

Texas State Legislative Update Council, A-Session

Sally Basurto, Director
Government Affairs Department
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89th Texas Legislature

- The 89th State Legislative Session began on January 14.
- The Governor will share the State of the State on Sunday, Feb. 2.
- Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick has announced Senate committee assignments and his first round of priority bills.
- Rep. Dustin Burrows (Lubbock) has been elected Speaker; the House committee appointments will be announced in the upcoming weeks.



Senate Committee Assignments

Senator Roland Gutierrez, District 19

Member: Local Government / Veteran Affairs / Water, Agriculture, & Rural Affairs

Senator Judith Zaffirini, District 21

Vice Chair: Natural Resources

Member: Business & Commerce / Finance / State Affairs

Senator Donna Campbell, District 25

Chair: Nominations

Vice Chair: Education K-16

Member: Business & Commerce / Finance

Senator José Menéndez, District 26

Member: Administration, Business & Commerce / Education K-16 / Veteran Affairs

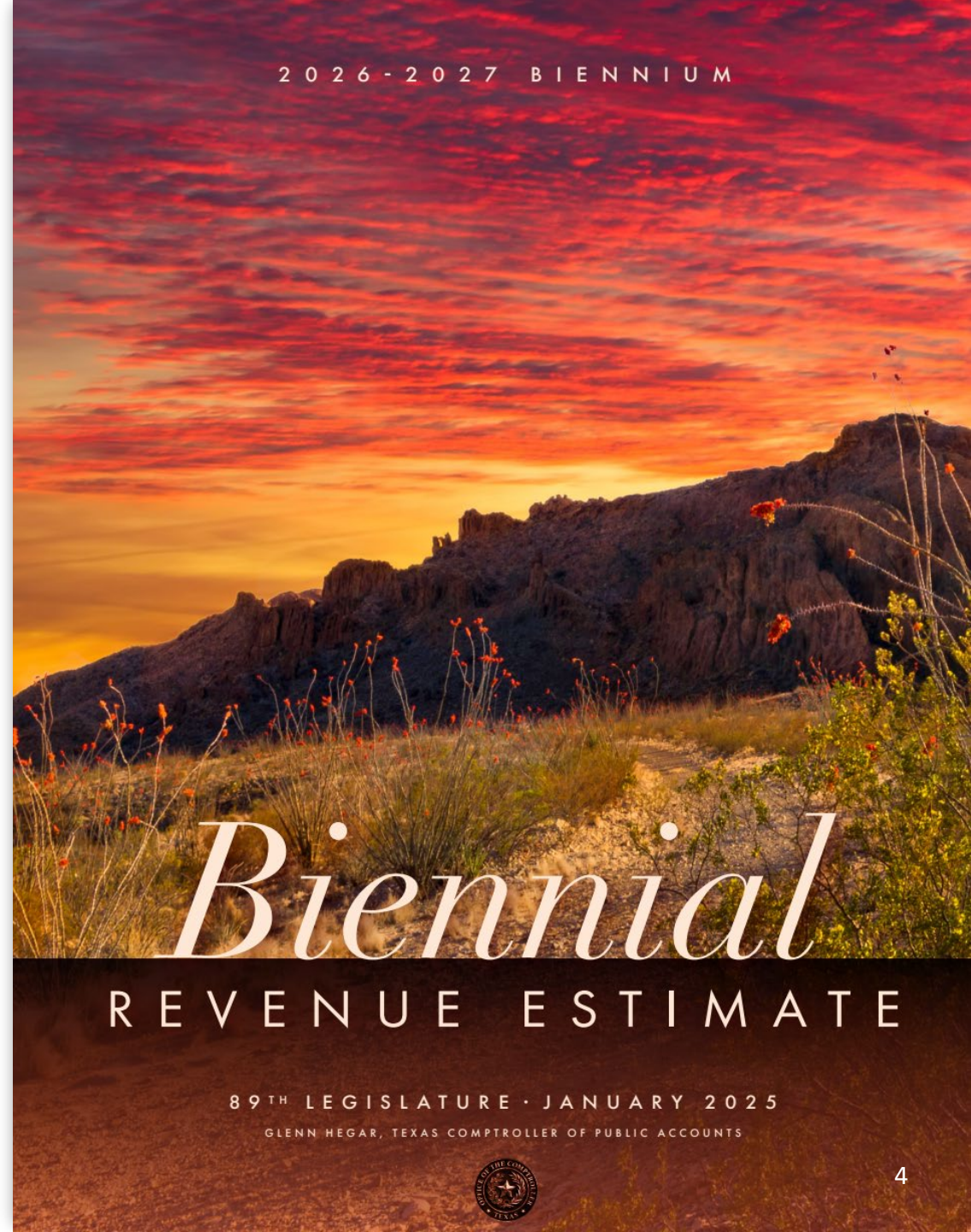
Comptroller Budget Update

Comptroller Glenn Hegar released the Biennial Revenue Estimate on January 13.

The state is projected to have \$195 billion for general purpose spending this session.

There is a \$24 billion surplus expected.

The Economic Stabilization Fund, commonly known as the Rainy-Day Fund is expected to reach \$28.5 billion by 2027.



State's Budget for 2026-2027 Biennium

Initial spending plans for All
Funds:

House \$335.7 billion

Senate \$332.9 billion

House/Senate set aside
\$1 billion for education
savings accounts

House/Senate both have
\$6.5 billion for border
security

House/Senate proposed \$5
billion from the surplus to
increase public school
funding and at least \$6
billion for property tax relief

The House has over \$38
billion for highway, water,
and flood control
infrastructure

The Senate has \$5 billion for
the Texas Energy Fund

Bills of Interest



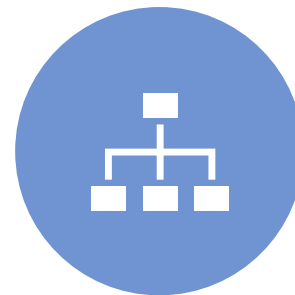
To date, over 3,100 bills have been filed.



CoSA is tracking more than 500 bills that could have an impact on municipalities.



GA staff and department liaisons are in the process of reviewing and analyzing bills to understand their impact on CoSA and determine strategy and action.



Leadership priority issues have not been announced, and those bills are yet to be filed.

East West Business Corridor



GA staff have provided briefings to our Bexar County Delegation members.



CoSA has hosted several stakeholder meetings.



Next steps include meetings with key State leadership.



Protection of Community Interests

Bills that impact the authority of local elected officials to preserve the voice of the community:

- Multiple bills have been filed to prohibit municipalities from hiring advocates or joining associations that advocate on their behalf [HB 309/SB 239, HB 571, HB 671 and others].
- Prohibiting governmental entities from maintaining diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) offices [HB 167].
- Reduces local governments' ability to create policies governing access to certain private spaces within city facilities, such as bathrooms and locker rooms [HB 239 / SB 240].

Community Development

Bills that could impact community and economic development efforts include:

- Several bills that address land use and density issues, including:
 - Impact on city regulations of accessory dwelling units [HB 878].
 - Impact on residential lot density [HB 369].
- Implementing a homeless data sharing network [HB 636].

Public Health and Safety

Bills that impact the City's mission to protect and improve the health of our community:

- Dangerous dogs issue mitigation and responsible pet ownership within our community [HB 1346 / SB 155].
- Mental health programs support [HB 1656 and others], establishment of an office of food system security [HB 1203], and enhancement of protections in family violence cases [HB 498].
- Increased criminal penalty for vehicle burglary cases, which has support from the Combined Law Enforcement Association of Texas (CLEAT) [HB 548].
- Permitting municipalities to prohibit sales of e-cigarettes near schools [SB 464, HB 1183, HB 1816].

Infrastructure and Resiliency

Bills related to creating a resilient future for San Antonio, in our rapidly changing society, and infrastructure needs:

- Artificial Intelligence regulation bill to include developers, distributors, digital service providers - establishes the Texas Artificial Intelligence Council to administer the new law [HB 1709].
- Creates a pedestrian infrastructure grant program under (Texas Department for Housing and Community Affairs) TDHCA for neighborhood associations to construct sidewalks, curbs, and pedestrian lighting [HB 769].

Briefing Schedule



Government Affairs will provide monthly updates to the IGR committee and full council during A-Session meetings.



Additionally, bi-weekly written reports will be provided to the IGR committee during the weeks without a presentation.



Beginning in March, registered CoSA positions on bills will be posted online.

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