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**BUSINESS LAW SECTION**  
**STATE BAR OF TEXAS**  
**TEXAS LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**  
March 13, 2015

The initial phase of the session concluded on Friday as the 60-day mark passed, as did the deadline to file regular bills. Because of the log-jam of last minute filings, this report will not cover all legislation filed on Friday.

For the first time this session, the House is slated to begin hearing bills on Monday. That chamber's budget writers finished their draft of the biennial budget, which differs significantly from the budget being considered by the Senate, particularly on funding sources. The two chambers will continue to negotiate the differences as the appropriations process moves forward.

*The BLS is tracking legislation in ten (10) general subject-matter categories. Periodic updates will come in two parts, the first part, below, is a summary of the categories. The second part contains a detailed list of all bills being tracked within the categories.*

**A -- Section Prepared Bills**

Bills in this category are proposed by the Texas Business Law Foundation ("TBLF").

**Business Organization Code—Corporations**

Substantive and technical amendments to the BOC affecting corporations and fundamental business transactions developed by the BLS BOC Drafting Committee.

[HB 2142](#) (Oliviera)/[SB 860](#) (Eltife)—Filed in both the House and the Senate. A committee substitute with minor corrections is being prepared by TLC. Senate B&C heard SB 860 on March 10. Lori Ann Fox and Greg Odegaard testified on behalf of TBLF, and Carmen Flores appeared on behalf of the Secretary of State's office. The Attorney General's office expressed concerns with the non-profit provisions and agreed upon language will be incorporated in a committee substitute that is expected to be voted out next week.

**Business Organization Code—Partnerships and LLCs**

Substantive and technical amendments to the BOC affecting partnerships and limited liabilities companies developed by the BLS BOC Drafting Committee.

[HB 2144](#) (Oliviera)/[SB 859](#) (Eltife)—Filed in both the House and the Senate. A committee substitute with minor corrections is being prepared by TLC. Senate B&C heard SB 859 on

March 10. Lori Ann Fox, Greg Odegaard and Carmen Flores were the witness team on this bill as well.

### **Uniform Commercial Code—Chapter 1**

Modifies the definition of a “person” to include “particular series of a for-profit entity” in Chapter 1 of the Business and Commerce Code.

[HB 3434](#) (Parker)/ [SB 1077](#) (Eltife)—Filed in both the House and Senate.

### **B -- Business Courts**

#### **Chancery Court**

[HB 1603](#) (Villalba) – Creates a chancery court system in Texas to handle specific business litigation. Discussions with various interested industry groups continue. Referred to Business & Industry.

### **C -- Business Entities**

#### **Trusts**

[HB 3762](#) (Elkins)—Amends Section 101.003 of the Property Code to permit a settlor of an express trust to designate the trust as a “business purpose trust” in the trust instrument, so that the trust can be considered a legal organization and treated as a business trust.

[HB 2534](#) (Parker)/ [SB 875](#) (Eltife)—Enforces State Banking Commissioner regulation over “state trust companies.”

#### **LLCs Charging Order**

[SB 433](#) (Burton) – Amends the BOC to make Section 101.112, relating to member’s membership interest subject to a charging order, applicable to both single-member limited liability companies and multiple-member limited liability companies. Referred to Senate B&C.

#### **LP & PA Filing Requirements**

[HB 2891](#) (Otto)—Adds limited partnerships and professional associations to Comptroller public information report filing requirements currently applicable to corporations and LLCs. Provides a corresponding exemption from SOS report or statement filing requirements.

#### **Service of Process**

See HB 241 (Leach) and HB 1806 (Tinderholt) /HB 3459 (Schofield) in the tracking report.

#### **Business Names**

[HB 2753](#) (Villalba)—Amends Section 5.053 of the BOC to adopt a “distinguishable” business name standard rather than the current “deceptively similar” standard. Conforms to the trend in most states and the MCBA. Supported by the SOS.

[SB 1313](#) (Watson)—Amends section 5.053 of the BOC to permit the use of a notarized consent to avoid application of the current business name standard.

## **Non-profit Corporations**

[SB 1233](#) (L. Taylor)—Adds new provisions to Chapter 22 of the BOC authorizing distributions of income to non-profit corporation members.

## **D -- UCC**

Awaiting the filing of additional bills and identification as to relevancy.

## **E -- Securities**

### **Crowdfunding**

[HB 2580](#) (Johnson)—Requires the State Securities Board to promulgate rules regularly and facilitating online intrastate crowdfunding and provides requirements and standards.

### **Insider Trading by Public Officials**

[HB 1539](#) (Meyer) —Increases criminal penalties based on threshold pecuniary gain amounts for public officials convicted of insider trading.

### **State Securities Board**

[HB 2493](#) (Parker)—Provides for the status of the State Securities Board as state agency, and adds internal operating requirements and powers.

## **F -- Financial Institutions**

### **Dodd-Frank**

[HCR 26](#) (Flynn)—Requests Congress to repeal the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

## **G -- Business Liability**

### **Human Trafficking**

[HB 968](#) (Hernandez) – Applies to certain legal entities under the BOC and would make a shareholder or member of an entity jointly liable under Sec. 98.002 of the Civil Practices and Remedies Code for damages arising from trafficking of a person if the shareholder or member caused or had knowledge of the entity to be used for trafficking. The bill is modeled after Section 21.223 (b) of the Business and Commerce Code regarding existing lawsuit liability for shareholders in fraud cases. Hernandez agreed to accept TBLF language in a committee substitute to better mirror existing state law. Heard in House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence on March 10 and left pending.

### **Shareholder Oppression**

[HB 3168](#) (Simmons)— Amends Chapter 21 of the BOC to provide remedies for shareholder oppression in closely held corporations, apparently overturning the Supreme Court's decision in *Ritchie v. Rupe*.

## **H -- Real Estate and Related Topics**

### **Power of Attorney**

[HB 3095](#) (Thompson) –The REPTL POA bill. The POA committee is reviewing the 58-page bill.

## **I -- Taxation and Related Topics**

Reducing business taxes is a primary issue for the Republican leadership.

### **Franchise Tax**

[SB 7](#) (Nelson)—Would permanently reduce the franchise tax rate to 0.85 percent for most taxpayers and 0.425 percent for retailers and wholesalers. Referred to Senate Finance and heard on March 3 and 4. Pending in committee.

[SB 8](#) (Schwertner)—Would increase the franchise tax exemption to businesses earning \$4 million or less in total annual revenue. Referred to Senate Finance and heard on March 3 and 4. Pending in committee.

### **Occupation Tax**

[HB 2089](#) (Darby) / [SB 765](#) (Eltife)—Repeals the \$200 annual licensing fee imposed on a variety of occupations, including attorneys. The Senate Bill was referred to Senate Finance and was heard on March 3 and 4. TBLF registered in support of this legislation. Pending in committee.

## **J -- Choice of Law**



### **Application of Foreign and International Law**

Efforts to restrict the impact in Texas courts of certain perceived repugnant foreign laws or doctrines, or so called “Anti-Sharia” laws, continue. Several bills have been filed impacting foreign judgment enforcement, and contractual choice of law and venue provisions.

[HB 562](#) (Leach)/ [SB 531](#) (Campbell)—Narrows the application to marriages, suits for dissolution of a marriage and suits relating to a parent-child relationship. The House bill has been referred to the House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence Committee and the Senate bill has been referred to the Senate State Affairs Committee.

# SBOT BUSINESS LAW SECTION LEGISLATIVE TRACKING REPORT

03-13-2015 - 15:11:09

 - Action in the date range  - Link to Related Information ( ) - Priority

## A - Section Prepared

HB 2142 Oliveira, Rene(D) Relating to corporations and fundamental business transactions.

**Companions:** [SB 860](#) Eltife, Kevin (Identical)  
3-10-15 S Committee action pending Senate Business and Commerce

**Bill History:** 03-12-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Business and Industry

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HB 2144 Oliveira, Rene(D) Relating to partnerships and limited liability companies.

**Companions:** [SB 859](#) Eltife, Kevin (Identical)  
3-10-15 S Committee action pending Senate Business and Commerce

**Bill History:** 03-12-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Business and Industry

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HB 3434 Parker, Tan(R) Relating to the definition of "person" under the Uniform Commercial Code.

**Companions:** [SB 1077](#) Eltife, Kevin (Identical)  
3- 9-15 S Filed

**Bill History:** 03-12-15 H Filed

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SB 859 Eltife, Kevin(R) Relating to partnerships and limited liability companies.

**Companions:** [HB 2144](#) Oliveira, Rene (Identical)  
3-12-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Business and Industry

**Bill History:** 03-10-15 S Committee action pending Senate Business and Commerce

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SB 860 Eltife, Kevin(R) Relating to corporations and fundamental business transactions.

**Companions:** [HB 2142](#) Oliveira, Rene (Identical)  
3-12-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Business and Industry

**Bill History:** 03-10-15 S Committee action pending Senate Business and Commerce

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SB 1077 Eltife, Kevin(R) Relating to the definition of "person" under the Uniform Commercial Code.

**Companions:** [HB 3434](#) Parker, Tan (Identical)  
3-12-15 H Filed

**Bill History:** 03-09-15 S Filed

**B - Business Courts**

HB 1603 Villalba, Jason(R) Relating to the creation of the chancery court and the court of chancery appeals to hear certain cases.

**Bill History:** 03-09-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Business and Industry

**C - Business Entities**

HB 241 Leach, Jeff(R) Relating to substituted service of citation through a social media presence.

**Bill History:** 03-10-15 H Committee action pending House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

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HB 1120 Sanford, Scott(R) Relating to creation of entities affiliated with a church organized as a nonprofit corporation.

**Bill History:** 03-03-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Business and Industry

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HB 1806 Tinderholt, Tony (F)(R) Relating to service of process in this state.

**Companions:** [HB 3459](#) Schofield, Mike (F) (Identical)

			3-12-15 H Filed
		<b>Bill History:</b>	03-12-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence
HB 2207	Keffer, Jim(R)	Relating to the foreclosure sale of property subject to oil or gas lease.	
		<b>Companions:</b>	SB 1384 Eltife, Kevin (Identical) 3-12-15 S Filed
		<b>Bill History:</b>	03-03-15 H Filed
HB 2534	Parker, Tan(R)	Relating to the regulation of state trust companies.	
		<b>Companions:</b>	SB 875 Eltife, Kevin (Identical) 3- 4-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce
		<b>Bill History:</b>	03-06-15 H Filed
HB 2753	Villalba, Jason(R)	Relating to the names of certain businesses.	
		<b>Bill History:</b>	03-09-15 H Filed
HB 2891	Otto, John(R)	Relating to certain reporting requirements for taxable entities.	
		<b>Companions:</b>	SB 1541 Perry, Charles (F) (Identical) 3-12-15 S Filed
		<b>Bill History:</b>	03-10-15 H Filed
HB 3459	Schofield, Mike (F)(R)	Relating to service of process in this state.	
		<b>Companions:</b>	HB 1806 Tinderholt, Tony (F) (Identical) 3-12-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence
		<b>Bill History:</b>	03-12-15 H Filed
SB 433	Burton, Konni (F)(R)	Relating to a membership interest in a limited liability company subject to a charging order.	
		<b>Bill History:</b>	02-09-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

SB 500	Burton, Konni (F)(R)	Relating to self-settled asset protection trusts.
	<b>Bill History:</b>	02-11-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs
SB 875	Eltife, Kevin(R)	Relating to the regulation of state trust companies.
	<b>Companions:</b>	HB 2534 Parker, Tan (Identical) 3- 6-15 H Filed
	<b>Bill History:</b>	03-04-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce
SB 1233	Taylor, Larry(R)	Relating to authorizing certain distributions of income from a nonprofit corporation to members of the corporation who are certain nonprofit corporations.
	<b>Companions:</b>	HB 3479 Oliveira, Rene (Identical) 3-12-15 H Filed
	<b>Bill History:</b>	03-11-15 S Filed
SB 1313	Watson, Kirk(D)	Relating to the names of certain businesses.
	<b>Bill History:</b>	03-11-15 S Filed
SB 1384	Eltife, Kevin(R)	Relating to the foreclosure sale of property subject to oil or gas lease.
	<b>Companions:</b>	HB 2207 Keffer, Jim (Identical) 3- 3-15 H Filed
	<b>Bill History:</b>	03-12-15 S Filed
<b>D - UCC</b>		
HB 3434	Parker, Tan(R)	Relating to the definition of "person" under the Uniform Commercial Code.
	<b>Companions:</b>	SB 1077 Eltife, Kevin (Identical) 3- 9-15 S Filed
	<b>Bill History:</b>	03-12-15 H Filed



SB 1077 Eltife, Kevin(R) Relating to the definition of "person" under the Uniform Commercial Code.

**Companions:** HB 3434 Parker, Tan (Identical)  
3-12-15 H Filed

**Bill History:** 03-09-15 S Filed

**E - Securities**

HB 1539 Meyer, Morgan (F)(R) Relating to increasing the criminal penalties in certain circumstances for insider trading and other misuse of official information by public servants.

**Bill History:** 02-17-15 H Filed

HB 1560 Hernandez, Ana(D) Relating to investment options for property recovered in a suit by a next friend or guardian ad litem on behalf of a minor or incapacitated person.

**Bill History:** 03-09-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

HB 2493 Parker, Tan(R) Related to self-directed and semi-independent status of the State Securities Board.

**Bill History:** 03-06-15 H Filed

HB 2580 Johnson, Eric(D) Relating to crowdfunding portal regulations.

**Bill History:** 03-09-15 H Filed

SB 1061 Hinojosa, Chuy(D) Relating to the regulation of secondary market transactions related to the business of life settlements.

**Companions:** HB 3723 Workman, Paul (Identical)  
3-13-15 H Filed

**Bill History:** 03-09-15 S Filed

**F - Financial Institutions**

HB 146	Menendez, Jose(D)	Relating to requiring photo identification for certain credit card purchases.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 02-09-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Investments and Financial Services
HB 149	Menendez, Jose(D)	Relating to photo identification requirements for certain stored value card purchases.
		<b>Companions:</b> <a href="#">SB 1778</a> Menendez, Jose (F) (Identical) 3-13-15 S Filed
		<b>Bill History:</b> 02-09-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Investments and Financial Services
HB 371	McClendon, Ruth Jones(D)	Relating to certain extensions of consumer credit facilitated by a credit access business for certain military personnel or their dependents.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 02-12-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Investments and Financial Services
HB 411	Turner, Chris(D)	Relating to prohibiting telemarketing calls by a credit access business.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-10-15 H Committee action pending House Business and Industry
HB 483	Capriglione, Giovanni(R)	Relating to the establishment and administration of a state bullion depository.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 02-25-15 H Rereferred to Committee on House Investments and Financial Services
HB 704	Farrar, Jessica(D)	Relating to disclosures on selection or modification of an account by a customer of a financial institution.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 02-23-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence
HB 705	Farrar, Jessica(D)	Relating to access to a financial institution account of a person who dies intestate.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-17-15 H Meeting set for 2:00 P.M. OR ADJ., E2.026 House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

HB 852 Sanford, Scott(R) Relating to the creation of a joint interim committee to study and make recommendations regarding the storage of biometric identifiers.

**Bill History:** 03-05-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Government Transparency and Operation

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HB 1020 Giddings, Helen(D) Relating to credit services organizations and extensions of consumer credit facilitated by credit services organizations.

**Companions:** SB 121 West, Royce (Identical)  
1-27-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

**Bill History:** 03-02-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Investments and Financial Services

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HB 1029 Wray, John (F)(R) Relating to trusts.

**Companions:** SB 387 Rodriguez, Jose (Identical)  
2- 2-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs

**Bill History:** 03-02-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

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HB 1333 Naishtat, Elliott(D) Relating to a request for a customer record of a financial institution for guardianship purposes.

**Bill History:** 03-05-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Human Services

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HB 1626 Johnson, Eric(D) Relating to the designation of certain areas as banking development districts to encourage the establishment of financial institution branches in those areas.

**Bill History:** 03-09-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Investments and Financial Services

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HB 1628 Johnson, Eric(D) Relating to authorizing a credit union or other financial institution to conduct savings promotion raffles.

**Bill History:** 03-09-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Investments and Financial Services

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HB 2166 Flynn, Dan(R) Relating to certain extensions of consumer credit facilitated by credit access businesses.

**Bill History:** 03-12-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Investments and Financial Services

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HB 2273 Turner, Chris(D) Relating to a contract or other agreement between certain governmental entities and a credit services organization or credit access business.

**Bill History:** 03-03-15 H Filed

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HB 2394 Darby, Drew(R) Relating to the compelled production of certain customer records by a financial institution.

**Companions:** SB 926 Creighton, Brandon (F) (Identical)  
3- 9-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

**Bill History:** 03-05-15 H Filed

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HB 2676 Stephenson, Phil(R) Relating to the regulation of money services businesses.

**Companions:** SB 899 Eltife, Kevin (Identical)  
3- 9-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

**Bill History:** 03-09-15 H Filed

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HB 2808 White, James(R) Relating to credit services organizations and extensions of consumer credit facilitated by credit services organizations.

**Bill History:** 03-10-15 H Filed

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HB 3047 Craddick, Tom(R) Relating to credit services organizations and extensions of consumer credit facilitated by credit services organizations.

**Bill History:** 03-11-15 H Filed

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HB 3094 Parker, Tan(R) Relating to the regulation of consumer credit transactions and the regulatory authority of the Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner.

**Companions:** SB 1282 Eltife, Kevin (Identical)  
3-11-15 S Filed

**Bill History:** 03-11-15 H Filed

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HB 3442 Raney, John(R) Relating to debit card or stored value card surcharges.

**Companions:** SB 641 Schwertner, Charles (Identical)  
3-10-15 S Committee action pending  
Senate Business and Commerce

**Bill History:** 03-12-15 H Filed

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HCR 26 Flynn, Dan(R) Urging the United States Congress to repeal the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

**Bill History:** 03-05-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on Select on State/Federal Power Responsibility

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SB 91 Ellis, Rodney(D) Relating to a restriction on charges charged for certain extensions of consumer credit that a credit access business obtains for a consumer or assists a consumer in obtaining.

**Bill History:** 01-26-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

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SB 92 Ellis, Rodney(D) Relating to regulation of certain credit services organizations and to certain extensions of consumer credit the organizations obtain for a consumer or assist a consumer in obtaining.

**Bill History:** 01-26-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

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SB 121 West, Royce(D) Relating to credit services organizations and extensions of consumer credit facilitated by credit services organizations.

**Companions:** HB 1020 Giddings, Helen (Identical)  
3- 2-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Investments and Financial Services

**Bill History:** 01-27-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

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SB 387      Rodriguez, Jose(D)      Relating to trusts.

**Companions:** [HB 1029](#) Wray, John (F) (Identical)  
3- 2-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

**Bill History:** 02-02-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs

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SB 641      Schwertner, Charles(R)      Relating to debit card or stored value card surcharges.

**Companions:** [HB 3442](#) Raney, John (Identical)  
3-12-15 H Filed

**Bill History:** 03-10-15 S Committee action pending Senate Business and Commerce

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SB 657      Eltife, Kevin(R)      Relating to the appointment of the commissioners of certain financial regulatory agencies by the Finance Commission of Texas.

**Companions:** [HB 3536](#) Landgraf, Brooks (F) (Identical)  
3-12-15 H Filed

**Bill History:** 03-10-15 S Committee action pending Senate Business and Commerce

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SB 899      Eltife, Kevin(R)      Relating to the regulation of money services businesses.

**Companions:** [HB 2676](#) Stephenson, Phil (Identical)  
3- 9-15 H Filed

**Bill History:** 03-09-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

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SB 926      Creighton, Brandon (F)(R)      Relating to the compelled production of certain customer records by a financial institution.

**Companions:** [HB 2394](#) Darby, Drew (Identical)  
3- 5-15 H Filed

**Bill History:** 03-09-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

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SB 1282      Eltife, Kevin(R)      Relating to the regulation of consumer credit transactions and the regulatory authority of the Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner.

**Companions:** HB 3094 Parker, Tan      (Identical)  
3-11-15 H Filed

**Bill History:** 03-11-15 S Filed

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SB 1323      Menendez, Jose (F)(D)      Relating to fees paid to certain credit services organizations in connection with certain extensions of consumer credit.

**Bill History:** 03-11-15 S Filed

**G - Business Liability**

HB 94      Gonzalez, Mary(D)      Relating to a database of employers penalized for failure to pay wages or convicted of certain offenses involving wage theft.

**Companions:** SB 753 Garcia, Sylvia      (Identical)  
3- 2-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Natural Resources and Economic Develop

**Bill History:** 03-17-15 H Meeting set for 11:30 A.M. OR ADJ., E2.016 House Business and Industry

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HB 162      Gonzalez, Mary(D)      Relating to administrative penalties assessed by the Texas Workforce Commission against certain employers for failure to pay wages.

**Companions:** SB 152 Rodriguez, Jose      (Identical)  
1-27-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Natural Resources and Economic Develop

**Bill History:** 02-11-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Business and Industry

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HB 187      Thompson, Senfronia(D)      Relating to unlawful employment practices regarding discrimination in payment of compensation.

**Companions:** [SB 65](#) Ellis, Rodney (Identical)

1-26-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Natural Resources and Economic Develop

**Bill History:** 03-10-15 H Committee action pending House Business and Industry

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[HB 247](#) [Raymond, Richard\(D\)](#) Relating to limits on certain actions arising out of attorney's fee agreements.

**Bill History:** 03-05-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

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[HB 610](#) [Davis, Sarah\(R\)](#) Relating to the statute of limitations for an action on a credit card account.

**Bill History:** 03-03-15 H Not heard in committee House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

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[HB 968](#) [Hernandez, Ana\(D\)](#) Relating to civil liability of shareholders and members of certain legal entities that engage in the trafficking of persons.

**Bill History:** 03-10-15 H Committee action pending House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

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[HB 1515](#) [Canales, Terry\(D\)](#) Relating to the consideration by employers of the consumer credit reports or other credit information of employees and applicants for employment.

**Bill History:** 03-10-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Business and Industry

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[HB 1777](#) [Giddings, Helen\(D\)](#) Relating to prohibiting an employer from accessing the personal online accounts of employees and job applicants through electronic communication devices.

**Bill History:** 03-12-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Business and Industry

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[HB 1799](#) [Thompson, Senfronia\(D\)](#) Relating to the adoption of the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act.

**Bill History:** 02-23-15 H Filed

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[HB 2183](#) [Leach, Jeff\(R\)](#) Relating to the adoption of the Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act.

**Bill History:** 03-03-15 H Filed



HB 2590	Johnson, Eric(D)	Relating to providing a remedy for fraud committed in certain real estate and stock transactions.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-09-15 H Filed
HB 2898	Davis, Sarah(R)	Relating to certain procedures, civil penalties, and remedies under the Deceptive Trade Practices-Consumer Protection Act.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-10-15 H Filed
HB 3168	Simmons, Ron(R)	Relating to remedies for oppression of minority shareholders by directors of closely held corporations.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-11-15 H Filed
SB 65	Ellis, Rodney(D)	Relating to unlawful employment practices regarding discrimination in payment of compensation.
<b>Companions:</b>		<a href="#">HB 187</a> Thompson, Senfronia (Identical) 3-10-15 H Committee action pending House Business and Industry
<b>Bill History:</b>		01-26-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Natural Resources and Economic Develop
SB 152	Rodriguez, Jose(D)	Relating to administrative penalties assessed by the Texas Workforce Commission against certain employers for failure to pay wages.
<b>Companions:</b>		<a href="#">HB 162</a> Gonzalez, Mary (Identical) 2-11-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Business and Industry
<b>Bill History:</b>		01-27-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Natural Resources and Economic Develop
SB 753	Garcia, Sylvia(D)	Relating to a database of employers penalized for failure to pay wages or convicted of certain offenses involving wage theft.
<b>Companions:</b>		<a href="#">HB 94</a> Gonzalez, Mary (Identical) 3-17-15 H Meeting set for 11:30 A.M. OR ADJ., E2.016, House Business and Industry

**Bill History:** 03-02-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Natural Resources and Economic Develop

**H - Real Estate/Related Topics**

HB 703 Farrar, Jessica(D) Relating to authorizing a revocable deed that transfers real property at the transferor's death.

**Companions:** SB 462 Huffman, Joan (Identical)  
3- 9-15 S Voted favorably from committee on Senate State Affairs

**Bill History:** 03-17-15 H Meeting set for 2:00 P.M. OR ADJ., E2.026 House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

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HB 971 Bohac, Dwayne(R) Relating to requirements governing officers and directors of condominium unit owners' associations and property owners' associations.

**Bill History:** 03-02-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Business and Industry

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HB 1239 Walle, Amando(D) Relating to the provision of accounting statements by mortgage servicers for certain loans secured by a lien on residential real property.

**Bill History:** 03-03-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Investments and Financial Services

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HB 1726 Oliveira, Rene(D) Relating to a study by the consumer credit commissioner regarding payment by mortgage lenders of property tax loans.

**Bill History:** 02-20-15 H Filed

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HB 1936 Oliveira, Rene(D) Relating to notice by a property owner to a mortgage servicer that the owner intends to enter into a contract with a property tax lender.

**Bill History:** 03-11-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Business and Industry

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HB 2418 Wray, John (F)(R) Relating to decedents' estates.

**Companions:** SB 995 Rodriguez, Jose (Identical)  
3-10-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs

**Bill History:** 03-05-15 H Filed

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HB 2428 Wray, John (F)(R) Relating to the adoption of the Texas Uniform Disclaimer of Property Interests Act.

**Companions:** SB 994 Rodriguez, Jose (Identical)  
3-10-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs

**Bill History:** 03-05-15 H Filed

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HB 2817 Thompson, Senfronia(D) Relating to fees and costs imposed by mortgagees or mortgage servicers for certain legal services performed by an attorney.

**Bill History:** 03-10-15 H Filed

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HB 3095 Thompson, Senfronia(D) Relating to durable powers of attorney and advance directives.

**Bill History:** 03-11-15 H Filed

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HB 3190 Villalba, Jason(R) Relating to persons authorized to direct, consent to, or disapprove a trustee's decisions.

**Bill History:** 03-11-15 H Filed

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SB 462 Huffman, Joan(R) Relating to authorizing a revocable deed that transfers real property at the transferor's death.

**Companions:** HB 703 Farrar, Jessica (Identical)  
3-17-15 H Meeting set for 2:00 P.M. OR ADJ., E2.026, House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

**Bill History:** 03-09-15 S Voted favorably from committee on Senate State Affairs

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SB 994 Rodriguez, Jose(D) Relating to the adoption of the Texas Uniform Disclaimer of Property Interests Act.

**Companions:** HB 2428 Wray, John (F) (Identical)  
3- 5-15 H Filed

**Bill History:** 03-10-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs

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SB 995      Rodriguez, Jose(D)      Relating to decedents' estates.

**Companions:** [HB 2418](#) Wray, John (F)      (Identical)  
3- 5-15 H Filed

**Bill History:** 03-10-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs

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SB 1203      Rodriguez, Jose(D)      Relating to exemptions from the applicability of the Texas Secure and Fair Enforcement for Mortgage Licensing Act of 2009.

**Bill History:** 03-10-15 S Filed

**I - Taxation/Related Topics**

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HB 79      Guillen, Ryan(D)      Relating to exemptions from the sales and use tax and the franchise tax for certain businesses during an initial period of operation in the state.

**Bill History:** 02-09-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means

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HB 193      Murphy, Jim(R)      Relating to the phaseout and repeal of the franchise tax.

**Bill History:** 02-10-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means

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HB 250      Leach, Jeff(R)      Relating to the phaseout and repeal of the franchise tax.

**Companions:** [HB 552](#) Huberty, Dan      (Identical)  
2-18-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means

**Bill History:** 02-11-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means

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HB 321      Keough, Mark (F)(R)      A bill relating to the repeal of the franchise tax.

**Bill History:** 02-11-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means

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HB 358	Button, Angie(R)	Relating to the inclusion of the costs of accepting credit and debit cards in the cost of goods sold for purposes of computing the franchise tax.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 02-12-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means
HB 419	Wu, Gene(D)	Relating to federal income tax liability for certain damages awarded in certain civil actions.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 02-19-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence
HB 525	Riddle, Debbie(R)	Relating to a franchise tax credit for wages paid to certain employees.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 02-19-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means
HB 552	Huberty, Dan(R)	Relating to the phaseout and repeal of the franchise tax.
		<b>Companions:</b> <a href="#">HB 250</a> Leach, Jeff (Identical) 2-11-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means
		<b>Bill History:</b> 02-18-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means
HB 668	Farney, Marsha(R)	Relating to the franchise tax liability of certain taxable entities.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 02-19-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means
HB 850	Goldman, Craig(R)	Relating to the repeal of the franchise tax.
		<b>Companions:</b> <a href="#">SB 105</a> Estes, Craig (Identical) 3- 3-15 S Committee action pending Senate Finance <a href="#">SB 175</a> Huffines, Donald (F) (Identical) 1-27-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Finance
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-02-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means

HB 1001	Davis, Yvonne(D)	Relating to restrictions on tax and fee benefits for certain private entities that outsource jobs to foreign countries.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-03-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means
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HB 1134	Metcalf, Will (F)(R)	Relating to the use of certain surplus state revenue to provide for a rebate of state franchise taxes.
		<b>Companions:</b> SB 331 Creighton, Brandon (F) (Identical) 3- 3-15 S Committee action pending Senate Finance
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-03-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Appropriations
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HB 1152	Turner, Scott(R)	Relating to the phaseout and repeal of the franchise tax.
		<b>Companions:</b> SB 138 Perry, Charles (F) (Identical) 3- 3-15 S Committee action pending Senate Finance
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-03-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means
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HB 1314	Bohac, Dwayne(R)	Relating to the phaseout and repeal of the franchise tax.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-05-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means
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HB 1315	Bohac, Dwayne(R)	Relating to temporary permissive alternate rates for the franchise tax.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-05-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means
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HB 1316	Bohac, Dwayne(R)	Relating to decreasing the rates of the franchise tax.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-05-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means
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HB 1962	Parker, Tan(R)	Relating to the franchise tax and alternative revenue sources and spending priorities for this state.
		<b>Companions:</b> SB 186 Creighton, Brandon (F) (Identical) 3- 3-15 S Committee action pending Senate Finance
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-12-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means

HB 1974	Keffer, Jim(R)	Relating to the use of certain surplus state revenue to phase out the franchise tax.
	<b>Bill History:</b>	03-12-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means
HB 2089	Darby, Drew(R)	Relating to the repeal of certain occupational license fees and taxes.
	<b>Companions:</b>	SB 765 Eltife, Kevin (Identical) 3- 3-15 S Committee action pending Senate Finance
	<b>Bill History:</b>	02-27-15 H Filed
HB 2111	Sheets, Kenneth(R)	Relating to an exemption from the franchise tax and certain filing fees for certain businesses owned by veterans during an initial period of operation in the state.
	<b>Companions:</b>	SB 1049 Campbell, Donna (Identical) 3-11-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Finance
	<b>Bill History:</b>	03-02-15 H Filed
HB 2114	Murphy, Jim(R)	Relating to the repeal of the inheritance tax and the tax on combative sports events.
	<b>Companions:</b>	SB 752 Bettencourt, Paul (F) (Identical) 3- 3-15 S Committee action pending Senate Finance
	<b>Bill History:</b>	03-02-15 H Filed
HB 2331	Metcalf, Will (F)(R)	Relating to the computation of the franchise tax.
	<b>Companions:</b>	SB 330 Creighton, Brandon (F) (Identical) 3- 3-15 S Committee action pending Senate Finance
	<b>Bill History:</b>	03-04-15 H Filed
HB 2456	Schubert, Leighton (F)(R)	Relating to the repeal of the franchise tax.
	<b>Bill History:</b>	03-05-15 H Filed
HB 2940	Capriglione, Giovanni(R)	Relating to the determination of compensation for purposes of the franchise tax.
	<b>Bill History:</b>	03-10-15 H Filed

HCR 27	Stephenson, Phil(R)	Urging the U.S. Congress to abolish the current income-based system of taxation and to enact a national retail sales tax, and urging repeal of the Sixteenth Amendment.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-04-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on Select on State/Federal Power Responsibility
HJR 19	Meyer, Morgan (F)(R)	Proposing a constitutional amendment requiring any increase in a rate of the franchise tax be approved by two-thirds of all the members elected to each house of the legislature.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 02-17-15 H Filed
HJR 80	Metcalf, Will (F)(R)	Proposing a constitutional amendment concerning the use of unencumbered surplus state revenues to provide for a rebate of state franchise taxes.
		<b>Companions:</b> SJR 23 Creighton, Brandon (F) (Identical) 3- 3-15 S Committee action pending Senate Finance
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-03-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Appropriations
HJR 95	Meyer, Morgan (F)(R)	Proposing a constitutional amendment requiring any increase in a franchise tax rate to be approved by two-thirds of all the members elected to each house of the legislature.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 02-26-15 H Filed
SB 7	Nelson, Jane(R)	Relating to decreasing the rates of the franchise tax.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-03-15 S Committee action pending Senate Finance
SB 8	Schwertner, Charles(R)	Relating to the total revenue exemption for the franchise tax.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 03-03-15 S Committee action pending Senate Finance
SB 52	Nelson, Jane(R)	Relating to the computation of the franchise tax.
		<b>Bill History:</b> 01-26-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Finance



SB 105	Estes, Craig(R)	Relating to the repeal of the franchise tax.
<b>Companions:</b>		<p data-bbox="737 289 1295 342"><b>HB 850</b> Goldman, Craig (Identical) 3- 2-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means</p> <p data-bbox="737 405 1295 520"><b>SB 175</b> Huffines, Donald (F) (Identical) 1-27-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Finance</p>
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-03-15 S Committee action pending Senate Finance
SB 134	Schwertner, Charles(R)	Relating to the total revenue exemption for the franchise tax.
<b>Bill History:</b>		01-27-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Finance
SB 138	Perry, Charles (F)(R)	Relating to the phaseout and repeal of the franchise tax.
<b>Companions:</b>		<p data-bbox="737 926 1295 978"><b>HB 1152</b> Turner, Scott (Identical) 3- 3-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means</p>
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-03-15 S Committee action pending Senate Finance
SB 175	Huffines, Donald (F)(R)	Relating to the repeal of the franchise tax.
<b>Companions:</b>		<p data-bbox="737 1234 1295 1350"><b>HB 850</b> Goldman, Craig (Identical) 3- 2-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means</p> <p data-bbox="737 1356 1295 1465"><b>SB 105</b> Estes, Craig (Identical) 3- 3-15 S Committee action pending Senate Finance</p>
<b>Bill History:</b>		01-27-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Finance
SB 186	Creighton, Brandon (F)(R)	Relating to the franchise tax and alternative revenue sources and spending priorities for this state.
<b>Companions:</b>		<p data-bbox="737 1715 1295 1768"><b>HB 1962</b> Parker, Tan (Identical) 3-12-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means</p>

**Bill History:** 03-03-15 S Committee action pending  
Senate Finance

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SB 330 Creighton, Brandon (F)(R) Relating to the computation of the franchise tax.

**Companions:** [HB 2331](#) Metcalf, Will (F) (Identical)  
3- 4-15 H Filed

**Bill History:** 03-03-15 S Committee action pending  
Senate Finance

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SB 331 Creighton, Brandon (F)(R) Relating to the use of certain surplus state revenue to provide for a rebate of state franchise taxes.

**Companions:** [HB 1134](#) Metcalf, Will (F) (Identical)  
3- 3-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Appropriations

**Bill History:** 03-03-15 S Committee action pending  
Senate Finance

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SB 752 Bettencourt, Paul (F)(R) Relating to the repeal of the inheritance tax and the tax on combative sports events.

**Companions:** [HB 2114](#) Murphy, Jim (Identical)  
3- 2-15 H Filed

**Bill History:** 03-03-15 S Committee action pending  
Senate Finance

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SB 756 Taylor, Van (F)(R) Relating to the determination of cost of goods sold for purposes of computing the franchise tax.

**Bill History:** 03-03-15 S Committee action pending  
Senate Finance

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SB 765 Eltife, Kevin(R) Relating to the repeal of certain occupational license fees and taxes.

**Companions:** [HB 2089](#) Darby, Drew (Identical)  
2-27-15 H Filed

**Bill History:** 03-03-15 S Committee action pending  
Senate Finance

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SB 1049 Campbell, Donna(R) Relating to an exemption from the franchise tax and certain filing fees for certain businesses owned by veterans during an initial period of operation in the state.

**Companions:** [HB 2111](#) Sheets, Kenneth (Identical)  
3- 2-15 H Filed

**Bill History:** 03-11-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Finance

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[SB 1179](#) [Huffines, Donald \(F\)\(R\)](#) Relating to abolishing certain occupational licensing requirements and associated regulations.

**Bill History:** 03-10-15 S Filed

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[SJR 23](#) [Creighton, Brandon \(F\)\(R\)](#) Proposing a constitutional amendment concerning the use of unencumbered surplus state revenues to provide for a rebate of state franchise taxes.

**Companions:** [HJR 80](#) Metcalf, Will (F) (Identical)  
3- 3-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Appropriations

**Bill History:** 03-03-15 S Committee action pending Senate Finance

<b>J - Choice of Law</b>
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[HB 562](#) [Leach, Jeff\(R\)](#) Relating to the application of foreign laws and foreign forum selection in a proceeding involving marriage, a suit for dissolution of a marriage, or a suit affecting the parent-child relationship in this state.

**Companions:** [SB 531](#) Campbell, Donna (Identical)  
2-18-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs

**Bill History:** 02-26-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

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[HB 670](#) [Flynn, Dan\(R\)](#) Relating to the application of foreign laws and foreign forum selection in this state.

**Bill History:** 02-26-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

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[HB 828](#) [Zedler, Bill\(R\)](#) Relating to the application of foreign and international laws and doctrines in this state

and requiring a court of this state to uphold and apply certain laws, including the doctrine requiring courts to refrain.

**Bill History:** 02-23-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

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HB 899 Fallon, Pat(R)

Relating to the application of foreign laws and foreign forum selection in certain family law proceedings.

**Bill History:** 02-26-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

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SB 531 Campbell, Donna(R)

Relating to the application of foreign laws and foreign forum selection in a proceeding involving marriage, a suit for dissolution of a marriage, or a suit affecting the parent-child relationship in this state.

**Companions:** [HB 562](#) Leach, Jeff (Identical)  
2-26-15 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

**Bill History:** 02-18-15 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs

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SB 1090 Hall, Bob (F)(R)

Relating to the application of foreign laws and foreign forum selection in a proceeding involving marriage, a suit for dissolution of a marriage, or a suit affecting the parent-child relationship in this state.

**Bill History:** 03-09-15 S Filed