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BUSINESS LAW SECTION
STATE BAR OF TEXAS
TEXAS LEGISLATIVE UPDATE
March 3, 2017

As the opening phases of the 85th Session draw to a close, committee hearings ramp up and the introduction and referral of bills shifts to full speed.

The University of Texas System this week abruptly ended its quest to open up an undergraduate facility in Houston, bowing to strong political pressure from the Houston legislative delegation and the University of Houston System. An unusual occurrence for UT.

In the Senate, a pair of measures, dubbed emergency items by the Governor, were debated and approved requesting the federal "Convention of the States". Interestingly, an amendment by Sen. Bryan Hughes (R-Mineola) was approved, over the objection by the bill's author, Brian Birdwell (R-Grandbury), which would require 10 days jail time for a delegate who casts an unauthorized convention vote, not following legislative direction.

Wednesday marked the first day of legislative debate on the House floor. Lawmakers discussed and voted on two bills that would overhaul the Department of Family and Protective Services. This too was emergency item of the session to address chronic problems in CPS and state foster-care programs.

All Texas Business Law Foundation bills are now out of the Legislative Council.

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 pertinent bill and issues within 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 and Nonprofit Associations

Substantive and technical amendments to the BOC developed by the BLS BOC Drafting Committee, addressing corporation, nonprofit corporation, and nonprofit association actions and matters, including share issuance, dividends, and ownership; director voting; mergers and conversions; defective act ratification; records transparency; and notice uniformity.

[HB 2827](#) (Oliveira) - Filed in the House, not yet referred. The TLC draft was filed before the BOC Drafting Committee completed final review. Corrections, if any, will have to be made in a committee substitute. Senate filing by Chairman Hancock is eminent.

Business Organization Code -- Partnerships and LLCs

Substantive and technical amendments to the BOC developed by the BLS BOC Drafting Committee, affecting partnership, limited liability company, and series LLC actions and matters, including company and partnership agreement enforceability; officer vacancies; series LLC status; liability clarification; business names; service of process; records transparency; and winding up.

[HB 2826](#) (Oliveira) - Filed in the House, not yet referred. The BOC Drafting Committee did get final edits incorporated, so the filed version should not need amendment. Senate filing by Chairman Hancock is also eminent.

Uniform Trade Secrets Act

Amends the TUTSA, conforming it to recent modifications to the uniform act and federal law.

[HB 1995](#) (Elkins) - Filed in the House, not yet referred. Senate sponsorship discussions continue with Sen. Judith Zaffirini (D-Laredo) and her staff.

Business Names

Adopts the “distinguishable name” standard rather than the current “deceptively similar” standard in the reservation of business names, as supported by the Secretary of State.

[HB 2856](#) (Villalba) - Filed in the House, not yet referred. The TLC draft was filed before the BLS drafting committee completed final review. Corrections, if any, will have to be made in a committee substitute. Discussions on Senate sponsorship have shifted to Sen. Charles Schwertner (R-Georgetown).

B -- Business Courts

Chancery Court

[HB 2594](#) (Villalba) - Establishes a dedicated business court system in Texas to handle specific business litigation.

Filed in the House, not yet referred.

C -- Business Entities

Shareholder Oppression

Debate continues over the need to codify certain minority shareholder protections in the wake of *Ritchie v. Rupe*. During the legislative interim, the House Business and Commerce Committee studied the issue, receiving pro and con testimony. Byron Egan, on behalf of the TBLF, presented compelling testimony that adequate remedies exist under current law and that additional codification on the subject is not needed, and likely would cause harmful uncertainty in business entity organization. B&C declined to make a recommendation on the issue.

Rep. Ron Simmons (R-Carrollton), the leading proponent for action on the subject, continues to review. No bill has yet been filed.

Ethics/Interests in Government Contracts

[HB 1295](#) (Capriglione) - Amendment package to previous HB 1295 to clarify and simplify business entity compliance with the bill's required disclosures when contracting with a government entity. The bill increases the number of business entities exempt from the registration requirements (publicly traded entities and "direct or indirect wholly owned subsidiaries"; FDIC insured institutions; certain utilities; and insurance companies). For those entities not exempt, a number of questions regarding the extent of the registration requirements remain unanswered. Additionally, the bill re-defines several terms, including "contract," in ways that add confusion regarding the requirements and adds a civil penalty (\$500 for the first day; \$100 per day thereafter to a maximum of \$10,000) for an entity that fails to file the registration or the disclosures contained therein, enforceable by the Texas Ethics Commission or the Attorney General.

Referred to General Investigating & Ethics. Discussions continue with stakeholders.

[HB 1610](#) (Kuempel) - An alternative amendment package to HB 1295. This bill would apply the registration only for contracts in excess of \$10 million and simplifies the registration requirements and is likely to be favored by a number of stakeholders.

Filed, not yet referred.

Health Organization Corporations and Partnerships

[SB 679](#) (Hancock) - Adds chiropractors to existing authorizations for doctors of medicine, osteopathy, and podiatry to establish business entities jointly owned and controlled by those types of practitioners.

Referred to B&C.

Nonprofit Corporation Filings

[HB 2674](#) (Uresti) - Adds Section 22.451 to the BOC, and requires nonprofits receiving 25% or more of income from state funding to file an annual report to the SOS showing employee and officer salaries.

D -- UCC

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

E -- Securities

Self Funding Status for State Securities Board

[HB 823](#) (Parker) - Gives the State Securities Board self-directed and semi-independent status, treating it similarly to the Texas Department of Banking.

Referred to Investments & Financial Services.

Activist Shareholders

[HB 2382](#) (Parker) - "The Bring Business to Texas and Disclosure Act". Imposes extensive disclosure requirements for certain "activist" investor actions.

Filed in House, not yet referred. Communications continue with Chairman Parker on the concept and the constitutional and technical problems with the bill's current approach.

F -- Financial Institutions

Electronic Notarization

[SB 1193](#) (V. Taylor)/[HB 1217](#) (Parker) - Establishes electronic notaries public. An initiative by the Texas Mortgage Bankers Association, and others.

Senate Bill filed, not yet referred. House bill referred to State Affairs. Discussions continue with stakeholders on administrative issue with the proposal.

Texas Revised Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets

[HB 2158](#) (Parker) - Establishes procedures for the agreed administration of digital assets (electronic records in which individuals have rights or interests) by financial institutions. A REPTL initiative.

Filed in the House, not yet referred. Quick review of the bill by impacted BLS lawyers initially indicates no problems, and in fact support.

G -- Business Liability

Director Liability Following Charter Revocation

Section 171.255, Tax Code, is designed to enforce the collection of corporate taxes by the Comptroller. The tax collection tool, however, exposes directors and officers to an excessive liability for *all* corporate debts during a revocation period should taxes not be paid. *Hovel v. Batzri*, currently on appeal the Texas Supreme Court, supports a customary and reasonable approach as to when a debt is created under the statute. Should the Court, however, overturn

the *Hovel* decision, there is concern that the uncertainty and negative impact of the statute could be significantly increased.

Discussion continues on the need for legislation. A Petitioner's Brief on the Merits (Hovel) was filed with the Supreme Court last this week.

Foreign Money Judgments

[SB 944](#) (Hughes)/ [HB 2122](#) (Clardy) - Adopts the Uniform Foreign-Country Money Judgments Recognition Act.

Senate bill referred to State Affairs. House bill filed, not yet referred.

H -- Real Estate and Related Topics

Power of Attorney

[SB 926](#) (Rodriguez)/[HB 1974](#) (Wray) - Addresses significant modifications to the durable power of attorney provisions of Chapter 751, Estates Code, including mandatory acceptance.

Senate bill referred to State Affairs. House bill filed, not yet referred. The TBLF working team submitted changes as directed during last week's call. The modifications are under consideration by Rep. Wray's staff and REPTL.

I -- Taxation and Related Topics

Franchise Tax

Numerous bills pertaining to franchise tax reform and cuts have been filed.

[SB 17](#) (Nelson) - Provides phased reduction and ultimate elimination of the franchise tax, based on revenue growth.

Heard in Finance 2/28/2017, left pending. Of the numerous filed bills, this bill is likely will be the primary vehicle for Senate action.

Property Tax

The Senate leadership has declared property tax reform and cuts as key components of its legislative priorities. The House has made similar representations.

[SB 2](#) (Bettencourt) - Designated package for ad valorem taxation reform, including an effective 4% cap on increases (without an election)

Referred to Finance.

[HB 15](#) (Bonnen) - Comprehensive reform package which the House has now put forth. Also contains an increase cap of 4%.

Filed in the House, not yet referred.

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. Bills could impact foreign judgment enforcement, use of foreign laws, and contractual choice of law and venue.

[HB 45](#) (Flynn) - Amends the Civil Practice and Remedies Code to prohibit application of foreign laws or contractual choice of law or venue provisions requiring foreign laws, if the foreign laws would violate rights under the U.S. or Texas constitutions.



Referred to Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence

[HB 498](#) (Fallon) - Amends the Family Code and narrows application to marriages and parent-child relationships.

Referred to Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence

SBOT BUSINESS LAW SECTION LEGISLATIVE TRACKING REPORT Bill Status Report

03-03-2017 - 17:18:23

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

A - Section Prepared

[HB 1995](#) [Elkins, Gary\(R\)](#) Relating to the Texas Uniform Trade Secrets Act.

Bill History: 02-16-17 H Filed

[HB 2826](#) [Oliveira, Rene\(D\)](#) Relating to partnerships, limited liability companies, and other domestic and foreign entities and to series of limited liability companies and foreign entities.

Bill History: 03-03-17 H Filed

[HB 2827](#) [Oliveira, Rene\(D\)](#) Relating to corporations, associations, real estate investment trusts, and related entities.

Bill History: 03-03-17 H Filed

HB 2856	Villalba, Jason(R)	Relating to names of domestic and foreign filing entities for transacting business in this state.
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Bill History:	03-03-17 H Filed
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B - Business Courts

HB 2594	Villalba, Jason(R)	Relating to the creation of the chancery court and the court of chancery appeals to hear certain cases.
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Bill History:	03-01-17 H Filed
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C - Business Entities

HB 89	King, Phil(R)	Relating to state contracts with and investments in companies that boycott Israel.
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Companions:	SB 29	Creighton, Brandon	(Identical)
	2-27-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce		
SB 134	Creighton, Brandon	(Identical)	
	1-25-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce		

Bill History:	11-14-16 H Filed
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HB 225	Johnson, Eric(D)	Relating to the prohibition of employment discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity or expression.
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Bill History:	02-20-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Business and Industry
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HB 228	Thompson, Senfronia(D)	Relating to unlawful employment practices regarding discrimination in payment of compensation.
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Companions:	HB 187	Thompson, Senfronia	(Refiled from 84R Session)

SB 65 Ellis, Rodney

(Refiled
from
84R
Session)

Bill History: 03-06-17 H Meeting set for 11:00 A.M., E2.016
- House Business and Industry

HB 258 Anchia, Rafael(D)

Relating to a prohibition on the award of a state agency contract to a person in a state with laws allowing or requiring discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity or expression.

Bill History: 02-13-17 H Introduced and referred to
committee on House State Affairs

HB 317 Canales, Terry(D)

Relating to the consideration by certain employers of the consumer credit reports of certain employees and applicants for employment.

Bill History: 02-15-17 H Introduced and referred to
committee on House Business and Industry

HB 334 Collier, Nicole(D)

Relating to the consideration by employers of the consumer credit reports or other credit information of employees and applicants for employment.

Bill History: 02-15-17 H Introduced and referred to
committee on House Business and Industry

HB 552 White, James(R)

Relating to the regulation of occupations by this state.

Bill History: 02-20-17 H Introduced and referred to
committee on Licensing and Administrative
Procedures

HB 1142 Davis, Sarah(R)

Relating to prohibiting governmental contracts with a company doing business with Iran, Sudan, or a foreign terrorist organization.

Companions: SB 252 Taylor, Van (Identical)
1-30-17 S Introduced and referred to
committee on Senate Business and
Commerce

Bill History: 01-19-17 H Filed

HB 1222 Rinaldi, Matt(R)

Relating to the suspension of certain licenses held by private employers for the knowing

employment of persons not lawfully present in this state.

Bill History: 02-22-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House State Affairs

HB 1295 Capriglione, Giovanni(R) Relating to the disclosure of interested parties by business entities contracting with governmental entities and state agencies.

Bill History: 02-27-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House General Investigating and Ethics

HB 1610 Kuempel, John(R) Relating to the disclosure of interested parties by business entities contracting with governmental entities or state agencies.

Bill History: 02-07-17 H Filed

HB 2248 Guerra, Bobby(D) Relating to the procedure for adoption by a state agency of rules that may have an adverse economic effect on small businesses and micro-businesses.

Companions:

HB 1684	Guerra, Bobby	(Refiled from 84R Session)
SB 522	Hinojosa, Chuy	(Refiled from 84R Session)

Bill History: 02-22-17 H Filed

HB 2674 Uresti, Tomas (F)(D) Relating to reporting requirements for certain nonprofit corporations regarding employee and officer salaries.

Bill History: 03-01-17 H Filed

SB 29 Creighton, Brandon(R) Relating to state contracts with and investments in companies that boycott Israel.

Companions:

HB 89	King, Phil	(Identical)
	11-14-16 H Filed	
SB 134	Creighton, Brandon	(Identical)
	1-25-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce	

Bill History: 02-27-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

SB 134 Creighton, Brandon(R) Relating to state contracts with and investments in companies that boycott Israel.

Companions: HB 89 King, Phil (Identical)
11-14-16 H Filed
SB 29 Creighton, Brandon (Identical)
2-27-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

Bill History: 01-25-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

SB 252 Taylor, Van(R) Relating to prohibiting governmental contracts with a company doing business with Iran, Sudan, or a foreign terrorist organization.

Companions: HB 1142 Davis, Sarah (Identical)
1-19-17 H Filed

Bill History: 01-30-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

SB 679 Hancock, Kelly(R) Relating to the authority of chiropractors to form certain business entities with certain other professions.

Bill History: 02-15-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

D - UCC

E - Securities

HB 823 Parker, Tan(R) Relating to the self-directed and semi-independent status of the State Securities Board.

Bill History: 02-21-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Investments and Financial Services

HB 1090 Meyer, Morgan(R) Relating to the criminal penalties for insider trading and other misuse of official information by public servants.

Companions:

[SB 111](#) Taylor, Van (F) (Refiled from 84R Session)
[SB 140](#) Taylor, Van (Identical)
 1-25-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs

Bill History:

02-21-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House General Investigating and Ethics

[HB 1701](#) Parker, Tan(R)

Relating to the presentation of the investment policy of certain governmental entities to a business organization that conducts investment transactions for the entity.

Bill History:

02-09-17 H Filed

[HB 2382](#) Parker, Tan(R)

Relating to information required to be disclosed by certain investors of publicly traded companies whose headquarters are located in this state.

Bill History:

02-24-17 H Filed

[SB 140](#) Taylor, Van(R)

Relating to the criminal penalties for insider trading and other misuse of official information by public servants.

Companions:

[SB 111](#) Taylor, Van (F) (Refiled from 84R Session)
[HB 1090](#) Meyer, Morgan (Identical)
 2-21-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House General Investigating and Ethics

Bill History:

01-25-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs

F - Financial Institutions

[HB 197](#) Bernal, Diego(D)

Relating to contracts and other documents issued by credit access businesses.

Bill History:

02-14-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Investments and Financial Services

[HB 411](#) Longoria, Oscar(D)

Relating to requiring photo identification for

certain purchases paid with a credit card or debit card.

Bill History: 02-20-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Investments and Financial Services

HB 471 Johnson, Eric(D)

Relating to authorizing a credit union or other financial institution to conduct savings promotion raffles.

Bill History: 02-16-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Investments and Financial Services

HB 721 Longoria, Oscar(D)

Relating to photo identification requirements for certain stored value card transactions.

Bill History: 02-20-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Investments and Financial Services

HB 741 Bernal, Diego(D)

Relating to the affordability of extension of consumer credit.

Bill History: 02-20-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Investments and Financial Services

HB 877 Turner, Chris(D)

Relating to prohibiting certain telemarketing calls by a credit access business.

Bill History: 02-23-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Business and Industry

HB 916 Thierry, Shawn (F)(D)

Relating to requiring financial institutions to report the suspected financial abuse of elderly persons.

Companions: [SB 792](#) Miles, Borris (F) (Identical)
2-22-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

Bill History: 02-21-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Investments and Financial Services

HB 959 Thierry, Shawn (F)(D)

Relating to the financial abuse of elderly persons, including requiring financial institutions to report suspected financial abuse of elderly persons.

Companions: [SB 791](#) Miles, Borris (F) (Identical)

		2-22-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce
	Bill History:	02-27-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Investments and Financial Services
HB 993	Walle, Amando(D)	Relating to the provision of accounting statements by mortgage servicers for certain loans secured by a lien on residential real property.
	Companions:	(Refiled from 84R Session) HB 1239 Walle, Amando
	Bill History:	02-27-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Investments and Financial Services
HB 1134	Craddick, Tom(R)	Relating to credit services organizations and extensions of consumer credit facilitated by credit services organizations.
	Bill History:	02-22-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Investments and Financial Services
HB 1143	Davis, Sarah(R)	Relating to investment prohibitions and divestment requirements for certain investments of public money.
	Companions:	SB 253 Taylor, Van (Identical) 1-30-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce
	Bill History:	01-19-17 H Filed
HB 1217	Parker, Tan(R)	Relating to appointment of and performance of notarial acts by an electronic notary public.
	Bill History:	02-22-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House State Affairs
HB 1712	Shaheen, Matt(R)	Relating to the abolishment of certain advisory committees.
	Bill History:	02-09-17 H Filed
HB 1733	Uresti, Tomas (F)(D)	Relating to the maximum permitted sum of fees, interest, and other amounts due under

certain extensions of consumer credit.

Bill History: 02-09-17 H Filed

HB 1752 Farrar, Jessica(D)

Relating to certain account disclosures provided by a financial institution to a customer.

Companions: SB 714 Seliger, Kel (Identical)
2-21-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

Bill History: 02-10-17 H Filed

HB 1760 Fallon, Pat(R)

Relating to money transmissions sent to destinations outside the United States.

Bill History: 02-10-17 H Filed

HB 1767 Collier, Nicole(D)

Relating to the collection of consumer debt by debt buyers.

Bill History: 02-13-17 H Filed

HB 1954 Murr, Andrew(R)

Relating to convenience and trust accounts established at financial institutions.

Bill History: 02-15-17 H Filed

HB 2158 Parker, Tan(R)

Relating to the adoption of the Texas Revised Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act.

Companions: SB 1193 Taylor, Van (Identical)
3- 1-17 S Filed

Bill History: 02-21-17 H Filed

HB 2176 Parker, Tan(R)

Relating to surcharges imposed for the use of a credit card.

Companions: SB 560 Hancock, Kelly (Identical)
2- 8-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

Bill History: 02-21-17 H Filed

HB 2333 Elkins, Gary(R)

Relating to a breach of system security of a business that exposes consumer credit card or debit card information.

Bill History: 02-23-17 H Filed

HB 2579	Holland, Justin (F)(R)	Relating to the bond and other coverages required to be maintained by or for the benefit of a savings bank.
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Bill History: 02-28-17 H Filed

HB 2580	Holland, Justin (F)(R)	Relating to criminal history record information obtained by the savings and mortgage lending commissioner.
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Bill History: 02-28-17 H Filed

HB 2647	Stephenson, Phil(R)	Relating to authorized investments of public funds.
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Bill History: 03-01-17 H Filed

HB 2656	Longoria, Oscar(D)	Relating to exemptions from the Residential Mortgage Loan Company Licensing and Registration Act.
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Bill History: 03-01-17 H Filed

HB 2705	Lozano, Jose(R)	Relating to alternative education loans and to the use of higher education private activity bonds by qualified alternative education loan lenders.
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Bill History: 03-02-17 H Filed

HB 2726	Holland, Justin (F)(R)	Relating to state banks, state bank holding companies, and branches of foreign banks.
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Bill History: 03-02-17 H Filed

HB 2822	Dean, Jay (F)(R)	Relating to the regulation of banks and trust companies.
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Bill History: 03-03-17 H Filed

HB 2823	Dean, Jay (F)(R)	Relating to the issuance and enforcement of a subpoena during the course of an investigation of a residential mortgage loan servicer.
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Bill History: 03-03-17 H Filed

HB 2831	Oliveira, Rene(D)	Relating to investments by state banks to promote public welfare and community development.
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Bill History: 03-03-17 H Filed

HB 2832 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.

Companions: (Refiled from 84R Session)
HB 1936 Oliveira, Rene

Bill History: 03-03-17 H Filed

HB 2839 Longoria, Oscar(D) Relating to photo identification for certain debit or credit card transactions.

Bill History: 03-03-17 H Filed

SB 253 Taylor, Van(R) Relating to investment prohibitions and divestment requirements for certain investments of public money.

Companions: HB 1143 Davis, Sarah (Identical)
1-19-17 H Filed

Bill History: 01-30-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

SB 560 Hancock, Kelly(R) Relating to surcharges imposed for the use of a credit card.

Companions: HB 2176 Parker, Tan (Identical)
2-21-17 H Filed

Bill History: 02-08-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

SB 714 Seliger, Kel(R) Relating to certain account disclosures provided by a financial institution to a customer.

Companions: HB 1752 Farrar, Jessica (Identical)
2-10-17 H Filed

Bill History: 02-21-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

SB 791 Miles, Borris (F)(D) Relating to the financial abuse of elderly persons, including requiring financial institutions to report suspected financial abuse of elderly persons.

Companions: HB Thierry, Shawn (F) (Identical)

959

2-27-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Investments and Financial Services

Bill History: 02-22-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

SB 792 Miles, Borris (F)(D)

Relating to requiring financial institutions to report the suspected financial abuse of elderly persons.

Companions: [HB 916](#) Thierry, Shawn (F) (Identical)
2-21-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Investments and Financial Services

Bill History: 02-22-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

SB 830 Rodriguez, Jose(D)

Relating to the provision of accounting statements by mortgage servicers for certain loans secured by a lien on residential real property.

Bill History: 02-27-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

SB 836 Rodriguez, Jose(D)

Relating to a contract or other agreement between certain governmental entities and a credit services organization or related business.

Bill History: 02-27-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

SB 1098 Zaffirini, Judith(D)

Relating to recordings, acknowledgements, and proofs of certain written instruments.

Bill History: 02-27-17 S Filed

SB 1155 Menendez, Jose(D)

Relating to fees paid to certain credit services organizations in connection with certain extensions of consumer credit.

Companions: [SB 1323](#) Menendez, Jose (F) (Refiled from 84R Session)

Bill History: 02-28-17 S Filed

SB 1193 Taylor, Van(R)

Relating to the adoption of the Texas Revised Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets

Act.

Companions: [HB 2158](#) Parker, Tan (Identical)
2-21-17 H Filed

Bill History: 03-01-17 S Filed

G - Business Liability

[HB 447](#) Bell, Cecil(R) Relating to the civil liability of certain businesses in connection with allowing or forbidding handguns on the business premises.

Bill History: 02-16-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

[HB 497](#) Rinaldi, Matt(R) Relating to the liability of a business that allows handguns to be carried on the business's premises.

Bill History: 02-16-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

[HB 556](#) Keough, Mark(R) Relating to the civil liability of certain persons in connection with allowing or forbidding handguns on the premises of a business or apartment complex.

Bill History: 02-20-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

[HB 744](#) Farrar, Jessica(D) Relating to recovery of attorney's fees in certain civil cases.

Companions: [HB 230](#) Farrar, Jessica (Refiled from 84R Session)

Bill History: 03-07-17 H Meeting set for 2:00 P.M. or Adj., E2.026 - House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

[HB 1032](#) Thompson, Senfronia(D) Relating to the adoption of the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act.

Bill History: 01-13-17 H Filed

HB 1038	Rinaldi, Matt(R)	Relating to the award of costs and attorney's fees in a motion to dismiss for certain actions that have no basis in law or fact.
Bill History:		01-13-17 H Filed
HB 1066	Thompson, Senfronia(D)	Relating to the collection of certain judgments through court proceeding.
Companions:		(Refiled from 84R Session)
		HB 604 Davis, Sarah
Bill History:		02-21-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence
HB 1258	Clardy, Travis(R)	Relating to information publicly available in an electronic court record database.
Bill History:		03-07-17 H Meeting set for 2:00 P.M. or Adj., E2.026 - House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence
HB 1315	King, Phil(R)	Relating to the liability of employees of certain real property owners for certain claims arising from construction activities.
Companions:		SB 621 Creighton, Brandon (Identical)
		2-13-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs
Bill History:		02-27-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence
HB 2122	Clardy, Travis(R)	Relating to the adoption of the Uniform Foreign-Country Money Judgments Recognition Act.
Companions:		SB 944 Hughes, Bryan (F) (Identical)
		3- 1-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs
Bill History:		02-20-17 H Filed
SB 621	Creighton, Brandon(R)	Relating to the liability of employees of certain real property owners for certain claims arising from construction activities.
Companions:		HB 1315 King, Phil (Identical)
		2-27-17 H Introduced and referred to

committee on House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

Bill History: 02-13-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs

SB 944 Hughes, Bryan (F)(R) Relating to the adoption of the Uniform Foreign-Country Money Judgments Recognition Act.

Companions: HB 2122 Clardy, Travis (Identical)
2-20-17 H Filed

Bill History: 03-01-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs

H - Real Estate/Related Topics

HB 379 Bernal, Diego(D) Relating to mandatory sales price disclosure in real property sales.

Bill History: 02-23-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Business and Industry

HB 495 Phelan, Dade(R) Relating to the selection of the board of directors of an appraisal district.

Companions: HB 2265 Munoz, Sergio (Identical)
2-22-17 H Filed

Bill History: 02-16-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means

HB 628 Howard, Donna(D) Relating to the distribution, possession, purchase, consumption, and receipt of cigarettes, e-cigarettes, and tobacco products.

Bill History: 02-22-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Public Health

HB 1354 Wray, John(R) Relating to trusts.

Companions: SB 617 Rodriguez, Jose (Identical)
2-13-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs

Bill History: 02-27-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary and Civil

Jurisprudence

HB 1386	Guillen, Ryan(D)	Relating to the use of earnest money contracts and other offers for the sale of land before a subdivision plat is filed in certain border counties.	Bill History: 02-28-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Land and Resource Management
HB 1470	Villalba, Jason(R)	Relating to the public sale of real property under a power of sale in a security instrument.	Bill History: 02-01-17 H Filed
HB 1974	Wray, John(R)	Relating to durable powers of attorney.	Companions: SB 926 Rodriguez, Jose (Identical) 3- 1-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs Bill History: 02-16-17 H Filed
HB 2076	Schubert, Leighton(R)	Relating to establishing actual progress for the purposes of determining the right to repurchase real property from a condemning entity.	Companions: SB 628 Schwertner, Charles (Identical) 2-13-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs Bill History: 02-17-17 H Filed
HB 2265	Munoz, Sergio(D)	Relating to the selection of the board of directors of an appraisal district.	Companions: HB 495 Phelan, Dade (Identical) 2-16-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means Bill History: 02-22-17 H Filed
HB 2534	Kuempel, John(R)	Relating to certain real estate brokerage and advertising activities and to certain functions of the Texas Real Estate Commission.	Bill History: 02-28-17 H Filed

SB 372 Hall, Bob(R) Relating to regulation of title insurance.

Bill History: 02-01-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

SB 617 Rodriguez, Jose(D) Relating to trusts.

Companions: [HB 1354](#) Wray, John (Identical)
2-27-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

Bill History: 02-13-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs

SB 626 Schwertner, Charles(R) Relating to the acquisition of certain real property in conjunction with the acquisition of real property for a public use through eminent domain procedures.

Bill History: 02-13-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs

SB 627 Schwertner, Charles(R) Relating to notice of a property owner's rights relating to the examination or survey of property by an entity with eminent domain authority.

Bill History: 02-13-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs

SB 628 Schwertner, Charles(R) Relating to establishing actual progress for the purposes of determining the right to repurchase real property from a condemning entity.

Companions: [HB 2076](#) Schubert, Leighton (Identical)
2-17-17 H Filed

Bill History: 02-13-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs

SB 830 Rodriguez, Jose(D) Relating to the provision of accounting statements by mortgage servicers for certain loans secured by a lien on residential real property.

Bill History: 02-27-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

SB 926 Rodriguez, Jose(D) Relating to durable powers of attorney.

Companions: [HB 1974](#) Wray, John (Identical)
2-16-17 H Filed

Bill History: 03-01-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs

I - Taxation/Related Topics

HB 1 Zerwas, John(R) General Appropriations Bill.

Bill History: 02-13-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Appropriations

HB 15 Bonnen, Dennis(R) Relating to ad valorem taxation.

Bill History: 03-03-17 H Filed

HB 86 Guillen, Ryan(D) Relating to providing a sales and use tax refund or franchise tax credit for businesses that employ former offenders.

Bill History: 02-13-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means

HB 102 Guillen, Ryan(D) Relating to exemptions from ad valorem taxes, the sales and use tax, and the franchise tax for certain businesses during an initial period of operation in this state.

Bill History: 02-13-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means

HB 388 Murphy, Jim(R) Relating to the phaseout and repeal of the franchise tax.

Bill History: 02-16-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means

HB 509 Button, Angie(R) Relating to a deduction under the franchise tax for certain contracts with the federal government.

Companions: SB 1031 Taylor, Larry (Identical)
2-22-17 S Filed

Bill History: 02-16-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means

HB 538 Metcalf, Will(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) (Refiled)

from 84R Session)
(Refiled from 84R Session)
SB 331 Creighton, Brandon (F)
SB 131 Creighton, Brandon (Identical)
1-25-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Finance

Bill History: 02-20-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Appropriations

HB 599 Schofield, Mike(R) Relating to the decrease of the rates of the franchise tax under certain circumstances and the expiration of that tax.

Bill History: 02-20-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means

HB 803 Dale, Tony(R) Relating to a temporary exemption from the sales and use tax and the franchise tax for certain businesses engaged in space flight activities.

Bill History: 02-21-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means

HB 1050 Swanson, Valoree (F)(R) Relating to the abolition of ad valorem taxes.

Bill History: 01-17-17 H Filed

HB 1052 Schubert, Leighton(R) Relating to the repeal of the franchise tax.

Companions: **HB 1196** Button, Angie (Identical)
2-21-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means
SB 178 Estes, Craig (Identical)
1-25-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Finance

Bill History: 02-21-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means

HB 1055 Burkett, Cindy(R) Relating to a limitation on the amount of certain licensing fees charged by state agencies.

Bill History: 02-21-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on Licensing and Administrative Procedures

HB 1095 Shaheen, Matt(R) Relating to the phaseout and repeal of the franchise tax.

Bill History: 02-21-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means

HB 1137 Davis, Yvonne(D) Relating to restrictions on tax and fee benefits for certain private entities that outsource jobs to foreign countries.

Bill History: 02-27-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means

HB 1169 Button, Angie(R) Relating to an exemption from the sales tax for certain items sold by small businesses in this state during a limited period.

Bill History: 03-08-17 H Meeting set for 8:00 A.M., E2.012 - House Ways and Means

HB 1196 Button, Angie(R) Relating to the repeal of the franchise tax.

Companions:

HB 2456	Schubert, Leighton (F)	(Refiled from 84R Session)
HB 1052	Schubert, Leighton	(Identical)
	2-21-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means	
SB 178	Estes, Craig	(Identical)
	1-25-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Finance	

Bill History: 02-21-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means

HB 1230 Blanco, Cesar(D) Relating to franchise tax credits for businesses that employ veterans.

Bill History: 02-28-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means

HB 1330 Kuempel, John(R) Relating to the exemption from ad valorem taxation of income-producing tangible personal property having a value of less than a certain amount.

Companions:

SB 730	Bettencourt, Paul	(Identical)
	2-21-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Finance	

Bill History: 02-27-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means

HB 1613 Springer, Drew(R) Relating to adjustment of the rates of the franchise tax.

Bill History: 02-07-17 H Filed

HB 1621	Bohac, Dwayne(R)	Relating to the transfer of certain unused franchise tax credits.
Bill History: 02-07-17 H Filed		
HB 1723	Leach, Jeff(R)	Relating to the allocation of certain surplus state revenue for periodic reductions in the state sales and use tax rates.
Bill History: 02-09-17 H Filed		
HB 2228	Murphy, Jim(R)	Relating to deadlines for performing various functions in connection with the ad valorem tax system.
Companions: SB 946 Bettencourt, Paul (Identical) 3- 1-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Finance		
Bill History: 02-21-17 H Filed		
HB 2250	Darby, Drew(R)	Relating to the classification of certain entities as primarily engaged in retail trade for purposes of the franchise tax.
Bill History: 02-22-17 H Filed		
HB 2314	Murphy, Jim(R)	Relating to liability for interest if land appraised for ad valorem tax purposes as agricultural or open-space land is sold or diverted to a different use.
Companions: SB 629 Schwertner, Charles (Identical) 2-13-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Finance		
Bill History: 02-23-17 H Filed		
HB 2545	Sanford, Scott(R)	Relating to the determination of cost of goods sold for purposes of computing the franchise tax.
Companions: HB 2674 Parker, Tan (Refiled from 84R Session) SB 142 Taylor, Van (Identical) 2-28-17 S Committee action pending Senate Finance		
Bill History: 02-28-17 H Filed		
HB 2669	Shine, Hugh(R)	Relating to remedies in certain taxpayer suits

against the state.

Bill History: 03-01-17 H Filed

HB 2723 Shine, Hugh(R)

Relating to the deadline to file a petition for redetermination of a tax deficiency determination made by the comptroller.

Companions: SB 1095 Taylor, Larry (Identical)
2-24-17 S Filed

Bill History: 03-02-17 H Filed

HJR 41 Metcalf, Will(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) (Refiled from 84R Session)
SJR 23 Creighton, Brandon (F) (Refiled from 84R Session)
SJR 14 Creighton, Brandon (Identical)
1-25-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Finance

Bill History: 02-16-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Appropriations

HJR 58 Schofield, Mike(R)

Proposing a constitutional amendment prohibiting the imposition of an individual income tax.

Companions: SJR 45 Bettencourt, Paul (Identical)
3- 2-17 S Filed

Bill History: 01-13-17 H Filed

HJR 75 Raymond, Richard(D)

Proposing a constitutional amendment to appropriate money from the economic stabilization fund to the foundation school fund and use the money to finance.

Bill History: 02-17-17 H Filed

HJR 79 Klick, Stephanie(R)

Proposing a constitutional amendment prohibiting the imposition of an individual income tax.

Bill History: 02-20-17 H Filed

HJR 87 Meyer, Morgan(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.

Companions:

[HJR 95](#)

Meyer, Morgan (F)

(Refiled
from
84R
Session)

Bill History:

02-27-17 H Filed

[SB 1](#)

[Nelson, Jane\(R\)](#)

General Appropriations Bill.

Bill History:

01-24-17 S Meeting set for 9:00 A.M., E1.036
- Senate Finance

[SB 2](#)

[Bettencourt, Paul\(R\)](#)

Relating to ad valorem taxation.

Bill History:

01-24-17 S Introduced and referred to
committee on Senate Finance

[SB 17](#)

[Nelson, Jane\(R\)](#)

Relating to the decrease of the rates of the franchise tax under certain circumstances and the expiration of that tax.

Bill History:

02-28-17 S Voted favorably from committee as
substituted Senate Finance

[SB 72](#)

[Nelson, Jane\(R\)](#)

Relating to the decrease of the rates of the franchise tax under certain circumstances and the expiration of that tax.

Bill History:

01-24-17 S Introduced and referred to
committee on Senate Finance

[SB 112](#)

[Huffines, Donald\(R\)](#)

Relating to the decrease of the rates of the franchise tax under certain circumstances and the expiration of that tax.

Bill History:

01-25-17 S Introduced and referred to
committee on Senate Finance

[SB 130](#)

[Creighton, Brandon\(R\)](#)

Relating to the computation of the franchise tax.

Bill History:

01-25-17 S Introduced and referred to
committee on Senate Finance

[SB 131](#)

[Creighton, Brandon\(R\)](#)

Relating to the use of certain surplus state revenue to provide for a rebate of state franchise taxes.

Companions:

[HB 1134](#)

Metcalf, Will (F)

(Refiled
from 84R
Session)

[SB 331](#) Creighton, Brandon (F) (Refiled from 84R Session)
[HB 538](#) Metcalf, Will (Identical)
2-20-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Appropriations

Bill History: 01-25-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Finance

[SB 142](#) Taylor, Van(R)

Relating to the determination of cost of goods sold for purposes of computing the franchise tax.

Companions:

[HB 2674](#) Parker, Tan (Refiled from 84R Session)
[HB 2545](#) Sanford, Scott (Identical)
2-28-17 H Filed

Bill History: 02-28-17 S Committee action pending Senate Finance

[SB 178](#) Estes, Craig(R)

Relating to the repeal of the franchise tax.

Companions:

[HB 1052](#) Schubert, Leighton (Identical)
2-21-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means
[HB 1196](#) Button, Angie (Identical)
2-21-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means

Bill History: 01-25-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Finance

[SB 575](#) Schwertner, Charles(R)

Relating to the total revenue exemption for the franchise tax.

Companions:

[SB 8](#) Schwertner, Charles (Refiled from 84R Session)

Bill History: 02-28-17 S Committee action pending Senate Finance

[SB 629](#) Schwertner, Charles(R)

Relating to liability for the interest if land appraised for ad valorem tax purposes as agricultural or open-space land is sold or diverted to a different use.

Companions:

[HB 2314](#) Murphy, Jim (Identical)
2-23-17 H Filed

Bill History: 02-13-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Finance

SB 730 Bettencourt, Paul(R) Relating to the exemption from ad valorem taxation of income-producing tangible personal property having a value of less than a certain amount.

Companions: SB 762 Bettencourt, Paul (F) (Refiled from 84R Session)
HB 1330 Kuempel, John (Identical)
2-27-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means

Bill History: 02-21-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Finance

SB 946 Bettencourt, Paul(R) Relating to deadlines for performing various functions in connection with the ad valorem tax system.

Companions: HB 2228 Murphy, Jim (Identical)
2-21-17 H Filed

Bill History: 03-01-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Finance

SB 1031 Taylor, Larry(R) Relating to a deduction under the franchise tax for certain contracts with the federal government.

Companions: HB 637 Button, Angie (Refiled from 84R Session)
SB 514 Taylor, Larry (Refiled from 84R Session)
HB 509 Button, Angie (Identical)
2-16-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Ways and Means

Bill History: 02-22-17 S Filed

SB 1095 Taylor, Larry(R) Relating to the deadline to file a petition for redetermination of a tax deficiency determination made by the comptroller.

Companions: HB 2723 Shine, Hugh (Identical)
3- 2-17 H Filed

Bill History: 02-24-17 S Filed

SB 1191 Hughes, Bryan (F)(R) Relating to remedies in certain taxpayer suits

against the state.

Bill History: 03-01-17 S Filed

SJR 14 Creighton, Brandon(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) (Refiled from 84R Session)
SJR 23 Creighton, Brandon (F) (Refiled from 84R Session)
HJR 41 Metcalf, Will (Identical)
2-16-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Appropriations

Bill History: 01-25-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Finance

SJR 45 Bettencourt, Paul(R) Proposing a constitutional amendment prohibiting the imposition of an individual income tax.

Companions: HJR 58 Schofield, Mike (Identical)
1-13-17 H Filed

Bill History: 03-02-17 S Filed

J - Choice of Law

HB 45 Flynn, Dan(R) Relating to the application of foreign laws and foreign forum selection in this state.

Companions:

HB 670 Flynn, Dan (Refiled from 84R Session)

Bill History: 02-13-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

HB 498 Fallon, Pat(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: 02-16-17 H Introduced and referred to

committee on House Judiciary and Civil
Jurisprudence

HB 1844

Workman, Paul(R)

Relating to choice of law and venue for
certain construction contracts.

Companions:

SB
807

Creighton, Brandon

(Identical)

2-22-17 S Introduced and referred to
committee on Senate State Affairs

Bill History:

02-14-17 H Filed

SB 807

Creighton, Brandon(R)

Relating to choice of law and venue for
certain construction contracts.

Companions:

HB 1844

Workman, Paul

(Identical)

2-14-17 H Filed

Bill History:

02-22-17 S Introduced and referred to
committee on Senate State Affairs