



# Legislative Study Group (LSG) Floor Report – Calendar for Monday, May 26, 2025

**This report only includes bills on 2nd reading that were set for the Major State Calendar for May 26.**

Major State Calendar				
<p><b>SB 6</b> Sponsor: King  By: King</p>	<p>Relating to the planning for, interconnection and operation of, and costs related to providing service for certain electrical loads.</p>	<p>State Affairs  12 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 3 Absent</p>	<p><b>SB 6 was recommitted to Committee on May 23rd. The full analysis of SB 6 (which remains unchanged) is included in our <a href="#">supplemental materials document</a>.</b></p> <p>SB 6 offers a significant step forward for grid reliability and manages industry growth in a way that should not stifle Texas’ business-friendly climate. SB 6 addresses significant vulnerabilities within the ERCOT power grid posed by industrial consumers and technology companies demanding large energy loads. It also makes changes to the transmission interconnection process. This bill aims to strengthen grid reliability, prevent ongoing market manipulation by bad actors, and protect against future deadly power outages like 2021’s Winter Storm Uri.</p> <p>As Texas faces the immense task of meeting projected load demand, SB 6 enacts measures that would allow the PUC to effectively manage challenges posed to the grid by certain large loads. However, stakeholders worry that the added regulatory hurdles will lengthen timelines and raise costs for the large loads — chiefly data centers — moving to Texas. Because data centers concentrate steady demand, they give generators a clear market signal and an incentive to build capacity nearby, accelerating the expansion of generation, transmission, and distribution needed to meet the state’s growing power needs.</p>	<p><b><u>Favorable with Concerns</u></b></p>
<p><b>SB 30</b> Sponsor: Bonnen  By: Schwertner</p>	<p>Relating to recovery of health care-related damages in certain civil actions.</p>	<p>Judiciary &amp; Civil Jurisprudence  7 Ayes 4 Nays 0 PNV 0 Absent</p>	<p>SB 30 attempts to standardize how medical damages are calculated in civil lawsuits, particularly in personal injury and wrongful death cases, by narrowing what can be shown to a jury. While it aims to prevent inflated damage claims, the bill introduces significant concerns around patient privacy, judicial fairness, and access to medical care.</p> <p>Claimants in personal injury suits are able to recover economic and non-economic damages (ex: mental anguish). According to the bill sponsor, courts currently lack clear guidance on what evidence related to health care expenses should be admissible before a jury. This ambiguity, combined with the complexity of medical billing, may result in inflated claims for economic damages. The concern is that these inflated claims can improperly influence awards for non-economic damages, which are determined by juries based in part on the scale of economic loss presented.</p>	<p><b><u>Unfavorable</u></b></p>

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			<p>SB 30 sets strict parameters on what health care cost evidence can be used in court. It ties admissible damages to what insurers or government programs actually paid or to benchmark rates like Medicare or workers' comp schedules. It requires plaintiffs to disclose referral arrangements, financial ties between lawyers and doctors, and payment agreements such as letters of protection. It also mandates the automatic admission of certain evidence, bypassing typical judicial gatekeeping. Notably, the bill applies retroactively to pending cases scheduled for trial after January 1, 2026.</p> <p>Although the goal is greater transparency, SB 30 imposes sweeping and problematic changes that raise constitutional, ethical, and practical concerns. It retroactively applies to cases already in the system, disrupting established litigation strategies and possibly violating due process. It places caps on future medical expenses for severely injured people, which violates protections in the Texas Constitution. By requiring disclosures of private medical information and referrals, it threatens patient confidentiality and may deter health care providers from treating injured claimants, particularly in areas with limited provider access. The bill also reduces the role of judges in deciding what evidence juries can hear, infringing on procedural fairness.</p> <p>While perhaps well-intentioned, SB 30 creates more legal and ethical issues than it resolves.</p>	
<p><b>SB 13</b> Sponsor: Buckley  By: Paxton</p>	<p>Relating to a school district's library materials and catalog, the establishment of local school library advisory councils, and parental rights regarding public school library catalogs and access by the parent's child to library materials.</p>	<p>Public Education  8 Ayes 4 Nays 0 PNV 3 Absent</p>	<p>SB 13 would impose burdensome oversight on school libraries by requiring public board approval for all new materials and giving parents and community members greater power to challenge and influence library content.</p> <p>Currently, school districts are required to follow collection development standards adopted by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC). Parents have broad access to their child's educational records, but not specific access to their child's checkout history or the ability to limit their child's access to those materials.</p> <p>This bill requires districts to provide access to each school library's catalog and allow parents to prevent their child from accessing specific material. Districts must also provide parents with a record of their child's library checkouts. The bill requires school boards to create local school library advisory councils if 20 percent of district parents petition for one. These councils must be majority parents who are not district employees and are tasked with advising on acquisitions, challenges, and content alignment with "local community values."</p> <p>The bill imposes extensive new acquisition procedures. All new or donated materials must be publicly posted for at least 30 days and then approved by the board of trustees or a local school library advisory council, if applicable, in a public meeting.</p>	<p><b><u>Unfavorable</u></b></p>



			<p>SB 13 also establishes a formal challenge process allowing parents, employees, or residents to contest any library item in a school district. Access to a challenged item is suspended until the board acts. If the board removes the item, teachers must also remove any classroom copies. If the board retains the item, the item is shielded from further challenge for two years.</p> <p><b>Concerns</b> SB 13 would significantly increase bureaucratic oversight on library material and allow school library decisions to be politicized by elevating content disputes to the school board level, authorizing removals based on ambiguous standards such as “indecent content” or “local values.” School librarians are trained professionals with expertise in selecting age-appropriate and educational materials. Requiring board approval for all new materials is redundant and undermines their specific qualifications.</p> <p>Libraries are meant to foster exploration and intellectual curiosity. Allowing external forces to control content may chill free inquiry and limit students’ ability to engage with diverse perspectives. This bill could give a minority in each school district the ability to stymie the free flow of information.</p> <p>Texas districts have already banned hundreds of books in the past two years. SB 13 may further accelerate this and threaten the integrity of school libraries.</p>	
<p><b>SB 2878</b></p> <p>Sponsor: Leach   Morales, Eddie</p> <p>By: Hughes</p>	<p>Relating to the operation and administration of and practices and procedures related to proceedings in the judicial branch of state government, including court security, court documents and arrest warrants, document delivery, juvenile boards, and youth diversion, and to public office</p>	<p>Judiciary &amp; Civil Jurisprudence</p> <p>10 Ayes 0 Nays 0 PNV 1 Absent</p>	<p>SB 2878 is a comprehensive judiciary reform bill that updates court structures, judicial administration, and legal procedures across Texas to improve efficiency, access, and equity in the State's legal system.</p> <p>Texas courts are under increasing pressure due to population growth, regional disparities in judicial resources, and outdated court procedures. Many jurisdictions lack sufficient court capacity or operational support, while procedural inconsistencies and administrative gaps hinder court efficiency and accessibility. The chairs for the committees with jurisdiction over the judiciary traditionally file an omnibus bill to create new courts, address judicial administration changes, and jurisdiction changes to address these issues.</p> <p>SB 2878 proposes wide-ranging reforms across 13 articles, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Creation and reorganization of courts:</b> Establishes multiple new district and statutory county courts across Texas based on workload needs and population growth.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Favorable</u></b></p>



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	<p>candidate eligibility; increasing a criminal penalty; authorizing fees.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Jurisdictional updates:</b> Adjusts jurisdictional thresholds and structures for various courts, including raising the civil monetary jurisdiction cap for county courts from \$250,000 to \$325,000.</li> <li>● <b>Judicial operations:</b> Revises rules for visiting judges, judicial qualifications, court interpreter appointments, and magistrate authority.</li> <li>● <b>Court administration and security:</b> Enhances data collection from prosecutors, mandates emergency court security planning, and updates judicial compensation structures.</li> <li>● <b>Jury reforms:</b> Modernizes qualifications, exemptions, and permanent disqualification rules for grand and petit jurors.</li> <li>● <b>Youth diversion and juvenile justice:</b> Requires juvenile boards to prioritize alternatives to prosecution for children in residential care and expands diversion eligibility.</li> <li>● <b>Additional major updates:</b> Addresses mental health court filings, document certification standards, court fee structures, and the administration of the new business court.</li> </ul> <p>SB 2878 enhances judicial infrastructure in fast-growing areas, supports vulnerable populations, and simplifies court operations to improve judicial efficiency and access to justice.</p>	
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