collect revenues and set budgets on their own outside of the General Appropriations process. In addition, the bill renews the SDSI Agency Project Act and transitions the act to the Government Code for uniformity and to improve agency code functions. This change will enable the act to be more clearly established in state law and be properly considered in sunset reviews.</p> <p>This bill requires the SDSI agencies to make all their deposits to the Comptroller’s Uniform Statewide Accounting System (CPA)—Texas Treasury Safekeeping Trust Company in order to ensure fiscal transparency. Furthermore, this bill authorizes the Attorney General to represent the agencies in all litigation matters. Finally, HB1685 has cleanup language that brings the accountancy board scholarship for fifth year accounting students from Texas back in to the jurisdiction of the agency.</p>	Favorable Evaluated by: Yvonne Okonkwo 512-763-0031 yvonne@texaslsg.org
HB 1717 By Rep. Price	Relating to the continuation and functions of the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners; changing certain fees	Licensing & Administrative Procedures	<p>This is the Sunset Bill for the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners. This board regulates architects, landscape architects, and registered interior designers. HB 1717 extends the expiration of the Sunset Review to 2025 and requires fingerprint-based criminal background checks for new licensees or professional who gets a certificate renewal.</p> <p>HB 1717 would require registered interior designers who have not passed the board registration examination to do so before September 1, 2016 in order to be eligible to renew their license. HB 1717 requires the board to assess the \$200 professional fee at the issuance of the certificate for registration for all architects.</p>	Favorable Evaluated by: Yvonne Okonkwo 512-763-0031 yvonne@texaslsg.org
	Prefiled Amendment #830885 By Rep. Schaefer		<p>This amendment strikes interior designers from statute regulating the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners (TBAE).</p> <p>The Sunset Advisory Commission recommends continuing to regulate Registered Interior Designers.</p>	Unfavorable
	Prefiled Amendment #830893 By Rep. Schaefer		<p>This amendment removes sections from HB 1717 pertaining to criminal history background checks and fingerprinting requirements for registration and renewal of certificates under the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners (TBAE).</p> <p>The Sunset Advisory Commission recommends fingerprint-based criminal background checks for applicants and licensees.</p>	Unfavorable

LSG Floor Report For General State Calendar—Monday, April 22, 2013

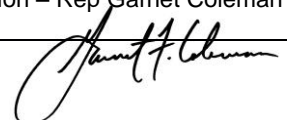
HB 347 By Rep. Pitts	Relating to prohibiting using a wireless communication device while operating a motor vehicle on school property.	Transportation	<p>HB 347 prohibits the use of cell phones while operating a motor vehicle <i>on the property</i> of a public or private elementary or middle school unless the vehicle is stopped or the driver is using a hands-free device. This bill seeks to protect child and pedestrian safety around schools. Currently, cell phone use is prohibited while driving through marked school crossing zones but does not specify areas such as school campuses.</p>	Favorable Evaluated by: Kelle’ Martin 512-763-0031 Kelle@texaslsg.org
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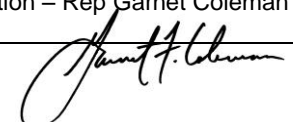


<p>HB 397 by Rep. Larson</p>	<p>Relating to the transfer of extraterritorial jurisdiction between certain home-rule and general-law municipalities and annexation of certain territory by the by the general-law municipalities.</p>	<p>Land & Resource Management</p>	<p>This bill applies to the certain potential annexations including the annexation of San Antonio Ranch by the City of San Antonio. San Antonio Ranch is currently in San Antonio’s extra territorial jurisdiction (ETJ), however, could benefit more from annexation by the City of Helotes located directly north. Helotes provides access to services and shares a heritage and rich history with San Antonio Ranch. San Antonio Ranch’s location in San Antonio’s ETJ further isolates and restricts their growth and expansion.</p> <p>HB 397 is bracketed to certain potential annexations including San Antonio ranch to include in the general-law municipality’s ETJ and exclude from the home-rule municipality’s ETJ, an area that is in the ETJ of the home-rule municipality. This may be done if the area is not identified for annexation by the home-rule municipality in their annexation plan and borders the general-law municipality’s corporate limits or ETJ. This can be done by resolution or ordinance and without consent of the home-rule municipality.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Muna Javaid 512-763-0031 muna@texaslsg.org</p>
<p>HB 528 by Rep. Turner, Sylvester</p>	<p>Relating to the restriction of access to the records and files of a child charged with or convicted of certain fine-only misdemeanor offenses.</p>	<p>Corrections</p>	<p>HB 528 makes low-level misdemeanors confidential and undisclosed to the public for juveniles who have been charged with a crime, but not convicted. It seeks to make the law more consistent by equalizing the confidentiality of fine-only juvenile charges, excluding traffic offenses.</p> <p>Currently, low-level misdemeanor records for children who have been charged but not convicted are available to the public. This may present hardship for the youth by drawing unwanted attention and being labeled as a troublemaker. This could also affect their ability to gain employment or housing as adults because of background checks. However, under current law records are closed for adolescents who are charged, but not convicted of more serious crimes.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Natalie R. Powell 512-763-0031 Natalie@texaslsg.org</p>
	<p>Prefiled Amendment #830855 By Rep. Turner, Sylvester</p>		<p>This is a perfecting amendment that clarifies language and makes grammatical corrections.</p>	<p>Favorable</p>
<p>HB 561 by Rep. Workman et al.</p>	<p>Relating to an exemption for land owned by a school from the additional tax imposed on the change of use of land appraised for ad valorem tax purposes as qualified open-space land.</p>	<p>Ways & Means</p>	<p>HB 561 exempts non-profit schools from paying the tax penalty incurred when land appraised for agricultural use is converted to a different use.</p> <p>Background: Current tax laws exempt public schools from paying property taxes. However, non-profit schools are still being subjected to the land use conversion penalty. HB 561 corrects this oversight.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated By: Kristen Macaluso (512) 203-5080 kristen@texaslsg.org</p>
<p>HB 1782 By Rep. Davis, Sarah</p>	<p>Relating to the requirement that certain health care providers who provide serves at a hospital wear photo identification</p>	<p>Public Health</p>	<p>HB 1782 requires health care providers at a hospital to visibly wear photo identification badges that clearly state the provider’s name and title. This bill seeks to promote patient safety by making health care providers easily identifiable.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Han Bui 512-763-0031 Han@texaslsg.org</p>
<p>H.B. 535 by Davis, Yvonne et al.</p>	<p>Relating to the preference given by state agencies to goods offered by bidders in this state or manufactured, produced, or grown in the state or in the United States.</p>	<p>State Affairs</p>	<p>HB 535 requires the Comptroller and state agencies to give purchasing preference to goods manufactured, produced, or grown in Texas or offered by Texas bidders. This bill also requires that the Comptroller and all state agencies <i>promote</i> the purchase of goods manufactured, grown, or produced, in Texas or offered by Texas bidders. Additionally, when the bidder is a Texas resident and service-disabled veteran, they shall be given first preference.</p> <p>Currently, there is no law requiring the promotion and preference given by state agencies to goods manufactured, produced, or grown in this state.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Maggie Nelson 512-763-0031 Maggie@texaslsg.org</p>

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<p>HB 617 By Rep. Rodriguez, Eddie et al.</p>	<p>Relating to transition and employment services for public school students enrolled in special education programs.</p>	<p>Public Education</p>	<p>HB 617 requires the Texas Education Agency (TEA) commissioner to ensure that all school districts have at least one employee who provides transition and employment services to students in special education who are graduating out of the public school system. The TEA commissioner shall develop training guidelines for transition and employment service employees.</p> <p>This bill also requires the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to create an informative guide about services and programs available to help special education students effectively transition out of school. This guide will be provided to parents and educators, and will be hosted on the HHSC and school district’s website.</p> <p>Currently, Federal law requires the state to provide transition services for students in special education programs. This bill increases the amount of resources available to these students.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Nena Chima 512-763-0031 nena@texaslsg.org</p>
<p>HB 947 By Rep. King, Susan et al.</p>	<p>Relating to the authority and duties of the office of inspector general for the Health and Human Services Commission and the office of attorney general with respect to addressing fraud, waste, and abuse in the provision of health and human services.</p>	<p>Public Health</p>	<p>HB 947 requires collaboration between the inspector general of the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) and the office of Attorney General (AG) to investigate fraud, waste, and abuse within HHSC programs. This bill directs the agencies to specifically focus on issues within the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).</p> <p>HB 947 seeks to increase effectiveness and efficiency while combating fraud, and requires the agencies to submit a report with recommendations to the legislature by Sept. 1, 2014.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Han Bui 512-763-0031 Han@texaslsg.org</p>
<p>HB 1278 By Rep. Lozano</p>	<p>Relating to the application of the professional prosecutors law to the district attorney for the 79th Judicial District.</p>	<p>Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence</p>	<p>HB 1278 adds the 79th Judicial District in Brooks and Jim Wells Counties to the list of jurisdictions subject to the professional prosecutors law which encourages prosecutors to devote all their efforts to public prosecutions.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Yvonne Okonkwo 512-763-0031 yvonne@texaslsg.org</p>
<p>HB 1864 By Rep. Wu</p>	<p>Relating to certain energy security technologies for critical governmental facilities.</p>	<p>Energy Resources</p>	<p>HB 1864 requires the State Energy Conservation Office to establish guidelines for evaluating critical governmental facilities - in particular, doing a cost-benefit analysis on equipping a facility with a combined heating and power system. The bill also adds institutions of higher education to the list of critical government facilities - those with energy systems expected to serve during widespread power outages and that are subject to this evaluation.</p> <p>Currently evaluations are required during a facility’s construction and renovation. They were established amidst efforts to increase preparedness in the face of increasing frequency of disasters and emergencies.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated By: Kristen Macaluso (512) 203-5080 kristen@texaslsg.org</p>
<p>HB 1128 By Rep. Herrero</p>	<p>Relating to posting suggestions and ideas on cost-efficiency on certain state agency websites.</p>	<p>Government Efficiency & Reform</p>	<p>HB 1128 requires state agencies with more than 1,500 employees, excluding Higher Education institutions, to provide an electronic form on the agency’s intranet or website that gives the employees an opportunity to submit suggestions on how the agency can be more cost-effective. The agency will monitor submissions weekly or monthly. To reduce redundancy, employees can vote in favor of previous submissions. The agency may exclude offensive, political submissions, or suggestions that the agency already implements.</p>	<p>Favorable Evaluated by: Nena Chima 512-763-0031 nena@texaslsg.org</p>



<p>HB 1894 By Rep. Elkins</p>	<p>Relating to the adoption of the Uniform Trade Secrets Act.</p>	<p>Technology</p>	<p>HB 1894 adopts a modified version of the Uniform Trade Secrets Act into Texas' legislative framework. It provides the legal basis for protection of business trade secrets and penalties for violations of these protections. This bill makes changes throughout current statute to provide centralized current legislation and provides the basis to recover attorney fees "if a claim of misappropriation is made in bad faith, if a motion to terminate an injunction is made or resisted in bad faith, or if willful or malicious misappropriation exists." Texas is one of four states that currently do not provide these protections. --Be on the lookout for potential bad amendments. --</p>	<p><u>Will of the House</u> Evaluated by: Torey Ian Powell 512-763-0031 torey@texaslsg.org</p>
<p>HB 2637 by Rep. Frullo</p>	<p>Relating to the fraudulent use of identifying information by certain sex offenders; providing criminal penalties.</p>	<p>Criminal Jurisprudence</p>	<p>HB 2637 enhances the punishment to the next highest degree felony for sex offenders who are found to have attempted or used false identifying information to evade sex offender registration requirements.</p> <p>Currently, it is estimated that 1 in 6 offenders are avoiding their legally mandated registration requirements by manipulating their names, birthdays, social security numbers or other personal identifiers in order to live with a stolen identity while appearing to satisfy their registration requirements.</p> <p>This bill addresses an offense for which a severe penalty already exists. Non-violent offenders who have been rehabilitated have difficulty reintegrating back into the community, finding a job, and securing housing. Continuing to enhance already stringent laws may be unnecessary and add another burden to the criminal justice system.</p>	<p><u>Favorable with Concerns</u> Evaluated by: Muna Javaid 512-763-0031 muna@texaslsg.org</p>

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