



State Legislative Update Council A-Session

Sally Basurto, Director
Government Affairs Department
February 27, 2025



89th Texas Legislature

- To date, over 4,500 bills have been filed, and the GA team is tracking more than 700.
- Speaker Dustin Burrows has announced House committee assignments.
- The Senate has passed some priority bills and sent them to the House.
- The deadline to file bills is March 14.



House Committee Assignments

Rep. Trey Martinez Fischer, District 116

Ways & Means (Vice Chair)

Culture, Recreation & Tourism

Rep. Philip Cortez, District 117

Homeland Security, Public Safety & Veterans' Affairs

Permanent Standing Subcommittee on Defense and Veterans' Affairs (Chair)

Intergovernmental Affairs

Rep. John Lujan, District 118

Appropriations

Local & Consent Calendars

Trade, Workforce & Economic Development

Permanent Standing Subcommittee on International Relations (Chair)

Rep. Elizabeth "Liz" Campos, District 119

Delivery of Government Efficiency

Public Health (Vice Chair)

Rep. Barbara Gervin-Hawkins, District 120

Appropriations

Redistricting

Ways & Means

House Committee Assignments

Rep. Marc LaHood, District 121

Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence

Permanent Standing Subcommittee on Family and Fiduciary Relationships

Transportation

Rep. Mark Dorazio, District 122

Homeland Security, Public Safety & Veterans' Affairs

Permanent Standing Subcommittee on Defense and Veterans' Affairs (Vice Chair)

Human Services

Rep. Diego Bernal, District 123

Public Education (Vice Chair)

Ways & Means

Permanent Standing Subcommittee on Property Tax Appraisals

Rep. Josey Garcia, District 124

Energy Resources

Natural Resources

Redistricting

East-West Corridor

Developed conceptual plan and alignment for the parkway

Pape Dawson, on behalf of the City

Meeting with TxDOT leadership

Greater SATX, Toyota, University Health, International, JCB

Add Parkway to Major Thoroughfare Plan

Targeting May City Council action

Add Parkway to MPO's Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

Call for Major Projects in summer of 2026; will schedule MPO briefing soon

Ongoing dialogue with State Delegation and Transportation Partners

Preparing cost estimates for pre-construction components

Senate Priority Bills

S.B. 19 (Middleton): Community Censorship

Prohibits political subdivisions from using public funds for lobbying and certain other activities.

➤ *Scheduled for hearing on February 27th in Senate State Affairs.*

S.B. 4 (Bettencourt): Homestead Tax Exemption

Raises the homestead exemption from \$100,000 to \$140,000 (and \$150k for seniors.)

➤ *Passed the Senate, received in the House.*

Dangerous Dogs

H.B. 2806 (Lujan)

Allows increased flexibility to our ACS officers to identify and make dangerous dog designations, increase the penalty for multiple bite incidents from Class C to Class b misdemeanor, and restricts ownership of dogs for five years for owners with multiple convictions for dangerous dog bites.

H.B. 2325 (Campos)

Creates a statewide registry for dangerous dogs. Mandates the Dept. of Public Safety to collaborate with local animal control authorities to create and maintain a publicly accessible online registry.

Regulatory

H.B. 2156 (Harris) / S.B. 1008 (Middleton)

Changes how a municipality can regulate food trucks, including changes in permitting, fees, and noise regulations. Makes cities liable for lawsuits.

HB 2844 (Landgraf)

Establishes the Mobile Food Vendor Regulatory Consistency Act; Limits how cities can regulate mobile food vendors. Cities cannot ban or regulate food trucks in ways that conflict with state law but may enforce fire codes, zoning laws, and general safety rules.

HB 2625 (DeAyala) / SB 1358 (Parker)

Prohibits a city or public health district from requiring a permit, charging a fee, or otherwise prohibiting sound related activity at a food service establishment arising from late night deliveries between 10pm and 5am.

Public Information Act

H.B. 2248 (Smithee) / SB 852 (Middleton)

Makes changes to the Public Information Law by introducing new requirements for governmental bodies that handle public records requests. Including, timely responses, fee restrictions and legal costs may have to be paid by the government agency.

S.B. 1130 (Middleton) - Alternative Dispute Resolution

Allows requestors to require a governmental body to participate in an alternative dispute resolution procedure regarding a request in case of disagreements.

➤ *Referred to Senate Business & Commerce Committee*

Miscellaneous

H.B. 2101 (Campos)

Creates a study on unreported gunshots detected using gunshot detection technology.

H.B. 1998 (Spiller) / SB 1173 (Perry)

Increases the competitive bidding thresholds required for city purchases from \$50,000 to \$100,000.

H.B. 1806 (Noble) / S.B. 730 (Campbell)

Prohibits government entities from using taxpayer resources to support abortion assistance entities or provide logistical support for obtaining an abortion.

H.B. 2673 (Lujan)

Repeals certain provisions authorizing cemeteries in certain municipalities and counties. It would not allow the establishment of a cemetery within 5 miles of city boundaries.



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