

HOUSE JOURNAL

EIGHTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE, REGULAR SESSION

PROCEEDINGS

EIGHTIETH DAY — SUNDAY, JUNE 1, 2025

The house met at 1 p.m. and was called to order by the speaker.

The roll of the house was called and a quorum was announced present (Record 4125).

Present — Mr. Speaker(C); Alders; Anchia; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bowers; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Bumgarner; Button; Cain; Campos; Canales; Capriglione; Cole; Collier; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dutton; Dyson; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Gámez; Garcia, L.; Garcia Hernandez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Hinojosa; Holt; Hopper; Howard; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Johnson; Jones, J.; Jones, V.; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lalani; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Longoria; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Louderback; Lowe; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Meza; Money; Moody; Morales, C.; Morales, E.; Morales Shaw; Morgan; Muñoz; Noble; Olcott; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Pierson; Plesa; Raymond; Richardson; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rose; Rosenthal; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Simmons; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Toth; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Virdell; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wilson; Wu; Zwiener.

Absent, Excused — Allen; Harris.

Absent — Davis, Y.; Garcia, J.; Reynolds; Schatzline; Tinderholt.

The invocation was offered by Scot Wall, state minister, Capitol Commission, Austin.

The chair recognized Representative Wharton who led the house in the pledges of allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED

The following member was granted leave of absence for today because of important business:

Harris on motion of Buckley.

HR 1519 - NOTICE OF INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to Rule 13, Section 9(f), of the House Rules, the chair announced the introduction of **HR 1519**, suspending the limitations on the conferees for **HB 705**.

REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS SUSPENDED

On motion of Representative Geren and by unanimous consent, the reading and referral of bills was postponed until just prior to adjournment.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED

The following member was granted leave of absence for the remainder of today because of important business:

L. Garcia on motion of Garcia Hernandez.

**HR 1509 - ADOPTED
(by Geren)**

Representative Geren moved to suspend all necessary rules to take up and consider at this time **HR 1509**.

The motion prevailed.

The following resolution was laid before the house:

HR 1509, Congratulating Ross Video on receiving a 2025 NAB Show Project of the Year Award.

HR 1509 was adopted.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The chair recognized Representative Geren who introduced the staff of the House Audio and Video Department.

MEMORIAL RECOGNITION

The chair recognized Representative Schofield who addressed the house, speaking as follows:

Mr. Speaker, members, I want to thank all of you for giving me the opportunity to take a minute to recognize the passing of my mother, Doris Marie Dressler Schofield, who died at the height of our session on May 7th of this year. She would have been amused to know that I actually passed a bill on the local calendar between her funeral and getting to the graveside because my deskmate brought it up.

My mother lived a very selfless life devoted to her family. We had hints about some of the things that she had planned when she was in school and some of her dreams. She wanted to tour the country and she did as a stewardess—when they were called that. But then she settled in, and she never said this and never told it to us, but I think she was hoping to have a little girl. And when I didn't work out, she went on to have my brothers—Stephen, Brian, Jeffrey, Kevin, and Mark—all within eight years. She never once complained. And there would only be the occasional thing, like I would go up into the attic to get the Christmas

decorations down and see the porcelain doll that she had planned to give to her daughter. However, she ended up with eight granddaughters and only one grandson, so it worked out great in the end. But as my brother said at her funeral, she never took a day off. She devoted her entire life to serving others and was always there—was always making sure we were fed, we all got to all the different places we needed to go, and never complained. If her life didn't go the way she had planned it, she never let us know about it. And I try to keep that in mind, although I'd never live up to it. Members, thank you very much for giving me a moment to recognize my mother's passing.

REMARKS ORDERED PRINTED

Representative Gerdes moved to print remarks by Representative Schofield.

The motion prevailed.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED

The following member was granted leave of absence temporarily for today because of important business in the district:

Holt on motion of Richardson.

HR 1513 - ADOPTED (by Geren)

Representative Geren moved to suspend all necessary rules to take up and consider at this time **HR 1513**.

The motion prevailed.

The following resolution was laid before the house:

HR 1513, Commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Texas Legislative Council.

HR 1513 was adopted.

On motion of Representative Lambert, the names of all the members of the house were added to **HR 1513** as signers thereof.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The chair recognized Representative Geren who introduced the staff of the Texas Legislative Council.

(Schatzline now present)

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS SIGNED BY THE SPEAKER

Notice was given at this time that the speaker had signed bills and resolutions in the presence of the house (see the addendum to the daily journal, Signed by the Speaker, Senate List Nos. 30, 31, and 32).

LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED

The following member was granted leave of absence temporarily for today because of important business in the district:

Morales Shaw on motion of Bowers.

(Tinderholt now present)

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS SIGNED BY THE SPEAKER

Notice was given at this time that the speaker had signed bills and resolutions in the presence of the house (see the addendum to the daily journal, Signed by the Speaker, House List No. 29).

(Patterson in the chair)

(J. Garcia now present)

CONGRATULATORY AND MEMORIAL CALENDAR

The following congratulatory resolutions were laid before the house:

HCR 158 (by Lowe), Commemorating the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II. (Cunningham recorded voting no.)

HCR 159 (by Lowe), Commemorating the 190th anniversary of the Battle of Gonzales. (Cunningham recorded voting no.)

HCR 160 (by Lowe), Commemorating the 190th anniversary of the Battle of Goliad. (Cunningham recorded voting no.)

HCR 161 (by Lowe), Commemorating the 180th anniversary of the admission of Texas into the Union. (Cunningham recorded voting no.)

HCR 162 (by Lowe), Commemorating the 190th anniversary of the establishment of the Republic of Texas. (Cunningham recorded voting no.)

HCR 163 (by Lowe), Commemorating the 190th anniversary of the Battle of San Jacinto. (Cunningham recorded voting no.)

HCR 164 (by Lowe), Commemorating the 190th anniversary of the signing of the Treaties of Velasco. (Cunningham recorded voting no.)

HR 174 (by Cain), Congratulating Cecil V. Newton of Highlands on his 100th birthday.

HR 427 (by Toth), Commending Bobby and Lindsey Kasprzak of The Woodlands for their caring efforts as the founders of the Apricity Foundation. (Bryant, Flores, Goodwin, Meza, and Rodríguez Ramos recorded voting no.)

HR 790 (by Spiller), Commending Dr. Kevin Cunningham of Eastland County for his participation in the Physician of the Day program at the State Capitol on April 10, 2025.

HR 810 (by Romero), Congratulating labor leader and civil rights activist Dolores Huerta on her 95th birthday. (C. Bell, Buckley, Bumgarner, Cain, Craddick, Curry, DeAyala, Gerdes, Harris Davila, Harrison, Hefner, Hickland, Holt, Hopper, Hull, Isaac, Kerwin, LaHood, Leo Wilson, Metcalf, Morgan, Olcott, Oliverson, Orr, Patterson, Paul, Pierson, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shaheen, Shofner, Slawson, Swanson, Tinderholt, Troxclair, Vasut, and Wilson recorded voting no.)

HR 857 (by Simmons), Congratulating the Houston Area Women's Center on the opening of the first phase of its new client services facility. (C. Bell, K. Bell, Buckley, Cunningham, Gerdes, Holt, Isaac, Metcalf, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 866 (by Wilson), Commemorating the 40th anniversary of LoveTalk Network. (Cunningham, Holt, Isaac, Richardson, Schoolcraft, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 882 (by Dutton), Commemorating the 75th anniversary of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Houston.

HR 883 (by Leo Wilson), Congratulating Texas EquuSearch on its 25th anniversary.

HR 962 (by Garcia Hernandez), Honoring Martha Thomas and The Defensive Line for their efforts to prevent youth suicide. (Cain, Hopper, LaHood, Leo Wilson, Metcalf, Morgan, Olcott, Pierson, Troxclair, and Vasut recorded voting no.)

HR 966 (by Martinez Fischer), Commending Ayaan Moledina for his advocacy on youth issues. (C. Bell, Bumgarner, Cain, Craddick, Curry, Harris Davila, Harrison, Hefner, Hopper, Hull, Isaac, LaHood, Leo Wilson, Metcalf, Morgan, Olcott, Orr, Patterson, Paul, Pierson, Shaheen, Shofner, Slawson, Swanson, Troxclair, Vasut, and Wilson recorded voting no.)

HR 1001 (by Leo Wilson), Commending Andrew McKiernan for his service as a legislative aide in the office of State Representative Terri Leo Wilson. (Isaac recorded voting no.)

HR 1045 (by Dutton), Congratulating Cynthia Bailey on her receipt of a 2025 Outstanding Texan Award from the Texas Legislative Black Caucus. (Harris Davila, Holt, Isaac, Metcalf, Richardson, and Schoolcraft recorded voting no.)

HR 1085 (by Capriiglione), Commemorating the 50th anniversary of the National Conference of State Legislatures.

HR 1097 (by Wu), Commending Aaron W. Lurin for his service as a communications intern in the office of State Representative Gene Wu. (C. Bell, Cain, Holt, Hopper, Isaac, Leo Wilson, Metcalf, Olcott, Pierson, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shofner, Swanson, and Vasut recorded voting no.)

HR 1127 (by Martinez Fischer), Honoring José H. Villarreal for his professional and civic achievements. (C. Bell, Harris Davila, Harrison, Holt, Isaac, Lowe, Metcalf, Paul, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1138 (by Toth), Commending Dr. Mary Talley Bowden for her contributions to the treatment of COVID-19 patients. (Bryant, Flores, Goodwin, Isaac, Meza, and Rodríguez Ramos recorded voting no.)

HR 1141 (by Luther), Posthumously honoring educator Katie Erin Palmer for her contributions to Denison ISD and her community. (Isaac recorded voting no.)

HR 1150 (by M. González), Commemorating the grand reopening of the Juanchido Elder Center. (Cunningham, Harris Davila, Isaac, and Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1152 (by M. González), Honoring the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo tribe for its contributions. (Cain, Harris Davila, Hopper, Isaac, Leo Wilson, Olcott, Pierson, Shofner, Troxclair, and Vasut recorded voting no.)

HR 1292 (by Martinez Fischer), Honoring Frank Herrera Jr. for his dedication to the advancement of the Latino population in San Antonio and beyond. (C. Bell, Cain, Harris Davila, Holt, Hopper, Isaac, Kerwin, Leo Wilson, Metcalf, Olcott, Paul, Pierson, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shofner, Swanson, Troxclair, and Vasut recorded voting no.)

HR 1296 (by Reynolds), Recognizing May 20, 2025, as Greater Houston Frontiers Club Day at the State Capitol. (Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1304 (by Darby), Commemorating the 60th anniversary of Ethicon San Angelo. (Isaac recorded voting no.)

HR 1305 (by Moody), Commending Linaizel Lara of Garland for her service as a legislative aide in the office of Speaker Pro Tem Joe Moody. (Holt, Isaac, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1306 (by Moody), Congratulating Cayden Castaneda for her service as a legislative aide in the office of Speaker Pro Tempore Joe Moody. (Holt, Isaac, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1308 (by Rodríguez Ramos), Congratulating Assistant Chief of Police Dr. Coby Pewitt on his retirement from the Richardson Police Department. (Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1309 (by Orr), Congratulating Marco Cunningham of Rapoport Academy on winning two gold medals at the 2025 UIL Track & Field State Meet.

HR 1310 (by Cunningham), Commending Sydney Taylor for her service as a legislative intern in the office of State Representative Charles Cunningham. (Isaac recorded voting no.)

HR 1311 (by Rodríguez Ramos), Honoring Dr. Tiffany L. Anthony on the occasion of Medical City Dallas Advocacy Day. (Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1312 (by Cunningham), Commending Larson Crank for his service as a legislative aide in the office of State Representative Charles Cunningham. (Isaac recorded voting no.)

HR 1313 (by Darby), Honoring Brenda Gunter for her service as mayor of San Angelo. (Isaac recorded voting no.)

HR 1315 (by Martinez Fischer), Honoring Flaco Jiménez for his contributions to Texas music. (Isaac, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1317 (by Orr), Congratulating the boys' basketball team of Rapoport Academy Public School in Waco on winning the 2025 UIL 2A Division 1 state championship.

HR 1318 (by Flores), Congratulating Angela Flores Beck of Fayette County on her 75th birthday. (Harris Davila, Isaac, and Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1320 (by Reynolds), Recognizing May 22, 2025, as Texas Africa Chamber of Commerce Day at the State Capitol. (Holt, Isaac, Richardson, Schoolcraft, and Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1321 (by Martinez Fischer), Honoring UTSA professor emerita Dr. Ellen Riojas Clark for her contributions. (Harris Davila, Harrison, Isaac, Kerwin, Lowe, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1322 (by Allen), Commending Karnies Adams for her service as a policy analyst in the office of State Representative Alma Allen. (Holt, Isaac, Richardson, Schoolcraft, and Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1323 (by Allen), Commending Regan House for her service as a legislative aide in the office of State Representative Alma Allen. (Holt, Isaac, Richardson, Schoolcraft, and Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1324 (by Gámez), Congratulating Dr. Rose M. Z. Gowen on her retirement as a Brownsville city commissioner. (Harris Davila, Isaac, and Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1325 was previously adopted.

HR 1327 (by V. Perez), Congratulating the inaugural graduating class of the Hunt School of Dental Medicine. (Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1328 (by Goodwin), Congratulating Edward Sills on his retirement as communications director for the Texas AFL-CIO. (C. Bell, K. Bell, Buckley, Bumgarner, Cook, Craddick, Curry, DeAyala, Gerdes, Harris Davila, Harrison, Hickland, Holt, Hull, Isaac, Lowe, Metcalf, Noble, Olcott, Oliverson, Orr, Patterson, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shaheen, Shofner, Slawson, Swanson, Troxclair, and Wilson recorded voting no.)

HR 1329 (by Zwiener), Congratulating Dr. Van Davis on his induction into the Texas Digital Learning Association Hall of Fame. (Buckley, Craddick, Gerdes, Harris Davila, Isaac, Olcott, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1330 (by Zwiener), Congratulating Lexi Landrum of Dripping Springs High School on competing in swimming at the 2025 International School Sport Federation U15 Gymnasiade. (Harris Davila, Isaac, and Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1331 (by Zwiener), Congratulating Adelle Donovan on being named the 2025 Hays County Youth Poet Laureate. (Harrison, Isaac, and Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1332 (by Zwiener), Honoring Helen and Rene Alcalá on their posthumous receipt of the 2025 Buda Local Legends Award. (Harris Davila, Isaac, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1333 (by Zwiener), Congratulating the city of San Marcos on being designated a Bird City Texas community by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and Audubon Texas. (Cunningham, Harrison, Hickland, and Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1334 (by Zwiener), Commemorating the 2025 Buda Lions Country Fair & BBQ Cook-Off. (Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1335 (by Zwiener), Commemorating the 20th annual Operation: Hats Off for Veterans BBQ Gala. (Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1338 (by Bucy), Congratulating Annabel Curtis for her service as a legislative aide in the office of State Representative John H. Bucy III. (Holt, Isaac, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1340 (by Martinez Fischer), Recognizing Dwight Hobart for his contributions to the San Antonio community as the owner of Liberty Bar. (Craddick, Cunningham Harris Davila, Isaac, Kerwin, Olcott, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1341 (by Gervin-Hawkins), Congratulating the members of the Judson Early College Academy Class of 2025 on their achievements. (Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1342 (by Schofield), Congratulating Douglas and Susan Freeman of Lexington on their 65th wedding anniversary.

HR 1343 (by Curry), Congratulating Carl and Judy Hagen of Robinson on their 50th wedding anniversary.

HR 1344 (by Lujan), Congratulating Susann Kazunas on her promotion to group vice president and executive engineering officer for Toyota Motor North America. (Cunningham recorded voting no.)

HR 1345 (by Virdell), Commemorating the 20th anniversary of the founding of Horseshoe Bay. (Cunningham recorded voting no.)

HR 1346 (by C. Bell), Commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Association of Water Board Directors-Texas.

HR 1347 (by Allen), Commending Carter Bentsen of Houston for his service as a legislative aide in the office of State Representative Alma Allen. (Holt, Isaac, Richardson, Schoolcraft, and Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1348 (by Harris Davila), Commending Summer White for her service as a legislative aide in the office of State Representative Caroline Harris Davila.

HR 1349 (by Harris Davila), Commending Kelly Abels for her service as a legislative aide in the office of State Representative Caroline Harris Davila.

HR 1352 (by K. Bell), Congratulating the Forney Independent School District on receiving a 2025 Best Communities for Music Education designation from the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation.

HR 1353 (by Raymond), Honoring Phillip Saenz Cruz Jr. for his work in the office of State Representative Richard Peña Raymond. (Isaac recorded voting no.)

HR 1354 (by Harris Davila), Congratulating Steven Snell on his appointment as Williamson County judge.

HR 1355 (by Harris Davila), Commending Firefly Aerospace for its contributions to Texas.

HR 1358 (by Bernal), Congratulating Mixtli in San Antonio on receiving the AAA Five Diamond Restaurant Award. (Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1359 (by Bernal), Congratulating Brandi Spieth of San Antonio on graduating as a member of the Texas Partners in Policymaking Class of 2025. (Harris Davila, Isaac, and Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1360 (by Patterson), Congratulating Easton Patterson on his graduation as a member of the Whitesboro High School Class of 2025. (Isaac recorded voting no.)

HR 1361 (by Meyer), Congratulating professional golfer Scottie Scheffler of Dallas on his success in 2024 and 2025.

HR 1362 (by Virdell), Commemorating the 100th anniversary of the City of McCamey.

HR 1363 (by LaHood), Commending Olivia Lopez for her service as a policy analyst in the office of State Representative Marc LaHood. (Isaac recorded voting no.)

HR 1364 (by LaHood), Commending Sebastian Quaid for his service as chief of staff in the office of State Representative Marc LaHood. (Isaac recorded voting no.)

HR 1365 (by LaHood), Commending Edward Berning for his service as a legislative assistant in the office of Representative Marc LaHood. (Isaac recorded voting no.)

HR 1366 (by LaHood), Commending Aidan Salazar for his service as a legislative intern in the office of State Representative Marc LaHood. (Isaac recorded voting no.)

HR 1368 (by Paul), Congratulating Caleb Lazarow on his graduation as a member of the Clear Brook High School Class of 2025. (Isaac recorded voting no.)

HR 1369 (by Leo Wilson), Commemorating the 160th anniversary of the first Juneteenth celebration and extending best wishes to the people of Galveston as they observe the holiday. (Holt, Richardson, and Schoolcraft recorded voting no.)

HR 1370 (by Leo Wilson), Congratulating Jessica Scheer on graduating as a member of the Texas Partners in Policymaking Class of 2025. (Isaac recorded voting no.)

HR 1380 (by Bucy), Commemorating the 20th anniversary of Loewy Law Firm. (C. Bell, Buckley, Curry, Gerdes, Harris Davila, Hickland, Isaac, Metcalf, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1383 (by Anchía), Congratulating the recipients of the 2024-2025 Educator of the Year awards presented by the Dallas Education Foundation. (Isaac and Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1384 (by Bucy), Commemorating the 10th anniversary of Red Horn Coffee House and Brewing Company in Cedar Park.

HR 1385 (by Moody), Congratulating Morris Pittle for his success as the owner of JewBoy Burgers in Austin. (C. Bell, Metcalf, and Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1386 (by Bucy), Commemorating the opening of Don't Tell Mama Tattoo in Cedar Park. (C. Bell, Buckley, Cunningham, Gerdes, Harris Davila, Hickland, Isaac, Lowe, Metcalf, Noble, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1387 (by V. Jones), Commending Tyhler Nelson for his service as a legislative aide in the office of State Representative Venton Jones. (C. Bell, Holt, Isaac, Metcalf, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1388 (by V. Jones), Commending Isabella Contreras for her service as a legislative aide in the office of State Representative Venton Jones. (C. Bell, Holt, Metcalf, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1389 (by V. Jones), Commending Alex Elsworth for his service as a legislative aide in the office of State Representative Venton Jones. (C. Bell, Holt, Isaac, Metcalf, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1390 (by V. Jones), Commending Ryan M. Garcia for his service as chief of staff in the office of State Representative Venton Jones. (C. Bell, Holt, Isaac, Metcalf, Richardson, Schoolcraft, and Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1392 (by V. Jones), Commending Kevin Sean Roberts for his service as legislative director in the office of State Representative Venton Jones. (C. Bell, Holt, Isaac, Metcalf, Richardson, Schoolcraft, and Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1393 (by Noble), Congratulating Susie Ray Northington on her 100th birthday.

HR 1396 (by Buckley), Congratulating Robert Hoxworth of First National Bank Texas in Killeen on his induction into the Texas Bankers Hall of Fame. (Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1397 (by J. González), Commending Joanna Contreras for her service as legislative director in the office of State Representative Jessica González during the 89th Legislative Session. (Holt, Isaac, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1398 (by J. González), Commending Desirae Garcia for her service as a legislative aide in the office of State Representative Jessica González and as director of the Texas House LGBTQ Caucus. (Cain, Cook, Craddick, Cunningham, Harrison, Holt, Hopper, Isaac, Kerwin, Leo Wilson, Lowe, Noble, Olcott, Paul, Pierson, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shofner, Swanson, Troxclair, and Vasut recorded voting no.)

HR 1399 (by J. González), Commending Yanet Andablo for her service as a legislative aide in the office of State Representative Jessica González. (Holt, Isaac, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1400 (by J. González), Commending Charles Birk Wilkison for his service as chief of staff in the office of State Representative Jessica González. (Holt, Isaac, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1402 (by Ashby, Lujan, Button, et al.), Commending the members of the inaugural cohort of The University of Texas System Texas Legislative Fellowship Program for their service during the 89th Legislative Session.

HR 1403 (by Martinez Fischer), Commending Claudia Salinas for her service as engagement director and policy advisor in the office of State Representative Trey Martinez Fischer. (Holt, Isaac, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1404 (by Martinez Fischer), Commending Madison Alvarez for her service as a policy advisor in the office of State Representative Trey Martinez Fischer. (Holt, Isaac, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1405 (by Martinez Fischer), Commending Ali S. Zaidi for his service as chief strategist of the House Democratic Caucus during the 88th Legislature. (Bumgarner, Cain, Cook, Craddick, Harrison, Hefner, Holt, Hopper, Hull, Isaac, Leo Wilson, Lowe, Morgan, Noble, Olcott, Orr, Patterson, Pierson, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shaheen, Shofner, Slawson, Swanson, Tinderholt, Troxclair, Vasut, and Wilson recorded voting no.)

HR 1406 (by Martinez Fischer), Commending Katya Ehresman for her service as executive director of the House Democratic Caucus during the 88th Legislature. (Bumgarner, Cook, Craddick, Harrison, Hefner, Holt, Hull, Isaac, Lowe, Noble, Olcott, Orr, Patterson, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shaheen, Shofner, Slawson, Swanson, Tinderholt, Troxclair, and Wilson recorded voting no.)

HR 1407 (by Martinez Fischer), Commending Cynthia Van Maanen for her service as chief of staff in the office of State Representative Trey Martinez Fischer. (Holt, Isaac, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1408 (by Martinez Fischer), Congratulating Riley Church on becoming the communications director in the office of State Representative Trey Martinez Fischer. (Cain, Holt, Hopper, Isaac, Leo Wilson, Morgan, Olcott, Pierson, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shofner, Swanson, Troxclair, and Vasut recorded voting no.)

HR 1409 (by Martinez Fischer), Commending Scott Poole for his service as a legislative aide in the office of State Representative Trey Martinez Fischer. (Holt, Isaac, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1410 (by Martinez Fischer), Commending Kiera Dixon on her service as a legislative aide in the office of State Representative Trey Martinez Fischer. (Holt Isaac, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1411 (by Martinez Fischer), Commending Diego Antonio López for his service as a legislative aide in the office of State Representative Trey Martinez Fischer. (Holt, Isaac, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1412 (by Martinez Fischer), Commending Sarah Batson for her service as a legislative aide in the office of State Representative Trey Martinez Fischer. (Holt, Isaac, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1413 (by Gerdes), Congratulating Michael Taaffe for his achievements as a member of The University of Texas at Austin football team. (Curry recorded voting no.)

HR 1414 (by Smithee), Congratulating Sarah Hininger of Hartley Fire & EMS on being named the 2025 EMS Provider of the Year by the Panhandle Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association.

HR 1415 (by Smithee), Congratulating Assistant Chief Tommy Chisum of the Dalhart Volunteer Fire Department on being named the 2025 Firefighter of the Year by the Panhandle Firemen's & Fire Marshal's Association.

HR 1417 (by V. Jones), Congratulating Maxie Johnson on his election to the Dallas City Council. (C. Bell, Bumgarner, Craddick, Curry, DeAyala, Harris Davila, Harrison, Hefner, Holt, Hull, Isaac, Lowe, Metcalf, Olcott, Oliverson, Orr, Patterson, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shaheen, Shofner, Slawson, Swanson, and Wilson recorded voting no.)

HR 1418 (by V. Jones), Congratulating Laura Cadena on her election to the Dallas City Council. (C. Bell, Bumgarner, Craddick, Curry, DeAyala, Harris Davila, Harrison, Hefner, Holt, Hull, Isaac, Lowe, Metcalf, Olcott, Oliverson, Orr, Patterson, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shaheen, Shofner, Slawson, Swanson, and Wilson recorded voting no.)

HR 1419 (by V. Jones), Congratulating the Honorable Prisma Y. Garcia on her election to the Dallas ISD Board of Trustees. (C. Bell, Bumgarner, Cain, Craddick, Curry, DeAyala, Harris Davila, Hefner, Holt, Hopper, Hull, Isaac, Leo Wilson, Metcalf, Morgan, Olcott, Oliverson, Orr, Patterson, Pierson, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shaheen, Shofner, Slawson, Swanson, Troxclair, Vasut, and Wilson recorded voting no.)

HR 1420 (by V. Jones), Congratulating the Honorable Byron Sanders on his election to the Dallas ISD Board of Trustees. (C. Bell, Craddick, Curry, DeAyala, Harris Davila, Hefner, Holt, Hull, Isaac, Metcalf, Olcott, Oliverson, Patterson, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shaheen, Shofner, Slawson, Swanson, and Wilson recorded voting no.)

HR 1421 (by Smithee), Congratulating the Randall High School girls' soccer team on winning the 2025 UIL 4A Division 2 state championship.

HR 1422 (by Bucy), Commending Bat Conservation International for its contributions. (C. Bell, Cunningham, Holt, Metcalf, Richardson, Schoolcraft, and Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1424 (by Guillen), Commending Randall Treviño Jr. for his service as a constituent services advisor in the office of State Representative Ryan Guillen. (Isaac recorded voting no.)

HR 1425 (by Leach), Congratulating Officer Dominique Akins of the Allen Police Department on his receipt of a 2025 State of Texas Law Enforcement Achievement Award for Valor.

HR 1426 (by Leo Wilson), Commemorating the dedication of the Jocelyn Nungaray National Wildlife Refuge.

HR 1427 (by V. Jones), Congratulating Adam Bazaldua on his reelection to the Dallas City Council. (C. Bell, Buckley, Bumgarner, Craddick, Curry, Gerdes, Harris Davila, Harrison, Hefner, Holt, Hull, Isaac, Lowe, Metcalf, Olcott, Oliverson, Orr, Patterson, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shaheen, Shofner, Slawson, Swanson, and Wilson recorded voting no.)

HR 1428 (by V. Jones), Congratulating Paul E. Ridley on his reelection to the Dallas City Council. (C. Bell, Buckley, Bumgarner, Craddick, Curry, Gerdes, Harris Davila, Harrison, Hefner, Holt, Hull, Isaac, Lowe, Metcalf, Olcott, Oliverson, Orr, Patterson, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shaheen, Shofner, Slawson, Swanson, and Wilson recorded voting no.)

HR 1429 (by V. Jones), Congratulating Gay Donnell Willis on her reelection to the Dallas City Council. (C. Bell, Buckley, Bumgarner, Craddick, Curry, Gerdes, Harris Davila, Harrison, Hefner, Holt, Hull, Isaac, Lowe, Metcalf, Olcott, Oliverson, Orr, Patterson, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shaheen, Shofner, Slawson, Swanson, and Wilson recorded voting no.)

HR 1430 (by V. Jones), Congratulating Cara Mendelsohn on her reelection to the Dallas City Council. (C. Bell, Buckley, Bumgarner, Craddick, Curry, Gerdes, Harris Davila, Harrison, Hefner, Holt, Hull, Isaac, Lowe, Metcalf, Olcott, Oliverson, Orr, Patterson, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shaheen, Shofner, Slawson, Swanson, and Wilson recorded voting no.)

HR 1431 (by V. Jones), Congratulating Kathy Stewart on her reelection to the Dallas City Council. (C. Bell, Buckley, Bumgarner, Craddick, Curry, Gerdes, Harris Davila, Harrison, Hefner, Holt, Hull, Isaac, Lowe, Metcalf, Olcott, Oliverson, Orr, Patterson, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shaheen, Shofner, Slawson, Swanson, and Wilson recorded voting no.)

HR 1432 (by V. Jones), Congratulating Paula Blackmon on her reelection to the Dallas City Council. (C. Bell, Buckley, Bumgarner, Cain, Craddick, Curry, Gerdes, Harris Davila, Harrison, Hefner, Holt, Hopper, Hull, Isaac, LaHood, Leo

Wilson, Lowe, Metcalf, Morgan, Olcott, Oliverson, Orr, Patterson, Pierson, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shaheen, Shofner, Slawson, Swanson, Troxclair, Vasut, and Wilson recorded voting no.)

HR 1433 (by V. Jones), Congratulating Jaime Resendez on his reelection to the Dallas City Council. (C. Bell, Buckley, Bumgarner, Craddick, Curry, Gerdes, Harris Davila, Harrison, Hefner, Holt, Hull, Isaac, Lowe, Metcalf, Olcott, Oliverson, Orr, Patterson, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shaheen, Shofner, Slawson, Swanson, and Wilson recorded voting no.)

HR 1434 (by V. Jones), Congratulating Zarin D. Gracey on his reelection to the Dallas City Council. (C. Bell, Buckley, Bumgarner, Craddick, Curry, Gerdes, Harris Davila, Harrison, Hefner, Holt, Hull, Isaac, Lowe, Metcalf, Olcott, Oliverson, Orr, Patterson, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shaheen, Shofner, Slawson, Swanson, and Wilson recorded voting no.)

HR 1435 (by V. Jones), Congratulating Jesse Moreno on his reelection to the Dallas City Council. (C. Bell, Buckley, Bumgarner, Craddick, Curry, Gerdes, Harris Davila, Harrison, Hefner, Holt, Hull, Isaac, Lowe, Metcalf, Olcott, Oliverson, Orr, Patterson, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shaheen, Shofner, Slawson, Swanson, and Wilson recorded voting no.)

HR 1436 (by V. Jones), Congratulating Chad West on his reelection to the Dallas City Council. (C. Bell, Buckley, Bumgarner, Craddick, Curry, Gerdes, Harris Davila, Harrison, Hefner, Holt, Hull, Isaac, Lowe, Metcalf, Olcott, Oliverson, Orr, Patterson, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shaheen, Shofner, Slawson, Swanson, and Wilson recorded voting no.)

HR 1438 (by V. Perez), Recognizing Andrew Joseph Perez for the creation of the Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe mural in El Paso. (Craddick, Curry, Holt, Isaac, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1440 (by Lozano), Congratulating Dr. Jose Manuel Lozano of Falfurrias on his retirement. (Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1441 (by Lozano), Congratulating Jorge Antonio Borrego and Alexandria Cisneros Borrego of San Antonio on the birth of their son, Jett. (Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1442 (by Bucy), Commemorating the 20th anniversary of Heritage Boot Company in Austin. (Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1443 (by Bucy), Honoring Round Rock El Amistad Club. (C. Bell, Harris Davila, Holt, Metcalf, Richardson, Schoolcraft, Shofner, and Swanson recorded voting no.)

HR 1444 (by Bucy), Commemorating the 10th anniversary of the Día de Los Muertos performances by Round Rock Ballet Folklórico. (Holt, Richardson, Schoolcraft, and Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1445 (by Bucy), Commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Round Rock Community Choir. (Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1447 (by Shofner), Commending Emme Hocker for her service as a legislative intern in the office of State Representative Joanne Shofner.

HR 1448 (by Shofner), Commending Sydney Shifflett for her service as a legislative intern in the office of State Representative Joanne Shofner.

HR 1449 (by Shofner), Commending Garrett Strittmatter for his service as a policy analyst in the office of State Representative Joanne Shofner.

HR 1450 (by Schofield), Congratulating Jahkil Jackson on receiving the Legacy Beyond a Lifetime Award from the Wise Up to Rise Up Foundation.

HR 1452 (by J. Lopez), Commending Daniel Luo for his service as a legislative intern in the office of State Representative Janie Lopez.

HR 1453 (by J. Lopez), Commending Krysta Balderas Herrera for her service as a legislative intern in the office of State Representative Janie Lopez.

HR 1454 (by J. Lopez), Commending Samantha Sandoval for her service as a legislative intern in the office of State Representative Janie Lopez.

HR 1455 (by J. Lopez), Commending Ramon Santos Jr. for his service as a legislative intern in the office of State Representative Janie Lopez.

HR 1456 (by J. Lopez), Commending Isabelle Dabideen for her service as a legislative intern in the office of State Representative Janie Lopez.

HR 1458 (by Buckley), Congratulating Dirk Aaron on his retirement as general manager of the Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District.

HR 1459 (by Darby), Commemorating the 25th season of the Austin Symphony Orchestra's Be at the Symphony (BATS) program.

HR 1460 (by Landgraf), Commemorating the 50th anniversary of The Energy Council.

HR 1461 (by Shofner), Congratulating Maggie Simmons and Morgan Register on their wedding on August 10, 2024.

HR 1462 (by Tepper), Commending State Representative Tom Craddick and Nadine Craddick for their contributions to the physician assistant profession and health care education. (Craddick recorded voting no.)

HR 1463 (by Schofield), Congratulating Marquis Hill on receiving a Legacy Beyond a Lifetime Award from the Wise Up to Rise Up Foundation.

HR 1464 (by Dyson), Commending Hayden M. Richards of Wichita Falls for his service as a public policy intern in the office of State Representative Paul Dyson.

HR 1465 (by Dyson), Commending Bennett Bush for his service as legislative director in the office of State Representative Paul Dyson.

HR 1466 (by Rose), Commending Adrian Cornejo for his service as a legislative aide in the office of State Representative Toni Rose. (Holt, Richardson, Schoolcraft, and Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1467 (by Rose), Commending Joseph Frausto for his service as a policy analyst in the office of State Representative Toni Rose. (Holt, Richardson, Schoolcraft, and Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1469 (by Hayes), Commending the members of the PowerHouse Texas Energy Policy Fellowship Program for their service during the 89th Legislative Session.

HR 1470 (by Gámez), Congratulating Dr. Pastor Alvarado of Brownsville on his retirement. (Harris Davila and Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1471 (by Schofield), Commending PowerHouse Church in Katy for hosting the Wise Up to Rise Up Foundation's Winner's Circle 2025 event.

HR 1472 (by Schofield), Honoring Khristopher Alexander Fields of the Wise Up to Rise Up Foundation on the occasion of the organization's Winner's Circle 2025 event.

HR 1473 (by Shofner), Commending Carter Moxley for his service as deputy chief of staff in the office of State Representative Mike Schofield.

HR 1475 (by Darby), Congratulating the Texas Book Festival on its 30th anniversary.

HR 1477 (by Zwiener), Congratulating Carol and Jeff Zwiener on their 40th wedding anniversary.

The resolutions were adopted.

The following memorial resolutions were laid before the house:

HCR 132 (by Craddick), In memory of former Midland mayor Carroll Morgan Thomas.

HCR 154 (by Craddick), In memory of Deputy Jessie Ray Perez of the Dawson County Sheriff's Office.

HR 17 (by Raymond and Curry), In memory of Corey D. Comperatore of Sarver, Pennsylvania.

HR 49 (by Cole), In memory of Ina Glasberg of Needham, Massachusetts. (Harris Davila recorded voting no.)

HR 170 (by Hopper, Oliverson, Schatzline, Olcott, et al.), In memory of Jill Glover of Double Oak. (Bryant, Flores, Goodwin, Meza, and Rodríguez Ramos recorded voting no.)

HR 275 (by J. Jones), In memory of Judge Zinetta Arceneaux Burney of Houston. (Harris Davila recorded voting no.)

HR 355 (by Bucy), In memory of William Everett Brannon Jr. of Sulphur Springs. (Harris Davila recorded voting no.)

HR 356 (by Bucy), In memory of Jennifer Joy Mattingly of Round Rock. (Cain, Hopper, LaHood, Leo Wilson, Morgan, Olcott, Pierson, and Troxclair recorded voting no.)

HR 364 (by Collier), In memory of retired judge L. Clifford Davis of Arlington. (Harris Davila recorded voting no.)

HR 369 (by Schatzline), In memory of Israeli citizens Shiri Bibas, Ariel Bibas, Kfir Bibas, and Oded Lifshitz.

HR 672 (by DeAyala), In memory of George William Strake Jr. and Annette DeWalch Strake of Houston.

HR 690 (by Louderback), In memory of Sister Emilie Eilers of Victoria.

HR 755 (by Button), In memory of Janice S. Watson Cullum.

HR 756 (by Button), In memory of George L. Cullum III.

HR 759 (by Guillen), In memory of Dr. William Peter Kuvlesky Jr. of Kingsville.

HR 762 (by Harless), In memory of Eugene Frank Zaboroski of Cypress.

HR 763 (by Moody), In memory of Sharon Carol "Shay" Shugert of El Paso.

HR 781 (by Lujan), In memory of Cameron Celeste Jacobson of San Antonio.

HR 785 (by Howard and Flores), In memory of former state comptroller and Austin mayor Carole Keeton.

HR 848 (by Martinez Fischer), In memory of Daniel Chris Graney of San Antonio. (Craddick, Curry, Kerwin, and Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1240 (by Bryant), In memory of Carlton Carl of Martindale.

HR 1265 (by Toth), In memory of Patsy Ruth Spackey of The Woodlands.

HR 1303 (by Flores), In memory of Maria Teresa Flores Cavazos of Monterrey, Mexico. (Harris Davila recorded voting no.)

HR 1307 (by Manuel), In memory of Brenda Diane Calhoun Vaughn of Port Arthur.

HR 1314 (by Bucy), In memory of Denise Elaine Marshall of Cedar Park.

HR 1316 (by Martinez Fischer), In memory of Judith Gosnell Cavender of San Antonio.

HR 1319 (by Troxclair), In memory of Milburn Walter Dearing of Boerne.

HR 1326 (by Longoria), In memory of Sara Vela of Mission.

HR 1336 (by Button), In memory of Janice S. Watson Cullum.

HR 1337 (by Button), In memory of George L. Cullum III.

HR 1350 (by Vastut), In memory of Taylor Hall Jr. of Brazoria County.

HR 1351 (by Moody), In memory of Sharon Carol Shugert of El Paso.

HR 1367 (by Lowe), In memory of Doyle Oliver of Watauga.

HR 1371 (by M. González), Posthumously paying tribute to the military service of U.S. Army Private First Class Willie Munoz of Clint.

HR 1372 (by M. González), Posthumously paying tribute to the military service of U.S. Marine Corps Sergeant Alex Fierro of Clint.

HR 1373 (by M. González), Posthumously paying tribute to the military service of U.S. Army Master Sergeant (Ret.) Lawrence Fitzpatrick of Clint.

HR 1374 (by M. González), Posthumously paying tribute to the military service of U.S. Army veteran Lorissa Gonzales of Clint.

HR 1375 (by M. González), Posthumously paying tribute to the military service of U.S. Army veteran Raul Ontiveros of Clint.

HR 1376 (by M. González), Posthumously paying tribute to the military service of U.S. Army Sergeant Eduardo F. Apodaca of San Elizario.

HR 1377 (by M. González), Posthumously paying tribute to the military service of U.S. Army Specialist Roberto Avila of San Elizario.

HR 1378 (by M. González), Posthumously paying tribute to the military service of U.S. Air Force Senior Master Sergeant (Ret.) Ruben Rey Jr. of San Elizario.

HR 1379 (by M. González), Posthumously paying tribute to the military service of U.S. Army Corporal Richard N. Sambrano of San Elizario.

HR 1382 (by Flores), In memory of Aaron Scott Rendon.

HR 1391 (by Louderback), In memory of Osmond Bernard Scott of Ganado.

HR 1395 (by Buckley), In memory of Captain Marvin Hampton Taylor III of the Killeen Fire Department.

HR 1437 (by Muñoz), In memory of Pedro "Pete" Guajardo Jr. of Mission. (Isaac and Shofner recorded voting no.)

HR 1451 (by Darby), In memory of Ronald Edward Shifflett of Burton.

HR 1457 (by Shaheen), In memory of Richard Dennis Worrell of Plano.

HR 1468 (by Darby), In memory of Alan George Moravcik of Midland.

HR 1474 (by Darby), In memory of David Louis Hirschfeld of San Angelo.

HR 1476 was previously adopted.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted by a rising vote.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED

The following member was granted leave of absence for the remainder of today because of important business:

V. Jones on motion of J. Garcia.

(Speaker in the chair)

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The chair recognized Representative Barry who introduced the staff of Special Services.

(Reynolds now present)

SCR 54 - ADOPTED (Hunter - House Sponsor)

The following privileged resolution was laid before the house:

SCR 54, Instructing the enrolling clerk of the senate to make a correction in **SB 2268**.

SCR 54 was adopted by (Record 4126): 127 Yeas, 5 Nays, 1 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Anchía; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bowers; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Button; Campos; Canales; Capriglione; Cole; Collier; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dutton; Dyson; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Hinojosa; Hopper; Howard; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lalani; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Little; Longoria; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Louderback; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Meza; Money; Moody; Morales, E.; Morgan; Muñoz; Noble; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Pierson; Raymond; Reynolds; Richardson; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rose; Rosenthal; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Tinderholt; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Virdell; Vo; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wilson; Wu; Zwiener.

Nays — Cain; Leo Wilson; Lowe; Olcott; Toth.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Holt; Jones, V.; Morales Shaw.

Absent — Bumgarner; Darby; Davis, Y.; Gámez; Harless; Johnson; Jones, J.; Morales, C.; Plesa; Simmons; Walle.

STATEMENT OF VOTE

When Record No. 4126 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted yes.

J. Jones

HB 2885 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Representative Gerdes submitted the following conference committee report on **HB 2885**:

Austin, Texas, May 30, 2025

The Honorable Dan Patrick
President of the Senate

The Honorable Dustin Burrows
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Sirs: We, your conference committee, appointed to adjust the differences between the senate and the house of representatives on **HB 2885** have had the same under consideration, and beg to report it back with the recommendation that it do pass in the form and text hereto attached.

Schwertner
Campbell
Hinojosa, Adam
Hughes
Parker

Gerdes
Harris
Longoria
Phelan

On the part of the senate

On the part of the house

HB 2885, A bill to be entitled An Act relating to allowing the governing bodies of certain political subdivisions to call for a local option election relating to the sale of alcoholic beverages.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 501, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 501.0211 to read as follows:

Sec. 501.0211. ELECTION CALLED BY GOVERNING BODY OF POLITICAL SUBDIVISION. (a) This section applies only to:

(1) a county:

(A) with a population of more than 70,000 and less than 100,000;

(B) that contains a portion of the Colorado River; and

(C) that is adjacent to a county with a population of one million or

more; and

(2) a municipality:

(A) with a population of 240,000 or more;

(B) that is located in two or more counties; and

(C) that borders a man-made lake that has a surface area of at least

20,000 acres.

(b) The commissioners court of a county may, on the commissioners court's own motion, order a local option election to be held in the county or a justice precinct in the county to determine whether the sale of alcoholic beverages of one or more of the various types and alcoholic contents shall be legalized in the county or the justice precinct.

(c) The governing body of a municipality located in a county described by Subsection (a)(1) may, by resolution, order a local option election to be held in the municipality to determine whether the sale of alcoholic beverages of one or more of the various types and alcoholic contents shall be legalized in the municipality.

(d) The governing body of a municipality described by Subsection (a)(2) may, by resolution, order a local option election to be held in the municipality to determine whether the sale of mixed beverages, as described by Section 501.035(b)(8), shall be legalized in the municipality.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

Representative Gerdes moved to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 2885**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 2885** prevailed by (Record 4127): 101 Yeas, 27 Nays, 1 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Anchia; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bowers; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Button; Campos; Canales; Capriglione; Cole; Collier; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dutton; Flores; Frank; Garcia, J.; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harrison; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Hinojosa; Hopper; Howard; Hunter; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lalani; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Little; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Lujan; Luther; Manuel; Martinez Fischer; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Meza; Moody; Morales, E.; Muñoz; Ordaz; Orr; Paul; Perez, V.; Phelan; Raymond; Reynolds; Richardson; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rose; Rosenthal; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shofner; Simmons; Smithee; Spiller; Tepper; Thompson; Tinderholt; Turner; VanDeaver; Virdell; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wilson; Wu.

Nays — Alders; Cain; Cook; Dyson; Harris Davila; Hayes; Hull; Isaac; Leo Wilson; Louderback; Lowe; Money; Morgan; Noble; Olcott; Oliverson; Patterson; Pierson; Schatzline; Shaheen; Slawson; Swanson; Toth; Troxclair; Vasut; Villalobos; Zwiener.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Holt; Jones, V.; Morales Shaw.

Absent — Bumgarner; Davis, Y.; Fairly; Gámez; Garcia Hernandez; Johnson; Jones, J.; Longoria; Lozano; Martinez; McLaughlin; Morales, C.; Perez, M.; Plesa; Talarico.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4127 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted yes.

Garcia Hernandez

When Record No. 4127 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted yes.

J. Jones

When Record No. 4127 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted yes.

M. Perez

When Record No. 4127 was taken, I was shown voting yes. I intended to vote no.

Shofner

HB 2017 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Representative Gerdes submitted the following conference committee report on **HB 2017**:

Austin, Texas, May 30, 2025

The Honorable Dan Patrick
President of the Senate

The Honorable Dustin Burrows
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Sirs: We, your conference committee, appointed to adjust the differences between the senate and the house of representatives on **HB 2017** have had the same under consideration, and beg to report it back with the recommendation that it do pass in the form and text hereto attached.

Hagenbuch

Gerdes

Flores

Leach

King

Moody

Parker

Schatzline

On the part of the senate

On the part of the house

HB 2017, A bill to be entitled An Act relating to increasing the criminal penalty and changing the eligibility for community supervision, mandatory supervision, and parole for certain persons convicted of intoxication manslaughter.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as Grayson's Law.

SECTION 2. Section 49.09(b-2), Penal Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b-2) An offense under Section 49.08 is a felony of the first degree if it is shown on the trial of the offense that the person:

(1) caused the death of a person described by Subsection (b-1); or

(2) has previously been convicted of an offense relating to the operating of a motor vehicle while intoxicated, operating an aircraft while intoxicated, operating a watercraft while intoxicated, or operating or assembling an amusement ride while intoxicated, and at the time of the commission of the instant offense was in violation of Chapter 51.

SECTION 3. Article 42A.059, Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended to read as follows:

Art. 42A.059. PLACEMENT ON COMMUNITY SUPERVISION PROHIBITED FOR CERTAIN OFFENSES INVOLVING ILLEGAL ENTRY INTO THIS STATE. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a defendant is not eligible for community supervision, including deferred adjudication community supervision, under this chapter if the defendant is charged with or convicted of an offense under:

(1) Chapter 51, Penal Code; or

(2) Section 49.08, Penal Code, if the offense is punishable under Section 49.09(b-2)(2), Penal Code.

SECTION 4. Section 508.145, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsection (e-1) to read as follows:

(e-1) An inmate serving a sentence for an offense punishable under Section 49.09(b-2)(2), Penal Code, is not eligible for release on parole until the actual calendar time served, without consideration of good conduct time, equals 10 years.

SECTION 5. Section 508.147, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a) Except as provided by Subsection (a-1) and Section 508.149, a parole panel shall order the release of an inmate who is not on parole to mandatory supervision when the actual calendar time the inmate has served plus any accrued good conduct time equals the term to which the inmate was sentenced.

(a-1) An inmate serving a sentence for an offense punishable under Section 49.09(b-2)(2), Penal Code, may not be released to mandatory supervision unless:

(1) the inmate's actual calendar time served, without consideration of good conduct time, equals at least 10 years; and

(2) the inmate is otherwise eligible for release under Subsection (a).

SECTION 6. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act. An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred before that date.

SECTION 7. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

Representative Gerdes moved to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 2017**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 2017** prevailed by (Record 4128): 96 Yeas, 38 Nays, 1 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bonnen; Bowers; Bryant; Buckley; Bumgarner; Button; Cain; Capriglione; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dyson; Fairly; Frank; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hayes; Hefner; Hickland; Hopper; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Kerwin; Kitzman; LaHood; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Lopez, J.; Louderback; Lowe; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Money; Moody; Morales, E.; Morgan; Muñoz; Noble; Olcott;

Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Phelan; Pierson; Raymond; Richardson; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Tepper; Thompson; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Virdell; Wharton; Wilson.

Nays — Anchía; Bernal; Bhojani; Bucy; Campos; Canales; Cole; Collier; Davis, A.; Dutton; Flores; Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; González, J.; González, M.; Hernandez; Hinojosa; Howard; Lalani; Lopez, R.; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; Meza; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Reynolds; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rose; Rosenthal; Simmons; Turner; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wu; Zwiener.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Holt; Jones, V.; Morales Shaw.

Absent — Davis, Y.; Gámez; Johnson; Jones, J.; King; Longoria; Morales, C.; Plesa; Talarico.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4128 was taken, I was shown voting yes. I intended to vote no.

Bowers

When Record No. 4128 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted no.

J. Jones

When Record No. 4128 was taken, I was shown voting yes. I intended to vote no.

Thompson

HB 5246 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Representative Bonnen submitted the following conference committee report on **HB 5246**:

Austin, Texas, May 30, 2025

The Honorable Dan Patrick
President of the Senate

The Honorable Dustin Burrows
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Sirs: We, your conference committee, appointed to adjust the differences between the senate and the house of representatives on **HB 5246** have had the same under consideration, and beg to report it back with the recommendation that it do pass in the form and text hereto attached.

Huffman
Bettencourt
Campbell

Bonnen
Capriglione
L. Garcia

Schwertner

Harris

Ordaz

On the part of the senate

On the part of the house

HB 5246, A bill to be entitled An Act relating to the administration, powers, and duties of the Texas Space Commission and Texas Aerospace Research and Space Economy Consortium, to other governmental entities regarding aerospace, aviation, and space exploration initiatives and activities, and to the abolishment of the spaceport trust fund.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Sections 481.0066(d), (e), and (e-1), Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

(d) The aerospace and aviation office shall:

(1) analyze aerospace-related [~~space-related~~] and aviation-related research currently conducted in this state and may conduct activities designed to further that research;

(2) analyze the state's economic position in the aerospace and aviation industries;

(3) develop short-term and long-term business strategies as part of an industry-specific strategic plan to promote the retention, development, and expansion of aerospace and aviation industry facilities in the state that is consistent with and complementary of the office strategic plan;

(4) as part of and to further the purposes of the industry-specific strategic plan described by Subdivision (3), develop short-term and long-term policy initiatives or recommend reforms the state may undertake or implement to:

(A) increase investment in aerospace and aviation activities;

(B) [~~support the retention, development, and expansion of spaceports in this state;~~

[~~(C)~~] identify and encourage educational, economic, and defense-related opportunities for aerospace and aviation activities;

(C) [~~(D) determine the appropriate level of funding for the spaceport trust fund created under Section 481.0069 and~~] support ongoing projects that have been assisted by the former spaceport trust fund[~~, including recommending to the legislature an appropriate funding level for the fund~~]; and

(D) [~~(E)~~] partner with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to foster technological advancement and economic development for aerospace [~~spaceport~~] activities by strengthening higher education programs and supporting aerospace activities; ~~and~~

[~~(F) partner with the Texas Workforce Commission to support initiatives that address the high technology skills and staff resources needed to better promote the state's efforts in becoming the leading space exploration state in the nation;~~]

(5) act as a liaison with other state and federal entities with related economic, educational, and defense responsibilities to support the marketing of the state's aerospace and aviation capabilities; and

(6) provide technical support and expertise to the state and to local [~~spaceport~~] authorities regarding aerospace and aviation business matters[~~, and~~

~~[(7) be responsible for the promotion and development of spaceports in this state].~~

(e) The governor shall appoint an aerospace and aviation advisory committee consisting of

~~[(4)] seven qualified members to assist in the state's economic development efforts to recruit and retain aerospace and aviation jobs and investment; and~~

~~[(2) one member for each active spaceport development corporation in the state who represents the interests of each respective spaceport development corporation].~~

(e-1) The aerospace and aviation advisory committee shall:

(1) advise the governor on the recruitment and retention of aerospace and aviation jobs and investment;

(2) assist the office and the aerospace and aviation office in meeting the state's economic development efforts to recruit and retain aerospace and aviation jobs and investment;

~~(3) [advise the office, the aerospace and aviation office, and the governor on an appropriate funding level for the spaceport trust fund;~~

~~[(4)] advise the office, the aerospace and aviation office, and the governor on recruitment, retention, and expansion of aerospace and aviation industry activities; and~~

~~(4) [(5)] collect and disseminate information on federal, state, local, and private community economic development programs that assist or provide loans, grants, or other funding to aerospace and aviation industry activities.~~

SECTION 2. Section 482.001, Government Code, is amended by adding Subdivision (2-a) to read as follows:

(2-a) "Consortium" means the Texas Aerospace Research and Space Economy Consortium established under Subchapter G.

SECTION 3. Sections 482.101(a) and (b), Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) The Texas Space Commission is established to strengthen this state's proven leadership in civil, commercial, and military outer space ~~[aerospace]~~ activity.

(b) The purpose of the commission is to promote:

(1) innovation in the fields of space exploration and commercial space;

(2) commercial space [aerospace] opportunities; and

(3) [including] the integration of the space and [aviation] industries into the economy of this state.

SECTION 4. Section 482.103, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 482.103. SUNSET PROVISION. The commission is subject to Chapter 325 (Texas Sunset Act). Unless continued in existence as provided by that chapter, the commission is abolished and this chapter expires September 1, 2033 ~~[2032]~~.

SECTION 5. Section 482.105, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (b), (c), (e), and (f) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a) The commission is governed by a ~~[nine member]~~ board of directors ~~[- The board is]~~ composed of the following nine voting members:

- (1) three members appointed by the governor;
- (2) three members appointed by the lieutenant governor; and
- (3) three members appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

(a-1) The executive director of the Texas Economic Development and Tourism Office serves as an ex officio nonvoting member of the board.

(b) In making appointments under Subsection (a), the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house of representatives shall prioritize appointing individuals with experience in:

- (1) the nongovernmental commercial space industry ~~[aerospace]~~;
- (2) governmental space operations ~~[civil aviation]~~;
- (3) military space operations ~~[aerospace]~~;
- (4) space-related ~~[space]~~ economic development;
- (5) space-related academic research; and
- (6) nonprofit support of the space economy.

(c) Voting members ~~[Members]~~ of the board appointed by the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house serve ~~[at the pleasure of the appointing office]~~ for staggered six-year terms, with the terms of three ~~[two]~~ members expiring on January 31 of each odd-numbered year.

(e) Not later than the 30th day after the date a voting board member's term expires, the appropriate appointing authority shall appoint a replacement.

(f) The board shall elect a presiding officer from among the voting members of the board.

SECTION 6. Section 482.107, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 482.107. BOARD OF DIRECTORS: AUTHORITY. (a) The board shall:

- (1) direct the activities of, establish goals for, and provide oversight to the commission;
- (2) develop and execute a strategic plan in accordance with Section 482.201;
- (3) establish the appropriate standards and executive bodies to ensure the proper use of funds authorized under this chapter for research and facilities development;
- (4) identify research and funding opportunities for entities within this state that:

(A) strengthen and enhance this state's proven leadership position in civil, commercial, and military aeronautics research and development and space flight infrastructure;

(B) enhance the integration of the space and ~~[-]~~ aeronautics~~[-~~ ~~astronautics, and aviation]~~ industries into this state's economy; and

(C) promote and further research involving materials derived from or developed through space exploration and space flight;

(5) capitalize, promote, and assist in the development of workforce training to further the development of emerging technologies required for all aspects of space exploration; ~~and~~

(6) solicit recommendations from the consortium for projects ~~[proposals on funding]~~ and ~~[research]~~ opportunities related to the objectives in this chapter that may be funded with money from the fund;

(7) market and promote the state as the premier location for space-related industries and promote commission activities;

(8) as necessary to promote space-related industries and further commission activities, including implementing the strategic plan developed under Section 482.201, and notwithstanding any other law, issue an order, subject to the approval of the municipality's governing body, to temporarily close in a municipality a highway as defined by Section 221.001, Transportation Code, a venue as defined by Section 334.001, Local Government Code, or an area specified by Section 33.203(11), Natural Resources Code;

(9) develop a database that provides information on the promotion of space-related and aeronautics-related economic development in this state; and

(10) establish procedures for the commission as necessary to provide administrative and staff support to the consortium ~~[from the Texas Aerospace Research and Space Economy Consortium established under Subchapter G].~~

(b) The board shall employ a chief compliance officer to monitor and report to the board regarding compliance with this chapter and rules adopted under this chapter. The chief compliance officer shall ensure that all grant proposals comply with this chapter and rules adopted under this chapter ~~[before the proposals are submitted to the board for approval].~~

(b-1) The board shall employ a general counsel to advise the commission and the consortium and perform other duties assigned by the board.

(c) The board may:

(1) establish ad hoc advisory committees as necessary to carry out the board's duties under this chapter;

(2) adopt and use an official seal;

(3) solicit and accept gifts, ~~or~~ grants, or donations, including donations of goods or services provided in accordance with commission specifications at no cost to the commission;

(4) ~~and~~ contract with any entity;

(5) ~~[(4)]~~ acquire and convey property or an interest in property;

(6) ~~[(5)]~~ procure insurance and pay premiums on insurance of any type, in accounts, and from insurers as the board considers necessary and advisable to accomplish any of the commission's purposes;

(7) ~~[(6)]~~ make grants to public or private persons with an established presence within this state to encourage economic development related to space and aerospace;

(8) ~~[(7)]~~ make grants to enhance the capacity of institutions of higher education to participate in and support classified research;

(9) [(8)] provide matching funding to external funding provided by relevant federal agencies, private industry, or private research organizations; [and]

(10) [(9)] engage in the planning and implementation of space exploration and spaceflight-related [aerospace related] educational opportunities within this state in coordination with the consortium; and

(11) subject to the governor's approval, enter into an intergovernmental agreement with another state or the United States, including the United States Department of Defense and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, as necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter [Texas Aerospace Research and Space Economy Consortium established under Subchapter G].

SECTION 7. Subchapter B, Chapter 482, Government Code, is amended by adding Sections 482.108 and 482.109 to read as follows:

Sec. 482.108. PROCUREMENT OF CERTAIN SPACE-RELATED VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT. (a) Notwithstanding Section 2155.083 or any other law and subject to Subsection (b), the board may authorize the commission to procure, lease, or otherwise secure access to capacity on or through a spacefaring vehicle, platform, or infrastructure, including a rocket, shuttle, spaceplane, satellite, space station, lunar or planetary base, and other orbital, suborbital, or extraterrestrial transport or habitation system, regardless of whether the vehicle, platform, or infrastructure is owned or operated by a governmental, commercial, or private entity.

(b) Before the commission takes a proposed action under Subsection (a), the board must:

(1) determine the proposed action:

(A) promotes or serves a legitimate and clearly defined public purpose;

(B) provides demonstrable value, taking into consideration:

(i) the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of the proposed action;

(ii) alternative approaches to attaining the same or a similar public purpose as the proposed action; and

(iii) potential benefits of the proposed action; and

(C) is subject to appropriate controls and contractual requirements sufficient to protect the interests of the state;

(2) discuss the determinations the board must find under Subdivision (1) in an open meeting held in accordance with Chapter 551; and

(3) by a majority vote of the voting board members present and voting, authorize the action in an open meeting held in accordance with Chapter 551.

Sec. 482.109. CERTAIN GRANT APPLICATIONS AND DEFENSE, MILITARY, AND AEROSPACE ISSUES: CLOSED MEETING. (a) The board may conduct a closed meeting in accordance with Subchapter E, Chapter 551, to deliberate or confer with one or more employees, consultants of the commission, or legal counsel of the commission to discuss:

(1) a grant application being considered by the board if, before conducting the closed meeting, a majority of the voting members of the board in an open meeting vote that deliberating or conferring in an open meeting would:

(A) reveal the grant applicant's confidential information;
(B) reveal national security information; or
(C) have a detrimental effect on the position of the commission in negotiations with a grant applicant; or

(2) a matter related to:

(A) the establishment of an office, base, or major facility in this state by the United States Department of Defense or the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; or

(B) an economic incentive a governmental body may offer to a private entity or nonprofit organization to meet a match requirement or other requirement established by the United States Department of Defense or the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in relation to grants or strategic endeavors.

(b) Notwithstanding any other law, the commission may disclose a matter discussed under Subsection (a)(2) with any state agency if the presiding officer of the board determines it necessary to accomplish the establishment of an office, base, or major facility in this state by the United States Department of Defense or the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

(c) Any vote or final action taken on a matter described by Subsection (a)(1) or (2) must be conducted in an open meeting.

SECTION 8. Sections 482.201(a) and (d), Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) The commission shall develop and biennially [~~annually~~] update a strategic plan for the promotion of space and [~~and~~] aeronautics[~~and aviation~~] economic development in this state.

(d) The board shall submit the strategic plan to the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives not later than December 31 of each even-numbered year.

SECTION 9. Section 482.301(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The space exploration and aeronautics research fund is established to provide grants to eligible entities and for other purposes as provided by this chapter.

SECTION 10. The heading to Section 482.302, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 482.302. USE OF [~~SPACE EXPLORATION AND AERONAUTICS RESEARCH~~] FUND FOR [~~5~~] GRANTS.

SECTION 11. Section 482.302, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (b) and adding Subsections (b-1), (e), (e-1), (f), (g), and (h) to read as follows:

(a) Using money available in the fund, the commission may provide grants to eligible entities described by Subsection (b) for the purposes of:

(1) development of emerging technologies required for any aspect of human space flight, including aeronautics;

(2) research involving any aspect of space exploration and space flight, including aeronautics;

(3) workforce training to promote space exploration and space flight, including aeronautics;

(4) curation of post-mission materials involved in space exploration and space flight; and

(5) development of infrastructure useful or necessary for the establishment or maintenance of a spaceport.

(b) The following entities are eligible for a grant made under this subchapter:

(1) a business or nonprofit entity involved in the space exploration and space [;] research industry[;] or the aeronautics industry; [and]

(2) a governmental entity involved in the space exploration and space research industry or the aeronautics industry; and

~~(3) the consortium [with which the commission has entered into an intergovernmental agreement for that purpose].~~

(b-1) If the board approves a grant for a governmental entity described by Subsection (b)(2), the governmental entity shall enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the commission with respect to the project or activity for which the grant was awarded.

(e) The commission shall establish sufficient controls to ensure that a grant awarded under this subchapter promotes the purposes listed in Subsection (a).

(e-1) Using money available in the fund, and subject to the approval of the governor, the commission may provide grants to, or fund the costs and expenses incurred under agreements between the commission and, another state, the United States, or entities described by Subsection (b) for the purposes of:

(1) establishing a space-related office, base, or major facility in this state by the United States Department of Defense or the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; and

(2) relocating or acquiring decommissioned assets related to the space industry to this state.

(f) The commission shall adopt a policy on advance payments to grant recipients.

(g) Except as otherwise provided by this section, money awarded under this subchapter may be used for authorized expenses, including honoraria, salaries and benefits, travel, conference fees and expenses, consumable supplies, other operating expenses, contracted research and development, capital equipment, and construction or renovation of state or private facilities.

(h) An entity receiving money under this subchapter for space exploration or aeronautics research may not spend more than five percent of the money for indirect costs. For purposes of this subsection, "indirect costs" means the expenses of doing business that are not readily identified with a particular grant, contract, project, function, or activity, but are necessary for the general operation of the entity or the performance of the entity's activities.

SECTION 12. Subchapter D, Chapter 482, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 482.303 to read as follows:

Sec. 482.303. USE OF FUND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Money available in the fund may be used to fund the costs and expenses incurred under intergovernmental agreements between the commission and another state or the United States under this subchapter.

SECTION 13. Section 482.501, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 482.501. RULES; CERTAIN LIMITATIONS ON [FOR] GRANT AWARDS [AWARD PROCEDURE]. (a) The board shall adopt rules regarding the procedure for awarding grants to applicants ~~[an applicant]~~ under this chapter. The rules must authorize the commission to:

(1) identify the specific purpose under Section 482.302(a) for which the commission awards a grant; and

(2) obtain information from the consortium as necessary to make award determinations~~[, including a procedure for the Texas Aerospace Research and Space Economy Consortium to make recommendations to the board for grant awards].~~

(b) The board may not award a grant to an applicant who has made a gift, ~~[or]~~ grant, or donation to the commission or a nonprofit organization established to provide support to the commission during the preceding year.

SECTION 14. Section 482.505, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 482.505. (a) GRANT RECORDS; PUBLIC INFORMATION EXCEPTION. The commission shall maintain complete records of:

(1) the review of each grant application submitted to the board, including an application reviewed in accordance with rules adopted under this chapter, even if the grant application is not funded by the board or is withdrawn after submission;

(2) ~~[each grant recipient's]~~ financial reports of each grant recipient described by Section 482.302(b), including the amount of matching money dedicated to the project ~~[research]~~ specified for the grant award, if applicable;

(3) each grant recipient's progress reports; and

(4) the board's review of the grant recipient's financial reports, if applicable, and progress reports.

(b) A grant application submitted to the commission is confidential and not subject to disclosure under Chapter 552.

SECTION 15. Subchapter G, Chapter 482, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER G. TEXAS AEROSPACE RESEARCH AND SPACE ECONOMY CONSORTIUM

Sec. 482.601. DEFINITION [DEFINITIONS]. In this subchapter, ~~[~~

~~(1) "Consortium" means the Texas Aerospace Research and Space Economy Consortium.~~

~~(2) "executive [Executive] committee" means the executive committee of the consortium.~~

Sec. 482.602. SUNSET PROVISION. The consortium is subject to Chapter 325 (Texas Sunset Act). Unless continued in existence as provided by that chapter, the consortium is abolished and this subchapter expires September 1, 2033 ~~[2032]~~.

Sec. 482.603. ESTABLISHMENT; PURPOSE. The Texas Aerospace Research and Space Economy Consortium is established as an advisory committee to the board to:

- (1) identify research opportunities for entities within this state that:
 - (A) strengthen this state's proven leadership in civil, commercial, and military space-related ~~[aerospace]~~ activity;
 - (B) enhance this state's position in aeronautics research and development~~[, aeronautics]~~, space commercialization, and space flight infrastructure and in the development of space travel technologies; and
 - (C) enhance the integration of the space and ~~[,]~~ aeronautics~~[, aeronautics, and aviation]~~ industries into this state's economy; and
- (2) provide ~~[funding and]~~ research recommendations to the commission.

Sec. 482.604. CONSORTIUM COMPOSITION. (a) Subject to Subsections (b) and (c), the ~~[The]~~ consortium is composed of:

- (1) each participating institution of higher education; and
 - (2) any other entity that the executive committee considers necessary.
- (b) An institution of higher education is considered a participating member of the consortium if the institution submits to the executive committee the name of a local campus liaison to represent the institution on the consortium.

(c) Selection of an entity for membership in the consortium under Subsection (a)(2) must be based on an application process established by the executive committee.

Sec. 482.605. ADMINISTRATIVE ATTACHMENT. The consortium is administratively attached to the commission ~~[office of the governor]~~ for the purpose of receiving and administering appropriations and other funds under this subchapter. ~~[The office of the governor is not responsible for providing to the consortium staff, human resources, contract monitoring, purchasing, or any other administrative support services.]~~

Sec. 482.606. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE COMPOSITION. (a) The consortium is governed by an independent executive committee composed of the following nine members:

- (1) two members appointed by the governor;
- (2) two members appointed by the lieutenant governor;
- (3) two members appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;
- (4) the chancellor of The Texas A&M University System or the chancellor's designee;
- (5) the chancellor of The University of Texas System or the chancellor's designee; and
- (6) the president of Rice University or the president's designee.

(a-1) An appointed member of the executive committee serves at the pleasure of the appointing official.

(b) In making appointments under Subsection (a), the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives, respectively, shall:

(1) prioritize appointing individuals with experience in:

(A) aeronautics;

(B) space economic development; and

(C) academic engagement with the space economy; and

(2) ensure that the appointments reflect, to the extent possible, multiple [the ethnic and] geographic regions [diversity] of this state.

(c) If a [A] vacancy occurs on the executive committee, the appropriate appointing official shall appoint a successor [is filled] in the same manner as the initial appointment. The appropriate appointing official shall appoint the successor not later than the 30th day after the date the vacancy occurs.

(d) The executive committee shall:

(1) elect a presiding officer from among the members of the committee;

and

(2) meet at the call of the presiding officer.

Sec. 482.607. GIFTS, GRANTS, AND DONATIONS. On behalf of the consortium, the [The] executive committee may solicit, [and] accept, or spend any [on behalf of the consortium] gifts, grants, or donations from any public or private source for the purpose of carrying out this subchapter.

Sec. 482.608. GENERAL DUTIES. (a) The executive committee shall:

(1) develop an organizational [and execute a comprehensive statewide strategic] plan to further the purposes of the consortium;

(2) gather and coordinate recommendations from consortium members on [funding and] research and development opportunities in accordance with the purposes of the consortium; and

(3) establish procedures and policies for the administration of the consortium, including:

(A) procedures for documenting compliance by members of the committee and members of the consortium [and consortium staff] with applicable laws governing conflicts of interest;

(B) designation of a member of the committee as the committee's liaison to the commission; and

(C) procedures for submitting to the board a request to fund recommended projects and activities [entering into contracts with The Texas A&M University System as necessary for that system to provide administrative and staff support to the consortium].

(b) A member of the consortium may participate in consortium fact-finding [and strategic planning] and the formation of recommendations for purposes of Subsections (a)(1) and (a)(2). Before assisting the executive committee as provided by this subsection, a member of the consortium must designate a liaison to the [executive] committee to represent that member.

Sec. 482.609. BIENNIAL REPORT. Not later than December 31 of each even-numbered year, the executive committee shall submit to the commission a written report that includes for that biennium:

- (1) the activities and objectives of the consortium;
- (2) a synopsis of the funding and research opportunities identified by the consortium;
- (3) legislative recommendations, if any;
- (4) prospective grants or funding the consortium members expect to receive, if any; and
- (5) research accomplishments associated with the consortium, if any.

Sec. 482.610. COMPENSATION; EXPENSES. Executive committee members serve without compensation but are entitled to reimbursement for actual expenses incurred in attending committee meetings. Those expenses are paid from funds appropriated to the consortium.

Sec. 482.611. APPLICABILITY OF OTHER LAW. Chapter 2110 does not apply to the size, composition, or duration of the executive committee.

SECTION 16. Section 481.0069, Government Code, is repealed.

SECTION 17. (a) In this section:

(1) "Office" means the Texas Economic Development and Tourism Office.

(2) "Spaceport development corporation" has the meaning assigned by Section 507.001, Local Government Code.

(b) On the effective date of this Act, the spaceport trust fund is abolished and the balance of the fund is transferred to the general revenue fund for use in accordance with legislative appropriation, except as provided by Subsections (d) and (e) of this section.

(c) The abolishment of the spaceport trust fund and the repeal of Section 481.0069, Government Code, do not affect the validity of a contract between the office and a spaceport development corporation that is entered into under Section 481.0069(e), Government Code, before the effective date of this Act.

(d) Money that was deposited in the spaceport trust fund as a gift, grant, or donation under Section 481.0069(c)(1), Government Code, shall be held in trust by the comptroller outside the state treasury and shall be administered by the comptroller as trustee as provided by this subsection. The comptroller may:

(1) spend money encumbered by the specific terms of the gift, grant, or donation only in accordance with those terms;

(2) return to the donor or grantor, on request, any portion of the amount of a gift, grant, or donation described by this subsection that remains on deposit; or

(3) transfer to the general revenue fund for use in accordance with legislative appropriation any other remaining money deposited as a gift, grant, or donation under Section 481.0069(c)(1), Government Code.

(e) Money from the spaceport trust fund that is encumbered because the money is obligated by contract before the effective date of this Act, but under the terms of the contract will not be distributed until a later date, shall be held in trust by the comptroller as trustee outside the state treasury and shall be administered

by the comptroller as trustee to ensure that the money is distributed in accordance with the terms of the contract. If the office determines that the money will not be distributed in accordance with the terms of the contract, the office shall certify that fact to the comptroller. On that certification, the comptroller shall transfer that money to the general revenue fund to be used in accordance with legislative appropriation.

(f) On or after the effective date of this Act, the following payments or other amounts shall be remitted to the comptroller for deposit to the general revenue fund:

(1) any interest or income earned on the investment of money in the spaceport trust fund;

(2) any money returned by a spaceport development corporation under a contract entered into under Section 481.0069, Government Code; and

(3) any money received by a donor or grantor under Subsection (d)(2) of this section that is subsequently returned to the state.

SECTION 18. The term of a member serving on the aerospace and aviation advisory committee immediately preceding the effective date of this Act expires on that date. The member may be reappointed to the committee.

SECTION 19. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

HB 5246 - REMARKS

REPRESENTATIVE BONNEN: The conference committee report includes several things. It includes senate amendments that will promote commercial space opportunities rather than aerospace writ large. It defines TARSEC as an advisory entity to the board rather than being administratively attached to another entity. It allows the Space Commission to solicit recommendations rather than proposals from TARSEC. It allows the use of the SEARF trust to market and promote Texas as a premier location for space-related industries. It has the commission submit a strategic plan on even-numbered years. And there's language to allow the commission to work with the municipality to implement FAA requirements to temporarily close a venue for public safety purposes during space flight activity. **HB 5246** ensures that Texas remains the home of America's space future and the gateway to the Moon, Mars, and beyond.

REPRESENTATIVE LEO WILSON: Dr. Bonnen, can you tell me what are the current FAA guidelines on rockets? Like, is there permission that has to be sought before they shoot off a rocket?

BONNEN: Yeah, that's a very good question. So the Federal Aviation Administration has authority over launches, and they determine, first of all, whether a launch is permissible and then the parameters around that. So for example, a hazard zone of a certain distance is required per FAA guidelines or requirements. So they determine the number of launches, whether any individual launch is permissible or is going to be allowed, and then the safety requirements around those launches.

LEO WILSON: Is there a mile range of beach closures? I think several of us from the coast have gotten several inquiries. Does this shut down the whole entire Texas coastline, or is there a radius?

BONNEN: Right. So the only area that would be temporarily closed would be the area deemed to be a hazard zone. If you take, for example, *Starship*, the largest rocket ever constructed, with Super Heavy, the hazard zone has a radius of about two miles. And that's because you just don't want anybody getting too close to a rocket of that size that is about to ignite its engines and take off.

LEO WILSON: So that would be two miles. Is there any other county, other than Cameron County, that you know of that has a rocket launch or the ability?

BONNEN: Yeah. There are two locations in Texas where we're seeing commercial space launches. One is suborbital flights that are in West Texas, and then the other, of course, is down in South Texas, where you're seeing a much larger vehicle that can be used for actual orbital flight.

LEO WILSON: Okay. So you and I share Galveston County. I have the coastal land, including Bolivar. So this should not affect that portion of the beach at all.

BONNEN: Yeah. So it doesn't matter where you are in the state; this would only have any impact if you were going to launch a rocket with the explosive power of 13,000 Hellfire missiles. If you do that, you shouldn't get too close to the rocket or let anybody else get too close to the rocket. And this is not a state requirement. This is the FAA saying, hey, there's a hazard zone. We need to secure the hazard zone. And it's our responsibility to do that in order to safely conduct the activity that's been authorized.

LEO WILSON: Is there a time frame of which that beach would be closed? Like a two-hour time frame or a two-day time frame. Is there any limitation?

BONNEN: Again, the FAA has authority over that, and there's a restriction as to the cumulative number of hours in a given year that the area could be closed. But as a practical matter for a given launch, it's typically about four hours. It could be a little bit longer, but about four hours before the actual launch and about one hour, perhaps a little bit less, after the launch. So you're looking on average about five hours that it would be closed.

LEO WILSON: And we would want to keep people in that two-mile radius safe. That would be the reason why it would be a closure, is for the safety of all concerned.

BONNEN: So basically, what you're talking about is a temporary closure of five hours for an area with a radius of about two miles around a massive rocket that's about to take off.

LEO WILSON: Is there a number of times that you're limited to as far as the number of rocket launches you could do at a facility?

BONNEN: Again, that's up to the FAA, but the FAA currently has given the approval for up to 25 launches per year. There have been, up to this time in South Texas, a total of nine flight tests.

LEO WILSON: So at the maximum right now, it would be like two times a month for four or five hours shutdown of that very close beach area that would be close to wherever they're doing the rocket launch.

BONNEN: It's very limited, and it's only during that window of time when a launch activity is going to occur.

(Holt now present)

HB 5246 - POINT OF ORDER

Representative Martinez Fischer raised a point of order against further consideration of the conference committee report on **HB 5246** under Rule 13, Section 9(a)(4), of the House Rules.

(Geren in the chair)

The speaker overruled the point of order, announcing his decision to the house as follows:

Mr. Martinez Fischer raises a point of order against further consideration of the conference committee report for **HB 5246** under Rule 13, Section 9(a)(4), on the grounds that the conferees exceeded their jurisdiction.

There was significant disagreement between the house and senate with respect to requirements for Space Commission board action. Among other provisions in disagreement, the senate version of the bill contained a provision, absent from the house version, requiring the board to "promote the state as the premier location for space-related activities" as well as to "promote commission activities." The conference committee added a provision requiring the board to order the closure of certain highways, venues, and areas "as necessary to promote space-related industries and further commission activities." The house conference committee chair explained that this addition was necessary for the house to accept the senate provisions absent in the house version. For example, to promote the state as the premier location for space-related industries, the board needed the powers added in the conference committee report. The house conference committee chair has met his burden of proof, and the conferees did not exceed their jurisdiction in adjusting the differences as necessary to resolve the dispute between the two chambers. See 65 H. Jour. 4312 (1977).

Accordingly, the point of order is respectfully overruled.

HR 1523 - NOTICE OF INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to Rule 13, Section 9(f), of the House Rules, the chair announced the introduction of **HR 1523**, suspending the limitations on the conferees for **HB 46**.

HB 5246 - (consideration continued)

HB 5246 - POINT OF ORDER

Representative Turner raised a point of order against further consideration of the conference committee report on **HB 5246** under Rule 12, Section 1(d), and Rule 13, Section 10(a), of the House Rules on the grounds that the conference committee report was not printed and distributed as required by the rules. The point of order was withdrawn.

HB 5246 - POINT OF ORDER

Representative Martinez Fischer raised a point of order against further consideration of the conference committee report on **HB 5246** under Article III, Section 30, of the Texas Constitution on the grounds that the conference committee report contains matter not germane to either the house or senate versions of the bill. The point of order was withdrawn.

HB 5246 - REMARKS

REPRESENTATIVE MARTINEZ FISCHER: We spent a lot of time on three points of order. I think the best opposition argument I can make is to explain to you what we've been doing for the last hour. We're at the stage of the session now where bills are coming out of nowhere, and they're coming fast. We have 24 hours to read them. There's an argument that anybody who uses CapWeb will not find this information online even though we have an email that says you should have it on CapWeb. So that's a flag. So if your constituents use CapWeb, or your staff, or the member uses CapWeb—we also said that we have rules in this house that say at this stage in the session we're very strict about what comes in these conference reports because you don't have time to read them and they're coming fast. And so we're going to disagree over what language in this conference report does. But when I read it, it says that a Space Commission that cannot do this today can close your county beach as long as the city is okay with it. The only problem I have with it is it's the county's call because the county owns the beach, not the city. But as long as the commission tells the city, "Are you okay with this? We could temporarily close the beach." There's some argument that folks say, "Well, it's only temporary, so it's not that big of a deal." It's a big deal when the city doesn't have the authority to do this, and now we've told them they can temporarily close a county beach.

We also have language that now says that we can take a TxDOT road, and if a city's okay with it, we can close that. Now I drive up and down I-35 all the time, and there's a lot of construction. And I pass through New Braunfels, and Selma, and other places. If I ever found out the City of Selma can close Highway 35 temporarily because it wanted to make my two-hour commute a three-hour commute, I'm going to be hot. We should be hot. And then it also says that as long as a city agrees, we can temporarily close a venue. And this is all dismissed because it's all temporary to further the mission of the Space Commission, which is to be the best at attracting space exploration, which we all agree to because we voted for the Space Commission. We voted for the space consortium, we funded it, we believe in it, but we also believe that we're going to follow the rules. We also believe that too. And so that's my flag, and that's why I'll vote against this, not because I don't believe in space exploration, but I believe that local government ought to have a say. Let's forget about this. Let's look at the language. It says not just the SpaceX beach, any beach. Any beach. So let's back that up. If it's a municipally-owned beach and they operate it, as long as the city agrees, I guess that's okay. Coastal county beaches—and I know there are a lot of coastal county beach members that represent the coast. It's your beach, and it's also our state beach. And forget about the fact that the GLO regulates those and the Open Beaches Act decides that.

Now we've taken a commission that is well-intentioned to attract and grow this industry. This entire proposal is all about their board of directors, how they go about raising money, what the sunset provision is, are they subject to open records, how do they market. They're even arguing how to share a database. There's nothing about giving them extra powers, even extra temporary powers. So I have pause there. Ultimately, you can decide whether you thought you'd want to know that before you decided to cast your vote. I guess you know it now. But I wonder if you would have liked to have known that. And I wonder if you would have liked to know that this language looks pretty, pretty close to **HB 4660**. It's not on this calendar today. It looks pretty, pretty close to **SB 2188**. That bill's not on this calendar today. Everybody knows where I come from in San Antonio, west side of San Antonio, from the streets. This is legislative carjacking is what this is. And this is a new bill on an existing idea to promote and market. And now we've just given them real powers to override your local officials, and I have an objection to that.

REPRESENTATIVE ANCHÍA: The current state of beach closures lies with elected officials, either at the county level, the city level, or with the GLO, correct?

MARTINEZ FISCHER: Yep.

ANCHÍA: These are people that are accountable to the public, correct?

MARTINEZ FISCHER: Yes, sir.

ANCHÍA: And this bill says that we're going to give beach closure authority now to the Space Commission, right?

MARTINEZ FISCHER: Yes, sir.

ANCHÍA: Are those people elected?

MARTINEZ FISCHER: No, sir.

ANCHÍA: They're unelected. They're unelected appointees who don't answer to members of the public and will be able to restrict the enjoyment of beaches going forward, correct?

MARTINEZ FISCHER: That is correct. Now, I think the saving grace is it's only for a temporary purpose. And well-intentioned, this probably meets FAA requirements. It satisfies things at the federal level, but that's what **HB 4660** was supposed to do, and this body didn't want to move it forward, and the senate companion didn't make it either.

ANCHÍA: We heard those bills in State Affairs, and, in fact, there was no testimony provided related to conflicts between the county, in the case of Boca Chica Beach, and the launches. They were very collaborative. But now, I guess, we want to turn it over to unelected, essentially, bureaucrats to make those calls about who can enjoy the beach and when. The last point I'd mention is there were well over 100 launches that were contemplated just in one area alone. So while it's discussed as something temporary, the frequency of these launches is going to increase and increase and increase. Were you aware of that?

MARTINEZ FISCHER: I wasn't, but I know even just reading the news and the state clips, they're happening more and more. Frankly, I mean, we have a public doctrine in our constitution that says that for the assets that the state holds for nature, we hold them in trust for the public's benefit. And now this upends that doctrine that's a constitutional doctrine. It upends the statutory authority we have with open beaches. And if you're a landowner, if you're a beachgoer, if you're a local resident, that's the law that you know not showing up one day and temporarily your access is cut off.

BONNEN: Are you aware of the number of launches that have been approved by the FAA?

MARTINEZ FISCHER: No, sir. I am not.

BONNEN: Would it surprise you to know the FAA regulates that, and they alone determine the number of launches?

MARTINEZ FISCHER: I believe you're right.

BONNEN: And that number currently in South Texas is 25?

MARTINEZ FISCHER: I'll take your word.

BONNEN: And how long is it that the area would be closed for a launch?

MARTINEZ FISCHER: I don't know, but what I do believe is that if it's going to be closed for any period of time, if it's a county beach, it's the county's call.

BONNEN: Are you aware that that would be about four, maybe five hours?

MARTINEZ FISCHER: And that would be for the county to decide whether that's too long or not.

BONNEN: Yeah. And so if the FAA has a requirement to protect the public from the launch of a very large vehicle and there's a determined hazard zone, which in this instance is roughly two miles, would that affect any of the rest of the coast?

MARTINEZ FISCHER: I guess potentially it could.

BONNEN: How would it do that?

MARTINEZ FISCHER: Well, first, I'll remind you that—

BONNEN: How would it do that?

MARTINEZ FISCHER: Would you like me to answer?

BONNEN: It's up to you. Go ahead. We're all waiting.

MARTINEZ FISCHER: I just needed your permission. So the county, unlike the FAA, has to make that beach safe 24/7, 365. So for the four or five hours of any temporary closure, any degree of spread—I don't know what the degree pattern would look like. I guess it would all depend on how high a rocket might have been at the time of debris. But nevertheless, it's still the county's beach. And rather than this proposal to say as long as the city's okay with it, which I would imagine could be the city that was recently incorporated by SpaceX. So rather than SpaceX making the agreement with the commission, perhaps Cameron County should make that decision. That's the only thing I'm talking about. I'm

not concerned about developing and strengthening and promoting this area of industry for our state. I'm concerned about taking a local authority that we know today and circumventing that by giving that power to a commission in the city.

BONNEN: Are you comfortable with the public having access to a hazard zone during a rocket launch?

MARTINEZ FISCHER: I am comfortable with a county making that call. Yes, sir. I am. I trust the county and county officials and the county sheriff to make that call. I ask that you vote no on adopting the conference report.

REPRESENTATIVE RAYMOND: I rise to speak in favor of this bill. Many years ago, I got this idea. I wrote a constitutional amendment, and I passed it, and the voters approved it. And it was that the beaches in Texas would always be open to the public. We passed that. And some years later we decided that we wanted in Texas essentially to move NASA to South Texas in the form of SpaceX. We embraced that, and I embraced it. I embraced it. And believe me, the people in South Texas have embraced it as well, as I think many across the state have. So when it comes to this issue, and we had it, we took it up in State Affairs. When it comes to this issue about when you're having launches, whether it is safe for people to be out on the beach, kind of common sense tells you it's probably not a safe thing to do. It doesn't seem so complicated to me.

When we talk about this issue about whether should the county or the city be in charge of making that call, I think of Laredo, the city that I represent. The bridges in Laredo, which have made us the busiest port in the Western Hemisphere, the bridges are run by the City of Laredo. Now, the county of Webb cares about it, and they're interested in it, but in my community it's very clear. The city is where the rubber meets the road, and they make the decisions, and they make the calls when it comes to our bridges and to trade. This I view in a very similar way. The city where these launches are occurring are much more likely to know when it is safe and when it is not. And we're not talking about shutting these beaches down for days on end. That's not what we're talking about here. So at the end of the day, for me it is what's safest. What is safest for the people who want to go on those beaches during that time? And I believe that the city is more likely to know than the county. It's not that complicated. I don't understand why it has become a complicated issue because I just don't think it is. So I speak in favor of this. I hope you will vote for it. We have decided we want to bring—I say NASA—SpaceX to South Texas. We've embraced it. It has meant a lot in terms of economic development. It means a lot in terms of the role that Texas plays in space travel and discovery and exploration. And I'm glad for that. Texas should take the lead anytime that we can. Members, I hope that you will vote for this bill.

REPRESENTATIVE FLORES: Representative Raymond, do you realize that there are a lot of endangered species that live pretty close to the area of SpaceX?

RAYMOND: I don't know the number, but it has nothing to do with when the beaches get closed because there is a launch that is going on.

FLORES: I get that. But the FAA is supposed to be charged with making sure that it is safe for endangered species. And I just want to make a comment about—we need to be not just having explosions and blowing up things so often that we're going to disturb the natural wildlife, especially where there are habitats for endangered species such as ocelots, turtles, and others. So I just want to say something about the animals and hope that the FAA will do that. And there are groups—are you aware that there are groups like Defenders of Wildlife and Center for Biological Diversity who say that the FAA is not doing its job in protecting these animals and need to do a better job of doing that? I just wanted to make you aware of that.

RAYMOND: Well, we'll make sure we tell the FAA that, but that has nothing to do with this bill.

FLORES: I get it.

RAYMOND: But thank you for getting a plug in there about animals and plants to the FAA. I mean, hopefully they're listening.

FLORES: Yes. I appreciate it.

RAYMOND: Thank you, but that has nothing to do with this bill. I support it.

ANCHÍA: I want to make sure everybody has the information on what's actually going on here today. It was suggested that if it's okay with the city, that these space launches should continue. The city knows better whether it should close the public beach. You realize that the city that's being established is a company town? It's controlled by SpaceX, so it's not like this is a city government in a city like you and I may live in. The decisions to close the beach are being placed either with the unelected bureaucrats at the Space Commission or the company town leadership that has been established that will be wholly controlled by SpaceX. To suggest that it's not that big of a deal, it's just a couple of hours every once in a while. There were only 20 space launches. If you simply look online, you will see that SpaceX is projecting a record-breaking number of orbital launches in 2025, aiming for about 170. That is roughly every other day in 2025 that they're going to have a launch. And, ladies and gentlemen, this is just the beginning. Because if we've gone from the 20 that were discussed by the bill author to 170 in just one year, that ignores the fact that there's going to be a significant focus on the upcoming Starship program where they're going to be launching *Starship* to Mars in 2026. All of this sounds great. The question is who gets to make the call and who is in the best position to have the public interest in mind in closing a public beach. I submit to you, it's not the people in the company town that is effectively a wholly owned subsidiary of SpaceX, and it's not the Space Commission. It is the elected officials who are closest to the people, and that is county government. We heard in committee no complaints about the ability of county government to work with SpaceX. Zero complaints. But instead, we are trying to remove their oversight, the elected officials who are accountable to the people on the ground. We want to eliminate their oversight and

replace it with a company town and an unelected bureaucracy. Members, I think that's wrong. When we're talking about a public beach, that should be the public trust. Thank you very much. I hope you oppose the bill.

BONNEN: Well, members, thank you for your time this afternoon. I'm sure you're ready to move on with the rest of the calendar. I'm actually very excited and optimistic about the future for the eight billion people living on earth, and the future is being shaped right here in Texas. What is happening in our state is literally equivalent to what happened at Kitty Hawk in 1903 when the Wright brothers first flew. And I think we're going to look back on history, and we're going to have to do an assessment of where we stood. Were we on the side of securing for the free world safety and progress and a hope for the future, or were we bogged down in worrying about personalities and other concerns?

REPRESENTATIVE TINDERHOLT: I wanted to come back here because we've talked about this in the past, and I know some people see a price tag on it. Some people see that beaches are going to be shut down, but really the importance of this is so much bigger. You and I have talked in the past about the space race with China. Whoever gets control of the electromagnetic spectrum first is essentially going to have a lot of control over what happens all over earth. I just want to make sure people understand the importance of this bill and the importance of allowing space exploration and to be able to do those things, to be able to get these assets up into space to do this job.

BONNEN: What happens in space in the 21st century will affect the life of every person on earth.

TINDERHOLT: So the price tag on it and being able to shut down beaches will potentially keep our nation safe and keep other nations safe.

BONNEN: It keeps our nation safe and all that's contemplated in this legislation is keeping people safe by keeping them away from a rocket when it is taking off.

Representative Bonnen moved to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 5246**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 5246** prevailed by (Record 4129): 83 Yeas, 52 Nays, 2 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bonnen; Buckley; Bumgarner; Button; Cain; Capriglione; Cook; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dyson; Fairly; Frank; Gates; Gerdes; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hayes; Hefner; Hickland; Holt; Hopper; Hull; Isaac; Kerwin; Kitzman; LaHood; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Lopez, J.; Louderback; Lowe; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Money; Morgan; Noble; Olcott; Oliverson; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Phelan; Pierson; Raymond; Richardson; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Tepper; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; VanDeaver; Vasut; Virdell; Wharton; Wilson.

Nays — Anchía; Bernal; Bhojani; Bowers; Bryant; Bucy; Campos; Cole; Collier; Cortez; Davis, A.; Dutton; Flores; Gámez; García, J.; García Hernandez; Gervin-Hawkins; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Hernandez; Hinojosa; Howard; Hunter; Johnson; Jones, J.; Longoria; Lopez, R.; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; Meza; Moody; Morales, E.; Ordaz; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Plesa; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rose; Rosenthal; Simmons; Talarico; Thompson; Turner; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wu; Zwiener.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker; Geren(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.; Morales Shaw.

Absent — Canales; Davis, Y.; King; Lalani; Morales, C.; Muñoz; Reynolds; Villalobos.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4129 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted yes.

Muñoz

When Record No. 4129 was taken, my vote failed to register. I would have voted no.

Villalobos

SB 8 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Representative Spiller submitted the conference committee report on **SB 8**.

SB 8 - REMARKS

REPRESENTATIVE SPILLER: Members, this is the Section 287(g) bill that we spent some time on a few days ago. This conference committee report is agreed-upon language between the house and the senate that's been heavily negotiated. Let me kind of tell you where we are and how we got there, briefly. In my opinion, when we received **SB 8** from the senate, we worked on it. In my view, we improved it. We improved the bill with a floor substitute to provide for universal coverage of the 287(g) program to all counties that operate or contract to operate a jail. If you recall, **SB 8**, in its original form, only had counties with a population of 100,000 or more. This, under our version, has expanded that to all counties that own or operate a jail. We allowed them to participate in the warrant service model or any other model—the jail enforcement or the task force model. We provided for a grant program to each county and also provided for a reimbursement program. Our version, I think, was very good, but now this has gone to a conference committee. We have a report, and the conference committee agreed-to language.

What we did, we maintained that universal coverage. The same thing that we wanted here, provided for—we maintained that to all counties that operate or contract to operate a jail. And under this version, again—it's worded differently, but again, they can participate in any one of the three models, including the warrant service model that we promoted. We eliminated the reimbursement program on the back end but significantly increased the funding in the grant

program for each county. So the monies that were there for the entirety are now basically front-end loaded, and so we addressed concerns that counties needed funds to be able to implement and operate that. We've done that. We also included the transparency provided by the Romero amendment. That's included in this. And so what we now have, in my view, is a very strong bill that achieves the public safety purposes of the bill, provides universal coverage and cooperation, provides necessary funding to the counties, guarantees coordination with the executive orders of President Trump, and provides assistance and cooperation with our federal partners to assist in enforcing existing immigration law.

(Landgraf in the chair)

REPRESENTATIVE ROMERO: You've talked about the changes. I appreciate the explanation for the members. You did include that now this program is as the house had changed it based upon much of the impact from the only sheriff that I think that we have on the floor in either the house or the senate. In his explanation of the warrant service model, the reason why our house version had warrant service model and a focus on it is because it was the most efficient program that would cost the least amount of money to implement initially. But in the distribution of the funds as it went over to the senate, whereas we had a minimal amount for smaller counties; say, as an example, a county that had 48 beds, our initial bill had \$5,000 in for those. Can you tell me what that amount is now for the small jails?

SPILLER: Let me just cover all of the categories so we're clear. The counties under 100,000 population under the house version would be \$5,000. Under this version, it's \$80,000. For counties with a population of 100,000 to 499,999—under half a million—under our version it was \$10,000. Under this, it's \$100,000. For 500,000 up to a million, our version was \$20,000. This is \$120,000. And for those that are a million or more, went from \$40,000 to \$140,000.

ROMERO: So for a county like my own, we have 5,000 beds in Tarrant County, and yet a county that has only 48 beds is now going to get \$80,000, and Tarrant County's only going to get \$140,000.

SPILLER: The way I understand it, it depends on the population of the county, not necessarily how many beds that the jail actually has, but yes.

ROMERO: I just wanted to state that our version was much smaller, and it was more based upon the actual persons that you might have in not just your population of your county, but the likely size of your jail. Is that correct?

SPILLER: Right. And to be fair, I liked our version. I thought that we did a very good job, and I appreciate working with you and Representative Canales and Representative Louderback. I thought what we came up with was very good. I can see the merit of what we've done here because it also, under our version though, required a reimbursement program on the back end, and this way, the counties get the money on the front end.

ROMERO: Let me just ask you one more question because I think someone else wants to ask questions. As the last question, now that you have this set aside and you gave it up front, this is a defined grant program. It doesn't grow for this percentage, correct? From this number? So if you're a small county, you get \$80,000; that's all you get.

SPILLER: For this biennium, that's correct. Well, I take that back. That's not necessarily true because, as I understand it, under the ICE program, under the federal program, there are grants and funding that may be available at the federal level but not in this bill.

ROMERO: Okay.

SB 8 - STATEMENT OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT

REPRESENTATIVE WU: Mr. Spiller, I want to ask you some legislative intent questions. Under your bill, if the federal government says that they're no longer going to use or they will eliminate the warrant service officer model or jail enforcement model, will the local sheriffs have the discretion to choose the model if that happens?

SPILLER: Well currently, even without this bill, counties have the option to participate in one or more of the different models. We have a number of counties that are already doing that. That will continue. Under this bill, they would contract for a particular model, and that's the only thing that they're obligated to do under that agreement.

WU: Again, I'm just asking you because I was asked to ask this. With your understanding of this bill, if the federal government says we're no longer going to use the warrant service officer model or the jail enforcement model, are sheriffs free to choose the model that they want?

SPILLER: I think the sheriffs, number one, as I've said, they're free to do that anyway if they choose to do that voluntarily under the existing system. But what they contract with—if they quit offering that model, then they're no longer obligated under that particular model.

WU: So I understand your answer to be yes. Is that correct?

SPILLER: Well, if you'll repeat the question, I can tell you if it's a yes.

WU: Again, if the federal government says they are no longer going to use the warrant service officer model or the jail enforcement model, then the sheriff of that county would be free to choose the model that they want to use under this law?

SPILLER: Well, it depends. I believe the answer, generally, is yes, but I think it depends because it depends if the entire program is going to continue. Under your scenario, if they're going to participate, assuming—your question makes several assumptions. Assuming that the program continues, but under your question, the warrant service model goes away, the jail enforcement model goes away, by definition, the only thing left is the task force model. Are they obligated to do that? No, but I don't think that's very likely because that's not really the goal in

the function of what we're trying to achieve, and I don't think it's necessarily the focus of what the federal government's trying to achieve as far as partnering with local law enforcement and primarily in an in-jail model, which is what both of those under the warrant service and the jail enforcement model promote.

REMARKS ORDERED PRINTED

Representative Wu moved to print all remarks on **SB 8**.

The motion prevailed.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the senate was received at this time (see the addendum to the daily journal, Messages from the Senate, Message No. 1).

SB 8 - (consideration continued)

SB 8 - REMARKS

REPRESENTATIVE ROMERO: Members, I couldn't get to this part of our process and not talk about this bill, ask one more time to really think about your vote even though I know that this is already kind of a foregone conclusion, so I won't fight it out with you. I do want to say something about my deskmate, Ms. Senfronia Thompson. How lucky I am to sit next to you, Ms. T. How fortunate I am to listen to your stories, and how fortunate I am to be able to look you in the eye and know that everything that you say is true, and your expectations from all of us other members that we do the same. Unfortunately, things have changed pretty quickly, it seems like, around here. I feel like in this building the way things are supposed to be is that we're all supposed to go back to our districts and come back and talk about what's happened and that another member would believe you. And that their pain or their sorrow—that when a member talks about the pain or their sorrow in their district, that that would matter to you. Ms. T and I were just talking, and she said, "Ramon, people don't know what you go through," as she was telling me a childhood story.

You know, today when you look at the immigration enforcement that's going on around our country, I know y'all see it on Instagram or whatever source, and you see that young kids are crying as their mother or father gets deported. I can't think of the weight that those poor kids and the trauma they're going to take with them. And I know when I think about 287(g), while this takes place in jail, you did hear that one of the reasons why this bill came back differently is because they don't want us to focus on what happens just in jail. They want to make sure it's clear it's all sheriffs around the country; maybe you still want to do the tactical model and that means an opening for sheriffs' officers who are untrained in immigration enforcement to potentially be doing things outside the jail. And if you grew up like I did in the 80s or 70s when people did not call police, we had a lot of violence, we had a lot of gang members, and they felt safe. And 287(g), it is going to contribute to less people calling the police in communities like mine. And while it may make us safer when someone gets in the jail, we established

last time that this is already by law in existence. A sheriff commits a crime by not turning over somebody that has an ICE hold. It's a Class B misdemeanor for the jailer and for the sheriff.

I've experienced what it's like for somebody to get deported and you're the person left behind. So do you know the weight of my sorrow? What's most offensive is how hard—even though I knew this was going to happen and there was going to be no way we can stop it, how hard I know myself and the chairman, the author, and probably the only man that should be writing this kind of bill is the guy that sits right there in the straw hat—Sheriff Louderback. It's hard for me to accept that, "I'm sorry, Ramon, you're just going to have to deal with it. We're going to pass this no matter what. I don't care about your experience. I don't care about what you went through. I don't care about the crime or potential crime that's going to happen in your district." But when this man sits there and I've been telling him all day, I know what kind of character he has. He's been implementing this program for years, and he recommended the bill that we sent over to the senate. He knew he didn't want to create bureaucracy in this grant program. He wanted to keep it simple, and they didn't care. They wanted what they wanted. So I thank both authors. But I know one thing, I gave the man in the straw hat all of my faith that he knew what he was talking about, and I knew that nothing that came from his mouth was going to be a lie. And I would hope that the senate would respect the house when it comes to issues when you have what is, in essence, a subject matter expert even though I don't agree on the policy—the ultimate policy.

I know I'm not going to get you to vote no on this. I'm not even going to ask you to vote no. I'm just going to hope that you make sure that as we fund something like this and children start suffering, whether it be in their own home, and innocent people including U.S. citizens like we see every day on social media begin to pay the price, we're all responsible for it. And when and if we need to make changes to this program, I hope that we do.

REPRESENTATIVE LOUDERBACK: In 2005, when I was elected sheriff, it became very apparent that there was one problem. I lived on US 59, went into Houston. The biggest problem we had at that point in time, continuing until today, human trafficking and narcotics that were being transported by the cartels. In short order, I started promoting the 287(g) program because in my jail and every jail along 59, we were picking up a lot of people, and we could not vet their criminal history properly. 287(g) allows us to do that. And in doing that, it saves lives and puts criminals behind bars. First and foremost, it's about law and order. That's what we have to promote in this state. I have probably promoted this program across this nation more than any person in this state and most people in the United States. I've been to 40 states. I've talked about this program since 2006. I've received the Saving the Homeland Award because I took this program to 26 counties along the Gulf Coast that signed up for it. I'll tell you it saved lives, it put criminals behind bars, and we properly vetted each person that came before it. ICE was involved in that, and those kinds of people need to be deported or handled appropriately.

The program works. It works smooth. The jail model is what I like because everyone that's picked up winds up in a county jail. I don't care if you pick any one of the three. I think the most prominent program that we're going to have is the warrant service officer model. I think it works. I ran the jail enforcement model. It works. I know less about the tactical model because the tactical model hasn't been in existence for a long time. But the program works. It works smooth. It protects lives. I'm for this bill. It's probably one of the most significant bills for this nation. We'll see, as the first state that has a requirement for 287(g) package in every county jail.

(Speaker in the chair)

ROMERO: In your time as a sheriff, you said you used jail model, and the tactical model was not in existence. If it would have been in existence, would you have seen yourself, as leader of your department, enforcing the tactical model?

LOUDERBACK: Representative Romero, the tactical model was only in existence in this country for a few short years in Arizona. At that point in time, it became unfunded, and they never offered it at all. I don't know if I would have taken it or not because in the final analysis of it, there are ways to take care of patrolling. There are ways to make sure that illegal aliens or people you need to vet properly are done. There is a way to do that. I don't know if the tactical model would have been very necessary at that point in time while I was a sheriff for five terms. It wasn't available to me. Hindsight being what it is, I may have elected to do that. I was satisfied with the jail model. The jail model was the collection point for everyone that comes. They're going to come to the county jail, and I wanted to make sure I had jail personnel that knew what was going on.

ROMERO: So your focus was on once somebody had either already committed a crime, was picked up, was in your jail, you were ensuring that you coordinated with ICE. But you bring up Arizona and I appreciate you bringing that up. Do you feel like what happened in Arizona, and the clear violations of citizens and residents in Arizona is something that you would promote here in the State of Texas?

LOUDERBACK: No, I wouldn't promote the violation of human rights at all.

ROMERO: So it's fair to say that what Sheriff Arpaio did in Arizona is not something that we should model our State of Texas here?

LOUDERBACK: Well, I'm not going to say that, Ramon. That's probably an overstatement of sorts. I'm not sure what he did at that point in time. I just know, back in remembrance, that the program was halted for funding at that point in time. And it was halted for a long time. It didn't come back up being funded as a program, even though it was written in the INA, it didn't come back funded until 2015—late 2015. And that's when I applied for it. The only one that was funded was for the jail model at that time.

ROMERO: Thank you for your position on the jail and for the warrant service model. But in terms of the abuses, do you disagree that there were abuses in Arizona and that's also the reason why the task force model was removed?

LOUDERBACK: I'm sure there were complaints about it. It is clear that they quit funding all 287(g) at that point in time. So evidently there were some issues there for sure.

ROMERO: To the point to where criminal charges were filed against Sheriff Arpaio, which required him to be pardoned by the president, correct?

LOUDERBACK: If you're telling me that. I don't remember Joe being arrested for anything at that. He was probably sued.

ROMERO: I just want to point out for the body that the history of the tactical model has not been one that I believe that the State of Texas should be proud of, as what's happened around the country, and that our citizens deserve being protected. Therefore, I will tell you again. Your advocacy for the models that you took, the safest models. And we all need to get this right. This is not just going to affect folks that have an ICE hold. This is going to affect U.S. citizens, as we've seen around the country. And we hope that that is not the case here in Texas.

REPRESENTATIVE GERVIN-HAWKINS: For us novices, the tactical model—could you explain it?

LOUDERBACK: I'm sorry, ma'am?

GERVIN-HAWKINS: So that everybody understands what the model that you and Representative Romero just talked about. Because I'm well aware of Joe Arpaio and how horrible he did those prisoners there, so could you talk to us about what the tactical model would look like here in Texas?

LOUDERBACK: Well, I'm not sure what it's going to look like. It's available right now, but it has not been implemented. I don't have any information at all about it other than there's an application right now—that the task force model is available by application only. And I believe we've got about 17 counties in the state that have applied for the tactical model.

GERVIN-HAWKINS: So you're asking the members here to vote on a model that you fully don't know what it looks like, but you also know it may not be the best thing that you would have adopted as a sheriff, but you're asking us to support that. Is that a fact?

LOUDERBACK: I'm asking the body here to support the fact that we need a way to take care of that population in here that have committed criminal violations and come to a county jail. Let's vet their entire criminal history and make sure that we are catching everything that comes in a county jail. That was my purpose and goal. All those sheriffs that went into the program at that point in time for the JEM model. That was our goal, to make sure we didn't let anyone out of our jail who had committed an egregious crime of sorts. And immigration law is a separate body for the federal government, and so we had to have some extra teeth in that, and we didn't have it. And 287(g) was the only vehicle to present that.

GERVIN-HAWKINS: Representative, obviously based on your responses, you know that is a bad model. My question is why would we accept the conference report if we indeed know that this is something that is totally bad and totally harmful? Are we trying to meet a different agenda, or are we trying to create good policy for the State of Texas?

LOUDERBACK: I disagree, Representative. It is part of the INA. It is part of the 287(g) chapter in the INA. Seventeen programs in the State of Texas right now. I don't know what safeguards that ICE is going to put on the application of this or the implementation of the program, but I have every confidence in the world that Texas law enforcement is going to do right by it. A lot of these things we're going to have to wait and see a little bit.

GERVIN-HAWKINS: Representative, thank you for answering my questions. But I want to assure everybody in this body it is one of the most inhumane models in the county, and we should not be willing to go along with it without knowing all the facts and how it will be implemented. Treating people like that, where Joe Arpaio put—He dehumanized those prisoners in Phoenix, and that's a fact.

LOUDERBACK: We're not Joe Arpaio, and I think we're going to uphold the law here.

REPRESENTATIVE SPILLER: Just to clarify and close briefly. What we have here, we have a great bill. It is a model of what other states should do. Admittedly, I like our version, the way it was written originally, but I gave up pride in craftsmanship, ownership a long time ago practicing law. And as long as we get to the same result, then we're in a good position. So we have that. We have that here. And again, I just want to say I appreciate certainly working with Representative Louderback, but also working with Representative Romero, Representative Canales. We worked to try to come up with the best thing that we could. We heard and listened to concerns. And Representative Romero may not vote for this bill. I don't think he will. But you know what? That's not important. What's important is we listened, and we tried to come up with the best version of this bill for the State of Texas. And that's what we have here.

Representative Spiller moved to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 8**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 8** prevailed by (Record 4130): 89 Yeas, 52 Nays, 1 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bonnen; Buckley; Bumgarner; Button; Cain; Capriglione; Cook; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dyson; Fairly; Frank; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hayes; Hefner; Hickland; Holt; Hopper; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Lopez, J.; Louderback; Lowe; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Money; Morales, E.; Morgan; Muñoz; Noble; Olcott; Oliverson; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Phelan; Pierson;

Raymond; Richardson; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Tepper; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Virdell; Wharton; Wilson.

Nays — Anchía; Bernal; Bhojani; Bowers; Bryant; Bucy; Campos; Canales; Cole; Collier; Cortez; Davis, A.; Dutton; Flores; Gámez; Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; Gervin-Hawkins; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Hernandez; Hinojosa; Howard; Johnson; Jones, J.; Lalani; Longoria; Lopez, R.; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; Meza; Moody; Ordaz; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Plesa; Reynolds; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rose; Rosenthal; Simmons; Talarico; Thompson; Turner; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wu; Zwiener.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.; Morales Shaw.

Absent — Davis, Y.; Guerra; Morales, C.

SB 293 - REQUEST OF SENATE GRANTED CONFERENCE COMMITTEE APPOINTED

On motion of Representative Leach, the house granted the request of the senate for the appointment of a Conference Committee on **SB 293**.

The chair announced the appointment of the following conference committee, on the part of the house, on **SB 293**: Leach, chair; Geren, Hunter, Moody, and Rose.

SB 2878 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Representative Leach submitted the conference committee report on **SB 2878**.

Representative Leach moved to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 2878**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 2878** prevailed by (Record 4131): 136 Yeas, 2 Nays, 1 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Anchía; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bowers; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Bumgarner; Button; Cain; Campos; Canales; Capriglione; Cole; Collier; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dyson; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Gámez; Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Hinojosa; Holt; Hopper; Howard; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Johnson; Jones, J.; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lalani; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Longoria; Lopez, R.; Lowe; Lujan; Luther; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Meza; Money; Moody; Morales, E.; Morgan; Muñoz; Noble; Olcott; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Pierson; Plesa; Raymond; Reynolds; Richardson; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rose; Rosenthal; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner;

Simmons; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Virdell; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wilson; Wu.

Nays — Dutton; Zwiener.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.; Morales Shaw.

Absent — Davis, Y.; Dorazio; Lopez, J.; Louderback; Lozano; Morales, C.

HR 1495 - ADOPTED
(by Bonnen)

The following privileged resolution was laid before the house:

HR 1495

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the State of Texas, 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, That House Rule 13, Section 9(a), be suspended in part as provided by House Rule 13, Section 9(f), to enable the conference committee appointed to resolve the differences on **SB 2308** (the establishment of a consortium to conduct United States Food and Drug Administration's drug development clinical trials with ibogaine to secure the administration's approval of the medication's use for treatment of opioid use disorder, co-occurring substance use disorder, and any other neurological or mental health conditions for which ibogaine demonstrates efficacy and to the administration of that treatment) to consider and take action on the following matters:

(1) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(2), is suspended to permit the committee to omit text not in disagreement by omitting in proposed SECTION 1 of the bill added Section 491.001(2), Health and Safety Code. The omitted text reads:

(2) "Executive commissioner" means the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission.

Explanation: The change is necessary to remove a definition that no longer appears in added Chapter 491, Health and Safety Code.

(2) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(4), is suspended to permit the committee to add text on a matter not included in either the house or senate version of the bill in proposed SECTION 1 of the bill, by adding Sections 491.001(2), (3), (4), and (6), Health and Safety Code, to read as follows:

(2) "Comptroller" means the comptroller of public accounts.

(3) "Drug developer" means a pharmaceutical company, biotechnology company, or contract development and manufacturing organization engaged in drug development and manufacturing.

(4) "Hospital" has the meaning assigned by Section 241.003.

(6) "Institution of higher education" has the meaning assigned by Section 61.003, Education Code.

Explanation: The change is necessary to define "comptroller," "drug developer," "hospital," and "institution of higher education" for purposes of added Chapter 491, Health and Safety Code.

(3) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(2), is suspended to permit the committee to omit text not in disagreement in proposed SECTION 1 of the bill by omitting added Sections 491.002 and 491.003, Health and Safety Code. The omitted text reads:

Sec. 491.002. RULES. The executive commissioner shall adopt rules necessary to administer this chapter.

Sec. 491.003. ESTABLISHMENT OF GRANT PROGRAM. The commission shall establish and administer a grant program to fund a public-private partnership program that will pay for the costs of the United States Food and Drug Administration's drug development trials with ibogaine to secure the administration's approval as a medication for treatment of opioid use disorder, co-occurring substance use disorder, and any other neurological or mental health conditions for which ibogaine demonstrates efficacy.

Explanation: The change is necessary to eliminate rulemaking authority and remove a grant program.

(4) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(4), is suspended to permit the committee to add text on a matter not included in either the house or senate version of the bill in proposed SECTION 1 of the bill, by adding a heading for added Subchapter B, Chapter 491, Health and Safety Code, to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER B. DRUG DEVELOPMENT OF IBOGAINE TREATMENT

Explanation: The change is necessary for better organization of added Chapter 491, Health and Safety Code.

(5) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(4), is suspended to permit the committee to add text on a matter not included in either the house or senate version of the bill in proposed SECTION 1 of the bill, by adding Sections 491.051 and 491.052, Health and Safety Code, to read as follows:

Sec. 491.051. ESTABLISHMENT OF CONSORTIUM. (a) A consortium may be established under this section and apply for commission selection under this subchapter to conduct drug development clinical trials with ibogaine and secure the United States Food and Drug Administration's approval of ibogaine as a medication for the treatment of:

(1) opioid use disorder;

(2) co-occurring substance use disorder; and

(3) any other neurological or mental health condition for which ibogaine demonstrates efficacy.

(b) A consortium established under this section must include one or more of each of the following entities:

(1) a drug developer;

(2) an institution of higher education; and

(3) a hospital.

Sec. 491.052. LEAD INSTITUTION; ADMINISTRATION; PERSONNEL. (a) A consortium established under this subchapter shall select a lead institution of higher education from among the consortium's members to represent the consortium and perform administrative functions under this subchapter, including contracting with and reporting to the commission as required by this subchapter.

(b) A consortium selected by the commission under this subchapter may employ personnel, including clinical, administrative, and data management personnel, necessary to support any consortium member's activities related to drug development clinical trials conducted under this subchapter.

Explanation: The change is necessary to allow formation of a consortium for the conduct of certain drug development clinical trials, to secure United States Food and Drug Administration's approval for certain medical treatments, and to allow the consortium to select a lead institution and employ necessary personnel.

(6) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(2), is suspended to permit the committee to omit text not in disagreement in proposed SECTION 1 of the bill by omitting the heading and Subsections (a) and (c) of added Section 491.004, Health and Safety Code. The omitted text reads:

Sec. 491.004. APPLICATION. (a) The commission shall prepare and issue a notice of funding opportunity to solicit applications for the grant program established under this subchapter.

(c) The commission shall:

(1) make available the application required under this section; and

(2) announce a period of not less than 90 days during which applicants may submit an application under this subchapter.

Explanation: The change is necessary to remove an application process for a removed grant program.

(7) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(4), is suspended to permit the committee to add text on a matter not included in either the house or senate version of the bill in proposed SECTION 1 of the bill, by adding a heading and Subsection (a) for Section 491.053, Health and Safety Code, to read as follows:

Sec. 491.053. CONSORTIUM PROPOSAL. (a) The lead institution of higher education of a consortium shall submit to the commission a proposal and request for funding on behalf of the consortium for purposes of conducting ibogaine drug development clinical trials in accordance with this subchapter.

Explanation: The change is necessary to require a consortium formed under added Chapter 491, Health and Safety Code, to submit to the Health and Human Services Commission a proposal for selection to conduct a drug development clinical trial under that chapter.

(8) House Rule 13, Sections 9(a)(1), (2), and (3), are suspended to permit the committee to change, alter, or amend text not in disagreement, omit text not in disagreement, and add text on a matter not in disagreement in proposed SECTION 1 of the bill, by adding Section 491.053(b), Health and Safety Code, to read as follows:

(b) A proposal submitted under Subsection (a) must provide:

(1) the identity of all consortium members;

(2) a detailed description of the planned strategy for obtaining approval for the drug development clinical trials from the United States Food and Drug Administration;

(3) a detailed drug development clinical trial design that includes:

(A) a description of the composition of the consortium's drug development clinical trial team and the expertise of the team members;

- (B) a drug development clinical trial participant recruitment plan;
 - (C) patient screening criteria and cardiac safety protocols;
 - (D) administration protocols;
 - (E) an aftercare and post-acute treatment support plan; and
 - (F) a data integrity plan;
- (4) a detailed plan to seek a breakthrough therapy designation for ibogaine from the United States Food and Drug Administration under 21 U.S.C. Section 356;
- (5) a proposal to recognize this state's commercial interest in all intellectual property that may be generated over the course of the drug development clinical trials, including:
 - (A) the treatment that is the subject of the trials;
 - (B) administration protocols;
 - (C) treatment models or techniques; and
 - (D) technology used in the trials;
- (6) a plan to establish a corporate presence in this state and to promote and maintain ibogaine-related biomedical research, development, treatment, manufacturing, and distribution in this state;
- (7) a plan to secure third-party payor approval for ibogaine treatment following approval by the United States Food and Drug Administration through:
 - (A) private insurers;
 - (B) Medicare;
 - (C) Medicaid; and
 - (D) the TRICARE program of the United States Department of Defense;
- (8) a plan to ensure ibogaine treatment access to uninsured individuals following approval by the United States Food and Drug Administration;
- (9) a plan to train and credential medical providers to administer ibogaine treatment according to developed clinical standards; and
- (10) financial disclosures that verify the consortium's capacity to fully match state funding with funds received from non-state sources.

Explanation: The change is necessary to specify the information required for submission of a proposal under Section 491.053, Health and Safety Code, and selection to perform drug development clinical trials under added Chapter 491, Health and Safety Code.

(9) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(2), is suspended to permit the committee to omit text not in disagreement in proposed SECTION 1 of the bill by omitting added Section 491.005, Health and Safety Code. The omitted text reads:

Sec. 491.005. SELECTION COMMITTEE. (a) The commission shall create a selection committee and select the number of members. The committee must be composed of:

- (1) subject matter experts;
- (2) philanthropic partners; and
- (3) legislative designees.

(b) The selection committee shall review applications, communicate supplemental inquiries to applicants, and recommend to the commission the best applicants to conduct the drug development trials.

(c) The commission shall consider the recommendations of the selection committee in selecting the applicant to conduct the ibogaine drug development trial.

Explanation: The change is necessary to remove the selection committee.

(10) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(4), is suspended to permit the committee to add text on a matter not included in either the house or senate version of the bill in proposed SECTION 1 of the bill, by adding Sections 491.054 and 491.055, Health and Safety Code, to read as follows:

Sec. 491.054. COMMISSION SELECTION. The commission, in the commission's sole discretion, shall select a consortium established in accordance with Section 491.051 for the purpose of conducting ibogaine drug development clinical trials under this subchapter.

Sec. 491.055. CONTRACT WITH LEAD INSTITUTION. (a) As soon as practicable after selecting a consortium to conduct ibogaine drug development clinical trials under Section 491.054, the commission shall enter into an interagency contract, as provided by Chapter 771, Government Code, with the lead institution of higher education of the selected consortium to provide funding to implement the consortium's proposed ibogaine drug development clinical trials.

(b) The interagency contract described by Subsection (a) must specify:

(1) the goals and objectives of the proposed ibogaine drug development clinical trials;

(2) the proposed budget;

(3) the timeline for completing the proposed objectives;

(4) the for-profit, nonprofit, or public benefit corporate entities collaborating with the consortium in the drug development clinical trials under this subchapter;

(5) the percentage of the revenue arising from the drug development clinical trials to be paid to the state; and

(6) any other information required by the commission.

(c) As soon as practicable after entering into an interagency contract under Subsection (a), the commission shall report the existence of the contract to the legislature.

(d) The commission may not disburse funds to or for a selected consortium under the interagency contract described by Subsection (a) until the consortium receives and the commission verifies the receipt of matching funds from sources other than the state.

Explanation: The change is necessary to allow the Health and Human Services Commission to select a consortium established under added Chapter 491, Health and Safety Code, for the purpose of conducting drug development clinical trials under that chapter, to require the commission to enter into an

interagency contract with the consortium for the conduct of those trials, and to regulate the contract provisions and the disbursement of funds to the selected consortium.

(11) House Rule 13, Sections 9(a)(1) and (3), are suspended to permit the committee to change, alter, or amend text not in disagreement and add text on a matter not in disagreement in proposed SECTION 1 of the bill, by adding Section 491.056, Health and Safety Code, to read as follows:

Sec. 491.056. INVESTIGATIONAL NEW DRUG APPLICATION. On the commission's notification that a consortium is selected to conduct the drug development clinical trials under this subchapter, a drug developer or hospital member of the selected consortium or the lead institution of higher education of the consortium, as specified by written agreement of the consortium members, shall, as soon as practicable:

(1) submit an investigational new drug (IND) application to the United States Food and Drug Administration in accordance with 21 C.F.R. Part 312; and

(2) seek a breakthrough therapy designation for ibogaine from the United States Food and Drug Administration under 21 U.S.C. Section 356.

Explanation: The change is necessary to allow certain members of a consortium established under added Chapter 491, Health and Safety Code, to apply for an investigational new drug application with the United States Food and Drug Administration and to seek from the administration a breakthrough therapy designation for certain treatments.

(12) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(4), is suspended to permit the committee to add text on a matter not included in either the house or senate version of the bill in proposed SECTION 1 of the bill, by adding Section 491.057, Health and Safety Code, to read as follows:

Sec. 491.057. DRUG DEVELOPMENT CLINICAL TRIAL SITES. For purposes of conducting a drug development clinical trial under this subchapter, only an institution of higher education or a hospital may serve as a trial site.

Explanation: The change is necessary to specify which members of a consortium established under added Chapter 491, Health and Safety Code, may serve as a drug development clinical trial site under that chapter.

(13) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(2), is suspended to permit the committee to omit text not in disagreement in proposed SECTION 1 of the bill by omitting added Sections 491.007 and 491.008, Health and Safety Code. The omitted text reads:

Sec. 491.007. ESTABLISHMENT OF DRUG DEVELOPMENT TRIAL SITES. On approval of the applicant's investigational new drug application by the United States Food and Drug Administration, the commission shall, in consultation with the applicant, establish drug development trial sites that must be equipped and staffed to provide cardiac intensive care services to patients.

Sec. 491.008. CONDUCTING DRUG DEVELOPMENT TRIAL. (a) As soon as practicable after drug development trial sites are established under Section 491.007, the applicant shall begin a drug development trial to administer treatment with ibogaine.

(b) The commission, in consultation with the selection committee under Section 491.005, shall select an institutional review board with a presence in this state to oversee and verify the drug development trial research activity for scientific validation and authentication under the requirements of the United States Food and Drug Administration.

(c) The applicant shall request the designation under 21 U.S.C. Section 356 during the drug development trial if the ibogaine treatment is demonstrating efficacy.

Explanation: The change is necessary to remove requirements relating to drug development trial sites and the conduct of a drug development trial.

(14) House Rule 13, Sections 9(a)(1), (2), and (4), are suspended to permit the committee to change, alter, or amend text not in disagreement, omit text on a matter not in disagreement, and add text on a matter not included in either the house or senate version of the bill in proposed SECTION 1 of the bill, by adding Section 491.058, Health and Safety Code, to read as follows:

Sec. 491.058. FUNDING; DISBURSEMENT BY COMMISSION. (a) The commission and consortium members may solicit and accept gifts, grants, and donations of any kind received from sources other than the state for purposes of funding drug development clinical trials under this subchapter.

(b) Disbursements of funds by the commission may be made incrementally based on the completion of clearly defined objectives as negotiated in the contract described by Section 491.055, including verifiable documentation demonstrating the efficient expenditure of both state and matching funds.

Explanation: The change is necessary to clarify that matching funds provided by a consortium established under added Chapter 491, Health and Safety Code, must come from sources other than the state, and to add accountability requirements.

(15) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(2), is suspended to permit the committee to omit text not in disagreement in proposed SECTION 1 of the bill by omitting added Section 491.009(b), Health and Safety Code. The omitted text reads:

(b) An applicant selected to perform a drug development trial under this subchapter shall contribute toward the cost of developing the ibogaine treatment an amount of money that is at least equal to the amount of money that the applicant received in the form of a grant from the commission.

Explanation: The change is necessary to eliminate duplicative and conflicting provisions relating to matching funds.

(16) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(4), is suspended to permit the committee to add text on a matter not included in either the house or senate version of the bill in proposed SECTION 1 of the bill, by adding Sections 491.059, 491.060, and 491.061, Health and Safety Code, to read as follows:

Sec. 491.059. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS. (a) A consortium selected to conduct ibogaine drug development clinical trials shall quarterly prepare and submit to the commission:

(1) a report on the progress of the drug development clinical trials conducted under this subchapter; and

(2) a financial status report, including information to verify expenditures of state funds and required matching funds.

(b) The commission shall submit a report to the legislature on the progress of the drug development clinical trials conducted under this subchapter not later than December 1 of each year.

Sec. 491.060. ALLOCATION OF REVENUE ATTRIBUTABLE TO INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND OTHER RIGHTS. (a) The revenue attributable to all intellectual property rights and other commercial rights arising from drug development clinical trials conducted by a consortium under this subchapter during the period for which the trials are funded and any following period of commercialization shall be allocated as follows:

(1) not less than 20 percent to the state as specified in the contract under Section 491.055; and

(2) the remainder to the members of the consortium in the amounts specified by written agreement of the members.

(b) For purposes of this section, intellectual property rights and other commercial rights arising from the drug development clinical trials conducted under this subchapter include any of the following as related to the trials:

(1) intellectual property, technology, and inventions;

(2) patents, trademarks, and licenses;

(3) proprietary and confidential information;

(4) trade secrets, data, and databases;

(5) tools, methods, and processes;

(6) treatment models or techniques;

(7) administration protocols; and

(8) works of authorship.

Sec. 491.061. USE OF STATE REVENUE. (a) The comptroller shall deposit the revenue received under Section 491.060 to the credit of the general revenue fund.

(b) Of the amount deposited under Subsection (a), 25 percent may be appropriated only to programs that assist veterans in this state.

(c) The comptroller shall develop accounting procedures for the purpose of implementing this section.

Explanation: The change is necessary to establish reporting requirements for a consortium established under added Chapter 491, Health and Safety Code, and to clarify the allocation of revenues attributable to certain property rights under that chapter.

(17) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(4), is suspended to permit the committee to add text on a matter not included in either the house or senate version of the bill in proposed SECTION 2 of the bill, by adding Subsection (b) to read as follows:

(b) The Health and Human Services Commission shall begin accepting proposals from consortiums under Chapter 491, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act, not later than the 60th day after the effective date of this Act.

Explanation: The change is necessary to require the Health and Human Services Commission to begin accepting proposals from consortiums under added Chapter 491, Health and Safety Code, by a certain date.

HR 1495 was adopted by (Record 4132): 121 Yeas, 15 Nays, 1 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Anchía; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bowers; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Button; Campos; Canales; Cole; Collier; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dyson; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Gámez; García, J.; García Hernandez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Hallless; Harris Davila; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Holt; Howard; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Johnson; Jones, J.; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lalani; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Longoria; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Lujan; Luther; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Meza; Money; Moody; Morales, E.; Muñoz; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Pierson; Plesa; Raymond; Reynolds; Richardson; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rose; Rosenthal; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Villalobos; Virdell; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wilson; Wu; Zwiener.

Nays — Bumgarner; Cain; Capriglione; Dutton; González, J.; Harrison; Hickland; Lowe; Morgan; Noble; Olcott; Slawson; Tinderholt; Toth; Vasut.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.; Morales Shaw.

Absent — Davis, Y.; Hinojosa; Hopper; Louderback; Lozano; Morales, C.; Oliverson; Simmons.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4132 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted yes.

Hopper

When Record No. 4132 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

Tinderholt

When Record No. 4132 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

Toth

SB 2308 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Representative Bonnen submitted the conference committee report on **SB 2308**.

Representative Bonnen moved to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 2308**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 2308** prevailed by (Record 4133): 134 Yeas, 4 Nays, 1 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Anchía; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bowers; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Bumgarner; Button; Cain; Campos; Canales; Cole; Collier; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dyson; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Gámez; Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Hinojosa; Holt; Hopper; Howard; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Johnson; Jones, J.; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lalani; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Longoria; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Lujan; Luther; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Meza; Money; Moody; Morales, E.; Morgan; Muñoz; Noble; Olcott; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Pierson; Plesa; Raymond; Reynolds; Richardson; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rose; Rosenthal; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Virdell; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wilson; Wu; Zwiener.

Nays — Capriglione; Dutton; Harrison; Lowe.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.; Morales Shaw.

Absent — Davis, Y.; Dean; Louderback; Lozano; Morales, C.; Simmons.

STATEMENT OF VOTE

When Record No. 4133 was taken, I was shown voting yes. I intended to vote no.

Noble

SB 1405 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Representative Ashby submitted the conference committee report on **SB 1405**.

Representative Ashby moved to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 1405**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 1405** prevailed by (Record 4134): 102 Yeas, 36 Nays, 1 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Anchía; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bowers; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Button; Campos; Canales; Capriglione; Cole; Collier; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; Dorazio; Dutton; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Gámez; Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra;

Guillen; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hinojosa; Howard; Hunter; Johnson; Jones, J.; King; Kitzman; Lalani; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Longoria; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Lujan; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Meza; Moody; Morales, E.; Muñoz; Noble; Ordaz; Orr; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Plesa; Raymond; Reynolds; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rose; Rosenthal; Shaheen; Simmons; Smithee; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Toth; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Villalobos; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wilson; Wu; Zwiener.

Nays — Alders; Bumgarner; Cain; Cook; DeAyala; Dyson; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hickland; Holt; Hopper; Hull; Isaac; LaHood; Leo Wilson; Little; Lowe; Luther; Money; Morgan; Olcott; Oliverson; Patterson; Paul; Pierson; Richardson; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shofner; Slawson; Spiller; Swanson; Tinderholt; Vasut; Virdell.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.; Morales Shaw.

Absent — Davis, Y.; Harless; Kerwin; Louderback; Lozano; Morales, C.

HB 119 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Representative Gerdes submitted the following conference committee report on **HB 119**:

Austin, Texas, May 30, 2025

The Honorable Dan Patrick
President of the Senate

The Honorable Dustin Burrows
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Sirs: We, your conference committee, appointed to adjust the differences between the senate and the house of representatives on **HB 119** have had the same under consideration, and beg to report it back with the recommendation that it do pass in the form and text hereto attached.

Hughes
Bettencourt
Hinojosa, Adam
Kolkhorst
Parker

Gerdes
Hefner
Capriglione
Bonnen

On the part of the senate

On the part of the house

HB 119, A bill to be entitled An Act relating to the registration as a lobbyist of persons who engage in certain lobbying activities on behalf of a foreign adversary and to prohibitions on the receipt of compensation related to those lobbying activities; providing a civil penalty.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 305.003(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A person must register with the commission under this chapter if the person:

(1) makes a total expenditure of an amount determined by commission rule but not less than \$200 in a calendar quarter, not including the person's own travel, food, or lodging expenses or the person's own membership dues, on activities described in Section 305.006(b) to communicate directly with one or more members of the legislative or executive branch to influence legislation or administrative action; ~~or~~

(2) receives, or is entitled to receive under an agreement under which the person is retained or employed, compensation or reimbursement, not including reimbursement for the person's own travel, food, or lodging expenses or the person's own membership dues, of more than an amount determined by commission rule but not less than \$200 in a calendar quarter from another person to communicate directly with a member of the legislative or executive branch to influence legislation or administrative action; or

(3) communicates directly with one or more members of the legislative or executive branch to influence legislation or administrative action on behalf of a foreign adversary, a foreign adversary client, or a foreign adversary political party, as those terms are defined by Section 305.030.

SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 305, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 305.030 to read as follows:

Sec. 305.030. COMPENSATION FROM FOREIGN ADVERSARY AND RELATED PERSONS PROHIBITED; CIVIL ENFORCEMENT. (a) In this section:

(1) "Control" means the direct or indirect power to determine, direct, dictate, or decide important matters affecting an entity, including through:

(A) the ownership of at least 20 percent of the total outstanding voting interest in an entity;

(B) board representation;

(C) the ability to appoint or discharge a board member, officer, director, employee, or contractor;

(D) proxy voting, a special share, a contractual arrangement, a legal obligation, or a formal or informal arrangement to act in concert; or

(E) another means of exercising power.

(2) "Foreign adversary" means:

(A) a foreign government or foreign nongovernment person designated as a foreign adversary by the United States secretary of commerce under 15 C.F.R. Section 791.4;

(B) an agency or entity under the control of a country described by Paragraph (A);

(C) a person wholly or partly owned or operated by or subject to the control of a country described by Paragraph (A);

(D) a subsidiary or parent of a person described by Paragraph (C);

(E) a person organized under the laws of or that has its principal place of business in a country described by Paragraph (A); and

(F) a subsidiary of a person described by Paragraph (E).

(3) "Foreign adversary client" means:

(A) a current or former:

(i) official in the executive, legislative, administrative, military, or judicial branch of a foreign adversary;

(ii) official of a foreign adversary political party; or

(iii) executive or officer of a foreign adversary;

(B) a corporation, business, or other entity that has been formed by, or for the benefit of, a person described by Paragraph (A); and

(C) an immediate family member of a person described by Paragraph (A), including the person's spouse, parent, sibling, and child and a parent or sibling of the person's spouse.

(4) "Foreign adversary political party" means an organization or a combination of individuals in the jurisdictional limits of a foreign adversary, including a unit or branch of a foreign adversary's government, that is engaged in an activity wholly or partly devoted to or whose aim or purpose is to:

(A) establish, administer, control, or acquire the administration or control of a foreign adversary or a subdivision of a foreign adversary; or

(B) further or influence the political or public interests, policies, or relations of a foreign adversary or a subdivision of a foreign adversary.

(5) "Wholly or partly owned or operated" means:

(A) for a person that is a publicly traded company, that a foreign adversary has:

(i) the ability to exercise control over the company;

(ii) access to any material, nonpublic, and technical information in the company's possession; or

(iii) other rights or involvement in controlling or participating in the decision-making of the company beyond those available to a retail investor holding an equivalent share of ownership; and

(B) for a person that is a privately held company, that a foreign adversary has any share of ownership of the company.

(b) A registrant who is required to register under Section 305.003(a)(3) may not receive or agree to receive direct or indirect compensation, including intangible or in-kind compensation, from a foreign adversary, a foreign adversary client, or a foreign adversary political party on whose behalf the registrant communicates directly with one or more members of the legislative or executive branch to influence legislation or administrative action.

(c) The attorney general may bring an action for injunctive relief against a registrant who violates this section or is threatening to violate this section. In an injunction issued under this section, a court may include reasonable requirements to prevent further violations of this section.

(d) In addition to injunctive relief under Subsection (c), the attorney general may bring an action for civil penalties against a registrant who violates this section. A civil penalty assessed under this section must be in an amount not to exceed:

(1) \$10,000 for each violation; and

(2) the amount of any compensation the registrant received in violation of this section.

(e) The attorney general may recover reasonable expenses incurred in bringing an action under this section, including court costs, reasonable attorney's fees, investigative costs, witness fees, and deposition costs.

SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to conduct requiring a person to register as a lobbyist or to compensation received by a person required to register as a lobbyist under Chapter 305, Government Code, that occurs or is received on or after the effective date of this Act. Conduct that occurs or compensation received before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the conduct occurred or compensation was received, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

Representative Gerdes moved to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 119**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 119** prevailed by (Record 4135): 101 Yeas, 36 Nays, 1 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bonnen; Buckley; Bumgarner; Button; Cain; Canales; Capriglione; Cole; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dutton; Dyson; Fairly; Frank; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Holt; Hopper; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Lowe; Lujan; Luther; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Money; Morales, E.; Morgan; Muñoz; Noble; Olcott; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, V.; Phelan; Pierson; Raymond; Richardson; Romero; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Tepper; Thompson; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Virdell; Wharton; Wilson.

Nays — Anchía; Bernal; Bhojani; Bowers; Bryant; Bucy; Campos; Collier; Davis, A.; Flores; Gámez; Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Hinojosa; Jones, J.; Lalani; Longoria; Manuel; Meza; Moody; Perez, M.; Plesa; Reynolds; Rodríguez Ramos; Rose; Rosenthal; Simmons; Turner; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wu; Zwiener.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.; Morales Shaw.

Absent — Davis, Y.; Howard; Johnson; Louderback; Lozano; Morales, C.; Talarico.

SB 3059 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Representative Metcalf submitted the conference committee report on **SB 3059**.

Representative Metcalf moved to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 3059**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 3059** prevailed by (Record 4136): 104 Yeas, 31 Nays, 2 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Anchía; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bonnen; Buckley; Bumgarner; Button; Campos; Canales; Capriglione; Cole; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dutton; Dyson; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Gámez; García, J.; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Holt; Hopper; Howard; Hunter; Johnson; Jones, J.; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Longoria; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Lowe; Lujan; Luther; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Money; Morales, E.; Muñoz; Noble; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, V.; Phelan; Plesa; Raymond; Richardson; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Simmons; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Tepper; Toth; Turner; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Vo; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wilson; Wu.

Nays — Alders; Bhojani; Bowers; Bryant; Bucy; Cain; Collier; Garcia Hernandez; Gervin-Hawkins; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Hinojosa; Isaac; Lalani; Meza; Moody; Morgan; Olcott; Perez, M.; Pierson; Reynolds; Rodríguez Ramos; Rose; Rosenthal; Talarico; Tinderholt; Troclair; Virdell; Walle; Zwiener.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C); Harrison.

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.; Morales Shaw.

Absent — Davis, Y.; Hayes; Hull; Louderback; Lozano; Morales, C.; Romero; Thompson.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4136 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

Bowers

When Record No. 4136 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

Cain

When Record No. 4136 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

Gervin-Hawkins

When Record No. 4136 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted yes.

Hayes

When Record No. 4136 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted yes.

Hull

When Record No. 4136 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

Olcott

When Record No. 4136 was taken, I was shown voting yes. I intended to vote no.

Raymond

When Record No. 4136 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

Tinderholt

When Record No. 4136 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

Troxclair

When Record No. 4136 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

Walle

SB 15 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Representative Gates submitted the conference committee report on **SB 15**.

Representative Gates moved to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 15**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 15** prevailed by (Record 4137): 78 Yeas, 57 Nays, 1 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bowers; Bucy; Button; Cain; Campos; Cole; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dyson; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Garcia, J.; Gates; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Hinojosa; Howard; Hull; Hunter; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lalani; Lambert; Landgraf; Lopez, R.; Martinez Fischer; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meza; Moody; Morales, E.; Oliverson; Orr; Paul; Perez, M.; Phelan; Pierson; Raymond; Reynolds; Rose; Rosenthal; Schoolcraft; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Talarico; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wu; Zwiener.

Nays — Anchía; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bryant; Buckley; Bumgarner; Capriglione; Collier; Cook; Cortez; Dorazio; Dutton; Gámez; Gerdes; Geren; Guerra; Holt; Hopper; Isaac; Johnson; Jones, J.; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Lopez, J.; Louderback; Lowe; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; Manuel; McLaughlin;

Meyer; Money; Muñoz; Noble; Olcott; Ordaz; Patterson; Perez, V.; Plesa; Richardson; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Schatzline; Shaheen; Shofner; Simmons; Swanson; Tepper; Thompson; Tinderholt; Toth; Virdell; Vo; Wilson.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.; Morales Shaw.

Absent — Canales; Davis, Y.; Garcia Hernandez; Gervin-Hawkins; Longoria; Martinez; Morales, C.; Morgan; Schofield.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4137 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

Anchía

When Record No. 4137 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted no.

Garcia Hernandez

When Record No. 4137 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

Muñoz

When Record No. 4137 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

Simmons

HR 1501 - ADOPTED (by Buckley)

The following privileged resolution was laid before the house:

HR 1501

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the State of Texas, 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, That House Rule 13, Section 9(a), be suspended in part as provided by House Rule 13, Section 9(f), to enable the conference committee appointed to resolve the differences on **SB 568** (relating to special education in public schools, including funding for special education under the Foundation School Program) to consider and take action on the following matters:

(1) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(1), is suspended to permit the committee to change, alter, or amend text not in disagreement in proposed SECTION 5 of the bill, by amending added Section 29.001(c)(6)(C), Education Code, to read as follows:

(C) appropriately trained personnel are available to students with disabilities who have significant behavioral support needs, including by making behavioral support training available to each paraprofessional or teacher placed in

a classroom or other setting that is intended to provide specialized behavioral supports to a student with a disability, as needed or at regular intervals as provided in the student's individualized education program;

Explanation: This change is necessary to clarify to whom behavioral support training must be made available to ensure appropriately trained personnel are available to students with disabilities who have significant behavioral support needs.

(2) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(4), is suspended to permit the committee to add text on a matter not included in either the house or senate version of the bill in proposed SECTION 12 of the bill, in amended Section 29.008(c), Education Code, to read as follows:

If a ~~[residential]~~ placement primarily for care or treatment reasons involves a private ~~[residential]~~ facility in which the education program is provided by the school district, the portion of the costs that includes appropriate education services, as determined by the school district's admission, review, and dismissal committee, shall be paid from local, state, and federal education funds.

Explanation: This change is necessary to allow school districts to pay the cost for certain placements in a private facility from local funds.

(3) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(2), is suspended to permit the committee to omit text not in disagreement by omitting the portion of proposed SECTION 24 of the bill that adds Section 29.024, Education Code. The omitted text reads:

Sec. 29.024. GRANT PROGRAM PROVIDING TRAINING IN DYSLEXIA FOR TEACHERS AND STAFF. (a) From money appropriated or otherwise available for the purpose, the commissioner shall establish a program to award grants each school year to school districts and open-enrollment charter schools to increase local capacity to appropriately serve students with dyslexia.

(b) A school district, including a school district acting through a district charter issued under Subchapter C, Chapter 12, or an open-enrollment charter school, including a charter school that primarily serves students with disabilities, as provided under Section 12.1014, is eligible to apply for a grant under this section if the district or school submits to the commissioner a proposal on the use of grant funds that:

(1) incorporates evidence-based and research-based design; and

(2) increases local capacity to appropriately serve students with dyslexia by providing:

(A) high-quality training to classroom teachers and administrators in meeting the needs of students with dyslexia; or

(B) training to intervention staff resulting in appropriate credentialing related to dyslexia, with priority for training staff to earn the credentials necessary to become a licensed dyslexia therapist or certified academic language therapist.

(c) The commissioner shall create an external panel of stakeholders, including parents of students with disabilities, to provide assistance in the selection of applications for the award of grants under this section.

(d) A grant awarded to a school district or open-enrollment charter school under this section is in addition to the Foundation School Program money that the district or charter school is otherwise entitled to receive. A grant awarded under this section may not come out of Foundation School Program money.

(e) The commissioner and any grant recipient selected under this section may accept gifts, grants, and donations from any public or private source, person, or group to implement and administer the grant. The commissioner and any grant recipient selected under this section may not require any financial contribution from parents to implement and administer the grant.

(f) A regional education service center may administer grants awarded under this section.

Explanation: This change is necessary to omit language that would authorize the commissioner of education to establish a grant program to provide training in serving students with dyslexia to school district and open-enrollment charter school teachers and staff.

(4) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(1), is suspended to permit the committee to change, alter, or amend text not in disagreement in proposed SECTION 27 of the bill, by amending Section 29.042(a), Education Code, to read as follows: Subject to Subsection (c), the agency shall provide each student approved as provided by this subchapter a grant of not more than \$1,500 to purchase supplemental [~~special education~~] services and supplemental [~~special education~~] instructional materials.

Explanation: This change is necessary to provide the amount of the grant provided under Subchapter A-1, Chapter 29, Education Code.

(5) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(4), is suspended to permit the committee to add text on a matter not included in either the house or senate version of the bill in proposed SECTION 27 of the bill, by adding Section 29.042(f), Education Code, to read as follows:

(f) A regional education service center designated to administer the program under this subchapter for a school year is entitled to receive not more than four percent of the amount appropriated for purposes of making grants under this subchapter for that school year for the costs of administering the program.

Explanation: This change is necessary to clarify the amount of money a regional education service center may receive for administering the program under Subchapter A-1, Chapter 29, Education Code.

(6) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(1), is suspended to permit the committee to change, alter, or amend text not in disagreement in proposed SECTION 28 of the bill, in amended Section 29.045, Education Code, to read as follows: Subject to available funding the agency shall approve each student who meets the program eligibility criteria established under Section 29.044 and assign to the student an account maintained under Section 29.042(b).

Explanation: This change is necessary to ensure that the approval of and assignment of accounts to eligible students under the program under Subchapter A-1, Chapter 29, Education Code, are subject to available funding.

(7) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(2), is suspended to permit the committee to omit text not in disagreement by omitting the portion of proposed SECTION 63 of the bill that adds Section 48.306, Education Code. The omitted text reads:

Sec. 48.306. PARENT-DIRECTED SERVICES FOR STUDENTS RECEIVING SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES GRANT. (a) A student to whom the agency awards a grant under Subchapter A-1, Chapter 29, is entitled to receive an amount of \$1,500 or a greater amount provided by appropriation.

(b) The legislature shall include in the appropriations for the Foundation School Program state aid sufficient for the agency to award grants under Subchapter A-1, Chapter 29, in the amount provided by this section.

(c) A student may receive one grant under Subchapter A-1, Chapter 29, unless the legislature appropriates money for an additional grant in the General Appropriations Act.

(d) A regional education service center designated to administer the program under Subchapter A-1, Chapter 29, for a school year is entitled to an amount equal to four percent of each grant awarded under that subchapter for that school year.

(e) Notwithstanding Section 7.057, a determination of the commissioner under this section is final and may not be appealed.

Explanation: This change is necessary to omit language that would provide an entitlement to a grant under Subchapter A-1, Chapter 29, Education Code, or to an amount for administering the program under that subchapter.

HR 1501 was adopted by (Record 4138): 123 Yeas, 11 Nays, 1 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Anchia; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bowers; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Bumgarner; Button; Campos; Canales; Capriglione; Cole; Collier; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dutton; Dyson; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Gámez; Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Holt; Howard; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Johnson; Jones, J.; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lalani; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Louderback; Lozano; Lujan; Manuel; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Meza; Money; Moody; Morales, E.; Morgan; Muñoz; Noble; Ordaz; Orr; Paul; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Plesa; Raymond; Richardson; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rosenthal; Schatzline; Schoolcraft; Shofner; Simmons; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Tinderholt; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wilson; Wu; Zwiener.

Nays — Cain; Harrison; Hopper; Lowe; Luther; Olcott; Patterson; Pierson; Schofield; Shaheen; Toth.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.; Morales Shaw.

Absent — Alders; Davis, Y.; Hinojosa; Longoria; Martinez; Morales, C.; Oliverson; Reynolds; Rose; Virdell.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4138 was taken, I was temporarily out of the house chamber. I would have voted yes.

Rose

When Record No. 4138 was taken, I was shown voting yes. I intended to vote no.

Swanson

SB 568 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Representative Buckley submitted the conference committee report on **SB 568**.

Representative Buckley moved to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 568**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 568** prevailed by (Record 4139): 126 Yeas, 6 Nays, 1 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Anchía; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bonnen; Bowers; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Bumgarner; Button; Campos; Capriglione; Cole; Collier; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dutton; Dyson; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Gámez; García, J.; García Hernandez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harris Davila; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Hinojosa; Holt; Howard; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Johnson; Jones, J.; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lalani; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Louderback; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; Manuel; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Meza; Money; Moody; Morales, E.; Morgan; Muñoz; Noble; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Pierson; Plesa; Raymond; Richardson; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rosenthal; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Tinderholt; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wilson; Wu; Zwiener.

Nays — Cain; Harrison; Hopper; Lowe; Olcott; Toth.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.; Morales Shaw.

Absent — Alders; Bhojani; Canales; Davis, Y.; Harless; Longoria; Martinez; Morales, C.; Reynolds; Rose; Simmons; Virdell.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4139 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted yes.

Bhojani

When Record No. 4139 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

Cain

When Record No. 4139 was taken, I was temporarily out of the house chamber. I would have voted yes.

Rose

When Record No. 4139 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted yes.

Simmons

When Record No. 4139 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted no.

Virdell

SB 2900 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Representative Bhojani submitted the conference committee report on **SB 2900**.

Representative Bhojani moved to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 2900**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 2900** prevailed by (Record 4140): 107 Yeas, 28 Nays, 1 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Anchía; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bowers; Buckley; Bucy; Button; Campos; Capriglione; Cole; Collier; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dutton; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Gámez; Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Holt; Howard; Hunter; Isaac; Johnson; Jones, J.; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lalani; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Little; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Louderback; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; Manuel; Martinez Fischer; Meyer; Meza; Moody; Morales, E.; Muñoz; Noble; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Plesa; Raymond; Richardson; Romero; Rosenthal; Schoolcraft; Simmons; Smithee; Spiller; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Villalobos; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wilson; Wu; Zwiener.

Nays — Bryant; Bumgarner; Cain; Cook; Dyson; Harrison; Hinojosa; Hopper; Hull; Leo Wilson; Lowe; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Money; Morgan; Olcott; Pierson; Rodríguez Ramos; Schatzline; Schofield; Shaheen; Shofner; Slawson; Swanson; Tinderholt; Toth; Vasut.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.; Morales Shaw.

Absent — Alders; Canales; Davis, Y.; Longoria; Martinez; Morales, C.; Reynolds; Rose; Virdell.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4140 was taken, I was temporarily out of the house chamber. I would have voted yes.

Rose

When Record No. 4140 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted yes.

Virdell

HR 1496 - ADOPTED (by Hefner)

The following privileged resolution was laid before the house:

HR 1496

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the State of Texas, 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, That House Rule 13, Section 9(a), be suspended in part as provided by House Rule 13, Section 9(f), to enable the conference committee appointed to resolve the differences on **HB 3642** (the designation of portions of the state highway system as memorial highways, to certain memorial markers on certain highways, and to the installation of highway signs for certain cultural attractions) to consider and take action on the following matter:

House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(2), is suspended to permit the committee to omit text not in disagreement in proposed SECTION 4 of the house engrossment of the bill, by omitting added Section 225.255, Transportation Code, and the corresponding provision of the bill as the bill was amended by the senate. The omitted text reads:

Sec. 225.255. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON MEMORIAL HIGHWAY. (a) The portion of U.S. Highway 67 in Dallas and Ellis Counties between its intersection with U.S. Highway 287 and its intersection with Interstate Highway 20 is designated as the Eddie Bernice Johnson Memorial Highway. The designation is in addition to any other designation.

(b) Subject to Section 225.021(c), the department shall:

(1) design and construct markers indicating the designation as the Eddie Bernice Johnson Memorial Highway and any other appropriate information; and

(2) erect a marker at each end of the highway and at appropriate intermediate sites along the highway.

Explanation: The text is omitted as no longer necessary because another bill, **SB 2790**, 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, governing the same substance has passed both houses.

HR 1496 was adopted by (Record 4141): 133 Yeas, 0 Nays, 1 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Anchía; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Bumgarner; Button; Cain; Campos; Canales; Capriglione; Cole; Collier; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dutton; Dyson; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Gámez; García, J.; García Hernandez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Hinojosa; Holt; Hopper; Howard; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Johnson; Jones, J.; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lalani; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Louderback; Lowe; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; Manuel; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Meza; Money; Moody; Morales, E.; Morgan; Muñoz; Noble; Olcott; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Pierson; Plesa; Raymond; Richardson; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rosenthal; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wilson; Wu; Zwiener.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.; Morales Shaw.

Absent — Alders; Bowers; Davis, Y.; Harrison; Longoria; Martinez; Morales, C.; Reynolds; Rose; Simmons; Virdell.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4141 was taken, my vote failed to register. I would have voted yes.

Bowers

When Record No. 4141 was taken, I was temporarily out of the house chamber. I would have voted yes.

Rose

HB 3642 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Representative Hefner submitted the following conference committee report on **HB 3642**:

Austin, Texas, May 30, 2025

The Honorable Dan Patrick
President of the Senate

The Honorable Dustin Burrows
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Sirs: We, your conference committee, appointed to adjust the differences between the senate and the house of representatives on **HB 3642** have had the same under consideration, and beg to report it back with the recommendation that it do pass in the form and text hereto attached.

Hughes	Hefner
Nichols	Anchía
Parker	Button
Paxton	Patterson
Campbell	Wilson
On the part of the senate	On the part of the house

HB 3642, A bill to relating to the designation of portions of the state highway system as memorial highways, to certain memorial markers on certain highways, and to the installation of highway signs for certain cultural attractions.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 201.911, Transportation Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (c) and adding Subsection (c-1) to read as follows:

(a) In this section, "victim" means a person killed in a highway collision while operating or riding on a motorcycle. The term does not include a person who was under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance at the time of the collision.

(c) A sign designed and posted under this section shall include:

(1) a motorcyclist safety message selected from the options provided by commission rule under Subsection (c-1) ~~red cross~~;

(2) the phrase "In Memory Of" and the name of one or more victims in accordance with the commission rule; and

(3) the date of the collision that resulted in the victim's death.

(c-1) The commission by rule shall develop motorcyclist safety messages that may be used on the memorial signs under this section.

SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 225, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Sections 225.243, 225.244, and 225.245 to read as follows:

Sec. 225.243. DEPUTY SHERIFF DAVID BOSECKER MEMORIAL HIGHWAY. (a) The portion of U.S. Highway 183 in Eastland County between its intersection with Farm-to-Market Road 2526 and its intersection with Farm-to-Market Road 2731 is designated as the Deputy Sheriff David Bosecker Memorial Highway. The designation is in addition to any other designation.

(b) Subject to Section 225.021(c), the department shall:

(1) design and construct markers indicating the designation as the Deputy Sheriff David Bosecker Memorial Highway and any other appropriate information; and

(2) erect a marker at each end of the highway and at appropriate intermediate sites along the highway.

Sec. 225.244. CECIL AND DOROTHY BELL MEMORIAL HIGHWAY.

(a) The portion of U.S. Highway 79 in Freestone and Leon Counties between its intersection with U.S. Highway 84 and its intersection with the western municipal limits of Oakwood is designated as the Cecil and Dorothy Bell Memorial Highway. The designation is in addition to any other designation.

(b) Subject to Section 225.021(c), the department shall:

(1) design and construct markers indicating the designation as the Cecil and Dorothy Bell Memorial Highway and any other appropriate information; and

(2) erect a marker at each end of the highway and at appropriate intermediate sites along the highway.

Sec. 225.245. HAMBY-WEBB MEMORIAL HIGHWAY. (a) The portion of State Highway 315 in Panola County between its intersection with the western Panola County line and its intersection with the western municipal boundary of Carthage is designated as the Hamby-Webb Memorial Highway. The designation is in addition to any other designation.

(b) Subject to Section 225.021(c), the department shall:

(1) design and construct markers indicating the designation as the Hamby-Webb Memorial Highway and any other appropriate information; and

(2) erect a marker at each end of the highway and at appropriate intermediate sites along the highway.

SECTION 3. (a) Not later than December 1, 2025, the Texas Transportation Commission shall adopt the rules required by Section 201.911(c-1), Transportation Code, as added by this Act.

(b) Notwithstanding Section 201.911, Transportation Code, as amended by this Act, the Texas Department of Transportation is not required to comply with the changes in law made by this Act to that section before March 1, 2026.

SECTION 4. (a) Subject to Subsection (c) of this section and not later than September 1, 2026, the Texas Department of Transportation shall erect and maintain highway signs guiding road users to the Koreatown District in the Northwest Dallas neighborhood of Dallas from the following routes:

(1) the exits for Royal Lane from northbound and southbound Interstate Highway 35E; and

(2) the exits for Luna Road from eastbound and westbound Interstate Highway 635.

(b) Subject to Subsection (c) of this section and not later than September 1, 2026, the Texas Department of Transportation shall erect and maintain highway signs guiding road users to the Chinatown District in Richardson from the following routes:

(1) the exits for Arapaho Road from northbound and southbound U.S. Highway 75; and

(2) the exits for Belt Line Road and Main Street from northbound and southbound U.S. Highway 75.

(c) A sign erected under this section may not violate the Texas Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices or the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices issued by the United States Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration.

SECTION 5. It is the intent of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, that the provisions added by this Act be renumbered to prevent multiple provisions with the same designation.

SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

Representative Hefner moved to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 3642**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 3642** prevailed by (Record 4142): 135 Yeas, 0 Nays, 1 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Anchia; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bowers; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Bumgarner; Button; Cain; Campos; Canales; Capriglione; Cole; Collier; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dutton; Dyson; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Gámez; Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Holt; Hopper; Howard; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Johnson; Jones, J.; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lalani; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Louderback; Lowe; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; Manuel; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Meza; Money; Moody; Morales, E.; Morgan; Muñoz; Noble; Olcott; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Pierson; Plesa; Raymond; Richardson; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rosenthal; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Simmons; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wilson; Wu; Zwiener.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.; Morales Shaw.

Absent — Alders; Davis, Y.; Hinojosa; Longoria; Martinez; Morales, C.; Reynolds; Rose; Virdell.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4142 was taken, I was temporarily out of the house chamber. I would have voted yes.

Rose

When Record No. 4142 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted yes.

Virdell

HB 3909 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Representative Hickland submitted the following conference committee report on **HB 3909**:

Austin, Texas, May 30, 2025

The Honorable Dan Patrick
President of the Senate

The Honorable Dustin Burrows
 Speaker of the House of Representatives

Sirs: We, your conference committee, appointed to adjust the differences between the senate and the house of representatives on **HB 3909** have had the same under consideration, and beg to report it back with the recommendation that it do pass in the form and text hereto attached.

Zaffirini
 Hughes
 Hall
 Alvarado
 Birdwell

Dyson
 Hickland
 Shaheen
 Simmons
 Zwiener

On the part of the senate

On the part of the house

HB 3909, A bill to be entitled An Act relating to the use of a wireless communication device at a polling place.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 61.014, Election Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

(a) Except as permitted by Sections 61.012 and 61.013, a [A] person may not use a wireless communication device within a room in which voting is taking place [within 100 feet of a voting station].

(e) The secretary of state shall require a presiding judge to post a notice that states the prohibition on the use of a wireless communication device in a prominent and reasonably visible location outside of a room in which voting is taking place.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

Representative Hickland moved to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 3909**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 3909** prevailed by (Record 4143): 127 Yeas, 9 Nays, 1 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Anchia; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bowers; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Bumgarner; Button; Campos; Canales; Capriglione; Cole; Collier; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dutton; Dyson; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Gámez; Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Hinojosa; Holt; Hopper; Howard; Hull; Hunter; Johnson; Jones, J.; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lalani; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Louderback; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; Manuel; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Meza; Money; Moody; Morales, E.; Morgan; Muñoz; Noble; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Pierson; Plesa; Raymond; Richardson; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rosenthal; Schatzline; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Simmons; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wilson; Wu; Zwiener.

Nays — Cain; González, J.; Isaac; Lowe; Olcott; Schofield; Swanson; Tinderholt; Toth.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.; Morales Shaw.

Absent — Alders; Davis, Y.; Longoria; Martinez; Morales, C.; Reynolds; Rose; Virdell.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4143 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

Cain

When Record No. 4143 was taken, I was temporarily out of the house chamber. I would have voted yes.

Rose

When Record No. 4143 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

Schofield

When Record No. 4143 was taken, I was shown voting yes. I intended to vote no.

Wilson

SB 268 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Representative Howard submitted the conference committee report on **SB 268**.

SB 268 - REMARKS

REPRESENTATIVE HOWARD: This bill passed the house one minute before our deadline with an amendment that ended up weakening the intention and purpose of the bill. After speaking with our senate counterparts, we've returned the language to the version the senate unanimously sent over and protected a provision that requires complaints alleging serious bodily injury or death to be referred to law enforcement. This bill is about ensuring that licensed health care professionals who are accused of practicing outside of the scope of their license are investigated and reprimanded by their specific licensing board, which is the only agency with the jurisdiction to discipline, suspend licenses, and revoke licenses—and can do so promptly, ensuring patient safety. This changes nothing about what the Texas Medical Board can do to pursue the investigations of those who are practicing medicine without a license and who are unlicensed.

There's a reason we've established separate licensing boards for different health care practitioners rather than having one board oversee every practitioner. These boards include those with experience and expertise in their respective fields. They have the best understanding of their profession's scope of practice as they actually write the rules and regulations and enforce the practice acts and

ensure licensees are competent to practice safely. They have a range of disciplinary tools to ensure that the individual is either prohibited from practicing again or is required to take remedial action before their privileges to practice are restored.

I would just like to be clear here that this bill is about licensed health care professionals being held accountable by their own licensing board. This bill is not about completely unlicensed Texans impersonating doctors. There is and will continue to be a process to hold people accountable for the unlicensed practice of medicine. The Medical Board will still be able to go after someone who does not hold any sort of health care license and is impersonating a doctor. This bill is about making it clear that only the Board of Nursing is allowed to regulate nursing, the Board of Chiropractic Examiners oversees chiropractors, and so on and so on. The bottom line is that this bill provides an efficient and timely action that ensures patient safety.

(Landgraf in the chair)

REPRESENTATIVE ISAAC: Representative Howard, how often does this happen—where a health care license board investigates a provider licensed by another board?

HOWARD: It does happen. I can't tell you exactly how often, but the bottom line is that we have several examples of—in this case, primarily the Medical Board having a complaint come to them—someone who did something inappropriately or caused a problem, and the Medical Board has taken it upon themselves, if it's not a physician, to still go ahead and issue a cease and desist and enter a legal process that can take months and months—over a year, even—with large amounts of legal fees. Yet the Medical Board has no authority to do anything about this person. They have no authority to discipline, to suspend a license, to revoke a license—to do anything. Only the board that actually licenses a particular licensee has that authority. So we don't know how often it happens. I have some data about some complaints that have been filed over the years to give you some numbers, but it does happen, yes.

ISAAC: I want to make sure I understand. Can the Texas Medical Board revoke a nurse's license?

HOWARD: No, they cannot. Only the Texas Board of Nursing has the authority to do that.

ISAAC: Can they suspend a nurse's license?

HOWARD: No, they cannot.

ISAAC: Okay. Can the Texas Medical Board require a nurse to take additional continuing education?

HOWARD: No, they cannot.

ISAAC: Can they restrict a nurse's area of practice?

HOWARD: No, they cannot.

ISAAC: Can the Texas Medical Board impose additional supervision requirements on a nurse's practice?

HOWARD: They cannot. They have no authority to do any of these things.

ISAAC: So if a nurse was violating the law and endangering the public, you're telling me that the nursing board is actually the only agency that could revoke a nurse's license and do these other things?

HOWARD: That's correct. That's why it's so important that we get these complaints to the correct licensing body so that immediate action can be taken, and, if indeed this person is found to be of concern—in terms of danger to the community or to patients—they can be taken out of practice, have their licenses revoked, or whatever needs to be done to ensure the safety of patients.

ISAAC: So why would we want the TMB handling this investigation instead of Nursing?

HOWARD: Well, actually, what we're suggesting is that's not the appropriate body. That's duplicative, for one thing, if indeed both the nursing board and the Medical Board are conducting investigations. The Medical Board, though, again, has no authority to do anything but issue a cease and desist letter. They cannot do anything to ensure the safety of patients by revoking licenses or by disciplinary actions of any kind. If we want to be not duplicative, if we want to be making sure that we're not wasting taxpayer dollars, if we want to make sure that the appropriate licensing body can take timely action, then it needs to go to the board that actually licenses that particular licensee.

ISAAC: Okay, so if someone is unlicensed—I mean, if the person is not a nurse or a dentist or a chiropractor, does this bill prevent TMB from investigating complaints involving those people?

HOWARD: Absolutely not. That is a different case. We're only talking about health professionals who are licensed. Otherwise, absolutely. The Medical Board can go after anyone who's not licensed and is holding themselves out to be practicing physicians.

ISAAC: Okay. Thank you.

REPRESENTATIVE FRANK: There's been an assertion made that somehow the Texas Medical Board cannot do a cease and desist. I don't read that in the bill, and I'm not sure where they're getting it. It would seem to me, while I totally agree with the purpose of your bill because it gets it to the appropriate person that can take action—the nursing board—I don't see anything in the bill that says they cannot create a cease and desist letter. Do you?

HOWARD: There is nothing in the bill that says that. In fact, that is the one action that they can take. I would suggest, though, that the intent of this legislation is to say, "Let's not have duplicative investigations going on."

FRANK: Absolutely. It does say that you can't take action unless you have actually sent it to the nursing board, so you can't sit there and be doing an investigation on someone that you're not licensing.

HOWARD: Correct.

FRANK: You're holding information and then not sending it to the person's actual licensing agency. I'm not sure why an organization would want to do that. Are you?

HOWARD: I do not understand either. This legislation requires prompt reporting to the appropriate licensing board. Right now, there is—in statute, they are to be referring to the appropriate board. My understanding, from talking to those that are with the Board of Nursing in particular, is that does not always occur. That was verified with the Medical Board.

REPRESENTATIVE OLIVERSON: You know, I really hate to have to do this. Representative Howard and I worked together. This was the bill that came up a few minutes before midnight, but we had talked about language on this bill for the better part of the day before. So it wasn't a last-minute thing. It wasn't something that just was a surprise, or anybody knew this wasn't going to happen. It was planned out. It was a bill that, when it was on the calendar initially, it was not agreed to. There were stakeholders on both sides. Some were for and some were against. Rather than try to kill the bill, I decided to try to make it better and to try to get everybody to neutral. We were able to do that with the amendment. I was hopeful that the amendment would survive. However, the senate stripped it off. So let me tell you what this bill really is about, because it isn't the first time this bill has been filed. This has come up repeatedly.

What this bill does is it essentially creates a two-tiered system moving forward for dealing with complaints involving somebody practicing health care in some form or fashion without a license. Under current statute, it doesn't matter if—well, I should say the list of professions that are impacted by this bill goes way beyond the Medical Board. Everyone talks about the Medical Board because that's maybe—that's everybody's favorite target, but the reality is this bill affects audiologists, speech pathologists, physical therapists, occupational therapists, nurses, chiropractors, acupuncturists, physicians, dentists, optometrists, orthotists, medical radiology technicians, respiratory therapists, medical physicists, and even perfusionists. It impacts a lot of health professions. If you go to Chapter 112—which is what this is dealing with—you'll see, in fact, that's the case.

Currently, what happens is, if somebody is practicing dentistry and they're not a dentist, the dental board has the ability to issue what's called a "cease and desist letter." Now, I would respectfully disagree with my colleague earlier in that there are many health care boards that have authority to take disciplinary action, which is the exact term that's referenced in this bill. But "cease and desist" is classified as a type of disciplinary action. So it actually doesn't say that, but it does say that. If you went back and you asked any of the people that sit on these boards, they would tell you that cease and desist letters, cease and desist orders, and administrative hearings are all considered disciplinary action. So that's what this, essentially, takes away.

Normally, what happens under this scenario is somebody is practicing dentistry, they're not a dentist, and the dental board receives a complaint. The dental board investigates, and they find out, yes, it's not a licensee of ours. So they issue a letter, and they say, "stop practicing dentistry; you're not a licensed dentist." If that goes unanswered, they have an administrative hearing, and they can issue what's called a "cease and desist order." A cease and desist order carries with it the ability to levy administrative penalties and further action if they violate the order. All of that is currently permissible under state law for all of these boards, as they're dealing with their own scope of practice.

What this bill would do is it would change that. So in the event the person was totally unlicensed—in other words, somebody just walked in off the street and said, "I'm a dentist"—the dental board could still take the same action I just described. But if the person did physical therapy for a living, now the dental board actually has its hands tied. Instead of taking any action, the only action they can actually take is that they have to call the board of physical therapy, and the physical therapy board has to do all of the interventions on their behalf. They have to issue the cease and desist letter. They would have to issue the cease and desist order. They would ultimately have to be the ones. And look, I agree with the disciplining of people's licenses. If you're not that license-granting entity, then taking action against a person's license seems silly. But everything that I've described to you already, up until that point, is currently permissible under state law.

So the bottom line is that what this bill essentially does is it creates a scenario where my house is on fire, but instead of me calling the fire department, I have to call next door and get my neighbor to call the fire department for me and hope that they do it. Now I think in some circumstances that's likely to happen, and I hope we all have good neighbors that would probably do that, but it is an unnecessary burden and an unnecessary hurdle to put in front of somebody who is just trying to get the fire department to come there. Likewise, I don't see how it would be beneficial to any health profession board to have to look to another board to get somebody to stop doing something which is clearly outside their scope of practice. That's essentially what the bill does.

We did work in good faith to try to fix it on the house side. The senate didn't see it that way. But members, this is a scope of practice bill. It clearly is. It is cleverly disguised, but it is clearly designed to create conflicts between the boards and to take away a board's ability to enforce its own scope of practice over folks who are not licensed to do what it is. So the last thing I'll say is that, you know, I'm sure people may have a variety of feelings and opinions about the Medical Board. It's really beside the point. The point is that this captures a whole laundry list of health care professions and puts them in a situation where they no longer have any authority to regulate people practicing in their scope of practice. Now they have to go get somebody outside of that to actually do anything. With that, I'm happy to answer any questions.

HOWARD: I just first want to clear up the fact that you indicated that we worked together for the good part of a day on this. I don't recall that happening, so would you tell me when that happened?

OLIVERSON: I'm sorry that you don't recall that I gave you a copy of an amendment and gave you quite some time to look at it. I think it was literally all day before I came back and asked you what you thought of it and if you were willing to take it or not willing to take it. You said you were, and, as I recall, we shook hands on it.

HOWARD: I don't recall that, Representative Oliverson.

OLIVERSON: You do recall we shook hands on it, though?

HOWARD: No, I do not, but that's okay. You and I can have different memories about what happened. But let me just also ask you—in what way do you believe this is a scope of practice bill?

OLIVERSON: Because this bill, essentially, impairs a health profession board from being able to regulate its own practice in acts committed by people outside of their own licensees. They now have to go to a different organization and get them to do it for them. As you said, that is clearly not what happens in the case of somebody who's not licensed at all. So what I don't understand is why we need a two-tiered system, which is what this bill clearly creates.

HOWARD: Actually, I will say that we're actually looking at a one-tiered system here. Which is where—would you not agree that a licensing board has the actual expertise to license the people they license? They set the rules; they provide the regulations. You know, they're the ones that are totally responsible for the safe and competent practice of that particular form of health care provision.

OLIVERSON: I do agree with you, but I also would submit to you that we're not talking about their scope of practice.

HOWARD: Indeed we are.

OLIVERSON: We're talking about one of their licensees practicing in somebody else's sandbox. That is not something that they have expertise over.

HOWARD: Excuse me, but that is exactly what scope is about. Scope is about, as a nurse, staying within the scope of what the Nurse Practice Act says is able to be practiced. And the Board of Nursing is the one that governs that and ensures that's the case. So it is exactly the appropriate body to have the knowledge and expertise to know if a person is practicing within, or has veered outside of, that scope of practice that they actually regulate. Is that not the case?

OLIVERSON: You're saying, then, that it's the nursing board's responsibility to decide whether something that the dental practice board decides is the practice of dentistry is actually the practice of dentistry or whether today it happens to be the practice of nursing? That is the scope of practice issue.

HOWARD: Actually, what I am saying is that the nursing board is for nurses, the chiropractic board is for chiropractors. Whichever particular entity it is indeed does have the knowledge and expertise to know if someone has ventured out of the scope of what they are licensed to provide.

OLIVERSON: And I would submit to you that I think that the board that is charged with supervising that—let's just call it backyard. I would urge you to vote no.

FRANK: Mr. Speaker, members, I'm not a doctor or a nurse, but I can read a bill. This is a good bill, and I believe it is good for patient safety in this state. It literally gets any disciplinary issues in the hands of the organization that oversees that particular profession as fast as you can. That's the first thing. It is a good bill, I believe.

Second, it does not do what opponents say. It is a little frustrating that two days before, after this bill has been all the way through the senate, 31-0, it's been through our committee here—we heard some pushback, but none of this. Then, all of a sudden, we find out this removes TMB's ability to cease and desist. It does not, in my opinion. If you don't want my opinion, read the bill. It says a licensing entity, like the Medical Board, "may not take disciplinary action based on a complaint against a health care practitioner who holds a license issued by a different licensing entity unless," and it basically says unless they let that licensing entity know. TMB can send a cease and desist, but here's the thing with a cease and desist letter: If you don't govern that person, it really is just a letter saying we don't like what you're doing. Because they don't license them. They don't license them.

Last thing I would say in this body, and I think this is very important: Let's not reward false claims. This went through the senate, 31-0—including the doctors over there as well. Just because, at the last minute, we're saying it does something it doesn't—we should not reward this in the body. I would urge you to vote to concur with this.

HOWARD: I realize this has got a lot of nuances to it, but I want to assure everyone that what we're trying to do here is to make sure that Texans are safe, that patients are safe, and that it's done in the most timely and efficient way by those who actually have the responsibility for each individual type of health provider license. That's all that this does.

(Morales Shaw now present)

Representative Howard moved to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 268**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 268** prevailed by (Record 4144): 79 Yeas, 46 Nays, 2 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Anchía; Barry; Bell, C.; Bhojani; Bowers; Bucy; Button; Cain; Canales; Capriglione; Cole; Cook; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Harless; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hayes; Hernandez; Hickland; Hinojosa; Holt; Hopper; Howard; Hull; Isaac; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; Leo Wilson; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Lujan; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; Metcalf; Meza; Money; Moody; Morales, E.; Morales Shaw; Morgan; Noble; Ordaz;

Patterson; Paul; Phelan; Plesa; Richardson; Rodríguez Ramos; Rosenthal; Schatzline; Shaheen; Shofner; Slawson; Smithee; Tepper; Tinderholt; Toth; Turner; VanDeaver; Vasut; Walle; Wharton; Wu; Zwiener.

Nays — Bell, K.; Bonnen; Bryant; Buckley; Campos; Collier; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Dyson; Gámez; Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; Hefner; Hunter; Johnson; Jones, J.; LaHood; Lalani; Lambert; Little; Louderback; Lowe; Luther; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Meyer; Muñoz; Olcott; Oliverson; Orr; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Pierson; Raymond; Romero; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Spiller; Swanson; Troxclair; Villalobos; Virdell; Ward Johnson; Wilson.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker; Landgraf(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.

Absent — Alders; Ashby; Bernal; Bumgarner; Davis, Y.; Dutton; Gervin-Hawkins; Guillen; Leach; Longoria; Lozano; Manuel; Morales, C.; Reynolds; Rose; Simmons; Talarico; Thompson; Vo.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4144 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted yes.

Ashby

When Record No. 4144 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

Gámez

When Record No. 4144 was taken, I was shown voting yes. I intended to vote no.

Lujan

When Record No. 4144 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted yes.

Manuel

When Record No. 4144 was taken, I was shown voting yes. I intended to vote no.

E. Morales

When Record No. 4144 was taken, I was temporarily out of the house chamber. I would have voted no.

Rose

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the senate was received at this time (see the addendum to the daily journal, Messages from the Senate, Message No. 2).

HB 493 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Representative Shaheen submitted the following conference committee report on **HB 493**:

Austin, Texas, May 31, 2025

The Honorable Dan Patrick
President of the Senate

The Honorable Dustin Burrows
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Sirs: We, your conference committee, appointed to adjust the differences between the senate and the house of representatives on **HB 493** have had the same under consideration, and beg to report it back with the recommendation that it do pass in the form and text hereto attached.

Hughes
Bettencourt
Birdwell
Parker

On the part of the senate

Shaheen
Metcalf
Plesa
Raymond

On the part of the house

HB 493, A bill to be entitled An Act relating to ineligibility to serve as a poll watcher.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 33.006(b), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) A certificate of appointment must:

(1) be in writing and signed by the appointing authority or, for an appointment for a write-in candidate under Section 33.004, by each of the voters making the appointment;

(2) indicate the capacity in which the appointing authority is acting;

(3) state the name, residence address, and voter registration number of the appointee and be signed by the appointee;

(4) identify the election and the precinct polling place or other location at which the appointee is to serve;

(5) in an election on a measure, identify the measure if more than one is to be voted on and state which side of the measure the appointee represents; and

(6) contain an affidavit executed by the appointee stating that the appointee:

(A) will not have possession of a device capable of recording images or sound or that the appointee will disable or deactivate the device while serving as a watcher; and

(B) has not been finally convicted of a felony of the first or second degree or a felony offense in connection with conduct directly attributable to an election.

SECTION 2. Section 33.035, Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 33.035. INELIGIBILITY OF PERSON CONVICTED OF CERTAIN OFFENSES [~~ELECTION OFFENSE~~]. A person is ineligible to serve as a watcher in an election if the person has been finally convicted of a felony:

(1) of the first or second degree; or

(2) [~~an offense~~] in connection with conduct directly attributable to an election.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

Representative Shaheen moved to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 493**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 493** prevailed by (Record 4145): 90 Yeas, 44 Nays, 2 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bonnen; Buckley; Bumgarner; Button; Cain; Capriglione; Cook; Craddick; Curry; Darby; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dyson; Fairly; Frank; Gámez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hayes; Hefner; Hickland; Holt; Hopper; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Johnson; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lambert; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Lopez, J.; Louderback; Lowe; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Money; Morales, E.; Morgan; Muñoz; Noble; Olcott; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Phelan; Pierson; Plesa; Raymond; Richardson; Schatzline; Schofield; Shaheen; Shofner; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Tepper; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Virdell; Wharton; Wilson.

Nays — Anchía; Bernal; Bhojani; Bowers; Bryant; Bucy; Campos; Canales; Cole; Collier; Cortez; Davis, A.; Dutton; Flores; Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Hernandez; Hinojosa; Howard; Jones, J.; Lalani; Lopez, R.; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; Meza; Moody; Morales Shaw; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rosenthal; Talarico; Thompson; Turner; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wu; Zwiener.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker; Landgraf(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.

Absent — Cunningham; Davis, Y.; Gervin-Hawkins; Longoria; Morales, C.; Oliverson; Reynolds; Rose; Schoolcraft; Simmons.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4145 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

V. Perez

When Record No. 4145 was taken, I was temporarily out of the house chamber. I would have voted no.

Rose

SB 2217 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Representative Shaheen submitted the conference committee report on **SB 2217**.

Representative Shaheen moved to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 2217**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 2217** prevailed by (Record 4146): 130 Yeas, 7 Nays, 2 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Anchía; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bowers; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Bumgarner; Button; Cain; Campos; Capriglione; Cole; Collier; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dutton; Dyson; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Gámez; Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; González, M.; Goodwin; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Hinojosa; Holt; Hopper; Howard; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Johnson; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lambert; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Louderback; Lowe; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Meza; Money; Moody; Morales, E.; Morales Shaw; Morgan; Muñoz; Noble; Olcott; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, V.; Phelan; Pierson; Plesa; Raymond; Richardson; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rosenthal; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Virdell; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wilson; Wu; Zwiener.

Nays — Canales; González, J.; Jones, J.; Lalani; Manuel; Martinez; Perez, M.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker; Landgraf(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.

Absent — Davis, Y.; Guerra; Longoria; Morales, C.; Reynolds; Rose; Simmons.

STATEMENT OF VOTE

When Record No. 4146 was taken, I was temporarily out of the house chamber. I would have voted yes.

Rose

HB 2516 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Representative Guillen submitted the following conference committee report on **HB 2516**:

Austin, Texas, May 29, 2025

The Honorable Dan Patrick
President of the Senate

The Honorable Dustin Burrows
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Sirs: We, your conference committee, appointed to adjust the differences between the senate and the house of representatives on **HB 2516** have had the same under consideration, and beg to report it back with the recommendation that it do pass in the form and text hereto attached.

Schwertner
Campbell
Hughes
Johnson
Kolkhorst
On the part of the senate

Guillen
Dean
Johnson
M. Perez
Wharton
On the part of the house

HB 2516, A bill to be entitled An Act relating to the eligibility of certain individuals younger than 65 years of age to purchase Medicare supplement benefit plans.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the Chris Larkin ALS Act.

SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 1652, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Sections 1652.059 and 1652.060 to read as follows:

Sec. 1652.059. COVERAGE FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS YOUNGER THAN 65. (a) In this section, "entity" means an entity that delivers or issues for delivery a Medicare supplement benefit plan in this state.

(b) An entity that offers coverage under a Medicare supplement benefit plan to individuals 65 years of age or older must offer the same coverage to individuals younger than 65 years of age who are eligible for and enrolled in Medicare by reason of end stage renal disease or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

(c) Except as otherwise provided by rules adopted under Section 1652.051, any benefit, protection, policy, or procedure applicable to coverage under a plan for an individual 65 years of age or older must apply to coverage offered under Subsection (b).

(d) A standardized Plan A, Plan B, or Plan D Medicare supplement benefit plan offered under Subsection (b) must be offered at the same premium rate charged for the plan to an individual 65 years of age. A premium rate for a Medicare supplement benefit plan offered under Subsection (b), other than Plan A, Plan B, or Plan D, may not exceed 200 percent of the premium rate charged for the same plan to an individual 65 years of age.

Sec. 1652.060. ENROLLMENT PERIOD FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS YOUNGER THAN 65. (a) In this section, "entity" means an entity that delivers or issues for delivery a Medicare supplement benefit plan in this state.

(b) An individual eligible for coverage under a Medicare supplement benefit plan under Section 1652.059 may enroll any time during the six-month period beginning the first day of the first month the individual becomes enrolled for benefits under Medicare Part B.

(c) During an enrollment period, an entity may not, with respect to an applicant who is an individual described by Subsection (b):

(1) deny or condition the issuance or effectiveness of a Medicare supplement benefit plan or certificate that the entity offers and is available for issuance in this state;

(2) subject the applicant to medical underwriting or discriminate in the price of a Medicare supplement benefit plan or certificate because of the applicant's health status, claims experience, receipt of health care, or medical condition;

(3) impose a waiting period; or

(4) impose a limitation or exclusion of benefits based on the applicant's preexisting condition.

(d) The commissioner shall adopt rules as necessary to administer this section, including rules designating enrollment periods.

SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to a Medicare supplement benefit plan delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed on or after September 1, 2025.

SECTION 4. In addition to other enrollment periods provided by law, an individual younger than 65 years of age and enrolled in Medicare Part B by reason of end stage renal disease or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis on the effective date of this Act may apply for coverage under a Medicare supplement benefit plan:

(1) after December 1, 2025, and before June 1, 2026; or

(2) if the individual is unable to submit an application for coverage under the plan during the period described by Subdivision (1) of this section because the application is not available and the individual requested the application during that period, during a six-month period beginning on the date the application initially becomes available.

SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

Representative Guillen moved to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 2516**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 2516** prevailed by (Record 4147): 132 Yeas, 5 Nays, 2 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Anchía; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bowers; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Bumgarner; Button; Cain; Campos; Canales; Capriglione; Cole; Collier; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dutton; Dyson; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Gámez; García, J.; García Hernandez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Hinojosa; Holt; Hopper; Howard; Hull; Hunter; Johnson; Jones, J.; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lalani; Lambert; Leach; Little; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Louderback; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Meza; Money; Moody; Morales, E.; Morales Shaw; Morgan; Muñoz; Noble; Olcott; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Pierson; Plesa; Raymond; Richardson; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rosenthal; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen;

Shofner; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Tinderholt; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Virdell; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wilson; Wu; Zwiener.

Nays — Harrison; Isaac; Lowe; Toth; Vo.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker; Landgraf(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.

Absent — Davis, Y.; Leo Wilson; Longoria; Morales, C.; Reynolds; Rose; Simmons.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4147 was taken, I was shown voting yes. I intended to vote no.

Cain

When Record No. 4147 was taken, I was temporarily out of the house chamber. I would have voted yes.

Rose

When Record No. 4147 was taken, I was shown voting yes. I intended to vote no.

Spiller

When Record No. 4147 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

Vo

HR 1499 - ADOPTED (by Bowers)

The following privileged resolution was laid before the house:

HR 1499

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the State of Texas, 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, That House Rule 13, Section 9(a), be suspended in part as provided by House Rule 13, Section 9(f), to enable the conference committee appointed to resolve the differences on **SB 650** (requiring the use of electronically readable information to verify a purchaser's age in the retail sale of alcoholic beverages) to consider and take action on the following matter:

House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(2), is suspended to permit the committee to omit text not in disagreement in proposed SECTION 2 of the bill, by omitting added Section 109.61(a-1)(1)(A)(i), Alcoholic Beverage Code. The omitted text reads:

(i) a package store permit;

Explanation: The change is necessary to require the holder of a package store permit to visually inspect and access electronically readable information on a driver's license, commercial driver's license, or other identification certificate for the purpose of verifying a purchaser's age in the retail sale of an alcoholic beverage on the premises of the package store for off-premises consumption.

HR 1499 was adopted by (Record 4148): 86 Yeas, 48 Nays, 2 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Anchía; Ashby; Barry; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bowers; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Button; Campos; Canales; Capriglione; Cole; Collier; Cortez; Craddick; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dutton; Dyson; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Gámez; García, J.; García Hernandez; Gates; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Hernandez; Hinojosa; Howard; Hunter; Johnson; Jones, J.; Kitzman; Lalani; Lambert; Leach; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Lujan; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; Meyer; Moody; Morales, E.; Morales Shaw; Muñoz; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Plesa; Raymond; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rosenthal; Spiller; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Turner; VanDeaver; Villalobos; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wu; Zwiener.

Nays — Alders; Bumgarner; Cain; Cook; Gerdes; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hayes; Hickland; Holt; Hopper; Hull; Isaac; Kerwin; King; LaHood; Leo Wilson; Little; Louderback; Lowe; Lozano; Luther; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Money; Morgan; Noble; Olcott; Oliverson; Paul; Pierson; Richardson; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Slawson; Smithee; Swanson; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; Vasut; Virdell; Wharton; Wilson.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker; Landgraf(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.

Absent — Bell, C.; Cunningham; Davis, Y.; Hefner; Longoria; Meza; Morales, C.; Reynolds; Rose; Simmons.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4148 was taken, I was shown voting yes. I intended to vote no.

Craddick

When Record No. 4148 was taken, I was shown voting yes. I intended to vote no.

Curry

When Record No. 4148 was taken, I was temporarily out of the house chamber. I would have voted yes.

Rose

SB 650 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Representative Bowers submitted the conference committee report on **SB 650**.

Representative Bowers moved to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 650**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 650** prevailed by (Record 4149): 82 Yeas, 57 Nays, 2 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Anchía; Ashby; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bowers; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Button; Campos; Canales; Cole; Collier; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; Dorazio; Dutton; Dyson; Fairly; Flores; Gámez; Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; Gates; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Hernandez; Hinojosa; Howard; Hunter; Johnson; Jones, J.; Kitzman; Lalani; Lambert; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Lujan; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; Meyer; Meza; Moody; Morales, E.; Morales Shaw; Muñoz; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Plesa; Raymond; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rosenthal; Simmons; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Turner; VanDeaver; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wilson; Wu; Zwiener.

Nays — Alders; Barry; Bell, C.; Bonnen; Bumgarner; Cain; Capriglione; Cook; DeAyala; Frank; Gerdes; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hayes; Hefner; Hickland; Holt; Hopper; Hull; Isaac; Kerwin; King; LaHood; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Louderback; Lowe; Lozano; Luther; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Money; Morgan; Noble; Olcott; Oliverson; Paul; Pierson; Richardson; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; Vasut; Villalobos; Virdell; Wharton.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker; Landgraf(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.

Absent — Davis, Y.; Longoria; Morales, C.; Reynolds; Rose.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4149 was taken, I was shown voting yes. I intended to vote no.

Craddick

When Record No. 4149 was taken, I was shown voting yes. I intended to vote no.

Curry

When Record No. 4149 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

Kerwin

When Record No. 4149 was taken, I was temporarily out of the house chamber. I would have voted yes.

Rose

HB 2963 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Representative Capriglione submitted the following conference committee report on **HB 2963**:

Austin, Texas, May 30, 2025

The Honorable Dan Patrick
President of the Senate

The Honorable Dustin Burrows
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Sirs: We, your conference committee, appointed to adjust the differences between the senate and the house of representatives on **HB 2963** have had the same under consideration, and beg to report it back with the recommendation that it do pass in the form and text hereto attached.

Hall	Capriglione
Middleton	Bucy
Nichols	Button
Sparks	Curry
	Howard

On the part of the senate

On the part of the house

HB 2963, A bill to be entitled An Act relating to diagnosis, maintenance, and repair of certain digital electronic equipment.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subtitle C, Title 5, Business & Commerce Code, is amended by adding Chapter 121 to read as follows:

**CHAPTER 121. DIAGNOSIS, MAINTENANCE, AND REPAIR OF CERTAIN
DIGITAL ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT
SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Sec. 121.001. **DEFINITIONS.** In this chapter:

(1) "Authorized repair provider" means an individual or business entity who has an arrangement with the original equipment manufacturer for a definite or indefinite period under which the original equipment manufacturer grants to the individual or business entity:

(A) a license to use a trade name, service mark, or other proprietary identifier for the purpose of offering diagnosis, maintenance, or repair services for digital electronic equipment under the name of the original equipment manufacturer; or

(B) other authority to offer diagnosis, maintenance, or repair services for digital electronic equipment on behalf of the original equipment manufacturer.

(2) "Autocycle" has the meaning assigned by Section 501.008, Transportation Code.

(3) "Consumer" means an individual who enters into a transaction primarily for personal, family, or household purposes.

(4) "Diagnosis" means the process of identifying the issue or issues that cause digital electronic equipment to not be in full working order.

(5) "Digital electronic equipment" or "equipment" means any product that depends, wholly or partly, on digital electronics embedded in or attached to the product to function.

(6) "Documentation" means any manual, diagram, reporting output, service code description, or other guidance or information provided or made available by the original equipment manufacturer to an authorized repair provider for the purpose of diagnosing, maintaining, or repairing digital electronic equipment manufactured or sold by the original equipment manufacturer.

(7) "Fair and reasonable terms" means:

(A) with respect to an original equipment manufacturer making available a tool, making the tool available:

(i) without conditioning that availability on the recipient being an authorized repair provider;

(ii) at no cost to use or operate the tool or at a cost that is equivalent to the lowest actual cost at which the original equipment manufacturer offers the tool to an authorized repair provider, taking into account any discounts, rebates, or other financial incentives offered by the original equipment manufacturer to the authorized repair provider; and

(iii) if the tool is requested in physical form, for a charge equal to the actual cost of procuring, preparing, and sending the tool;

(B) with respect to an original equipment manufacturer making available a replacement part, making the part available either directly or through an authorized distributor or repair provider, subject to Section 121.052(7)(B):

(i) without conditioning that availability on the recipient being an authorized repair provider; and

(ii) at costs and terms that are equivalent to the costs and terms under which the part is offered to an authorized repair provider;

(C) with respect to an original equipment manufacturer making available documentation, including any relevant updates to the documentation, making the documentation available:

(i) without conditioning that availability on the recipient being an authorized repair provider; and

(ii) at no cost, except that an original equipment manufacturer may charge the reasonable actual cost of preparing and sending a copy of the documentation when the documentation is requested in physical printed form; and

(D) with respect to documentation, replacement parts, or tools, terms that are fair to all parties, including the original equipment manufacturer and authorized repair providers.

(8) "Heavy equipment" means utility and construction equipment, including forestry equipment, industrial equipment, road-building equipment, mining equipment, bulldozers, motor graders, backhoes, skid steers, track loaders, and excavators.

(9) "Independent repair provider" means an individual or business entity operating in this state that:

(A) with respect to an original equipment manufacturer:

(i) is not an authorized repair provider; and

(ii) is not affiliated with an individual or business entity that is an authorized repair provider; and

(B) is engaged in the diagnosis, maintenance, or repair of digital electronic equipment.

(10) "Maintenance" means any act necessary to keep currently working digital electronic equipment in full working order.

(11) "Medical device" means a device, as defined by 21 U.S.C. Section 321(h)(1), intended for use in the diagnosis of disease or other conditions, or in the cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease, in humans or other animals.

(12) "Modification" or "modify" means any alteration to digital electronic equipment that is not maintenance and not a repair.

(13) "Moped" has the meaning assigned by Section 541.201, Transportation Code.

(14) "Motorboat" has the meaning assigned by Section 31.003, Parks and Wildlife Code.

(15) "Motorcycle" has the meaning assigned by Section 541.201, Transportation Code.

(16) "Motor vehicle" means a vehicle that is designed for transporting individuals or property on a street or highway and is certified by the manufacturer under all applicable motor vehicle federal safety and emissions standards and requirements for distribution and sale in the United States.

(17) "Motor vehicle manufacturer" means a business engaged in the manufacturing or assembling of motor vehicles.

(18) "Off-highway vehicle" has the meaning assigned by Section 551A.001, Transportation Code.

(19) "Open-enrollment charter school" means a school that has been granted a charter under Subchapter D, Chapter 12, Education Code.

(20) "Original equipment manufacturer" means a person that, in the normal course of business, is engaged in the business of selling, leasing, or otherwise supplying new digital electronic equipment manufactured by or on behalf of the person.

(21) "Outboard motor" has the meaning assigned by Section 31.003, Parks and Wildlife Code.

(22) "Owner" means an individual or business entity that owns digital electronic equipment.

(23) "Personal watercraft" has the meaning assigned by Section 31.003, Parks and Wildlife Code.

(24) "Powersports vehicle" means:

(A) an auticycle;

(B) a motorcycle;

(C) a moped;

(D) a motorboat, including a personal watercraft; or

(E) an off-highway vehicle.

(25) "Repair" means any act necessary to restore digital electronic equipment or equipment to full working order. The term does not include post-sale modifications that alter the originally intended functioning of the digital electronic equipment.

(26) "Replacement part" means a new or used replacement part made available by the original equipment manufacturer for the purpose of maintenance or repair of digital electronic equipment manufactured, sold, or supplied by the original equipment manufacturer. The term does not include printed circuit board assemblies that allow device cloning in violation of 18 U.S.C. Section 1029 or other applicable law.

(27) "School district" means any public school district in this state.

(28) "Tool" means any software program, hardware implement, or other apparatus used for the diagnosis, maintenance, or repair of digital electronic equipment, including software or another mechanism that:

(A) provides, programs, or pairs a part;

(B) calibrates functionality; or

(C) performs any other function required to restore the equipment to full working order.

(29) "Trade secret" means anything tangible or intangible or electronically stored or kept that constitutes, represents, evidences, or records intellectual property, including secret or confidentially held designs, processes, procedures, formulas, inventions, or improvements, or secret or confidentially held scientific, technical, merchandising, production, financial, business, or management information, or that falls within the meaning of a trade secret given in 18 U.S.C. Section 1839.

(30) "Video game console" means a computing device, including the device's components and peripherals, that is primarily used by a consumer to play video games, including a console machine, a handheld console device, or another device or system. The term does not include a general or all-purpose computer, including a desktop computer, laptop, tablet, or mobile phone.

Sec. 121.002. APPLICABILITY OF CHAPTER. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), this chapter applies only to digital electronic equipment:

(1) sold to a consumer in this state; and

(2) that has a wholesale price of at least \$50.

(b) This chapter does not apply to:

(1) information technology equipment that is intended for use in critical infrastructure as defined by 42 U.S.C. Section 5195c(e);

(2) a motor vehicle manufacturer who complies with a memorandum of understanding or any other industry-recognized agreement relating to the diagnosis, maintenance, or repair of digital electronic equipment;

(3) a powersports vehicle or outboard motor;

(4) a medical device or product:

(A) found in a medical setting, including diagnostic, monitoring, or control equipment; or

(B) offered for purchase or prescribed by a health care provider;

(5) a manufacturer of farm equipment who complies with a memorandum of understanding or any other industry-recognized agreement relating to the diagnosis, maintenance, or repair of digital electronic equipment;

(6) aerospace, airplane, or train equipment;

(7) heavy equipment;

(8) commercial and industrial electrical equipment, including power distribution equipment, such as telecommunications network infrastructure, commercial visual display equipment, medium/low voltage switchgear and transformers, power control equipment, such as medium/low voltage motor control and drives, power quality equipment, such as uninterruptible power supplies, remote power panels, power distribution units and static/transfer switches, and any tools, technology, attachments, accessories, components, and repair parts for any of the equipment described by this subdivision;

(9) a home appliance that has digital electronic equipment embedded within it, including refrigerators, ovens, microwaves, air conditioning units, and heating units, excluding other countertop or stand-alone small appliances;

(10) safety communications equipment, the intended use of which is for emergency response or prevention purposes by an emergency service organization, such as a police, fire, or medical and emergency rescue services agency;

(11) fire alarm systems, intrusion detection equipment that is provided with a security monitoring service, life safety systems, and physical access control equipment, including electronic keypads and similar building access control electronics;

(12) a video game console; or

(13) an original equipment manufacturer that provides an equivalent or better, readily available replacement part at no charge to and only at the discretion of the consumer.

Sec. 121.003. WAIVER OF CHAPTER VOID AND UNENFORCEABLE. A provision in a contract, including an agreement between an authorized repair provider and original equipment manufacturer, that purports to waive, avoid, restrict, or limit the original equipment manufacturer's obligation to comply with this chapter is void and unenforceable.

SUBCHAPTER B. ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURER REQUIREMENTS

Sec. 121.051. ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURER REQUIREMENTS. (a) For digital electronic equipment, including parts for that equipment sold or used in this state, the original equipment manufacturer of the equipment or part shall, not later than one year after the date of the first sale of the digital electronic equipment in this state, make available on fair and reasonable terms to any independent repair provider or to an owner of digital electronic equipment manufactured by or on behalf of, sold by, or supplied by the original equipment manufacturer documentation, replacement parts, and tools, or their equivalents, that are required for the diagnosis, maintenance, or repair of the digital electronic equipment.

(b) The documentation, replacement parts, and tools described by Subsection (a) may be made available:

(1) directly by an original equipment manufacturer or through an authorized repair provider or a third-party provider; or

(2) by an authorized repair provider to any independent repair provider or owner, provided that the authorized repair provider is contractually and practically permitted by the original equipment manufacturer to sell the documentation, parts, or tools to an independent repair provider or owner.

(c) Subsection (b) may not be construed to require a third-party provider, including an authorized repair provider, to make available documentation, replacement parts, or tools independent of an original equipment manufacturer.

Sec. 121.052. CONSTRUCTION OF SUBCHAPTER. Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, nothing in this subchapter:

(1) requires an original equipment manufacturer to provide or make available documentation, a replacement part, or a tool to a repair provider or owner, if:

(A) the documentation, part, or tool is not, or is no longer, provided by the original equipment manufacturer or made available to authorized repair providers of the original equipment manufacturer, including where the original equipment manufacturer performs related repairs solely in-house or through a corporate affiliate;

(B) the documentation, part, or tool is no longer available to the original equipment manufacturer; or

(C) the documentation or tool is used by the original manufacturer only to perform, at no cost, diagnostic services virtually through telephone, Internet, chat, e-mail, or other similar means that do not involve the manufacturer physically handling the consumer's equipment, unless the manufacturer also makes the documentation or tool available to an individual or business that is unaffiliated with the manufacturer;

(2) requires an original equipment manufacturer to divulge any trade secret to any independent repair provider or owner, except as necessary for the diagnosis, maintenance, or repair of digital electronic equipment in accordance with this chapter;

(3) requires an original equipment manufacturer or an authorized repair provider to provide an independent repair provider or owner any information other than documentation that is provided by the original equipment manufacturer to an authorized repair provider;

(4) requires an original equipment manufacturer or authorized repair provider to make available any documentation, part, or tool for the purposes of modifying digital electronic equipment;

(5) requires any original equipment manufacturer or authorized repair provider to make available any documentation, part, or tool in a manner that is inconsistent with or in violation of any state or federal law;

(6) requires an original equipment manufacturer to make available any documentation, part, or tool to an independent repair provider or owner that would disable, reset, or override electronic security locks or other security-related measures or functions, or disable or override anti-theft security measures set by the owner of the digital electronic equipment;

(7) prevents an original equipment manufacturer from:

(A) requiring remote authorization or an Internet connection before an independent repair provider or owner may use a part or tool; or

(B) providing parts, such as integrated batteries, to an independent repair provider or owner preassembled with other parts rather than as individual components, provided that those preassembled parts or their equivalents are also available to an authorized repair provider or owner; or

(8) requires an original equipment manufacturer to:

(A) provide documentation, a part, or a tool for a product where reconditioning or repair of the product is prohibited by a law or regulation;

(B) provide or make available source code;

(C) make available a special document, a part, or a tool that would disable or override an anti-theft security measure set by the owner of the digital electronic equipment without the owner's authorization;

(D) provide documentation, a part, or a tool for repair of digital electronic equipment that is critical to the safety of life or health of individuals, or for repairs that could threaten the safety of life or health of individuals, provided that the original equipment manufacturer provides to the consumer or another entity responsible for the enforcement of this chapter, as applicable, physical evidence of the threat alleged under this paragraph; or

(E) provide documentation or a tool used exclusively by the original equipment manufacturer for diagnosis, maintenance, or repairs completed by machines that operate on several digital electronic equipment products simultaneously or otherwise for purposes of large scale efficiency, provided the original equipment manufacturer makes available to an independent repair provider or owner sufficient alternative documentation or a tool to effect the diagnosis, maintenance, or repair of the digital electronic equipment.

Sec. 121.053. ALTERNATIVE RELIEF FOR ORIGINAL PURCHASERS. Instead of making documentation, replacement parts, or tools available under this subchapter, the original equipment manufacturer may provide an owner who is the original purchaser:

(1) a reimbursement in the amount of the purchase price the purchaser paid for the digital electronic equipment; or

(2) an equivalent or better, readily available replacement for the digital electronic equipment at a price that has a value that is equal to or less than the total cost of the sum of the replacement parts and provided at the discretion of the consumer.

Sec. 121.054. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY. (a) An original equipment manufacturer or authorized repair provider is not liable for any damage or injury to any digital electronic equipment, individual, or property that occurs as a result of the repair, diagnosis, maintenance, or modification performed by an

independent repair provider or owner, or any other use of documentation, replacement parts, or tools made available by an original equipment manufacturer, including:

- (1) indirect, incidental, special, or consequential damages;
- (2) loss of data, privacy, or profits; or
- (3) inability to use or reduced functionality of the digital electronic

equipment.

(b) An original equipment manufacturer is not liable under this chapter for any act that is reasonably necessary to protect user privacy, security, or digital safety.

(c) An original equipment manufacturer is not liable for improper use of personal data or any data privacy or security breach in connection with the repair, diagnosis, maintenance, or modification performed by an independent repair provider or owner.

SUBCHAPTER C. ENFORCEMENT

Sec. 121.101. NOTICE OF VIOLATION; OPPORTUNITY TO CURE. (a)

The attorney general has exclusive authority to enforce this chapter.

(b) Before bringing an action under Section 121.102 or 121.103, the attorney general shall notify a person in writing at least 30 days before the date the attorney general brings the action. The notice must identify the specific provisions of this chapter that the attorney general alleges have been or are being violated.

(c) The attorney general may not bring an action against a person if:

(1) within the 30-day period described by Subsection (b), the person cures the violation; and

(2) the person provides the attorney general a written statement that:

(A) the person cured the alleged violation; and

(B) it is the person's intent that no further violations of this chapter

will occur.

(d) Written notice by the attorney general shall be delivered by:

(1) certified mail, return receipt requested; or

(2) first-class mail with proof of delivery.

Sec. 121.102. DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICE. A violation of this chapter following the cure period described by Section 121.101 is a deceptive trade practice in addition to the practices described by Subchapter E, Chapter 17, and is actionable under that subchapter.

Sec. 121.103. INJUNCTION. (a) The attorney general may bring an action in the name of the state following the cure period described by Section 121.101 to restrain or enjoin a person from violating this chapter.

(b) The attorney general may recover reasonable attorney's fees and other reasonable expenses incurred in investigating and bringing an action under this section.

Sec. 121.104. NO PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION. This chapter may not be construed to create, provide a basis for, or be subject to a private right of action for a violation of this chapter or any other law.

SECTION 2. Chapter 121, Business & Commerce Code, as added by this Act, applies only to digital electronic equipment that was originally made available for sale in this state by an original equipment manufacturer on or after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 3. Notwithstanding Section 121.003, Business & Commerce Code, as added by this Act, to the extent of a conflict between Chapter 121, Business & Commerce Code, as added by this Act, and a provision of an agreement between an authorized repair provider and original equipment manufacturer entered into before the effective date of this Act, the provision of the agreement prevails.

SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2026.

Representative Capriglione moved to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 2963**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 2963** prevailed by (Record 4150): 132 Yeas, 6 Nays, 2 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Anchía; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Bumgarner; Button; Cain; Campos; Canales; Capriglione; Cole; Collier; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dutton; Dyson; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Gámez; Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Hinojosa; Holt; Hopper; Howard; Hunter; Isaac; Johnson; Jones, J.; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lalani; Lambert; Leach; Little; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Louderback; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Meza; Money; Moody; Morales, E.; Morales Shaw; Morgan; Muñoz; Noble; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Paul; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Pierson; Plesa; Raymond; Richardson; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rosenthal; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Simmons; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Virdell; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wilson; Wu; Zwiener.

Nays — Ashby; Hull; Leo Wilson; Lowe; Olcott; Patterson.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker; Landgraf(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.

Absent — Bowers; Davis, Y.; Longoria; Morales, C.; Reynolds; Rose.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4150 was taken, my vote failed to register. I would have voted yes.

Bowers

When Record No. 4150 was taken, I was temporarily out of the house chamber. I would have voted yes.

Rose

SB 1610 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Representative Cook submitted the conference committee report on **SB 1610**.

Representative Cook moved to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 1610**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 1610** prevailed by (Record 4151): 121 Yeas, 16 Nays, 2 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Anchía; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Buckley; Bucy; Bumgarner; Button; Cain; Campos; Canales; Capriglione; Cole; Collier; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dyson; Fairly; Frank; Gámez; Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; González, M.; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Holt; Hopper; Howard; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Johnson; Jones, J.; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lalani; Lambert; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Louderback; Lowe; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Money; Moody; Morales, E.; Morgan; Muñoz; Noble; Olcott; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, M.; Phelan; Pierson; Plesa; Raymond; Richardson; Rosenthal; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Talarico; Tepper; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Virdell; Vo; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wilson; Wu.

Nays — Bowers; Bryant; Dutton; Flores; Gervin-Hawkins; González, J.; Goodwin; Meza; Morales Shaw; Perez, V.; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Thompson; Turner; Walle; Zwiener.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker; Landgraf(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.

Absent — Davis, Y.; Hinojosa; Longoria; Morales, C.; Reynolds; Rose; Simmons.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4151 was taken, I was shown voting yes. I intended to vote no.

Collier

When Record No. 4151 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

V. Perez

When Record No. 4151 was taken, I was temporarily out of the house chamber. I would have voted no.

Rose

When Record No. 4151 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

Walle

HR 1519 - ADOPTED
(by Wilson)

The following privileged resolution was laid before the house:

HR 1519

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the State of Texas, 89th Legislature, 2025, That House Rule 13, Section 9(a), be suspended in part as provided by House Rule 13, Section 9(f), to enable the conference committee appointed to resolve the differences on **HB 705** (the Cosmetology Licensure Compact; authorizing fees) to consider and take action on the following matters:

(1) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(4), is suspended to permit the committee to add text on a matter not included in either the house or senate version of the bill in proposed SECTION 1 of the bill, in added Section 1604.001, Occupations Code, by adding Subsection E to Article 15 to read as follows:

E. If the Commission determines under Article 8(c)(24) that any language in this chapter is materially different from the Compact model legislation, this State will not be considered a Member State of the Compact and any provisions purporting to enact or implement this Compact shall be null, void, and of no effect.

Explanation: The change is necessary to clarify that this state will not be part of the cosmetology licensure compact if the cosmetology licensure compact commission determines that the language of Chapter 1604, Occupations Code, is materially different from the compact model legislation and that provisions enacting or implementing the compact in this state will be null, void, and of no effect.

(2) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(4), is suspended to permit the committee to add text on a matter not included in either the house or senate version of the bill in proposed SECTION 1 of the bill by adding Section 1604.003, Occupations Code, to read as follows:

Sec. 1604.003. WITHDRAWAL. This state may withdraw from the compact under this chapter at any time on the issuance of a proclamation by the governor or other executive action rescinding this state's consent to the compact, subject to the notice and temporary recognition requirements under Article 13(B) of the compact.

Explanation: The change is necessary to clarify that this state may withdraw from the compact at any time on the issuance of a proclamation by the governor or other executive action, subject to notice and temporary recognition provisions of the compact.

HR 1519 was adopted by (Record 4152): 96 Yeas, 36 Nays, 3 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Anchía; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bowers; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Button; Capriglione; Cole; Collier; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; Dorazio; Dutton; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Gámez; García, J.; García Hernandez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hinojosa; Howard; Isaac; Johnson; Jones, J.; King; Kitzman; Lalani; Lambert; Leach; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Lujan; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; Meyer; Meza; Money; Moody; Morales, E.; Morales Shaw; Muñoz; Noble; Ordaz; Orr; Paul; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Plesa; Raymond; Richardson; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rosenthal; Schoolcraft; Smithee; Spiller; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wilson; Wu; Zwiener.

Nays — Alders; Ashby; Bumgarner; Cain; Campos; Cunningham; Dyson; Harrison; Hickland; Holt; Hopper; Hull; Kerwin; LaHood; Leo Wilson; Little; Louderback; Lowe; Luther; McQueeney; Metcalf; Morgan; Olcott; Oliverson; Patterson; Pierson; Schofield; Shaheen; Shofner; Slawson; Swanson; Tinderholt; Toth; Vasut; Villalobos; Wharton.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker; Landgraf(C); Virdell.

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.

Absent — Canales; Davis, Y.; DeAyala; Hunter; Longoria; Lozano; Morales, C.; Reynolds; Rose; Schatzline; Simmons.

STATEMENT OF VOTE

When Record No. 4152 was taken, I was temporarily out of the house chamber. I would have voted yes.

Rose

HB 705 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Representative Wilson submitted the following conference committee report on **HB 705**:

Austin, Texas, May 30, 2025

The Honorable Dan Patrick
President of the Senate

The Honorable Dustin Burrows
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Sirs: We, your conference committee, appointed to adjust the differences between the senate and the house of representatives on **HB 705** have had the same under consideration, and beg to report it back with the recommendation that it do pass in the form and text hereto attached.

Zaffirini
Blanco

Wilson
Walle

Campbell

Nichols

King

On the part of the senate

Patterson

Gerdes

Romero

On the part of the house

HB 705, A bill to be entitled An Act relating to the Cosmetology Licensure Compact; authorizing fees.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Title 9, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Chapter 1604 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 1604. COSMETOLOGY LICENSURE COMPACT

Sec. 1604.001. COSMETOLOGY LICENSURE COMPACT. The Cosmetology Licensure Compact is enacted and entered into with all other jurisdictions that legally join the compact, which reads as follows:

COSMETOLOGY LICENSURE COMPACT

ARTICLE 1- PURPOSE

The purpose of this Compact is to facilitate the interstate practice and regulation of Cosmetology with the goal of improving public access to, and the safety of, Cosmetology Services and reducing unnecessary burdens related to Cosmetology licensure. Through this Compact, the Member States seek to establish a regulatory framework which provides for a new multistate licensing program. Through this new licensing program, the Member States seek to provide increased value and mobility to licensed Cosmetologists in the Member States, while ensuring the provision of safe, effective, and reliable services to the public. This Compact is designed to achieve the following objectives, and the Member States hereby ratify the same intentions by subscribing hereto:

- A. Provide opportunities for interstate practice by Cosmetologists who meet uniform requirements for multistate licensure;
- B. Enhance the abilities of Member States to protect public health and safety, and prevent fraud and unlicensed activity within the profession;
- C. Ensure and encourage cooperation between Member States in the licensure and regulation of the Practice of Cosmetology;
- D. Support relocating military members and their spouses;
- E. Facilitate the exchange of information between Member States related to the licensure, investigation, and discipline of the Practice of Cosmetology;
- F. Provide for the licensure and mobility of the workforce in the profession, while addressing the shortage of workers and lessening the associated burdens on the Member States.

ARTICLE 2- DEFINITIONS

As used in this Compact, and except as otherwise provided, the following definitions shall govern the terms herein:

- A. "Active Military Member" means any person with full-time duty status in the armed forces of the United States, including members of the National Guard and Reserve.
- B. "Adverse Action" means any administrative, civil, equitable, or criminal action permitted by a Member State's laws which is imposed by a State Licensing Authority or other regulatory body against a Cosmetologist,

- including actions against an individual's license or Authorization to Practice such as revocation, suspension, probation, monitoring of the Licensee, limitation of the Licensee's practice, or any other Encumbrance on a license affecting an individual's ability to participate in the Cosmetology industry, including the issuance of a cease and desist order.
- C. "Authorization to Practice" means a legal authorization associated with a Multistate License permitting the Practice of Cosmetology in that Remote State, which shall be subject to the enforcement jurisdiction of the State Licensing Authority in that Remote State.
- D. "Alternative Program" means a non-disciplinary monitoring or prosecutorial diversion program approved by a Member State's State Licensing Authority.
- E. "Background Check" means the submission of information for an applicant for the purpose of obtaining that applicant's criminal history record information, as further defined in 28 C.F.R. § 20.3(d), from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the agency responsible for retaining State criminal or disciplinary history in the applicant's Home State.
- F. "Charter Member State" means Member States who have enacted legislation to adopt this Compact where such legislation predates the effective date of this Compact as defined in Article 13.
- G. "Commission" means the government agency whose membership consists of all States that have enacted this Compact, which is known as the Cosmetology Licensure Compact Commission, as defined in Article 9, and which shall operate as an instrumentality of the Member States.
- H. "Cosmetologist" means an individual licensed in their Home State to practice Cosmetology.
- I. "Cosmetology", "Cosmetology Services", and the "Practice of Cosmetology" mean the care and services provided by a Cosmetologist as set forth in the Member State's statutes and regulations in the State where the services are being provided.
- J. "Current Significant Investigative Information" means:
1. Investigative Information that a State Licensing Authority, after an inquiry or investigation that complies with a Member State's due process requirements, has reason to believe is not groundless and, if proved true, would indicate a violation of that State's laws regarding fraud or the Practice of Cosmetology; or
 2. Investigative Information that indicates that a Licensee has engaged in fraud or represents an immediate threat to public health and safety, regardless of whether the Licensee has been notified and had an opportunity to respond.
- K. "Data System" means a repository of information about Licensees, including, but not limited to, license status, Investigative Information, and Adverse Actions.
- L. "Disqualifying Event" means any event which shall disqualify an individual from holding a Multistate License under this Compact, which the Commission may by Rule or order specify.

- M. "Encumbered License" means a license in which an Adverse Action restricts the Practice of Cosmetology by a Licensee, or where said Adverse Action has been reported to the Commission.
- N. "Encumbrance" means a revocation or suspension of, or any limitation on, the full and unrestricted Practice of Cosmetology by a State Licensing Authority.
- O. "Executive Committee" means a group of delegates elected or appointed to act on behalf of, and within the powers granted to them by, the Commission.
- P. "Home State" means the Member State which is a Licensee's primary State of residence, and where that Licensee holds an active and unencumbered license to practice Cosmetology.
- Q. "Investigative Information" means information, records, or documents received or generated by a State Licensing Authority pursuant to an investigation or other inquiry.
- R. "Jurisprudence Requirement" means the assessment of an individual's knowledge of the laws and rules governing the Practice of Cosmetology in a State.
- S. "Licensee" means an individual who currently holds a license from a Member State to practice as a Cosmetologist.
- T. "Member State" means any State that has adopted this Compact.
- U. "Multistate License" means a license issued by and subject to the enforcement jurisdiction of the State Licensing Authority in a Licensee's Home State, which authorizes the Practice of Cosmetology in Member States and includes Authorizations to Practice Cosmetology in all Remote States pursuant to this Compact.
- V. "Remote State" means any Member State, other than the Licensee's Home State.
- W. "Rule" means any rule or regulation promulgated by the Commission under this Compact which has the force of law.
- X. "Single-State License" means a Cosmetology license issued by a Member State that authorizes practice of Cosmetology only within the issuing State and does not include any authorization outside of the issuing State.
- Y. "State" means a State, territory, or possession of the United States and the District of Columbia.
- Z. "State Licensing Authority" means a Member State's regulatory body responsible for issuing Cosmetology licenses or otherwise overseeing the Practice of Cosmetology in that State.

ARTICLE 3- MEMBER STATE REQUIREMENTS

- A. To be eligible to join this Compact, and to maintain eligibility as a Member State, a State must:
1. License and regulate Cosmetology;
 2. Have a mechanism or entity in place to receive and investigate complaints about Licensees practicing in that State;
 3. Require that Licensees within the State pass a Cosmetology competency examination prior to being licensed to provide Cosmetology Services to the public in that State;

4. Require that Licensees satisfy educational or training requirements in Cosmetology prior to being licensed to provide Cosmetology Services to the public in that State;
 5. Implement procedures for considering one or more of the following categories of information from applicants for licensure: criminal history; disciplinary history; or Background Check. Such procedures may include the submission of information by applicants for the purpose of obtaining an applicant's Background Check as defined herein;
 6. Participate in the Data System, including through the use of unique identifying numbers;
 7. Share information related to Adverse Actions with the Commission and other Member States, both through the Data System and otherwise;
 8. Notify the Commission and other Member States, in compliance with the terms of the Compact and Rules of the Commission, of the existence of Investigative Information or Current Significant Investigative Information in the State's possession regarding a Licensee practicing in that State;
 9. Comply with such Rules as may be enacted by the Commission to administer the Compact; and
 10. Accept Licensees from other Member States as established herein.
- B. Member States may charge a fee for granting a license to practice Cosmetology.
- C. Individuals not residing in a Member State shall continue to be able to apply for a Member State's Single-State License as provided under the laws of each Member State. However, the Single-State License granted to these individuals shall not be recognized as granting a Multistate License to provide services in any other Member State.
- D. Nothing in this Compact shall affect the requirements established by a Member State for the issuance of a Single-State License.
- E. A Multistate License issued to a Licensee by a Home State to a resident of that State shall be recognized by each Member State as authorizing a Licensee to practice Cosmetology in each Member State.
- F. At no point shall the Commission have the power to define the educational or professional requirements for a license to practice Cosmetology. The Member States shall retain sole jurisdiction over the provision of these requirements.
- ARTICLE 4- MULTISTATE LICENSE
- A. To be eligible to apply to their Home State's State Licensing Authority for an initial Multistate License under this Compact, a Licensee must hold an active and unencumbered Single-State License to practice Cosmetology in their Home State.
- B. Upon the receipt of an application for a Multistate License, according to the Rules of the Commission, a Member State's State Licensing Authority shall ascertain whether the applicant meets the requirements for a Multistate License under this Compact.

C. If an applicant meets the requirements for a Multistate License under this Compact and any applicable Rules of the Commission, the State Licensing Authority in receipt of the application shall, within a reasonable time, grant a Multistate License to that applicant, and inform all Member States of the grant of said Multistate License.

D. A Multistate License to practice Cosmetology issued by a Member State's State Licensing Authority shall be recognized by each Member State as authorizing the practice thereof as though that Licensee held a Single-State License to do so in each Member State, subject to the restrictions herein.

E. A Multistate License granted pursuant to this Compact may be effective for a definite period of time, concurrent with the licensure renewal period in the Home State.

F. To maintain a Multistate License under this Compact, a Licensee must:

1. Agree to abide by the rules of the State Licensing Authority, and the State scope of practice laws governing the Practice of Cosmetology, of any Member State in which the Licensee provides services;
2. Pay all required fees related to the application and process, and any other fees which the Commission may by Rule require; and
3. Comply with any and all other requirements regarding Multistate Licenses which the Commission may by Rule provide.

G. A Licensee practicing in a Member State is subject to all scope of practice laws governing Cosmetology Services in that State.

H. The Practice of Cosmetology under a Multistate License granted pursuant to this Compact will subject the Licensee to the jurisdiction of the State Licensing Authority, the courts, and the laws of the Member State in which the Cosmetology Services are provided.

ARTICLE 5- REISSUANCE OF A MULTISTATE LICENSE BY A NEW HOME STATE

A. A Licensee may hold a Multistate License, issued by their Home State, in only one Member State at any given time.

B. If a Licensee changes their Home State by moving between two Member States:

1. The Licensee shall immediately apply for the reissuance of their Multistate License in their new Home State. The Licensee shall pay all applicable fees and notify the prior Home State in accordance with the Rules of the Commission.
2. Upon receipt of an application to reissue a Multistate License, the new Home State shall verify that the Multistate License is active, unencumbered and eligible for reissuance under the terms of the Compact and the Rules of the Commission. The Multistate License issued by the prior Home State will be deactivated and all Member States notified in accordance with the applicable Rules adopted by the Commission.

3. If required for initial licensure, the new Home State may require a Background Check as specified in the laws of that State, or the compliance with any Jurisprudence Requirements of the new Home State.
 4. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Compact, if a Licensee does not meet the requirements set forth in this Compact for the reissuance of a Multistate License by the new Home State, then the Licensee shall be subject to the new Home State requirements for the issuance of a Single-State License in that State.
- C. If a Licensee changes their primary state of residence by moving from a Member State to a non-Member State, or from a non-Member State to a Member State, then the Licensee shall be subject to the State requirements for the issuance of a Single-State License in the new Home State.
 - D. Nothing in this Compact shall interfere with a Licensee's ability to hold a Single-State License in multiple States; however, for the purposes of this Compact, a Licensee shall have only one Home State, and only one Multistate License.
 - E. Nothing in this Compact shall interfere with the requirements established by a Member State for the issuance of a Single-State License.

ARTICLE 6- AUTHORITY OF THE COMPACT COMMISSION AND MEMBER STATE LICENSING AUTHORITIES

- A. Nothing in this Compact, nor any Rule or regulation of the Commission, shall be construed to limit, restrict, or in any way reduce the ability of a Member State to enact and enforce laws, regulations, or other rules related to the Practice of Cosmetology in that State, where those laws, regulations, or other rules are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Compact.
- B. Insofar as practical, a Member State's State Licensing Authority shall cooperate with the Commission and with each entity exercising independent regulatory authority over the Practice of Cosmetology according to the provisions of this Compact.
- C. Discipline shall be the sole responsibility of the State in which Cosmetology Services are provided. Accordingly, each Member State's State Licensing Authority shall be responsible for receiving complaints about individuals practicing Cosmetology in that State, and for communicating all relevant Investigative Information about any such Adverse Action to the other Member States through the Data System in addition to any other methods the Commission may by Rule require.

ARTICLE 7- ADVERSE ACTIONS

- A. A Licensee's Home State shall have exclusive power to impose an Adverse Action against a Licensee's Multistate License issued by the Home State.
- B. A Home State may take Adverse Action on a Multistate License based on the Investigative Information, Current Significant Investigative Information, or Adverse Action of a Remote State.
- C. In addition to the powers conferred by State law, each Remote State's State Licensing Authority shall have the power to:

1. Take Adverse Action against a Licensee's Authorization to Practice Cosmetology through the Multistate License in that Member State, provided that:
 - a. Only the Licensee's Home State shall have the power to take Adverse Action against the Multistate License issued by the Home State; and
 - b. For the purposes of taking Adverse Action, the Home State's State Licensing Authority shall give the same priority and effect to reported conduct received from a Remote State as it would if such conduct had occurred within the Home State. In so doing, the Home State shall apply its own State laws to determine the appropriate action.
 2. Issue cease and desist orders or impose an Encumbrance on a Licensee's Authorization to Practice within that Member State.
 3. Complete any pending investigations of a Licensee who changes their primary state of residence during the course of such an investigation. The State Licensing Authority shall also be empowered to report the results of such an investigation to the Commission through the Data System as described herein.
 4. Issue subpoenas for both hearings and investigations that require the attendance and testimony of witnesses, as well as the production of evidence. Subpoenas issued by a State Licensing Authority in a Member State for the attendance and testimony of witnesses or the production of evidence from another Member State shall be enforced in the latter State by any court of competent jurisdiction, according to the practice and procedure of that court applicable to subpoenas issued in proceedings before it. The issuing State Licensing Authority shall pay any witness fees, travel expenses, mileage, and other fees required by the service statutes of the State in which the witnesses or evidence are located.
 5. If otherwise permitted by State law, recover from the affected Licensee the costs of investigations and disposition of cases resulting from any Adverse Action taken against that Licensee.
 6. Take Adverse Action against the Licensee's Authorization to Practice in that State based on the factual findings of another Remote State.
- D. A Licensee's Home State shall complete any pending investigation(s) of a Cosmetologist who changes their primary state of residence during the course of the investigation(s). The Home State shall also have the authority to take appropriate action(s) and shall promptly report the conclusions of the investigations to the Data System.
- E. If an Adverse Action is taken by the Home State against a Licensee's Multistate License, the Licensee's Authorization to Practice in all other Member States shall be deactivated until all Encumbrances have been removed from the Home State license. All Home State disciplinary orders that impose an Adverse Action against a Licensee's Multistate License shall include a statement that the Cosmetologist's Authorization to Practice is deactivated in all Member States during the pendency of the order.

F. Nothing in this Compact shall override a Member State's authority to accept a Licensee's participation in an Alternative Program in lieu of Adverse Action. A Licensee's Multistate License shall be suspended for the duration of the Licensee's participation in any Alternative Program.

G. Joint Investigations

1. In addition to the authority granted to a Member State by its respective scope of practice laws or other applicable State law, a Member State may participate with other Member States in joint investigations of Licensees.
2. Member States shall share any investigative, litigation, or compliance materials in furtherance of any joint or individual investigation initiated under the Compact.

ARTICLE 8- ACTIVE MILITARY MEMBERS AND THEIR SPOUSES

Active Military Members, or their spouses, shall designate a Home State where the individual has a current license to practice Cosmetology in good standing. The individual may retain their Home State designation during any period of service when that individual or their spouse is on active duty assignment.

ARTICLE 9- ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF THE COSMETOLOGY LICENSURE COMPACT COMMISSION

A. The Compact Member States hereby create and establish a joint government agency whose membership consists of all Member States that have enacted the Compact known as the Cosmetology Licensure Compact Commission. The Commission is an instrumentality of the Compact Member States acting jointly and not an instrumentality of any one State. The Commission shall come into existence on or after the effective date of the Compact as set forth in Article 13.

B. Membership, Voting, and Meetings

1. Each Member State shall have and be limited to one (1) delegate selected by that Member States State Licensing Authority.
2. The delegate shall be an administrator of the State Licensing Authority of the Member State or their designee.
3. The Commission shall by Rule or bylaw establish a term of office for delegates and may by Rule or bylaw establish term limits.
4. The Commission may recommend removal or suspension of any delegate from office.
5. A Member States State Licensing Authority shall fill any vacancy of its delegate occurring on the Commission within 60 days of the vacancy.
6. Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote on all matters that are voted on by the Commission.
7. The Commission shall meet at least once during each calendar year. Additional meetings may be held as set forth in the bylaws. The Commission may meet by telecommunication, video conference or other similar electronic means.

C. The Commission shall have the following powers:

1. Establish the fiscal year of the Commission;
2. Establish code of conduct and conflict of interest policies;
3. Adopt Rules and bylaws;

4. Maintain its financial records in accordance with the bylaws;
5. Meet and take such actions as are consistent with the provisions of this Compact, the Commissions Rules, and the bylaws;
6. Initiate and conclude legal proceedings or actions in the name of the Commission, provided that the standing of any State Licensing Authority to sue or be sued under applicable law shall not be affected;
7. Maintain and certify records and information provided to a Member State as the authenticated business records of the Commission, and designate an agent to do so on the Commission's behalf;
8. Purchase and maintain insurance and bonds;
9. Borrow, accept, or contract for services of personnel, including, but not limited to, employees of a Member State;
10. Conduct an annual financial review;
11. Hire employees, elect or appoint officers, fix compensation, define duties, grant such individuals appropriate authority to carry out the purposes of the Compact, and establish the Commission's personnel policies and programs relating to conflicts of interest, qualifications of personnel, and other related personnel matters;
12. As set forth in the Commission Rules, charge a fee to a Licensee for the grant of a Multistate License and thereafter, as may be established by Commission Rule, charge the Licensee a Multistate License renewal fee for each renewal period. Nothing herein shall be construed to prevent a Home State from charging a Licensee a fee for a Multistate License or renewals of a Multistate License, or a fee for the jurisprudence requirement if the Member State imposes such a requirement for the grant of a Multistate License;
13. Assess and collect fees;
14. Accept any and all appropriate gifts, donations, grants of money, other sources of revenue, equipment, supplies, materials, and services, and receive, utilize, and dispose of the same; provided that at all times the Commission shall avoid any appearance of impropriety or conflict of interest;
15. Lease, purchase, retain, own, hold, improve, or use any property, real, personal, or mixed, or any undivided interest therein;
16. Sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon, or otherwise dispose of any property real, personal, or mixed;
17. Establish a budget and make expenditures;
18. Borrow money;
19. Appoint committees, including standing committees, composed of members, State regulators, State legislators or their representatives, and consumer representatives, and such other interested persons as may be designated in this Compact and the bylaws;
20. Provide and receive information from, and cooperate with, law enforcement agencies;
21. Elect a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer and such other officers of the Commission as provided in the Commission's bylaws;

22. Establish and elect an Executive Committee, including a chair and a vice chair;
23. Adopt and provide to the Member States an annual report.
24. Determine whether a State's adopted language is materially different from the model Compact language such that the State would not qualify for participation in the Compact; and
25. Perform such other functions as may be necessary or appropriate to achieve the purposes of this Compact.

D. The Executive Committee

1. The Executive Committee shall have the power to act on behalf of the Commission according to the terms of this Compact. The powers, duties, and responsibilities of the Executive Committee shall include:
 - a. Overseeing the day-to-day activities of the administration of the Compact including compliance with the provisions of the Compact, the Commission's Rules and bylaws, and other such duties as deemed necessary;
 - b. Recommending to the Commission changes to the Rules or bylaws, changes to this Compact legislation, fees charged to Compact Member States, fees charged to Licensees, and other fees;
 - c. Ensuring Compact administration services are appropriately provided, including by contract;
 - d. Preparing and recommending the budget;
 - e. Maintaining financial records on behalf of the Commission;
 - f. Monitoring Compact compliance of Member States and providing compliance reports to the Commission;
 - g. Establishing additional committees as necessary;
 - h. Exercising the powers and duties of the Commission during the interim between Commission meetings, except for adopting or amending Rules, adopting or amending bylaws, and exercising any other powers and duties expressly reserved to the Commission by Rule or bylaw; and
 - i. Other duties as provided in the Rules or bylaws of the Commission.
2. The Executive Committee shall be composed of up to seven voting members:
 - a. The chair and vice chair of the Commission and any other members of the Commission who serve on the Executive Committee shall be voting members of the Executive Committee; and
 - b. Other than the chair, vice-chair, secretary and treasurer, the Commission shall elect three voting members from the current membership of the Commission.
 - c. The Commission may elect ex-officio, nonvoting members from a recognized national Cosmetology professional association as approved by the Commission. The Commission's bylaws shall identify qualifying organizations and the manner of appointment if the number of organizations seeking to appoint an ex officio member exceeds the number of members specified in this Article.

3. The Commission may remove any member of the Executive Committee as provided in the Commission's bylaws.
4. The Executive Committee shall meet at least annually.
 - a. Annual Executive Committee meetings, as well as any Executive Committee meeting at which it does not take or intend to take formal action on a matter for which a Commission vote would otherwise be required, shall be open to the public, except that the Executive Committee may meet in a closed, non-public session of a public meeting when dealing with any of the matters covered under Article 9.F.4.
 - b. The Executive Committee shall give five business days advance notice of its public meetings, posted on its website and as determined to provide notice to persons with an interest in the public matters the Executive Committee intends to address at those meetings.
5. The Executive Committee may hold an emergency meeting when acting for the Commission to:
 - a. Meet an imminent threat to public health, safety, or welfare;
 - b. Prevent a loss of Commission or Member State funds; or
 - c. Protect public health and safety.

E. The Commission shall adopt and provide to the Member States an annual report.

F. Meetings of the Commission

1. All meetings of the Commission that are not closed pursuant to Article 9.F.4 shall be open to the public. Notice of public meetings shall be posted on the Commission's website at least thirty (30) days prior to the public meeting.
2. Notwithstanding Article 9.F.1, the Commission may convene an emergency public meeting by providing at least twenty-four (24) hours prior notice on the Commission's website, and any other means as provided in the Commission's Rules, for any of the reasons it may dispense with notice of proposed rulemaking under Article 11.L. The Commission's legal counsel shall certify that one of the reasons justifying an emergency public meeting has been met.
3. Notice of all Commission meetings shall provide the time, date, and location of the meeting, and if the meeting is to be held or accessible via telecommunication, video conference, or other electronic means, the notice shall include the mechanism for access to the meeting.
4. The Commission may convene in a closed, non-public meeting for the Commission to discuss:
 - a. Non-compliance of a Member State with its obligations under the Compact;
 - b. The employment, compensation, discipline or other matters, practices or procedures related to specific employees or other matters related to the Commission's internal personnel practices and procedures;

- c. Current or threatened discipline of a Licensee by the Commission or by a Member State's Licensing Authority;
 - d. Current, threatened, or reasonably anticipated litigation;
 - e. Negotiation of contracts for the purchase, lease, or sale of goods, services, or real estate;
 - f. Accusing any person of a crime or formally censuring any person;
 - g. Trade secrets or commercial or financial information that is privileged or confidential;
 - h. Information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
 - i. Investigative records compiled for law enforcement purposes;
 - j. Information related to any investigative reports prepared by or on behalf of or for use of the Commission or other committee charged with responsibility of investigation or determination of compliance issues pursuant to the Compact;
 - k. Legal advice;
 - l. Matters specifically exempted from disclosure to the public by federal or Member State law; or
 - m. Other matters as promulgated by the Commission by Rule.
5. If a meeting, or portion of a meeting, is closed, the presiding officer shall state that the meeting will be closed and reference each relevant exempting provision, and such reference shall be recorded in the minutes.
6. The Commission shall keep minutes that fully and clearly describe all matters discussed in a meeting and shall provide a full and accurate summary of actions taken, and the reasons therefore, including a description of the views expressed. All documents considered in connection with an action shall be identified in such minutes. All minutes and documents of a closed meeting shall remain under seal, subject to release only by a majority vote of the Commission or order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

G. Financing of the Commission

1. The Commission shall pay, or provide for the payment of, the reasonable expenses of its establishment, organization, and ongoing activities.
2. The Commission may accept any and all appropriate sources of revenue, donations, and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and services.
3. The Commission may levy on and collect an annual assessment from each Member State and impose fees on Licensees of Member States to whom it grants a Multistate License to cover the cost of the operations and activities of the Commission and its staff, which must be in a total amount sufficient to cover its annual budget as approved each year for which revenue is not provided by other sources. The aggregate annual assessment amount for Member States shall be allocated based upon a formula that the Commission shall promulgate by Rule.

4. The Commission shall not incur obligations of any kind prior to securing the funds adequate to meet the same; nor shall the Commission pledge the credit of any Member States, except by and with the authority of the Member State.
5. The Commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the Commission shall be subject to the financial review and accounting procedures established under its bylaws. All receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the Commission shall be subject to an annual financial review by a certified or licensed public accountant, and the report of the financial review shall be included in and become part of the annual report of the Commission.

H. Qualified Immunity, Defense, and Indemnification

1. The members, officers, executive director, employees and representatives of the Commission shall be immune from suit and liability, both personally and in their official capacity, for any claim for damage to or loss of property or personal injury or other civil liability caused by or arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred, or that the person against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties or responsibilities; provided that nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to protect any such person from suit or liability for any damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by the intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person. The procurement of insurance of any type by the Commission shall not in any way compromise or limit the immunity granted hereunder.
2. The Commission shall defend any member, officer, executive director, employee, and representative of the Commission in any civil action seeking to impose liability arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or as determined by the Commission that the person against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities; provided that nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit that person from retaining their own counsel at their own expense; and provided further, that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from that person's intentional or willful or wanton misconduct.
3. The Commission shall indemnify and hold harmless any member, officer, executive director, employee, and representative of the Commission for the amount of any settlement or judgment obtained against that person arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that such person had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties,

or responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from the intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person.

4. Nothing herein shall be construed as a limitation on the liability of any Licensee for professional malpractice or misconduct, which shall be governed solely by any other applicable State laws.

5. Nothing in this Compact shall be interpreted to waive or otherwise abrogate a Member State's State action immunity or State action affirmative defense with respect to antitrust claims under the Sherman Act, Clayton Act, or any other State or federal antitrust or anticompetitive law or regulation.

6. Nothing in this Compact shall be construed to be a waiver of sovereign immunity by the Member States or by the Commission.

ARTICLE 10- DATA SYSTEM

A. The Commission shall provide for the development, maintenance, operation, and utilization of a coordinated database and reporting system.

B. The Commission shall assign each applicant for a Multistate License a unique identifier, as determined by the Rules of the Commission.

C. Notwithstanding any other provision of State law to the contrary, a Member State shall submit a uniform data set to the Data System on all individuals to whom this Compact is applicable as required by the Rules of the Commission, including:

1. Identifying information;

2. Licensure data;

3. Adverse Actions against a license and information related thereto;

4. Non-confidential information related to Alternative Program participation, the beginning and ending dates of such participation, and other information related to such participation;

5. Any denial of application for licensure, and the reason(s) for such denial (excluding the reporting of any criminal history record information where prohibited by law);

6. The existence of Investigative Information;

7. The existence of Current Significant Investigative Information; and

8. Other information that may facilitate the administration of this Compact or the protection of the public, as determined by the Rules of the Commission.

D. The records and information provided to a Member State pursuant to this Compact or through the Data System, when certified by the Commission or an agent thereof, shall constitute the authenticated business records of the Commission, and shall be entitled to any associated hearsay exception in any relevant judicial, quasi-judicial or administrative proceedings in a Member State.

E. The existence of Current Significant Investigative Information and the existence of Investigative Information pertaining to a Licensee in any Member State will only be available to other Member States.

- F. It is the responsibility of the Member States to monitor the database to determine whether Adverse Action has been taken against such a Licensee or License applicant. Adverse Action information pertaining to a Licensee or License applicant in any Member State will be available to any other Member State.
- G. Member States contributing information to the Data System may designate information that may not be shared with the public without the express permission of the contributing State.
- H. Any information submitted to the Data System that is subsequently expunged pursuant to federal law or the laws of the Member State contributing the information shall be removed from the Data System.

ARTICLE 11- RULEMAKING

- A. The Commission shall promulgate reasonable Rules in order to effectively and efficiently implement and administer the purposes and provisions of the Compact. A Rule shall be invalid and have no force or effect only if a court of competent jurisdiction holds that the Rule is invalid because the Commission exercised its rulemaking authority in a manner that is beyond the scope and purposes of the Compact, or the powers granted hereunder, or based upon another applicable standard of review.
- B. The Rules of the Commission shall have the force of law in each Member State, provided however that where the Rules of the Commission conflict with the laws of the Member State that establish the Member State's scope of practice laws governing the Practice of Cosmetology as held by a court of competent jurisdiction, the Rules of the Commission shall be ineffective in that State to the extent of the conflict.
- C. The Commission shall exercise its rulemaking powers pursuant to the criteria set forth in this Article and the Rules adopted thereunder. Rules shall become binding as of the date specified by the Commission for each Rule.
- D. If a majority of the legislatures of the Member States rejects a Rule or portion of a Rule, by enactment of a statute or resolution in the same manner used to adopt the Compact within four (4) years of the date of adoption of the Rule, then such Rule shall have no further force and effect in any Member State or to any State applying to participate in the Compact.
- E. Rules shall be adopted at a regular or special meeting of the Commission.
- F. Prior to adoption of a proposed Rule, the Commission shall hold a public hearing and allow persons to provide oral and written comments, data, facts, opinions, and arguments.
- G. Prior to adoption of a proposed Rule by the Commission, and at least thirty (30) days in advance of the meeting at which the Commission will hold a public hearing on the proposed Rule, the Commission shall provide a notice of proposed rulemaking:
1. On the website of the Commission or other publicly accessible platform;
 2. To persons who have requested notice of the Commission's notices of proposed rulemaking; and
 3. In such other way(s) as the Commission may by Rule specify.

H. The notice of proposed rulemaking shall include:

1. The time, date, and location of the public hearing at which the Commission will hear public comments on the proposed Rule and, if different, the time, date, and location of the meeting where the Commission will consider and vote on the proposed Rule;
2. If the hearing is held via telecommunication, video conference, or other electronic means, the Commission shall include the mechanism for access to the hearing in the notice of proposed rulemaking;
3. The text of the proposed Rule and the reason therefor;
4. A request for comments on the proposed Rule from any interested person; and
5. The manner in which interested persons may submit written comments.

I. All hearings will be recorded. A copy of the recording and all written comments and documents received by the Commission in response to the proposed Rule shall be available to the public.

J. Nothing in this Article shall be construed as requiring a separate hearing on each Rule. Rules may be grouped for the convenience of the Commission at hearings required by this Article.

K. The Commission shall, by majority vote of all members, take final action on the proposed Rule based on the rulemaking record and the full text of the Rule.

1. The Commission may adopt changes to the proposed Rule provided the changes do not enlarge the original purpose of the proposed Rule.
2. The Commission shall provide an explanation of the reasons for substantive changes made to the proposed Rule as well as reasons for substantive changes not made that were recommended by commenters.
3. The Commission shall determine a reasonable effective date for the Rule. Except for an emergency as provided in Article 11.L, the effective date of the Rule shall be no sooner than forty-five (45) days after the Commission issuing the notice that it adopted or amended the Rule.

L. Upon determination that an emergency exists, the Commission may consider and adopt an emergency Rule with five (5) days' notice, with opportunity to comment, provided that the usual rulemaking procedures provided in the Compact and in this Article shall be retroactively applied to the Rule as soon as reasonably possible, in no event later than ninety (90) days after the effective date of the Rule. For the purposes of this provision, an emergency Rule is one that must be adopted immediately to:

1. Meet an imminent threat to public health, safety, or welfare;
2. Prevent a loss of Commission or Member State funds;
3. Meet a deadline for the promulgation of a Rule that is established by federal law or rule; or
4. Protect public health and safety.

M. The Commission or an authorized committee of the Commission may direct revisions to a previously adopted Rule for purposes of correcting typographical errors, errors in format, errors in consistency, or grammatical errors. Public notice of any revisions shall be posted on the website of the Commission. The revision shall be subject to challenge by any person for a period of thirty (30)

days after posting. The revision may be challenged only on grounds that the revision results in a material change to a Rule. A challenge shall be made in writing and delivered to the Commission prior to the end of the notice period. If no challenge is made, the revision will take effect without further action. If the revision is challenged, the revision may not take effect without the approval of the Commission.

N. No Member State's rulemaking requirements shall apply under this Compact.

ARTICLE 12- OVERSIGHT, DISPUTE RESOLUTION, AND ENFORCEMENT

A. Oversight

1. The executive and judicial branches of State government in each Member State shall enforce this Compact and take all actions necessary and appropriate to implement the Compact.
2. Venue is proper and judicial proceedings by or against the Commission shall be brought solely and exclusively in a court of competent jurisdiction where the principal office of the Commission is located. The Commission may waive venue and jurisdictional defenses to the extent it adopts or consents to participate in alternative dispute resolution proceedings. Nothing herein shall affect or limit the selection or propriety of venue in any action against a Licensee for professional malpractice, misconduct or any such similar matter.
3. The Commission shall be entitled to receive service of process in any proceeding regarding the enforcement or interpretation of the Compact and shall have standing to intervene in such a proceeding for all purposes. Failure to provide the Commission service of process shall render a judgment or order void as to the Commission, this Compact, or promulgated Rules.

B. Default, Technical Assistance, and Termination

1. If the Commission determines that a Member State has defaulted in the performance of its obligations or responsibilities under this Compact or the promulgated Rules, the Commission shall provide written notice to the defaulting State. The notice of default shall describe the default, the proposed means of curing the default, and any other action that the Commission may take, and shall offer training and specific technical assistance regarding the default.
2. The Commission shall provide a copy of the notice of default to the other Member States.
3. If a State in default fails to cure the default, the defaulting State may be terminated from the Compact upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the delegates of the Member States, and all rights, privileges and benefits conferred on that State by this Compact may be terminated on the effective date of termination. A cure of the default does not relieve the offending State of obligations or liabilities incurred during the period of default.

4. Termination of membership in the Compact shall be imposed only after all other means of securing compliance have been exhausted. Notice of intent to suspend or terminate shall be given by the Commission to the governor, the majority and minority leaders of the defaulting State's legislature, the defaulting State's State Licensing Authority and each of the Member States' State Licensing Authority.
5. A State that has been terminated is responsible for all assessments, obligations, and liabilities incurred through the effective date of termination, including obligations that extend beyond the effective date of termination.
6. Upon the termination of a State's membership from this Compact, that State shall immediately provide notice to all Licensees who hold a Multistate License within that State of such termination. The terminated State shall continue to recognize all licenses granted pursuant to this Compact for a minimum of one hundred eighty (180) days after the date of said notice of termination.
7. The Commission shall not bear any costs related to a State that is found to be in default or that has been terminated from the Compact, unless agreed upon in writing between the Commission and the defaulting State.
8. The defaulting State may appeal the action of the Commission by petitioning the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or the federal district where the Commission has its principal offices. The prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.

C. Dispute Resolution

1. Upon request by a Member State, the Commission shall attempt to resolve disputes related to the Compact that arise among Member States and between Member and non-Member States.
2. The Commission shall promulgate a Rule providing for both mediation and binding dispute resolution for disputes as appropriate.

D. Enforcement

1. The Commission, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion, shall enforce the provisions of this Compact and the Commission's Rules.
2. By majority vote as provided by Commission Rule, the Commission may initiate legal action against a Member State in default in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or the federal district where the Commission has its principal offices to enforce compliance with the provisions of the Compact and its promulgated Rules. The relief sought may include both injunctive relief and damages. In the event judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees. The remedies herein shall not be the exclusive remedies of the Commission. The Commission may pursue any other remedies available under federal or the defaulting Member State's law.

3. A Member State may initiate legal action against the Commission in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or the federal district where the Commission has its principal offices to enforce compliance with the provisions of the Compact and its promulgated Rules. The relief sought may include both injunctive relief and damages. In the event judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.
4. No individual or entity other than a Member State may enforce this Compact against the Commission.

ARTICLE 13- EFFECTIVE DATE, WITHDRAWAL, AND AMENDMENT

A. The Compact shall come into effect on the date on which the Compact statute is enacted into law in the seventh Member State.

1. On or after the effective date of the Compact, the Commission shall convene and review the enactment of each of the Charter Member States to determine if the statute enacted by each such Charter Member State is materially different than the model Compact statute.

a. A Charter Member State whose enactment is found to be materially different from the model Compact statute shall be entitled to the default process set forth in Article 12.

b. If any Member State is later found to be in default, or is terminated or withdraws from the Compact, the Commission shall remain in existence and the Compact shall remain in effect even if the number of Member States should be less than seven (7).

2. Member States enacting the Compact subsequent to the Charter Member States shall be subject to the process set forth in Article 9.C.24 to determine if their enactments are materially different from the model Compact statute and whether they qualify for participation in the Compact.

3. All actions taken for the benefit of the Commission or in furtherance of the purposes of the administration of the Compact prior to the effective date of the Compact or the Commission coming into existence shall be considered to be actions of the Commission unless specifically repudiated by the Commission.

4. Any State that joins the Compact shall be subject to the Commission's Rules and bylaws as they exist on the date on which the Compact becomes law in that State. Any Rule that has been previously adopted by the Commission shall have the full force and effect of law on the day the Compact becomes law in that State.

B. Any Member State may withdraw from this Compact by enacting a statute repealing that State's enactment of the Compact.

1. A Member State's withdrawal shall not take effect until one hundred eighty (180) days after enactment of the repealing statute.

2. Withdrawal shall not affect the continuing requirement of the withdrawing State's State Licensing Authority to comply with the investigative and Adverse Action reporting requirements of this Compact prior to the effective date of withdrawal.

3. Upon the enactment of a statute withdrawing from this Compact, a State shall immediately provide notice of such withdrawal to all Licensees within that State. Notwithstanding any subsequent statutory enactment to the contrary, such withdrawing State shall continue to recognize all licenses granted pursuant to this Compact for a minimum of one hundred eighty (180) days after the date of such notice of withdrawal.

C. Nothing contained in this Compact shall be construed to invalidate or prevent any licensure agreement or other cooperative arrangement between a Member State and a non-Member State that does not conflict with the provisions of this Compact.

D. This Compact may be amended by the Member States. No amendment to this Compact shall become effective and binding upon any Member State until it is enacted into the laws of all Member States.

ARTICLE 14- CONSTRUCTION AND SEVERABILITY

A. This Compact and the Commission's rulemaking authority shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate the purposes, and the implementation and administration of the Compact. Provisions of the Compact expressly authorizing or requiring the promulgation of Rules shall not be construed to limit the Commission's rulemaking authority solely for those purposes.

B. The provisions of this Compact shall be severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence or provision of this Compact is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be contrary to the constitution of any Member State, a State seeking participation in the Compact, or of the United States, or the applicability thereof to any government, agency, person or circumstance is held to be unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, the validity of the remainder of this Compact and the applicability thereof to any other government, agency, person or circumstance shall not be affected thereby.

C. Notwithstanding Article 14.B, the Commission may deny a State's participation in the Compact or, in accordance with the requirements of Article 12, terminate a Member State's participation in the Compact, if it determines that a constitutional requirement of a Member State is a material departure from the Compact. Otherwise, if this Compact shall be held to be contrary to the constitution of any Member State, the Compact shall remain in full force and effect as to the remaining Member States and in full force and effect as to the Member State affected as to all severable matters.

ARTICLE 15- CONSISTENT EFFECT AND CONFLICT WITH OTHER STATE LAWS

A. The purpose of this Compact is to facilitate multistate licensure of Cosmetologists. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, nothing herein shall subject a Member State to any laws, rules, or regulations from the Commission or from any other Member State.

B. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, nothing herein shall require any Member State to adopt additional laws or policies.

C. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, nothing herein shall prevent or inhibit the enforcement of any other law of a Member State.

D. All permissible agreements between the Commission and the Member States are binding in accordance with their terms.

E. If the Commission determines under Article 8(c)(24) that any language in this chapter is materially different from the Compact model legislation, this State will not be considered a Member State of the Compact and any provisions purporting to enact or implement this Compact shall be null, void, and of no effect.

Sec. 1604.002. ADMINISTRATION OF COMPACT. The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation is the Cosmetology Licensure Compact administrator for this state.

Sec. 1604.003. WITHDRAWAL. This state may withdraw from the compact under this chapter at any time on the issuance of a proclamation by the governor or other executive action rescinding this state's consent to the compact, subject to the notice and temporary recognition requirements under Article 13(B) of the compact.

Sec. 1604.004. RULES. The Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation may adopt rules necessary to implement this chapter.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2026.

Representative Wilson moved to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 705**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 705** prevailed by (Record 4153): 127 Yeas, 10 Nays, 2 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Anchía; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bowers; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Bumgarner; Button; Campos; Canales; Capriglione; Cole; Collier; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dutton; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Gámez; Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hinojosa; Holt; Howard; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Johnson; Jones, J.; King; Kitzman; Lalani; Lambert; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Lopez, J.; Louderback; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Meza; Money; Moody; Morales, E.; Morales Shaw; Morgan; Muñoz; Noble; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Pierson; Plesa; Raymond; Richardson; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rosenthal; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Simmons; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Toth; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Virdell; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wilson; Wu; Zwiener.

Nays — Cain; Dyson; Harrison; Hickland; Hopper; Kerwin; Lowe; Olcott; Oliverson; Tinderholt.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker; Landgraf(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.

Absent — Davis, Y.; LaHood; Longoria; Lopez, R.; Morales, C.; Reynolds; Rose.

STATEMENT OF VOTE

When Record No. 4153 was taken, I was temporarily out of the house chamber. I would have voted yes.

Rose

SB 1540 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Without objection, Representative Capriglione submitted the conference committee report on **SB 1540**.

Representative Capriglione moved to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 1540**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 1540** prevailed by (Record 4154): 128 Yeas, 9 Nays, 2 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Anchía; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Bumgarner; Button; Cain; Campos; Canales; Capriglione; Cole; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dutton; Dyson; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Gámez; Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; González, M.; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Holt; Hopper; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Johnson; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lalani; Lambert; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Louderback; Lowe; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Meza; Money; Moody; Morales, E.; Morgan; Muñoz; Noble; Olcott; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, V.; Phelan; Pierson; Plesa; Raymond; Richardson; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rosenthal; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Virdell; Vo; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wilson; Wu; Zwiener.

Nays — Bowers; Collier; González, J.; Goodwin; Howard; Jones, J.; Morales Shaw; Perez, M.; Walle.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker; Landgraf(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.

Absent — Davis, Y.; Hinojosa; Longoria; Morales, C.; Reynolds; Rose; Simmons.

STATEMENT OF VOTE

When Record No. 4154 was taken, I was temporarily out of the house chamber. I would have voted no.

Rose

**HR 1514 - ADOPTED
(by Landgraf)**

The following privileged resolution was laid before the house:

HR 1514

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the State of Texas, 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, That House Rule 13, Section 9(a), be suspended in part as provided by House Rule 13, Section 9(f), to enable the conference committee appointed to resolve the differences on **HB 40** (relating to the business court) to consider and take action on the following matters:

(1) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(4), is suspended to permit the committee to add text on a matter not included in either the house or senate version of the bill in proposed SECTION 56 of the bill, adding Section 25A.021, Government Code, to read as follows:

Sec. 25A.021. ACTIONS COMMENCED BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2024. (a) Notwithstanding Section 8, Chapter 380 (HB 19), Acts of the 88th Legislature, Regular Session, 2023, a civil action commenced before September 1, 2024, that is within the jurisdiction of the business court may be transferred to and heard by the business court on an agreed motion of a party and permission of the business court under rules adopted by the supreme court for the purpose. When adopting rules under this section, the supreme court shall:

(1) prioritize complex civil actions of longer duration that have proven difficult for a district court to resolve because of the other demands on the district court's caseload;

(2) consider the capacity of the business court to accept the transfer of the action without impairing the business court's efficiency and effectiveness in resolving actions commenced on or after September 1, 2024; and

(3) ensure the facilitation of the fair and efficient administration of justice.

(b) This section expires September 1, 2035.

Explanation: This change is necessary to allow civil actions commenced before September 1, 2024, to be transferred to and heard by the business court on the agreement of the parties and with the permission of the business court.

(2) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(4), is suspended to permit the committee to add text on a matter not included in either the house or senate version of the bill in proposed SECTION 72 of the bill, by adding nonamendatory transition language to read as follows:

SECTION 72. Except as provided by Section 25A.021, Government Code, as added by this Act, the changes in law made by this Act apply only to civil actions commenced on or after September 1, 2024.

Explanation: This change is necessary to allow civil actions commenced before September 1, 2024, to be transferred to and heard by the business court under Section 25A.021, Government Code, as proposed in SECTION 56 of the bill.

HR 1514 was adopted by (Record 4155): 108 Yeas, 24 Nays, 2 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bhojani; Bonnen; Buckley; Bumgarner; Button; Cain; Canales; Capriglione; Cole; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dyson; Fairly; Frank; Gámez; Garcia, J.; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Holt; Hopper; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Johnson; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lambert; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Louderback; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Money; Morales, E.; Morales Shaw; Morgan; Muñoz; Noble; Olcott; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Pierson; Plesa; Raymond; Richardson; Romero; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Tepper; Thompson; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Virdell; Wharton; Wilson.

Nays — Anchía; Bowers; Bryant; Bucy; Campos; Collier; Davis, A.; Dutton; Garcia Hernandez; González, J.; Goodwin; Hinojosa; Howard; Jones, J.; Lalani; Lowe; Meza; Rodríguez Ramos; Rosenthal; Turner; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wu; Zwiener.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker; Landgraf(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.

Absent — Bernal; Davis, Y.; Flores; González, M.; Longoria; Moody; Morales, C.; Reynolds; Rose; Simmons; Talarico; Vo.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4155 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted no.

Flores

When Record No. 4155 was taken, I was shown voting yes. I intended to vote no.

Morales Shaw

When Record No. 4155 was taken, I was temporarily out of the house chamber. I would have voted no.

Rose

HB 40 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Without objection, Representative Meyer submitted the following conference committee report on **HB 40**:

Austin, Texas, May 30, 2025

The Honorable Dan Patrick
President of the Senate

The Honorable Dustin Burrows
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Sirs: We, your conference committee, appointed to adjust the differences between the senate and the house of representatives on **HB 40** have had the same under consideration, and beg to report it back with the recommendation that it do pass in the form and text hereto attached.

Hughes
Creighton
Huffman
King
Parker

Landgraf
Dyson
Leach
Meyer

On the part of the senate

On the part of the house

HB 40, A bill to be entitled An Act relating to the business court.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 11.101(e), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

(e) A prefiling order entered under Subsection (a) by a district court, a ~~statutory~~ county court, or the business court applies to each court in this state.

SECTION 2. Section 15.003(c), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c) An interlocutory appeal permitted by Subsection (b) must be taken to the court of appeals district in which the trial court is located under the procedures established for interlocutory appeals, except that an interlocutory appeal from the business court must be taken to the Fifteenth Court of Appeals. The appeal may be taken by a party that is affected by the trial court's determination under Subsection (a). The court of appeals shall:

(1) determine whether the trial court's order is proper based on an independent determination from the record and not under either an abuse of discretion or substantial evidence standard; and

(2) render judgment not later than the 120th day after the date the appeal is perfected.

SECTION 3. Section 19.003(a), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) To supply a record that has been lost, destroyed, or removed:

(1) a person interested in an instrument or in a judgment, order, or decree of the district court may file an application with the district clerk of the county in which the record was lost or destroyed or from which the record was removed; ~~or~~

(2) a person interested in a judgment, order, or decree of a county court may file an application with the clerk of the court to which the record belonged; or

(3) a person interested in a judgment, order, or decree of the business court may file an application with the clerk of the business court.

SECTION 4. Section 20.001(a), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A deposition on written questions of a witness who is alleged to reside or to be in this state may be taken by:

- (1) a clerk of a district court;
- (2) a judge or clerk of a county court; ~~or~~
- (3) a judge or clerk of the business court; or
- (4) a notary public of this state.

SECTION 5. Section 30.014(a), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) In a civil action, including a probate or guardianship proceeding, filed in a district court, a county court, a statutory county court, a ~~or~~ statutory probate court, or the business court, each party or the party's attorney shall include in its initial pleading:

(1) the last three numbers of the party's driver's license number, if the party has been issued a driver's license; and

(2) the last three numbers of the party's social security number, if the party has been issued a social security number.

SECTION 6. Section 30.015(a), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) In a civil action filed in a district court, a county court, a statutory county court, a ~~or~~ statutory probate court, or the business court, each party or the party's attorney must provide the clerk of the court with written notice of the party's name and current residence or business address.

SECTION 7. Section 30.016(a), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) In this section, "tertiary recusal motion" means a third or subsequent motion for recusal or disqualification filed against a district court, ~~or~~ statutory county court, or business court judge by the same party in a case.

SECTION 8. Sections 30.017(a) and (c), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) A claim against a district court, statutory probate court, ~~or~~ statutory county court, or business court judge that is added to a case pending in the court to which the judge was elected or appointed:

(1) must be made under oath;

(2) may not be based solely on the rulings in the pending case but must plead specific facts supporting each element of the claim in addition to the rulings in the pending case; and

(3) is automatically severed from the case.

(c) The presiding judge of the administrative region, ~~or~~ the presiding judge of the statutory probate courts, or the administrative presiding judge of the business court shall assign the severed claim to a different judge. The judge shall dismiss the claim if the claim does not satisfy the requirements of Subsection (a)(1) or (2).

SECTION 9. Section 51.014(a), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A person may appeal from an interlocutory order of a district court, a county court at law, a statutory probate court, a ~~county court~~, or the business court that:

- (1) appoints a receiver or trustee;
- (2) overrules a motion to vacate an order that appoints a receiver or trustee;
- (3) certifies or refuses to certify a class in a suit brought under Rule 42 of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure;
- (4) grants or refuses a temporary injunction or grants or overrules a motion to dissolve a temporary injunction as provided by Chapter 65;
- (5) denies a motion for summary judgment that is based on an assertion of immunity by an individual who is an officer or employee of the state or a political subdivision of the state;
- (6) denies a motion for summary judgment that is based in whole or in part upon a claim against or defense by a member of the electronic or print media, acting in such capacity, or a person whose communication appears in or is published by the electronic or print media, arising under the free speech or free press clause of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, or Article I, Section 8, of the Texas Constitution, or Chapter 73;
- (7) grants or denies the special appearance of a defendant under Rule 120a, Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, except in a suit brought under the Family Code;
- (8) grants or denies a plea to the jurisdiction by a governmental unit as that term is defined in Section 101.001;
- (9) denies all or part of the relief sought by a motion under Section 74.351(b), except that an appeal may not be taken from an order granting an extension under Section 74.351;
- (10) grants relief sought by a motion under Section 74.351(l);
- (11) denies a motion to dismiss filed under Section 90.007;
- (12) denies a motion to dismiss filed under Section 27.003;
- (13) denies a motion for summary judgment filed by an electric utility regarding liability in a suit subject to Section 75.0022;
- (14) denies a motion filed by a municipality with a population of 500,000 or more in an action filed under Section 54.012(6) or 214.0012, Local Government Code;
- (15) makes a preliminary determination on a claim under Section 74.353;
- (16) overrules an objection filed under Section 148.003(d) or denies all or part of the relief sought by a motion under Section 148.003(f); or
- (17) grants or denies a motion for summary judgment filed by a contractor based on Section 97.002.

SECTION 10. Section 51.016, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 51.016. APPEAL ARISING UNDER FEDERAL ARBITRATION ACT. In a matter subject to the Federal Arbitration Act (9 U.S.C. Section 1 et seq.), a person may take an appeal or writ of error to the court of appeals from the judgment or interlocutory order of a district court, a county court at law, a ~~[or]~~ county court, or the business court under the same circumstances that an appeal from a federal district court's order or decision would be permitted by 9 U.S.C. Section 16.

SECTION 11. Section 61.021, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 61.021. WHO MAY ISSUE. The judge or clerk of a district court, a ~~[or]~~ county court, or the business court or a justice of the peace may issue a writ of original attachment returnable to the [his] court of issuance.

SECTION 12. Section 63.002, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 63.002. WHO MAY ISSUE. The clerk of a district court, a ~~[or]~~ county court, or the business court or a justice of the peace may issue a writ of garnishment returnable to the clerk's [his] court.

SECTION 13. Section 64.091(b), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) In the following actions, a district court or the business court may appoint a receiver for the mineral interest or leasehold interest under a mineral lease owned by a nonresident or absent defendant:

(1) an action that is brought by a person claiming or owning an undivided mineral interest in land in this state or an undivided leasehold interest under a mineral lease of land in this state and that has one or more defendants who have, claim, or own an undivided mineral interest in the same property; or

(2) an action that is brought by a person claiming or owning an undivided leasehold interest under a mineral lease of land in this state and that has one or more defendants who have, claim, or own an undivided leasehold interest under a mineral lease of the same property.

SECTION 14. Sections 64.092(a) and (c), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) On the application of a person who has a vested, contingent, or possible interest in land or an estate subject to a contingent future interest, a district court or the business court division of the county in which all or part of the land is located may appoint a receiver for the land or estate, pending the occurrence of the contingency and the vesting of the future interest, if:

(1) the land or estate is susceptible to drainage of oil, gas, or other minerals;

(2) lease of the land for oil, gas, or mineral development and the safe and proper investment of the proceeds will inure to the benefit and advantage of the persons entitled to the proceeds; or

(3) lease of the land for the production of oil, gas, or other minerals is necessary for the conservation, preservation, or protection of the land or estate or of a present, contingent, or future interest in the land or estate.

(c) On the application of a person who has a vested, contingent, or possible interest in land or an estate that is under an oil, gas, or mineral lease and is subject to a contingent future interest, a district court or the business court division of the county in which all or part of the land is located may appoint a receiver for the contingent future interests, pending the occurrence of the contingency and the vesting of the future interest, if:

(1) the lease fails to provide for pooling or contains pooling provisions that are ineffective as to the contingent future interest covered by the lease; and

(2) the pooling of the contingent future interest:

(A) is necessary to protect correlative rights;

(B) is necessary to prevent the physical or economic waste of oil, gas, or other minerals;

(C) will inure to the benefit and advantage of the persons entitled to the future interest; or

(D) is necessary for the conservation, preservation, or protection of the land or estate or of a present, contingent, or future interest in the land or estate.

SECTION 15. Section 64.093(a), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A district court or the business court may appoint a receiver for the royalty interest owned by a nonresident or absent defendant in an action that:

(1) is brought by a person claiming or owning an undivided mineral interest in land in this state or an undivided leasehold interest under a mineral lease of land in the state; and

(2) has one or more defendants who have, claim, or own an undivided royalty interest in that property.

SECTION 16. Section 65.022, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended by adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

(e) A business court judge may grant a writ returnable to another business court judge if that judge cannot be reached by the ordinary and available means of travel and communication in sufficient time to implement the purpose sought for the writ. In seeking a writ under this subsection, the applicant or attorney for the applicant shall attach to the application an affidavit that fully states the facts of the inaccessibility and the efforts made to reach and communicate with the other business court judge. The business court judge to whom the application is made shall refuse to hear the application unless the judge determines the applicant made fair and reasonable efforts to reach and communicate with the other business court judge. The injunction may be dissolved on a showing the applicant did not first make reasonable efforts to procure a hearing on the application before the other business court judge.

SECTION 17. Section 65.023(a), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), a writ of injunction against a party who is a resident of this state shall be tried in a district or county court in the county in which the party is domiciled, or in the business court division of the

county in which the party is domiciled. If the writ is granted against more than one party, it may be tried in the proper court of a ~~the~~ county in which an enjoined party ~~either party~~ is domiciled.

SECTION 18. Section 65.045(c), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The business court, district courts, and statutory county courts ~~in a county~~ may not adopt local rules in conflict with this subchapter.

SECTION 19. Section 151.001, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 151.001. REFERRAL BY AGREEMENT. On agreement of the parties, in civil or family law matters pending in a district court, a statutory probate court, a ~~or~~ statutory county court, or the business court, the judge in whose court the case is pending may order referral of the case as provided by this chapter and shall stay proceedings in the judge's court pending the outcome of the trial. Any or all of the issues in the cases, whether an issue of fact or law, may be referred.

SECTION 20. Section 151.003, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 151.003. QUALIFICATIONS OF JUDGE. The special judge must be a retired or former district court, statutory county court, statutory probate court, business court, or appellate court judge who:

(1) has served as a judge for at least four years in a district court, a statutory county court, a statutory probate court, the business court, an ~~or~~ appellate court, or a combination of the preceding courts;

(2) has developed substantial experience in the judge's area of specialty;

(3) has not been removed from office or resigned while under investigation for discipline or removal; and

(4) annually demonstrates completion in the past calendar year of at least five days of continuing legal education in courses approved by the state bar or the supreme court.

SECTION 21. Section 151.011, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 151.011. SPECIAL JUDGE'S VERDICT. The special judge's verdict must comply with the requirements for a verdict by the referring court, including any applicable requirements for the issuance of a written opinion. The verdict stands as a verdict of the referring judge's court. Unless otherwise specified in an order of referral, the special judge shall submit the verdict not later than the 60th day after the day the trial adjourns.

SECTION 22. Section 151.012, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 151.012. NEW TRIAL. If the special judge does not submit the verdict and any applicable written opinion within the time period provided by Section 151.011, the court may grant a new trial if:

(1) a party files a motion requesting the new trial;

(2) notice is given to all parties stating the time and place that a hearing will be held on the motion; and

(3) the hearing is held.

SECTION 23. Section 151.013, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 151.013. RIGHT TO APPEAL. The right to appeal is preserved. An appeal is from the order of the referring judge's court as provided by applicable law, including the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure and the Texas Rules of Appellate Procedure.

SECTION 24. Section 154.001(1), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

(1) "Court" includes an appellate court, a district court, the business court, a constitutional county court, a statutory county court, a family law court, a probate court, a municipal court, or a justice of the peace court.

SECTION 25. Section 171.002, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended by adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(d) This chapter does not confer on the business court any new or additional jurisdiction.

SECTION 26. Sections 171.086(a) and (b), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) Before arbitration proceedings begin, in support of arbitration a party may file an application for a court order, including an order to:

(1) invoke the jurisdiction of the court over the adverse party and to effect that jurisdiction by service of process on the party before arbitration proceedings begin;

(2) invoke the jurisdiction of the court over an ancillary proceeding in rem, including by attachment, garnishment, or sequestration, in the manner and subject to the conditions under which the proceeding may be instituted and conducted ancillary to a civil action in a district court or the business court, as applicable;

(3) restrain or enjoin:

(A) the destruction of all or an essential part of the subject matter of the controversy; or

(B) the destruction or alteration of books, records, documents, or other evidence needed for the arbitration;

(4) obtain from the court in its discretion an order for a deposition for discovery, perpetuation of testimony, or evidence needed before the arbitration proceedings begin;

(5) appoint one or more arbitrators so that an arbitration under the agreement to arbitrate may proceed; or

(6) obtain other relief, which the court can grant in its discretion, needed to permit the arbitration to be conducted in an orderly manner and to prevent improper interference or delay of the arbitration.

(b) During the period an arbitration is pending before the arbitrators or at or after the conclusion of the arbitration, a party may file an application for a court order, including an order:

(1) that was referred to or that would serve a purpose referred to in Subsection (a);

(2) to require compliance by an adverse party or any witness with an order made under this chapter by the arbitrators during the arbitration;

(3) to require the issuance and service under court order, rather than under the arbitrators' order, of a subpoena, notice, or other court process:

(A) in support of the arbitration; or

(B) in an ancillary proceeding in rem, including by attachment, garnishment, or sequestration, in the manner of and subject to the conditions under which the proceeding may be conducted ancillary to a civil action in a district court or the business court, as applicable;

(4) to require security for the satisfaction of a court judgment that may be later entered under an award;

(5) to support the enforcement of a court order entered under this chapter; or

(6) to obtain relief under Section 171.087, 171.088, 171.089, or 171.091.

SECTION 27. Section 171.093, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 171.093. HEARING; NOTICE. The court shall hear each initial and subsequent application under this subchapter in the manner and with the notice required by law or court rule for making and hearing a motion filed in a pending civil action in a district court or the business court, as applicable.

SECTION 28. Section 171.094(b), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) To the extent applicable, the process and service and the return of service must be in the form and include the substance required for process and service on a defendant in a civil action in a district court or the business court, as applicable.

SECTION 29. Section 171.095(a), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) After an initial application has been made, notice to an adverse party for each subsequent application shall be made in the same manner as is required for a motion filed in a pending civil action in a district court or the business court, as applicable. This subsection applies only if:

(1) jurisdiction over the adverse party has been established by service of process on the party or in rem for the initial application; and

(2) the subsequent application relates to:

(A) the same arbitration or a prospective arbitration under the same agreement to arbitrate; and

(B) the same controversy or controversies.

SECTION 30. Section 171.096, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (b), and (c) and adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

(a) Except as otherwise provided by this section, a party must file the initial application:

(1) in the county in which an adverse party resides or has a place of business or in the business court; or

(2) if an adverse party does not have a residence or place of business in this state, in any county or in the business court.

(b) If the agreement to arbitrate provides that the hearing before the arbitrators is to be held in a county in this state, a party must file the initial application with the clerk of the court of that county or with the clerk of the business court.

(c) If a hearing before the arbitrators has been held, a party must file the initial application with the clerk of the court of the county in which the hearing was held or with the clerk of the business court.

(e) An initial application filed in the business court must plead facts to establish venue in a county in a division of the business court as provided by Subsection (a)(1) or (2), (b), or (c), as applicable.

SECTION 31. Sections 171.097(a) and (b), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) On application of a party adverse to the party who filed the initial application, a court that has jurisdiction but that is not a court ~~located in a county other than as~~ described by Section 171.096 shall transfer the application to a court ~~of a county~~ described by that section.

(b) The court shall transfer the application by an order comparable to an order sustaining a plea of privilege to be sued in a civil action in a district court or a division of the business court of a county other than the county in which an action is filed.

SECTION 32. Section 171.098(b), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The appeal shall be taken to the applicable court of appeals in the manner and to the same extent as an appeal from an order or judgment in a civil action.

SECTION 33. Section 172.001, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended by adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

(e) This chapter does not confer on the business court any new or additional jurisdiction.

SECTION 34. Sections 172.054(a), (b), and (d), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) On request of a party, the district court or division of the business court of the county in which the place of arbitration is located shall appoint each arbitrator if:

(1) an agreement is not made under Section 172.053(a) in an arbitration with a sole arbitrator and the parties fail to agree on the arbitrator; or

(2) the appointment procedure in Section 172.053(b) applies and:

(A) a party fails to appoint an arbitrator not later than the 30th day after the date of receipt of a request to do so from the other party; or

(B) the two appointed arbitrators fail to agree on the third arbitrator not later than the 30th day after the date of their appointment.

(b) On request of a party, the district court or division of the business court of the county in which the place of arbitration is located may take necessary measures if under an appointment procedure agreed to by each party:

- (1) a party fails to act as required under that procedure;
- (2) the parties or two appointed arbitrators fail to reach an agreement expected of them under that procedure; or
- (3) a third party, including an institution, fails to perform a function assigned to the party under that procedure.

(d) A decision of the [~~district~~] court under this section is final and not subject to appeal.

SECTION 35. Section 172.055, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 172.055. FACTORS CONSIDERED. In appointing an arbitrator, the [~~district~~] court shall consider:

- (1) each qualification required of the arbitrator by the arbitration agreement;
- (2) any consideration making more likely the appointment of an independent and impartial arbitrator; and
- (3) in the case of a sole or third arbitrator, the advisability of appointing an arbitrator of a nationality other than that of any party.

SECTION 36. Section 172.060(a), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) If a challenge under Sections 172.059(b) and (c) is unsuccessful, the challenging party, not later than the 30th day after the date the party receives notice of the decision rejecting the challenge, may request the district court or the division of the business court of the county in which the place of arbitration is located to decide the challenge.

SECTION 37. Section 172.061(b), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) If there is a controversy concerning the termination of the arbitrator's mandate under Subsection (a), a party may request the district court or the division of the business court of the county in which the place of arbitration is located to decide the termination. The decision of the court is not subject to appeal.

SECTION 38. Section 172.082(f), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

(f) If the arbitration tribunal rules as a preliminary question that it has jurisdiction, a party waives objection to the ruling unless the party, not later than the 30th day after the date the party receives notice of that ruling, requests the district court or division of the business court of the county in which the place of arbitration is located to decide the matter. The decision of the court is not subject to appeal.

SECTION 39. Section 172.172, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 172.172. ASSISTANCE IN TAKING EVIDENCE. The arbitration tribunal or a party with the approval of the tribunal may request assistance from a district court or the business court in taking evidence, and the court may provide the assistance according to its rules on taking evidence. The tribunal or a party shall select the [~~district~~] court in the manner provided by Section 171.096.

SECTION 40. Sections 172.173(a) and (b), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) If the parties to two or more arbitration agreements agree, in the respective arbitration agreements or otherwise, to consolidate the arbitrations arising out of the agreements, a district court or the business court, on application by a party with the consent of each other party to the agreements, may:

(1) order the arbitrations consolidated on terms the court considers just and necessary;

(2) if all the parties cannot agree on a tribunal for the consolidated arbitration, appoint an arbitration tribunal as provided by Section 172.055; and

(3) if all the parties cannot agree on any other matter necessary to conduct the consolidated arbitration, make any other order the court considers necessary.

(b) The arbitration tribunal or the party shall select the [~~district~~] court in the manner provided by Section 171.096.

SECTION 41. Section 172.175(a), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A party to an arbitration agreement may request an interim measure of protection from a district court or the business court before or during an arbitration. The party shall select the court in the manner described by Section 171.096.

SECTION 42. Section 21.010(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A justice or judge, as applicable, of the supreme court, the court of criminal appeals, a court of appeals, a district court, the business court, a county court, a county court at law, or a statutory probate court may not, on the date the person takes office as a justice or judge or while serving as a justice or judge, have a significant interest in a business entity that owns, manages, or operates:

(1) a community residential facility described by Section 508.119;

(2) a correctional or rehabilitation facility subject to Chapter 244, Local Government Code; or

(3) any other facility intended to accomplish a purpose or provide a service described by Section 508.119(a) to a person convicted of a misdemeanor or felony or found to have engaged in delinquent conduct who is housed in the facility:

(A) while serving a sentence of confinement following conviction of an offense or an adjudication of delinquent conduct; or

(B) as a condition of community supervision, probation, parole, or mandatory supervision.

SECTION 43. Section 25A.001(14), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(14) "Qualified transaction" means a transaction, or series of related transactions other than a transaction involving a loan or an advance of money or credit by a bank, credit union, or savings and loan institution, under which a party:

(A) pays or receives, or is obligated to pay or is entitled to receive, consideration with an aggregate value of at least \$5 [~~\$10~~] million; or

(B) lends, advances, borrows, receives, is obligated to lend or advance, or is entitled to borrow or receive money or credit with an aggregate value of at least \$5 [~~\$10~~] million.

SECTION 44. Sections 25A.003(d), (g), (h), (i), (k), (l), and (m), Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

(d) The Second Business Court Division is composed of the counties composing the Second Administrative Judicial Region under Section 74.042(c), excluding Montgomery County, subject to funding through legislative appropriations. [~~The division is abolished September 1, 2026, unless reauthorized by the legislature and funded through additional legislative appropriations.~~]

(g) The Fifth Business Court Division is composed of the counties composing the Fifth Administrative Judicial Region under Section 74.042(f), subject to funding through legislative appropriations. [~~The division is abolished on September 1, 2026, unless reauthorized by the legislature and funded through additional legislative appropriations.~~]

(h) The Sixth Business Court Division is composed of the counties composing the Sixth Administrative Judicial Region under Section 74.042(g), subject to funding through legislative appropriations. [~~The division is abolished on September 1, 2026, unless reauthorized by the legislature and funded through additional legislative appropriations.~~]

(i) The Seventh Business Court Division is composed of the counties composing the Seventh Administrative Judicial Region under Section 74.042(h), subject to funding through legislative appropriations. [~~The division is abolished on September 1, 2026, unless reauthorized by the legislature and funded through additional legislative appropriations.~~]

(k) The Ninth Business Court Division is composed of the counties composing the Ninth Administrative Judicial Region under Section 74.042(j), subject to funding through legislative appropriations. [~~The division is abolished on September 1, 2026, unless reauthorized by the legislature and funded through additional legislative appropriations.~~]

(l) The Tenth Business Court Division is composed of the counties composing the Tenth Administrative Judicial Region under Section 74.042(k), subject to funding through legislative appropriations. [~~The division is abolished on September 1, 2026, unless reauthorized by the legislature and funded through additional legislative appropriations.~~]

(m) The Eleventh Business Court Division is composed of the counties composing the Eleventh Administrative Judicial Region under Section 74.042(l) and Montgomery County.

SECTION 45. Section 25A.004, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (b), (d), (f), (g), and (h) and adding Subsections (d-1) and (i) to read as follows:

(a) Subject to Subsections (b), (c), (d), (d-1), (e), and (f), the business court has the powers provided to district courts by Chapter 24, including the power to:

(1) issue writs of injunction, mandamus, sequestration, attachment, garnishment, and supersedeas; and

(2) grant any relief that may be granted by a district court.

(b) Subject to Subsection (c), the business court has civil jurisdiction concurrent with district courts in the following actions, including actions in which a district court has exclusive jurisdiction, in which the amount in controversy exceeds \$5 million, excluding interest, statutory damages, exemplary damages, penalties, attorney's fees, and court costs:

(1) a derivative proceeding;

(2) an action regarding the governance, governing documents, or internal affairs of an organization;

(3) an action in which a claim under a state or federal securities or trade regulation law is asserted against:

(A) an organization;

(B) a controlling person or managerial official of an organization for an act or omission by the organization or by the person in the person's capacity as a controlling person or managerial official;

(C) an underwriter of securities issued by the organization; or

(D) the auditor of an organization;

(4) an action by an organization, or an owner of an organization, if the action:

(A) is brought against an owner, controlling person, or managerial official of the organization; and

(B) alleges an act or omission by the person in the person's capacity as an owner, controlling person, or managerial official of the organization;

(5) an action alleging that an owner, controlling person, or managerial official breached a duty owed to an organization or an owner of an organization by reason of the person's status as an owner, controlling person, or managerial official, including the breach of a duty of loyalty or good faith;

(6) an action seeking to hold an owner or governing person of an organization liable for an obligation of the organization, other than on account of a written contract signed by the person to be held liable in a capacity other than as an owner or governing person; and

(7) an action arising out of the Business Organizations Code.

(d) The business court has civil jurisdiction concurrent with district courts in the following actions in which the amount in controversy exceeds \$5 [~~\$10~~] million, excluding interest, statutory damages, exemplary damages, penalties, attorney's fees, and court costs:

(1) an action arising out of a qualified transaction;

(2) an action arising ~~[that arises]~~ out of a business, commercial, or investment contract or ~~[commercial]~~ transaction in which the parties to the contract or transaction agreed in the contract or a subsequent agreement that the business court has jurisdiction of the action, except an action that arises out of an insurance contract; ~~[and]~~

(3) subject to Subsection (g), an action arising ~~[that arises]~~ out of a violation of the Finance Code or Business & Commerce Code by an organization or an officer or governing person acting on behalf of an organization other than a bank, credit union, or savings and loan association;

(4) an action arising out of or relating to the ownership, use, licensing, lease, installation, or performance of intellectual property, including:

(A) computer software, software applications, information technology and systems, data and data security, pharmaceuticals, biotechnology products, and bioscience technologies; and

(B) a trade secret, as that term is defined in Section 134A.002, Civil Practice and Remedies Code; and

(5) an action arising out of Chapter 134A, Civil Practice and Remedies Code.

(d-1) The business court has civil jurisdiction concurrent with district courts in an action to enforce an arbitration agreement, appoint an arbitrator, or review an arbitral award, or in other judicial actions authorized by an arbitration agreement, Chapter 171 or 172, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, or the Federal Arbitration Act (9 U.S.C. Sections 1 through 16), if a claim included in the controversy in arbitration is described by Subsection (b) or (d).

(f) Except as provided by Subsection (h), in an action in which the business court has jurisdiction under Subsection (b), (c), (d), or (e), the court has supplemental jurisdiction over any other claim so related to the action ~~[a case or controversy within the court's jurisdiction]~~ that the claim forms part of the same case or controversy. A claim within the business court's supplemental jurisdiction may proceed in the business court only on the agreement of all parties to the claim and a judge of the division of the court before which the action is pending. If the parties involved in a claim within the business court's supplemental jurisdiction do not agree on the claim proceeding in the business court, the claim may proceed in a court of original jurisdiction concurrently with any related claims proceeding in the business court.

(g) Unless the claim falls within the business court's supplemental jurisdiction, the business court does not have jurisdiction of:

(1) a claim in a civil action:

(A) brought by or against a governmental entity; or

(B) seeking to foreclose on a lien on real or personal property an individual owns at the time the action is filed;

(2) a claim arising out of:

(A) Subchapter E, Chapter 15, and Chapter 17, Business & Commerce Code;

(B) the Estates Code;

(C) the Family Code;

- (D) the Insurance Code; or
- (E) Chapter 53 and Title 9, Property Code;

(3) a claim arising out of the production or sale of a farm product, as that term is defined by Section 9.102, Business & Commerce Code; or

~~(4) a claim related to a consumer transaction, as that term is defined by Section 601.001, Business & Commerce Code, to which a consumer in this state is a party, arising out of a violation of federal or state law; or~~

~~(5) a claim related to the duties and obligations under an insurance policy.~~

(h) The business court does not have jurisdiction of the following claims regardless of whether the claim is otherwise within the court's supplemental jurisdiction under Subsection (f):

(1) a claim arising under Chapter 74, Civil Practice and Remedies Code;

(2) a claim in which a party seeks recovery of monetary damages for bodily injury or death; ~~or~~

(3) a claim of legal malpractice; or

(4) a claim related to a consumer transaction, as that term is defined by Section 601.001, Business & Commerce Code, to which a consumer in this state is a party, arising out of a violation of federal or state law.

(i) The amount in controversy for jurisdictional purposes under Subsection (b) or (d) is the total amount of all joined parties' claims.

SECTION 46. Chapter 25A, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 25A.0041 to read as follows:

Sec. 25A.0041. RULES RELATED TO JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION. (a) The supreme court by rule shall establish procedures for the prompt, efficient, and final determination of business court jurisdiction on the filing of an action in the business court. In adopting rules under this section, the supreme court must consider:

(1) the business court's purpose of efficiently addressing complex business litigation in a manner comparable to or more effective than the business and commercial courts operating in other states;

(2) the commonalities of law and procedure existing between the business court and district courts as trial courts functioning under the Texas Constitution and within the judicial branch of this state;

(3) the limited potential for the movement of an action between a district court and the business court as it relates to issues of fundamental fairness or the preservation of constitutionally or statutorily protected rights of the parties; and

(4) the need for guidance on evolving usage of the business court and the Fifteenth Court of Appeals over time by business litigants and their counsel as the courts develop a body of precedent and practice.

(b) In adopting rules under this section, the supreme court may:

(1) provide for jurisdictional determinations based on pleadings or summary proceedings;

(2) establish appropriate standards of proof;

(3) establish limited periods during which issues or rights must be asserted, considered agreed to, or waived;

(4) establish procedures for the review of jurisdictional determinations by the business court by another judge or panel of judges, including a regional presiding judge or the administrative presiding judge of the business court;

(5) allow, require, or prohibit interlocutory appeals;

(6) provide for accelerated appeals; or

(7) provide for any other procedures necessary for the prompt, efficient, and final determination of business court jurisdiction.

SECTION 47. Sections 25A.006(a) and (f), Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) An action within the jurisdiction of the business court may be filed in the business court. The party filing the action must plead facts to establish venue in a county in a division of the business court, and the business court shall assign the action to that division. Venue may be established as provided by:

(1) law;

(2) a party's governing documents in an action described by Section 25A.004(b)(2), (4), (5), or (7); or

(3) ~~[-if]~~ a written contract, if the contract specifies a county as venue for the action~~[-as provided by the contract].~~

(f) A party may file an agreed notice of removal at any time during the pendency of the action. If all parties to the action have not agreed to remove the action, the notice of removal must be filed:

(1) not later than the 30th day after the later of:

(A) the date the party requesting removal of the action was served with process in accordance with rules adopted by the supreme court; or

(B) the date the party requesting removal of the action discovered, or reasonably should have discovered, facts establishing the business court's jurisdiction over the action; or

(2) if an application for temporary injunction is pending on the date the party requesting removal of the action discovered, or reasonably should have discovered, facts establishing the business court's jurisdiction over the action, not later than the 30th day after the date the application is granted, denied, or denied as a matter of law.

SECTION 48. Section 25A.007(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Notwithstanding any other law, and except ~~[as provided by Subsection (b) and]~~ in instances when the supreme court has concurrent or exclusive jurisdiction, the Fifteenth Court of Appeals has exclusive jurisdiction over an appeal from an order or judgment of the business court or an original proceeding related to an action or order of the business court.

SECTION 49. Section 25A.009, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsections (a-1) and (d-1) and amending Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(a-1) A judge appointed to the business court may begin state employment and receive compensation for service as a judge for not more than 30 days before the beginning of the judge's term to allow time for training, organization of staff and chambers, and study of business court precedent, procedure, and pending cases.

(d) Not later than September 15 of each even-numbered year [~~the seventh day after the first day of a term~~], the business court judges by majority vote shall select a judge of the court to serve as administrative presiding judge and a judge serving a different division of the court to serve as administrative presiding judge pro tempore for a term of two years [~~for the duration of the term~~]. If a vacancy occurs in the position of administrative presiding judge, the administrative presiding judge pro tempore shall serve as administrative presiding judge and the [~~remaining~~] business court judges by majority vote shall select a judge of the court to serve as successor administrative presiding judge pro tempore for the remainder of the unexpired term as soon as practicable.

(d-1) The administrative presiding judge pro tempore shall act as administrative presiding judge in any matter in which the administrative presiding judge:

(1) has delegated the judge's official duties to the administrative presiding judge pro tempore; or

(2) is unable to perform the judge's official duties.

SECTION 50. Chapter 25A, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 25A.00111 to read as follows:

Sec. 25A.00111. JUDGE'S EXPENSES; OFFICIAL DUTIES. (a) A business court judge engaged in the discharge of official duties in a location other than the county in which the judge maintains chambers is entitled to travel expenses as provided by Chapter 660.

(b) A business court judge is entitled to receive from this state the actual and necessary postage, telephone, and telecommunications expenses incurred in the discharge of the judge's official duties.

(c) The official duties of a business court judge include:

(1) presenting educational information regarding the business court to legal and business groups; and

(2) attending educational meetings in this state and other states of the United States relating to business law, business litigation, and the function of the business court.

SECTION 51. Section 25A.012, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsections (c) and (d) to read as follows:

(c) If a business court judge determines on the judge's own motion the judge should not hear a case pending in the judge's court because the judge is disqualified or subject to recusal, the judge shall:

(1) enter a recusal order;

(2) request the administrative presiding judge of the business court to assign another judge of the business court to hear the case; and

(3) take no further action in the case except for good cause as stated in the order in which the action is taken.

(d) The administrative presiding judge is not required to assign a case described by Subsection (c) to a different division of the business court.

SECTION 52. Chapter 25A, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 25A.0135 to read as follows:

Sec. 25A.0135. EXEMPTION FROM CERTAIN JUDICIAL TRAINING REQUIREMENTS. A judge of the business court is exempt from the judicial training requirements under Chapter 22 that are not germane to the jurisdiction of the business court, including the training requirements of Sections 22.012 and 22.110.

SECTION 53. Section 25A.014, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(a) An active, [A] retired, or former judge or justice who has the qualifications prescribed by Section 25A.008 may be assigned as a visiting judge of a division of the business court by the chief justice of the supreme court. A visiting judge of a division of the business court is subject to objection, disqualification, or recusal under Chapter 74 in the same manner as a [retired or former] judge or justice is subject to objection, disqualification, or recusal if appointed as a visiting district judge.

(c) The chief justice of the supreme court may assign an active judge of the business court to serve as a visiting judge of a district court, a constitutional county court, or a statutory county court located in the division served by the judge of the business court. The judge of the business court serving as a visiting judge is subject to objection, disqualification, or recusal under Chapter 74 in the same manner as an active judge or justice or an active district court judge is subject to objection, disqualification, or recusal if appointed as a visiting judge.

SECTION 54. Sections 25A.017(c), (d), and (h), Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

(c) Each business court judge shall maintain chambers in the county with the largest population within the geographic boundaries of the division to which the judge is appointed, or in a county adjacent to that county and within the geographic boundaries of the division, as the judge selects, [within the geographic boundaries of the division to which the judge is appointed] in facilities provided by this state. The chief justice of the supreme court may approve the location of a business court judge's chambers in a county other than a county described by this subsection that is within the geographic boundaries of the division. For purposes of this section, the Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial System may contract for the use of facilities with a public or private party [county].

(d) Subject to Section 25A.015, a business court judge may hold court at any courtroom within the geographic boundaries of the division to which the judge is appointed as the court determines necessary or convenient for a particular civil action. A [To the extent practicable, a] county [using existing courtrooms and facilities] shall accommodate the business court in the conduct of the court's hearings and other proceedings in courtrooms and facilities equivalent to those provided to district courts. A county is entitled to reimbursement from this state in an amount equal to the market rate for those facilities in the county as

calculated by the Texas Facilities Commission for this purpose. A county shall consider the reasonably anticipated requirements of the business court in the planning for and implementation of additions and improvements to the county's courtrooms and facilities only if the business court is currently operational in that county.

(h) In a county in which a division of the business court sits or a judge of the business court maintains chambers, the business court or Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial System may require ~~the~~ the sheriff, sheriff's deputy, or other licensed peace officer employed by the state or local governmental entity, including the Department of Public Safety, to ~~shall in person or by deputy~~ attend the business court and provide security for the business court's judges ~~[as required by the court]~~. The officers providing such services are ~~[sheriff or deputy is]~~ entitled to reimbursement from this state for the cost of attending the business court and providing security for the business court's judges.

SECTION 55. Section 25A.0171(e), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(e) Not later than December 1 of each year, the Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial System shall submit to the legislature a report on the case activity of [number and types of cases heard by] the business court in the preceding year that includes:

(1) a summary of the caseload of each business court judge in the preceding year;

(2) a summary of the extent to which business court judges have been assigned to hear cases in other divisions to equalize caseloads;

(3) a projection of the expected caseloads of the business court judges for the following two years; and

(4) recommendations regarding action by the legislature, the governor, the chief justice of the supreme court, or the business court to ensure the business court meets existing and projected demand for the business court's services in the following two years.

SECTION 56. Chapter 25A, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 25A.021 to read as follows:

Sec. 25A.021. ACTIONS COMMENCED BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2024. (a) Notwithstanding Section 8, Chapter 380 (HB 19), Acts of the 88th Legislature, Regular Session, 2023, a civil action commenced before September 1, 2024, that is within the jurisdiction of the business court may be transferred to and heard by the business court on an agreed motion of a party and permission of the business court under rules adopted by the supreme court for the purpose. When adopting rules under this section, the supreme court shall:

(1) prioritize complex civil actions of longer duration that have proven difficult for a district court to resolve because of the other demands on the district court's caseload;

(2) consider the capacity of the business court to accept the transfer of the action without impairing the business court's efficiency and effectiveness in resolving actions commenced on or after September 1, 2024; and

(3) ensure the facilitation of the fair and efficient administration of justice.

(b) This section expires September 1, 2035.

SECTION 57. Section 37.001(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) This chapter applies to a court in this state, other than the business court, created by the Texas Constitution, by statute, or as authorized by statute that is located in a county with a population of 25,000 or more.

SECTION 58. Section 39.001, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 39.001. APPLICABILITY. This chapter applies to a person elected to or holding any of the following judicial offices:

- (1) chief justice or justice of the supreme court;
- (2) presiding judge or judge of the court of criminal appeals;
- (3) chief justice or justice of a court of appeals;
- (4) district judge, including a criminal district judge; ~~and~~
- (5) business court judge; and
- (6) judge of a statutory county court.

SECTION 59. Section 71.011, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 71.011. NUMBER AND CLASSES OF MEMBERS. The Texas Judicial Council is an agency of the state composed of 17 ~~16~~ ex officio and six appointive members.

SECTION 60. Section 71.012, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 71.012. EX OFFICIO MEMBERS. The ex officio members are:

- (1) the chief justice of the supreme court;
- (2) the presiding judge of the court of criminal appeals;
- (3) two members of the senate, appointed by the lieutenant governor;
- (4) the chair of the House Judicial Affairs Committee;
- (5) one member of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house;
- (6) two justices of the courts of appeals designated by the chief justice of the supreme court;
- (7) two district judges designated by the chief justice of the supreme court;
- (8) two judges of county courts, statutory county courts, or statutory probate courts designated by the chief justice of the supreme court;
- (9) two justices of the peace designated by the chief justice of the supreme court; ~~and~~
- (10) two municipal court judges designated by the chief justice of the supreme court; and
- (11) the administrative presiding judge of the business court.

SECTION 61. Section 71.013, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (g) to read as follows:

(b) Except as provided by Subsections ~~[Subsection]~~ (a) and (g), all members of the judiciary appointed to the council serve staggered terms of four years with the term of one member from each judicial group expiring on February 1 of each odd-numbered year.

(g) The administrative presiding judge of the business court is an ex officio member of the council while the judge holds the office of administrative presiding judge of the business court.

SECTION 62. Section 74.003(b), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The chief justice of the supreme court may assign a qualified former or retired justice or judge of the supreme court, of the court of criminal appeals, or of a court of appeals to a court of appeals for active service regardless of whether a vacancy exists in the court to which the justice or judge is assigned. To be eligible for assignment under this subsection, a former or retired justice or judge must:

(1) have served as an active justice or judge for at least 96 months in a district court, a statutory probate court, a statutory county court, an ~~or~~ appellate court, or the business court, with at least 48 of those months in an appellate court;

(2) not have been removed from office;

(3) certify under oath to the chief justice of the supreme court, on a form prescribed by the chief justice, that:

(A) the justice or judge has never been publicly reprimanded or censured by the State Commission on Judicial Conduct; and

(B) the justice or judge:

(i) did not resign or retire from office after the State Commission on Judicial Conduct notified the justice or judge of the commencement of a full investigation into an allegation or appearance of misconduct or disability of the justice or judge as provided in Section 33.022 and before the final disposition of that investigation; or

(ii) if the justice or judge did resign from office under circumstances described by Subparagraph (i), the justice or judge was not publicly reprimanded or censured as a result of the investigation;

(4) annually demonstrate that the justice or judge has completed in the past state fiscal year the educational requirements for active appellate court justices or judges; and

(5) certify to the chief justice of the supreme court a willingness not to appear and plead as an attorney in any court in this state for a period of two years.

SECTION 63. Section 74.041(5), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(5) "Former judge" means a person who has served as an active judge in a district court, a statutory probate court, a statutory county court, an ~~or~~ appellate court, or the business court, but who is not a retired judge.

SECTION 64. Section 74.045(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A presiding judge must be at the time of appointment:

(1) a regularly elected or retired district judge;

- (2) a serving or retired business court judge;
- (3) a former judge with at least 12 years of service as a district judge or business court judge; or
- (4) ~~(3)~~ a retired appellate judge with judicial experience on a district court.

SECTION 65. Section 74.055(c), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c) To be eligible to be named on the list, a retired or former judge must:

(1) have served as an active judge for at least 96 months in a district court, a statutory probate court, a statutory county court, an ~~or~~ appellate court, or the business court;

(2) have developed substantial experience in the judge's area of specialty;

(3) not have been removed from office;

(4) certify under oath to the presiding judge, on a form prescribed by the state board of regional judges, that:

(A) the judge has never been publicly reprimanded or censured by the State Commission on Judicial Conduct; and

(B) the judge:

(i) did not resign or retire from office after the State Commission on Judicial Conduct notified the judge of the commencement of a full investigation into an allegation or appearance of misconduct or disability of the judge as provided in Section 33.022 and before the final disposition of that investigation; or

(ii) if the judge did resign from office under circumstances described by Subparagraph (i), was not publicly reprimanded or censured as a result of the investigation;

(5) annually demonstrate that the judge has completed in the past state fiscal year the educational requirements for active district, business, statutory probate, and statutory county court judges; and

(6) certify to the presiding judge a willingness not to appear and plead as an attorney in any court in this state for a period of two years.

SECTION 66. Section 74.141, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 74.141. DEFENSE OF JUDGES. The attorney general shall defend a state district judge, a business court judge, a presiding judge of an administrative region, the presiding judge of the statutory probate courts, a visiting judge assigned to hear a guardianship or probate matter by the presiding judge of the statutory probate courts, or an active, retired, or former judge assigned under this chapter in any action or suit in any court in which the judge is a defendant because of the judge's office or capacity as judge if the judge requests the attorney general's assistance in the defense of the suit.

SECTION 67. Section 74.162, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 74.162. TRANSFER OF CASES BY PANEL. Subject to Section 74.1625 and notwithstanding any other law, the judicial panel on multidistrict litigation may transfer civil actions involving one or more common questions of fact pending in the same or different constitutional courts, county courts at law, probate courts, ~~or~~ district courts, or the business court to any district court or to the business court if the business court has jurisdiction for consolidated or coordinated pretrial proceedings, including summary judgment or other dispositive motions, but not for trial on the merits. A transfer may be made by the judicial panel on multidistrict litigation on its determination that the transfer will:

- (1) be for the convenience of the parties and witnesses; and
- (2) promote the just and efficient conduct of the actions.

SECTION 68. Section 411.171(4-b), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(4-b) "State judge" means:

(A) the judge of an appellate court, a district court, the business court, or a county court at law of this state;

(B) an associate judge appointed under Chapter 201, Family Code;

or

(C) a justice of the peace.

SECTION 69. Section 659.012, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsections (a-1) and (d-1) to read as follows:

(a-1) In addition to the annual base salary from the state prescribed by Subsection (a), a judge of a division of the business court is entitled to an additional annual salary from the state in an amount equal to the difference between the judge's annual base salary from the state and the maximum combined base salary from all state and county sources paid to a district judge under Subsection (a).

(d-1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section or other law, a judge of a division of the business court who serves as administrative presiding judge under Section 25A.009 is entitled to an annual base salary from the state in the amount provided under Subsection (a) or (b) and an additional annual amount equal to the amount provided under Subsection (d) to a local administrative district judge for a number of district courts equal to the total number of business court judges.

SECTION 70. The following provisions of the Government Code are repealed:

- (1) Section 25A.003(n);
- (2) Section 25A.007(b); and
- (3) Section 25A.014(b).

SECTION 71. Section 6(b), Chapter 380 (**HB 19**), Acts of the 88th Legislature, Regular Session, 2023, is repealed.

SECTION 72. Except as provided by Section 25A.021, Government Code, as added by this Act, the changes in law made by this Act apply only to civil actions commenced on or after September 1, 2024.

SECTION 73. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

Representative Meyer moved to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 40**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 40** prevailed by (Record 4156): 95 Yeas, 39 Nays, 2 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bonnen; Buckley; Bumgarner; Cain; Capriglione; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dyson; Fairly; Frank; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Gervin-Hawkins; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Holt; Hopper; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lambert; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Lopez, J.; Louderback; Lowe; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; Martinez; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Money; Morales, E.; Morgan; Muñoz; Noble; Olcott; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, M.; Phelan; Pierson; Raymond; Richardson; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Tepper; Thompson; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Virdell; Wharton; Wilson.

Nays — Anchía; Bhojani; Bowers; Bryant; Bucy; Campos; Canales; Cole; Collier; Davis, A.; Dutton; Flores; Gámez; García, J.; García Hernandez; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Hinojosa; Howard; Johnson; Jones, J.; Lalani; Lopez, R.; Manuel; Martinez Fischer; Meza; Moody; Morales Shaw; Plesa; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rosenthal; Talarico; Turner; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wu; Zwiener.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker; Landgraf(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.

Absent — Bernal; Button; Davis, Y.; Longoria; Morales, C.; Perez, V.; Reynolds; Rose; Simmons; Vo.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4156 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted yes.

V. Perez

When Record No. 4156 was taken, I was temporarily out of the house chamber. I would have voted no.

Rose

When Record No. 4156 was taken, I was shown voting yes. I intended to vote no.

Thompson

SB 2753 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Without objection, Representative Isaac submitted the conference committee report on **SB 2753**.

SB 2753 - REMARKS

REPRESENTATIVE ISAAC: This is the bill that removes the three days between early voting and Election Day. Senator Hall, Chairman Shaheen, Vice-chair Bucy, and the senate conferees and I worked very closely to develop a thoughtful implementation timing and processes for this legislation. Importantly, the changes in this report requires that the secretary of state publish a report affirming that she has consulted with county election officials and is confident that counties are fully prepared to implement these changes. I understand that some of you have heard concerns from your local election administrators about readiness, and I take those concerns very seriously. I spoke with Senator Nelson last night, and she reassured me that—she said this legislation is going to be implemented right and that it will not be implemented until every county is ready. And she said you can say that twice—not until every county is ready. She also made it clear that she is no stranger to political pressure and that she is committed to doing what is right for our elections.

REPRESENTATIVE MORALES SHAW: Representative Isaac, thank you for your work on this, and I've enjoyed working with you in Elections. It's my first time doing that. I just wanted to be clear for the body because this is impacting elections, and this bill has kind of fluctuated back and forth from—at one point it was even just a study, which none of us are opposed to studies, generally speaking, but now it's no longer a study, is my understanding, and it will go into effect September 1 of this year. At first that did concern me, but then I realized that the secretary of state has discretion, and correct me if I'm wrong, it's my understanding that this bill gives the secretary of state discretion to work with each and every county in order to come up with a feasible plan to make sure that this big implementation goes smoothly. Is that correct?

ISAAC: That is absolutely correct, and she confirmed that again last night on the phone with me and said she will not move forward—she has to do a report. She will not move forward unless every county is prepared.

MORALES SHAW: That's very reassuring because this is especially concerning for the larger counties, and, as you know, I represent Harris County, and our election administrator is A-plus. She's super; she's incredible. You heard a lot about her at the hearings from Ed Thompson and others. But there is a very real concern that such a major change would be very impactful, and she does want to make sure, as well, I'm sure, as other counties want to make sure, that there's not a fiasco when this is finally implemented. And just to be clear, this has to be implemented by 2027, correct? But it does not have to be implemented in 2025?

ISAAC: That is correct. And Secretary Nelson reiterated with me on the phone, over and over, how she is very aware of the larger counties and how this will affect larger counties.

MORALES SHAW: We're happy that we're getting an extra weekend to vote. That's a good thing. Nobody is complaining about that. It's just, in early voting, for example in Harris County, we can go from 60 voting locations to 600. It's a huge jump, and that's a matter of finding that many more election workers and judges and all of those things. So I'm very happy to hear her commitment to that. One last thing I want to point out—

ISAAC: Can I address that real quick?

MORALES SHAW: Yes, absolutely.

ISAAC: This legislation also allows you to consolidate polling locations up to 10,000 voters. So in some areas they will be able to get rid of some of the polling locations.

MORALES SHAW: That's not a mandate, right?

ISAAC: That's not a mandate.

MORALES SHAW: That's good to know. The only other point I wanted to make the body aware of, because they probably want to make their communities and constituents aware of, is that when early voting and regular voting are combined, meaning it's just one continuous voting period, there will be no early voting results like we're all used to having decades and decades. But that's an intended consequence, I'm assuming?

ISAAC: That's correct, and that also helps with ballot privacy.

MORALES SHAW: Okay, very good. That's all I needed to clarify.

REPRESENTATIVE J. JONES: So I'm extremely happy that you said that she will not be doing anything until all the counties are ready.

ISAAC: That is correct.

J. JONES: But I just wanted to make sure that you know that most of the counties have already passed their budgets. And at least in Harris County, there's a concern that to implement this, it's going to cost a lot of money, and there will be no money to implement it in the November 2025 elections, accurate?

ISAAC: I also spoke with the secretary of state's director of elections last night, and she shared that she believes this legislation will help reduce the number of polling locations and allow for a more efficient consolidation and, therefore, ease the burden on recruiting and staffing requirements.

J. JONES: So what I will say, at least in Harris County, there are a lot of people who are transportation challenged. So we have over 1,100 precincts so that people can vote near where they live. So cutting back on those numbers, I will tell you, may cause access to the ballot box difficult for some people. So that's why we have the number that we have.

ISAAC: Okay, well, it's not a requirement.

J. JONES: Okay. Let me just make sure I get these in there. And there was, I guess, an amendment that said that it for sure wouldn't be implemented until 2027, but that was taken out in the senate. Is that accurate?

ISAAC: That's correct, and that's why we came up with what I—do you want me to read it to you?

J. JONES: Yes, please.

ISAAC: "As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, but no later than August 1, 2027, the secretary of state shall: adopt rules and procedures prescribed required for the implementation of this Act; and publish a report in the Texas Register, stating that the secretary: has consulted with county election officials in this state; and is confident that the counties in this state are prepared to implement the provisions of this Act." So she will not implement this Act before every county is prepared.

J. JONES: I'm going to take your word for that. Thank you for that. One other thing: because this is new and there's no runway and we have some elections coming up in November and obviously probably a big election in 2026, the county clerks want to make sure that we know that they don't have any concerns about it being implemented in 2027. But they don't want to have epic fails just because they haven't had a chance to work everything out.

ISAAC: No, I take that seriously. I understand. Twenty-one other states have done this. And I was going to say something else. But there is a two-year runway. I know what I was going to say. The first election that this would apply to, likely, would be a constitutional election, so it would be like a trial run.

J. JONES: And when would this be?

ISAAC: That would be August 1, 2027.

J. JONES: Thank you so much. You answered all of my questions.

REPRESENTATIVE PATTERSON: Just so I'm not mistaken, so we will no longer be able to get the early voting results at 7 p.m. and then have the trickle of the Election Day results later in the evening. Is that correct?

ISAAC: That's correct.

PATTERSON: Okay. Why are we doing that?

ISAAC: So right now, there's a concern with ballot privacy. My son's ballot was compromised. If we report all of them together in one voting period, that does away with that issue.

PATTERSON: So you're saying that if only a few people vote in a precinct—I seem to remember a certain former party chair's ballot being exposed online. What you're saying is that it's less likely for that to happen?

ISAAC: Right, because it's all going to be recorded together.

PATTERSON: Okay. So the results that we'll see will be 9, 10, or 11 o'clock at night, maybe later, instead of getting a portion of the results at seven and then the results later?

ISAAC: That's my understanding.

Representative Isaac moved to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 2753**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 2753** prevailed by (Record 4157): 84 Yeas, 45 Nays, 3 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bhojani; Bryant; Bucy; Button; Cain; Campos; Cole; Cook; Craddick; Cunningham; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dyson; Fairly; Frank; Garcia, J.; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Hinojosa; Holt; Hopper; Howard; Hunter; Isaac; Johnson; Kerwin; Kitzman; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Louderback; Lowe; Lozano; Luther; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Meza; Money; Moody; Muñoz; Olcott; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, V.; Plesa; Raymond; Richardson; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Slawson; Spiller; Talarico; Tepper; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; Turner; Vasut; Villalobos; Virdell; Wilson; Zwiener.

Nays — Anchía; Ashby; Barry; Bonnen; Bowers; Buckley; Bumgarner; Canales; Capriglione; Collier; Cortez; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; Dutton; Flores; Garcia Hernandez; González, J.; Harless; Jones, J.; King; LaHood; Lalani; Lambert; Lujan; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; Morales, E.; Morgan; Noble; Oliverson; Ordaz; Perez, M.; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rosenthal; Simmons; Smithee; Thompson; VanDeaver; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wu.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker; Landgraf(C); Morales Shaw.

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.

Absent — Bernal; Davis, Y.; Gámez; Gervin-Hawkins; Hull; Longoria; Manuel; Morales, C.; Phelan; Pierson; Reynolds; Rose; Swanson; Vo.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4157 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

Buckley

When Record No. 4157 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

Bumgarner

When Record No. 4157 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted no.

Manuel

When Record No. 4157 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

Oliverson

When Record No. 4157 was taken, I was temporarily out of the house chamber. I would have voted no.

Rose

REMARKS ORDERED PRINTED

Representative Ward Johnson moved to print all remarks on **SB 2753**.

The motion prevailed.

Representative Bucy moved to print all remarks on **SB 268**.

The motion prevailed.

Representative Romero moved to print all remarks on **HB 5246**.

The motion prevailed.

(Speaker in the chair)

HR 1515 - ADOPTED
(by Leach)

The following privileged resolution was laid before the house:

HR 1515

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the State of Texas, 89th Legislature, 2025, That House Rule 13, Section 9(a), be suspended in part as provided by House Rule 13, Section 9(f), to enable the conference committee appointed to resolve the differences on **SB 2972** (expressive activities at public institutions of higher education) to consider and take action on the following matters:

(1) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(1), is suspended to permit the committee to change, alter, or amend text not in disagreement in proposed SECTION 2 of the bill, in amended Section 51.9315(d)(2), Education Code, by striking "[~~content-neutral,~~]" and substituting "content-neutral,".

Explanation: The change is necessary to clarify that restrictions on expressive activities must employ content-neutral criteria.

(2) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(2), is suspended to permit the committee to omit text not in disagreement in proposed SECTION 2 of the bill, at the end of amended Section 51.9315(d)(2), Education Code, by omitting "and".

Explanation: The change is necessary to remove unnecessary language.

HR 1515 was adopted by (Record 4158): 109 Yeas, 27 Nays, 1 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bonnen; Buckley; Bucy; Bumgarner; Button; Cain; Capriglione; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dyson; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Gámez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; González, M.; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Hayes; Hefner; Hickland; Hinojosa; Holt; Hopper; Howard; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Johnson; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Louderback; Lowe; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Money; Moody; Morales, E.; Morales Shaw; Morgan; Muñoz; Noble; Olcott; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, V.; Phelan; Pierson; Plesa; Raymond; Richardson; Romero; Schatzline; Schofield; Shaheen; Shofner; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller;

Swanson; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Virdell; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wilson; Zwiener.

Nays — Anchía; Bhojani; Bowers; Bryant; Campos; Canales; Cole; Collier; Dorazio; Dutton; Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; González, J.; Goodwin; Harrison; Jones, J.; Lalani; Manuel; Martinez; Meza; Perez, M.; Rodríguez Ramos; Rosenthal; Schoolcraft; Simmons; Walle; Wu.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.

Absent — Bernal; Davis, Y.; Gervin-Hawkins; Hernandez; Longoria; Morales, C.; Reynolds; Rose; Vo.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4158 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted no.

Gervin-Hawkins

When Record No. 4158 was taken, I was shown voting yes. I intended to vote no.

Morales Shaw

When Record No. 4158 was taken, I was temporarily out of the house chamber. I would have voted no.

Rose

SB 2972 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Representative Leach submitted the conference committee report on **SB 2972**.

Representative Leach moved to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 2972**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 2972** prevailed by (Record 4159): 97 Yeas, 39 Nays, 1 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bonnen; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Bumgarner; Button; Campos; Capriglione; Cole; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dyson; Fairly; Frank; Gámez; Garcia, J.; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Hinojosa; Holt; Howard; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Johnson; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Little; Lopez, J.; Louderback; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; Martinez; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Moody; Morales, E.; Muñoz; Noble; Olcott; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, M.; Phelan; Pierson; Plesa; Raymond; Richardson; Romero; Schatzline; Schofield; Shaheen; Shofner; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Villalobos; Walle; Wharton; Wilson.

Nays — Alders; Anchía; Bhojani; Bowers; Cain; Canales; Collier; Cook; Dorazio; Dutton; Flores; Garcia Hernandez; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Harrison; Hopper; Jones, J.; Lalani; Leo Wilson; Lopez, R.; Lowe; Manuel; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; Meza; Money; Morales Shaw; Perez, V.; Rodríguez Ramos; Rose; Rosenthal; Schoolcraft; Simmons; Vasut; Virdell; Ward Johnson; Wu; Zwiener.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.

Absent — Bernal; Cortez; Davis, Y.; Gervin-Hawkins; Longoria; Morales, C.; Morgan; Reynolds; Vo.

STATEMENT OF VOTE

When Record No. 4159 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted no.

Gervin-Hawkins

SB 1660 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Without objection, Representative Cook submitted the conference committee report on **SB 1660**.

Representative Cook moved to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 1660**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 1660** prevailed by (Record 4160): 109 Yeas, 25 Nays, 1 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bonnen; Bowers; Buckley; Bumgarner; Button; Cain; Campos; Capriglione; Collier; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dutton; Dyson; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Garcia, J.; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Holt; Hopper; Howard; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Johnson; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lalani; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Lopez, J.; Louderback; Lowe; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; Martinez; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Money; Moody; Morales, E.; Morgan; Muñoz; Noble; Olcott; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Pierson; Plesa; Raymond; Richardson; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Tepper; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Virdell; Wharton; Wilson; Zwiener.

Nays — Anchía; Bhojani; Bryant; Bucy; Canales; Cole; Garcia Hernandez; González, J.; Goodwin; Hinojosa; Jones, J.; Lopez, R.; Manuel; Martinez Fischer; Meza; Morales Shaw; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rosenthal; Talarico; Thompson; Turner; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wu.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.

Absent — Bernal; Davis, Y.; Gámez; Gervin-Hawkins; González, M.; Longoria; Morales, C.; Reynolds; Rose; Simmons; Vo.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4160 was taken, I was shown voting yes. I intended to vote no.

Campos

When Record No. 4160 was taken, I was shown voting yes. I intended to vote no.

Flores

When Record No. 4160 was taken, I was shown voting yes. I intended to vote no.

J. Garcia

When Record No. 4160 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted no.

Gervin-Hawkins

When Record No. 4160 was taken, I was shown voting yes. I intended to vote no.

Lalani

When Record No. 4160 was taken, I was temporarily out of the house chamber. I would have voted no.

Rose

When Record No. 4160 was taken, I was shown voting yes. I intended to vote no.

Zwiener

HB 1545 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Without objection, Representative K. Bell submitted the following conference committee report on **HB 1545**:

Austin, Texas, May 31, 2025

The Honorable Dan Patrick
President of the Senate

The Honorable Dustin Burrows
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Sirs: We, your conference committee, appointed to adjust the differences between the senate and the house of representatives on **HB 1545** have had the same under consideration, and beg to report it back with the recommendation that it do pass in the form and text hereto attached.

Parker
Blanco
Middleton

K. Bell
Hull
Kitzman

Paxton
Sparks
On the part of the senate

Shaheen
Longoria
On the part of the house

HB 1545, A bill to be entitled An Act relating to the sunset review process and certain governmental entities subject to that process.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

ARTICLE 1. LIMITED-SCOPE REVIEWS

SECTION 1.01. TEXAS FUNERAL SERVICE COMMISSION. (a) Notwithstanding Section 651.002, Occupations Code, the Sunset Advisory Commission shall conduct a limited-scope review of the Texas Funeral Service Commission for the 90th Legislature.

(b) In conducting the limited-scope review under this section, the Sunset Advisory Commission staff evaluation and report must be limited to assessing the Texas Funeral Service Commission's administration of functions and duties regarding the regulation of willed body programs, non-transplant anatomical donation organizations, and anatomical facilities under Section 651.005, Occupations Code, and under Chapters 691 and 692A, Health and Safety Code.

(c) The Sunset Advisory Commission's recommendations to the 90th Legislature may include any recommendation the commission considers appropriate based on the limited-scope review conducted under this section.

(d) This section takes effect only if **SB 2721** or similar legislation of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, relating to the licensing and regulation of persons who provide services in relation to the deceased does not become law. If legislation described by this subsection does become law, this section has no effect.

SECTION 1.02. STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD. Section 12, Chapter 358 (**SB 1424**), Acts of the 88th Legislature, Regular Session, 2023, is repealed.

ARTICLE 2. ENTITIES GIVEN 2031 SUNSET DATE

SECTION 2.01. CREDIT UNION DEPARTMENT. Section 15.212, Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 15.212. SUNSET PROVISION. The Credit Union Department and the Credit Union Commission are subject to Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act). Unless continued in existence as provided by that chapter, the department and commission are abolished September 1, 2031 [~~2035~~].

SECTION 2.02. STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS. Section 2003.023, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2003.023. SUNSET PROVISION. The State Office of Administrative Hearings is subject to review under Chapter 325 (Texas Sunset Act), but is not abolished under that chapter. The office shall be reviewed during the periods in which state agencies abolished in 2031 [~~2027~~] and every 12th year after 2031 [~~2027~~] are reviewed.

SECTION 2.03. TEXAS JUVENILE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT. (a) Section 202.010, Human Resources Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 202.010. SUNSET PROVISION. The Texas Juvenile Justice Board and the Texas Juvenile Justice Department are subject to Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act). Unless continued in existence as provided by that chapter, the board and the department are abolished September 1, 2031 [~~2027~~].

(b) Notwithstanding Section 202.010, Human Resources Code, as amended by this Act, the Sunset Advisory Commission shall conduct a limited-scope review of the Texas Juvenile Justice Department for the 90th Legislature.

(c) In conducting the limited-scope review under this section, the Sunset Advisory Commission staff evaluation and report must be limited to assessing the Texas Juvenile Justice Department's administration of its regionalization duties aimed at prioritizing the use of local levels of the juvenile justice system over placement or commitment to secure facilities operated by the Texas Juvenile Justice Department.

(d) The Sunset Advisory Commission may not review the office of independent ombudsman of the Texas Juvenile Justice Department as part of the limited-scope review conducted under this section.

(e) The Sunset Advisory Commission's recommendations to the 90th Legislature may include any recommendation the commission considers appropriate based on the limited-scope review conducted under this section.

(f) The Texas Juvenile Justice Department shall submit a report not later than September 1, 2026, to the Sunset Advisory Commission, the speaker of the house of representatives, the lieutenant governor, and the standing committees of each house of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over juvenile justice that includes information about:

(1) the status of the United States Department of Justice's investigation into the Texas Juvenile Justice Department and the Texas Juvenile Justice Department's progress in addressing findings as detailed in the United States Department of Justice's report titled "Investigation of the Texas Juvenile Justice Department," published on August 1, 2024;

(2) the waitlist of youth committed to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department awaiting transfer to state secure facilities from county facilities;

(3) the Texas Juvenile Justice Department's staffing and turnover at state facilities for each fiscal year since fiscal year 2016; and

(4) the progress on construction of additional state juvenile correctional facilities for which the legislature appropriated funding in the 2024-2025 biennium.

ARTICLE 3. ENTITIES GIVEN 2033 SUNSET DATE

SECTION 3.01. STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS. (a) Section 801.003, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 801.003. APPLICATION OF SUNSET ACT. The State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners is subject to Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act). Unless continued in existence as provided by that chapter, the board is abolished September 1, 2033 [~~2027~~].

(b) This section takes effect only if **SB 2155** or similar legislation of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, relating to the regulation of veterinary professionals and facilities by the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners and the temporary administration of the board by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation becomes law. If legislation described by this subsection does not become law, this section has no effect.

ARTICLE 4. ENTITIES GIVEN 2035 SUNSET DATE

SECTION 4.01. LOWER COLORADO RIVER AUTHORITY. Section 8503.0021(a), Special District Local Laws Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The authority is subject to review under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act), but may not be abolished under that chapter. The review shall not include the management of the generation or transmission of electricity under the wholesale electricity operation of the authority and the authority's affiliated nonprofit corporations. The review shall be conducted under Section 325.025, Government Code, as if the authority were a state agency scheduled to be abolished September 1, 2035 [~~2034~~], and every 12th year after that year.

ARTICLE 5. AMENDMENTS TO THE TEXAS SUNSET ACT

SECTION 5.01. SUNSET ADVISORY COMMISSION. Section 325.003(a-1), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a-1) A public member acts on behalf of the legislature when participating on the commission in furtherance of the legislature's duty to provide oversight of state [~~executive branch~~] agencies' implementation of legislative priorities.

SECTION 5.02. AGENCY REPORT TO COMMISSION. Section 325.007(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Before September 1 of the odd-numbered year before the year in which a state agency subject to this chapter is abolished or reviewed, the agency shall report to the commission:

(1) information regarding the application to the agency of the criteria in Section 325.011; and

(2) any other information that the agency considers appropriate or that is requested by the commission.

SECTION 5.03. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS OF AGENCY BEING REVIEWED. Section 325.0075, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 325.0075. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS OF AGENCY BEING REVIEWED. Before September 1 of the odd-numbered year before the year in which a state agency subject to this chapter is abolished or reviewed, the agency shall submit to the commission, the governor, the lieutenant governor, and each member of the legislature a report that:

(1) lists each report that the agency is required by a statute to prepare; and

(2) evaluates the need for each report listed in Subdivision (1) based on whether factors or conditions have changed since the date the statutory requirement to prepare the report was enacted.

SECTION 5.04. COMMISSION DUTIES. Section 325.008(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Before January 1 of the year in which a state agency subject to this chapter and its advisory committees are abolished or reviewed, the commission shall:

(1) review and take action necessary to verify the reports submitted by the agency under Section 325.007;

(2) consult the Legislative Budget Board, the Governor's Budget, Policy, and Planning Division, the State Auditor, and the comptroller of public accounts, or their successors, on the application to the agency of the criteria provided in Section 325.011;

(3) conduct a review of the agency based on the criteria provided in Section 325.011 and prepare a written report; and

(4) review the implementation of commission recommendations contained in the reports presented to the legislature during the preceding legislative session and the resulting legislation.

SECTION 5.05. PUBLIC HEARINGS. Section 325.009(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Before February 1 of the year a state agency subject to this chapter and its advisory committees are abolished or reviewed, the commission shall conduct public hearings concerning but not limited to the application to the agency of the criteria provided in Section 325.011.

SECTION 5.06. REVIEW OF CERTAIN AGENCIES. Sections 325.0125(a) and (b), Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) In the two-year period preceding the date scheduled for the abolition or review of a state agency under this chapter, the commission may exempt certain agencies from the requirements of this chapter relating to staff reports, hearings, and reviews.

(b) The commission may only exempt agencies that have been inactive for a period of two years preceding the date the agency is scheduled for abolition or review, that have been rendered inactive by an action of the legislature, or that the commission determines are unable to participate in the review due to a declared disaster.

ARTICLE 6. EFFECTIVE DATE

SECTION 6.01. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

Representative K. Bell moved to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 1545**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 1545** prevailed by (Record 4161): 122 Yeas, 13 Nays, 1 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Anchía; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bowers; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Bumgarner; Button; Campos; Canales; Capriglione; Cole; Collier; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dutton; Dyson; Fairly; Flores; Frank;

Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; González, J.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Hinojosa; Holt; Howard; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Jones, J.; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lalani; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Little; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Louderback; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Meza; Money; Moody; Morales, E.; Morales Shaw; Morgan; Muñoz; Noble; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Pierson; Raymond; Richardson; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rose; Rosenthal; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Simmons; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Tinderholt; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Villalobos; Virdell; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wu; Zwiener.

Nays — Cain; Harrison; Hopper; Leo Wilson; Lowe; Olcott; Plesa; Schatzline; Schofield; Swanson; Toth; Vasut; Wilson.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.

Absent — Bernal; Davis, Y.; Gámez; Gervin-Hawkins; González, M.; Johnson; Longoria; Morales, C.; Reynolds; Vo.

STATEMENT OF VOTE

When Record No. 4161 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted yes.

Gervin-Hawkins

HR 1523 - ADOPTED (by King)

The following privileged resolution was laid before the house:

HR 1523

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the State of Texas, 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, That House Rule 13, Section 9(a), be suspended in part as provided by House Rule 13, Section 9(f), to enable the conference committee appointed to resolve the differences on **HB 46** (the medical use of low-THC cannabis under and the administration of the Texas Compassionate-Use Program; requiring registration) to consider and take action on the following matter:

House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(4), is suspended to permit the committee to add text on a matter not included in either the house or senate version of the bill in proposed SECTION 15 of the bill, by adding Section 169.003(c), Occupations Code, to read as follows:

(c) A physician may prescribe more than one package in a 90-day period.

Explanation: The change is necessary to clarify that a physician may prescribe more than one package of low-THC cannabis to a patient in a 90-day period.

HR 1523 was adopted by (Record 4162): 128 Yeas, 12 Nays, 1 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Anchía; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bowers; Buckley; Bucy; Bumgarner; Button; Campos; Canales; Capriglione; Cole; Collier; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dutton; Dyson; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Hinojosa; Holt; Hopper; Howard; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Johnson; Jones, J.; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; Lalani; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Little; Longoria; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Louderback; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Meza; Money; Moody; Morales, E.; Morales Shaw; Morgan; Muñoz; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Pierson; Plesa; Raymond; Richardson; Romero; Rose; Rosenthal; Schatzline; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Simmons; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Virdell; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wilson; Wu; Zwiener.

Nays — Bryant; Cain; Dorazio; González, J.; Hayes; LaHood; Leo Wilson; Lowe; Noble; Olcott; Rodríguez Ramos; Schofield.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.

Absent — Davis, Y.; Gámez; Gervin-Hawkins; Morales, C.; Reynolds.

STATEMENT OF VOTE

When Record No. 4162 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted yes.

Gervin-Hawkins

HB 46 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Without objection, Representative King submitted the following conference committee report on **HB 46**:

Austin, Texas, May 31, 2025

The Honorable Dan Patrick
President of the Senate

The Honorable Dustin Burrows
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Sirs: We, your conference committee, appointed to adjust the differences between the senate and the house of representatives on **HB 46** have had the same under consideration, and beg to report it back with the recommendation that it do pass in the form and text hereto attached.

Perry
Menéndez
Hughes
Bettencourt
Parker

On the part of the senate

King
Pierson
Turner
Capriglione

On the part of the house

HB 46, A bill to be entitled An Act relating to the medical use of low-THC cannabis under and the administration of the Texas Compassionate-Use Program; requiring registration.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 487.053(a), Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The department shall:

(1) issue or renew a license to operate as a dispensing organization to each applicant who satisfies the requirements established under this chapter; and

(2) register directors, owners, managers, members, and employees of each dispensing organization.

SECTION 2. Section 487.054, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subsections (c) and (d) to read as follows:

(c) Information within the registry regarding patient identification, including the fact that a person is listed as a patient in the registry, is confidential and may only be accessed by the department, registered physicians, and dispensing organizations for the purposes of this chapter. Confidential information under this subsection may not be disclosed except as authorized under this chapter and is not subject to disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code.

(d) Notwithstanding Subsection (c), on request by a patient, the department may release patient information contained in the registry to the patient or a person designated by the patient.

SECTION 3. Section 487.101, Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 487.101. LICENSE REQUIRED. (a) A license issued by the department under this chapter is required to operate a dispensing organization.

(b) A dispensing organization licensed under this chapter is not required to apply for an additional license for the use of a satellite location for secure storage of low-THC cannabis if:

(1) the address of the satellite location was included in the application;
or

(2) the dispensing organization obtains approval from the department under Section 487.1035.

SECTION 4. Section 487.102, Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 487.102. ELIGIBILITY FOR LICENSE. An applicant for a license to operate as a dispensing organization is eligible for the license if:

(1) as determined by the department, the applicant possesses:

(A) the technical and technological ability to cultivate and produce low-THC cannabis;

(B) the ability to secure:

(i) the resources and personnel necessary to operate as a dispensing organization; and

(ii) premises reasonably located to allow patients listed on the compassionate-use registry access to the organization through existing infrastructure;

(C) the ability to maintain accountability for the raw materials, the finished product, and any by-products used or produced in the cultivation or production of low-THC cannabis to prevent unlawful access to or unlawful diversion or possession of those materials, products, or by-products; and

(D) the financial ability to maintain operations for not less than two years from the date of application;

(2) each director, owner, manager, member, or employee of the applicant is registered under Subchapter D; and

(3) the applicant satisfies any additional criteria determined by the director to be necessary to safely implement this chapter.

SECTION 5. Section 487.103(b), Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The application must include:

(1) the name and address of the applicant;

(2)[5] the name and address of each of the applicant's directors, owners, managers, members, and employees;

(3) the address of any satellite location that will be used by the applicant for secure storage of low-THC cannabis under Section 487.1035;[5] and

(4) any other information considered necessary by the department to determine the applicant's eligibility for the license.

SECTION 6. Subchapter C, Chapter 487, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 487.1035 to read as follows:

Sec. 487.1035. SATELLITE LOCATIONS. (a) A dispensing organization licensed under this chapter may operate one or more satellite locations in addition to the organization's primary location to securely store low-THC cannabis for distribution.

(b) A satellite location must be approved by the department before a dispensing organization may operate the location. A dispensing organization may apply for approval in the form and manner prescribed by the department.

(c) The department must act on an application submitted under Subsection (b) not later than the 180th day after the date the application is submitted to the department.

(d) The director shall adopt rules regarding the design and security requirements for satellite locations.

(e) A dispensing organization may not operate more than one satellite location in a public health region designated under Section 121.007 until the dispensing organization operates one satellite location in each public health region.

(f) A location previously approved by the department as a patient pickup location before September 1, 2025, is considered to be approved as a satellite location under Subsection (b) for purposes of this section and is permitted to:

(1) operate as a patient pickup location; and

(2) securely store low-THC cannabis for distribution.

SECTION 7. Section 487.104, Health and Safety Code, is amended by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsections (b-1), (d), (d-1), (e), and (f) to read as follows:

(b) Except as provided by Subsection (b-1), if [~~H~~] the department denies the issuance or renewal of a license under Subsection (a), the applicant is entitled to a hearing. Chapter 2001, Government Code, applies to a proceeding under this section.

(b-1) If the department denies the issuance of a license under this section to an applicant that has never held a license under this section, the applicant is not entitled to a hearing.

(d) The department shall issue 15 licenses under this section to dispensing organizations in this state provided that the department receives applications from a sufficient number of applicants meeting the requirements for eligibility under this subchapter.

(d-1) The department shall issue initial licenses to dispensing organizations under this section based on a competitive evaluation of applicant qualifications relative to other applicants.

(e) The department shall issue and renew licenses under this section in a manner that ensures adequate access to low-THC cannabis for patients registered in the compassionate-use registry in each public health region designated under Section 121.007.

(f) The director shall adopt rules to establish a timeline for reviewing and taking action on an application submitted under this section.

SECTION 8. Subchapter C, Chapter 487, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 487.1045 to read as follows:

Sec. 487.1045. REQUIREMENT OF LICENSE HOLDER TO BEGIN AND MAINTAIN OPERATIONS. (a) An applicant issued a license to operate a dispensing organization must begin dispensing low-THC cannabis not later than 24 months after the date the license is issued and continue dispensing low-THC cannabis during the term of a license issued under this subchapter.

(b) The director shall adopt rules to:

(1) monitor whether a dispensing organization is using a license issued under this subchapter to dispense low-THC cannabis; and

(2) revoke the license of a dispensing organization that does not dispense low-THC cannabis within the time required by this section or that discontinues dispensing low-THC cannabis during the term of a license.

SECTION 9. Section 487.105, Health and Safety Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (b) and adding Subsection (c-1) to read as follows:

(a) An applicant for the issuance or renewal of a license to operate as a dispensing organization shall provide the department with the applicant's name and the name of each of the applicant's directors, owners, managers, members, and employees.

(b) Before a dispensing organization licensee hires a manager or employee for the organization, the licensee must provide the department with the name of the prospective manager or employee. The licensee may not transfer the license

to another person before that prospective applicant and the applicant's directors, owners, managers, members, and employees pass a criminal history background check and are registered as required by Subchapter D.

(c-1) This section does not apply to a director, owner, manager, member, or employee who does not exercise direct control over the daily operations of the dispensing organization.

SECTION 10. Section 487.107, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(c) A dispensing organization may not dispense to a person low-THC cannabis in a:

(1) package or container that contains more than a total of one gram of tetrahydrocannabinols; or

(2) medical device for pulmonary inhalation that contains more than one gram of tetrahydrocannabinols.

SECTION 11. Subchapter C, Chapter 487, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 487.1071 to read as follows:

Sec. 487.1071. CANNABINOIDS ELIGIBLE FOR DISPENSING. (a) In this section, "phytocannabinoid" means a chemical substance:

(1) created naturally by a plant of the species Cannabis sativa L. that is separated from the plant by a mechanical or chemical extraction process;

(2) created naturally by a plant of the species Cannabis sativa L. that binds to or interacts with the cannabinoid receptors of the endocannabinoid system; or

(3) produced by decarboxylation from a naturally occurring cannabinoid acid without the use of a chemical catalyst.

(b) A dispensing organization may not dispense a low-THC cannabis product that contains a cannabinoid that is not a phytocannabinoid.

SECTION 12. Section 487.151(a), Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) An individual who is a director, owner, manager, member, or employee of a dispensing organization must apply for and obtain a registration under this section.

SECTION 13. Section 487.201, Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 487.201. COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES MAY NOT PROHIBIT LOW-THC CANNABIS. A municipality, county, or other political subdivision may not enact, adopt, or enforce a rule, ordinance, order, resolution, or other regulation that prohibits the cultivation, production, storage, dispensing, or possession of low-THC cannabis, as authorized by this chapter.

SECTION 14. Section 169.001, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 169.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Chronic pain" means pain that is not relieved with acute, post-surgical, post-procedure, or persistent non-chronic pain treatment and is associated with a chronic pathological process that causes continuous or intermittent severe pain for more than 90 days and for which tetrahydrocannabinol is a viable method of treatment.

(1-a) "Department" means the Department of Public Safety.

(1-b) "Executive commissioner" means the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission.

(2) [(1-a)] "Incurable neurodegenerative disease" means a disease designated as an incurable neurodegenerative disease by rule of the executive commissioner [of the Health and Human Services Commission], adopted in consultation with the National Institutes of Health.

(3) "Low-THC cannabis" means the plant Cannabis sativa L., and any part of that plant or any compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, preparation, resin, or oil of that plant that contains not more than 10 milligrams [one percent by weight] of tetrahydrocannabinols in each dosage unit.

(4) "Medical use" means the ingestion, absorption, or insertion by a means of administration other than by smoking of a prescribed amount of low-THC cannabis by a person for whom low-THC cannabis is prescribed under this chapter.

(5) "Smoking" means burning or igniting a substance and inhaling the smoke. The term does not include inhaling a medication or other substance that is otherwise aerosolized or vaporized for administration by pulmonary inhalation.

SECTION 15. Section 169.003, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 169.003. PRESCRIPTION OF LOW-THC CANNABIS. (a) A physician described by Section 169.002 may prescribe low-THC cannabis to a patient if:

- (1) the patient is a permanent resident of the state;
- (2) the physician complies with the registration requirements of Section 169.004; and
- (3) the physician certifies to the department that:
 - (A) the patient is diagnosed with:
 - (i) epilepsy;
 - (ii) a seizure disorder;
 - (iii) multiple sclerosis;
 - (iv) spasticity;
 - (v) amyotrophic lateral sclerosis;
 - (vi) autism;
 - (vii) cancer;
 - (viii) an incurable neurodegenerative disease;
 - (ix) post-traumatic stress disorder;
 - (x) a condition that causes chronic pain;
 - (xi) traumatic brain injury;
 - (xii) Crohn's disease or other inflammatory bowel disease;

(xiii) a terminal illness or a condition for which a patient is receiving hospice or palliative care; or

(xiv) ~~(*)~~ a medical condition that is approved for a research program under Subchapter F, Chapter 487, Health and Safety Code, and for which the patient is receiving treatment under that program; and

(B) the physician determines the risk of the medical use of low-THC cannabis by the patient is reasonable in light of the potential benefit for the patient.

(b) Each prescription issued by a physician to a patient for low-THC cannabis:

(1) may only provide for a 90-day supply of low-THC cannabis based on the dosage prescribed to the patient; and

(2) may provide up to four refills of a 90-day supply of low-THC cannabis.

(c) A physician may prescribe more than one package in a 90-day period.

(d) A physician may submit to the Department of State Health Services a request that the department report to the legislature that low-THC cannabis may be beneficial to treat a specific medical condition not listed in Subsection (a)(3)(A). The request must be accompanied by medical evidence such as peer-reviewed published research demonstrating that low-THC cannabis may be beneficial to treat that medical condition. The executive commissioner by rule shall prescribe the manner in which a physician may submit a request under this subsection.

SECTION 16. Chapter 169, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Section 169.006 to read as follows:

Sec. 169.006. ADMINISTRATION OF LOW-THC CANNABIS BY PULMONARY INHALATION. (a) A physician may prescribe pulmonary inhalation of an aerosol or vapor as a means of administration of low-THC cannabis if the physician determines that based on the patient's condition there is a medical necessity for that means of administration.

(b) The prescription under Subsection (a) must specify the amount of tetrahydrocannabinols in each dosage unit to be administered by pulmonary inhalation that is medically necessary based on the patient's condition.

(c) The executive commissioner shall adopt rules:

(1) related to medical devices for pulmonary inhalation of low-THC cannabis; and

(2) establishing a reasonable timeline for reviewing and granting approval for medical devices for pulmonary inhalation.

SECTION 17. Not later than October 1, 2025:

(1) the director of the Department of Public Safety shall adopt the rules necessary to implement the changes in law made by this Act to Chapter 487, Health and Safety Code; and

(2) the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall adopt the rules necessary to implement Section 169.006, Occupations Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 18. Provided that applicants for a license to operate as a dispensing organization have met the requirements for approval provided by Subchapter C, Chapter 487, Health and Safety Code, as amended by this Act, the Department of Public Safety shall:

(1) not later than December 1, 2025, license at least nine new dispensing organizations from applications submitted before July 1, 2025; and

(2) not later than April 1, 2026, in addition to any licenses issued by the Department of Public Safety under Subdivision (1) of this section, license at least three new dispensing organizations from applications submitted at any time.

SECTION 19. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

Representative King moved to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 46**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **HB 46** prevailed by (Record 4163): 138 Yeas, 1 Nays, 2 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Anchía; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bowers; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Bumgarner; Button; Cain; Campos; Canales; Capriglione; Cole; Collier; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dutton; Dyson; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Gámez; Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Hinojosa; Holt; Hopper; Howard; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Johnson; Jones, J.; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lalani; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Louderback; Lowe; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Meza; Moody; Morales, E.; Morales Shaw; Morgan; Muñoz; Olcott; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Pierson; Plesa; Raymond; Richardson; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rose; Rosenthal; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Simmons; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Virdell; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wilson; Wu; Zwiener.

Nays — Noble.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C); Money.

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.

Absent — Davis, Y.; Gervin-Hawkins; Longoria; Morales, C.; Reynolds.

STATEMENT OF VOTE

When Record No. 4163 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted yes.

Gervin-Hawkins

SCR 56 - ADOPTED (King - House Sponsor)

The following privileged resolution was laid before the house:

SCR 56, Instructing the enrolling clerk of the house of representatives to make corrections in **HB 46**.

SCR 56 was adopted by (Record 4164): 137 Yeas, 0 Nays, 1 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Anchía; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bernal; Bhojani; Bonnen; Bowers; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Bumgarner; Button; Cain; Campos; Canales; Capriglione; Cole; Collier; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Cunningham; Curry; Darby; Davis, A.; Dean; DeAyala; Dorazio; Dutton; Dyson; Fairly; Flores; Frank; Gámez; Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; González, J.; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Harrison; Hayes; Hernandez; Hickland; Hinojosa; Holt; Hopper; Howard; Hull; Hunter; Isaac; Johnson; Jones, J.; Kerwin; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lalani; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Leo Wilson; Little; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Louderback; Lowe; Lozano; Lujan; Luther; Manuel; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; McLaughlin; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Meza; Money; Moody; Morales, E.; Morales Shaw; Morgan; Muñoz; Olcott; Oliverson; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Pierson; Plesa; Raymond; Richardson; Rodríguez Ramos; Romero; Rose; Rosenthal; Schatzline; Schofield; Schoolcraft; Shaheen; Shofner; Slawson; Smithee; Spiller; Swanson; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Tinderholt; Toth; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Vasut; Villalobos; Virdell; Vo; Walle; Ward Johnson; Wharton; Wilson; Wu; Zwiener.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C).

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.

Absent — Davis, Y.; Gervin-Hawkins; Hefner; Longoria; Morales, C.; Noble; Reynolds; Simmons.

SB 2024 - CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED

Without objection, Representative Leach submitted the conference committee report on **SB 2024**.

SB 2024 - REMARKS

REPRESENTATIVE LEACH: I know you've been getting contacted about this bill, been getting questions. I want to go over just briefly what the conference committee report for **SB 2024** does. In Section 1, this section amends the definition of e-cigarette to clarify that the liquid solution in the device does not have to contain nicotine. It also clarifies that "e-cigarette" does not include prescription medication or any prescribed substance. Members, in Section 2, current law makes it an offense to market, advertise, or sell an e-cigarette product in a container that depicts a cartoon-like fictional character that imitates a trademark or trade dress and products primarily marketed to minors. This section defines an e-cigarette product to be the liquid solution used in an e-cigarette regardless of whether the solution or material contains nicotine. It expands on the prohibitions to include any product in a product shape or design disguised to appear as an alternative product, including a product in the shape or design of the following: a school or office supply, such as a highlighter, marker, ink pen, or

pencil; a smartphone, smartwatch, smartphone case, or smartwatch case; headphones, including earbuds; clothing; a backpack; a cosmetic, including lipstick; or a toy. This section expands the prohibitions on the e-cigarette products by making it an offense to market, advertise, sell, offer to sell, or cause to be sold an e-cigarette product, and that means, again, the e-liquid itself that was wholly or in part manufactured or marketed as being manufactured in China or a country designated as a foreign adversary by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce—That amendment from Representative Olcott, which I really appreciate, remained in the bill and I think actually strengthened the bill, adding not only from China but a country designated as a foreign adversary by the U.S. Department of Commerce. I appreciate Representative Olcott for suggesting and bringing that amendment—or that contains or is mixed with any cannabinoids, alcohol, kratom, kava, mushrooms, tianeptine, or a derivative of any of those items. And an offense under that section, in Section 2, would be classified as a Class A misdemeanor.

The Section 3 summary states, basically—revolves around establishing relevant dates for the bill's new provisions. Section 3 provides that any offense committed under the Act only applies on or after September 1, 2025, which I believe was a necessary and helpful clarification to the bill, and states and provides that any offenses before that date, September 1, 2025, is governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed. Section 4 contains a severability provision, which I think's very important for this bill. It provides that the legislature intends provisions of the Act to be severable if any element of the Act is found by a court to be invalid for any reason and that the remaining applications of that provision should still be given effect. Section 5, finally, establishes the effective date of the Act is September 1, 2025.

Members, the conference committee has been very careful not to exceed the limitations imposed on the jurisdiction of the conference committee. The conference committee, of course, has wide latitude to settle differences between the house and the senate before running afoul of the rules. Here, our conference committee is not even close to the line. Our conference committee took this very seriously. We took language from the house version regarding e-cigarette products being wholly or partially manufactured in or being marketed as being manufactured in China from our house version. That is Section 161.0876 of the Health and Safety Code. And that section, as amended in the house, members, contained language prohibiting the marketing and sale of certain products, including those partly manufactured in China. And it added similar language: and/or a country designated as a foreign adversary by the United States Secretary of Commerce. That is, of course, the language I referenced that Representative Olcott brought. The conference committee gave effect to both of those changes in the house, and we resolved the differences between the house and the senate by combining the references into a single section.

Members, in adjusting the differences, the conferees compared the senate engrossment with the house amendments to determine the limits of their jurisdiction, and if either the house addressed the subject matter on which the house is silent, that subject matter is properly before the conference committee.

And the conferees did change the text before them as necessary to make the matter agreeable to the house that did not address the subject matter. Similarly, if the subject matter was in both versions of the bill, the text is in disagreement, the conferees could and did adjust those differences. For the foregoing reasons, our conference committee believes that **SB 2024** and the conference committee report on **SB 2024** has not exceeded the limits imposed on our jurisdiction.

REPRESENTATIVE TINDERHOLT: So in this bill there are parts that you took out. One of them, I had an amendment that I gave you two days prior, and you had added it into the bill, and it was flash drives. I've got a couple of Juuls right here in my hand that look like flash drives. Is there a reason that that's not in the new version?

LEACH: Our senate author, Senator Perry, and our senate conferees, Senator Bettencourt, Senator Hancock, Senator Hinojosa, and Senator Huffman, did not want that provision to be part of the conference committee report.

TINDERHOLT: I have concerns when we're trying to remove these things, and these look like flash drives. My chief of staff would tell his teachers all the time—I told you this story about the fact that he'd tell them all the time that they were flash drives when actually when actually kids are carrying these in school every day. Another piece that was removed was where it says—the Briscoe Cain amendment—contains any part or component manufactured in China. Can you tell us why that was removed?

LEACH: Yes. To be clear, Representative Tinderholt, thank you for those questions. There has been a lot of confusion on this bill. And again, Representative Tinderholt, as you know, having been on several conference committees, including, importantly, Representative Tinderholt, the conference committee for **SB 12**, which is, of course, hotly debated and contested. When we get around a table with our counterparts from the senate, there's a give and take. Not every chamber, not every legislator gets everything they want, and that's part of the conference committee process. And so Representative Cain did bring an amendment to the bill that went on the bill, and I think there's a lot of misunderstanding about the Chinese manufacturing ban in this bill, Representative Tinderholt. The language in the bill was never meant to be a dog whistle for anyone. It was never about banning Chinese manufacturing overall. I think the amendment author and Mr. Wu kind of made it about that, but that's not what it was about. The fact is there are seven companies which are owned by the Chinese Communist Party which manufacture the vast majority of this illegal product coming out of China. Let me repeat that, members. There are seven companies which are wholly owned by the Chinese Communist Party—the CCP—which manufacture the overwhelming majority of the illegal product coming out of China. That's it. Period. And none of those products have sought FDA approval, Representative Tinderholt. None of them. Not only that sought FDA approval, they have not received FDA approval. The bill, importantly, before you now, conference committee report, defines the "e-cigarette" product to mean the e-liquid itself, which is used in those e-cigarette devices. And then the bill just prohibits that e-liquid from being made in China. That's it.

TINDERHOLT: But the problem is I have two containers here. One says that they're manufactured in China, and another one has the exact same product, and it says it's a product of Vietnam. Now the house changed the version; we changed the bill to include these things, and they don't have it. And no other products look more like USBs than Juul by Atria. So is this bill protecting Juul? Because I feel like it is. And a whole section that you talked about before about the whole piece on the certifications where you talked about the FDA approval—that's missing now. So now is there any FDA approval required for these?

LEACH: Yes, of course. We are banning—Let me be very clear. And your questions are legitimate, and I appreciate you bringing them. The goal of this bill is and has always been and remains the banning of the dangerous part, which is the e-liquid itself. And as I said, seven of the predominant companies that are in this market, that are selling these products, that are marketing and manufacturing, delivery this very dangerous e-liquid product to our minors, all Texans but mainly our minors, all of them are controlled by the Chinese Communist Party.

TINDERHOLT: So let me ask this—

LEACH: Every single one of them.

TINDERHOLT: So it's not about the—

LEACH: Hang on. Let me finish my answer. I've never talked to anyone from the company you mentioned. I don't know why that product—I know our senate counterparts felt strongly about it, and there were other provisions of the bill that we spent our time arguing about and coming to terms with. But the e-liquid is where the harm is in these products, members. The e-liquid itself. And that's what this bill is about. It's about the e-liquid. And so, Representative Tinderholt, I read a story that just last week there was a fentanyl-laced e-cigarette that nearly killed a kid in New York State. This is not a joke, members. That was in New York, and this is happening here in the State of Texas as well. There are many, many stories. And our bill, this bill in front of you now, is meant to crack down on that. I'm not suggesting that another member was being cute or funny in their attempts to amend this bill, but I think that that amendment was sort of a poison pill for the bill. So we can discuss at another time, Representative Tinderholt. I'm happy to consider legislation with you in the next session relating to those products and relating to component parts that are manufactured in China. Let's have that conversation. But this bill is about the e-liquid itself. This is also, members, not about vape juice. Just to clear that up. I know there's been a lot of talk and a lot of misinformation about that. This is not about vape juice. Let's protect our children and ban these products from the Chinese Communist Party in Texas.

TINDERHOLT: I want to tell you a little story. Three of us did amendments to the bill. All of our amendments are gone. Mr. Leach stood right here and said, "I will put all three of you on the conference committee. Let's just pass the bill." I turned to the person that was at the speaker position and said, "Can an author of a bill do that?" And they said, "Yeah, in rare circumstances I may change it." But

the bottom line is one of the three were put on the conference committee report, not all three, and all of our amendments, with the exception of one, which put in adversarial nations, were stripped from the bill.

Now let me talk to you about—I can put these on my desk over there. USBs were removed as a thing that an item looks like. These products look exactly like a USB, and that's what kids are telling their teachers that they have. "Hey, I got a USB." Right? We modified the bill in the house to be about the product, not just about the liquid. I saw people carry around products, showing them to me, saying, "Hey, these are what we're trying to get rid of." The vape devices, not just the liquid. So don't let anyone kid you. This isn't just about the liquid. I've been here a long time. This is my sixth session. I know how this works. If we pass this bill the way it sits today, we're not going to get another bite at it for 10 or 12 years. People are going to say, "Oh, we already passed that." Right? I know everyone in this house wants to get rid of this stuff for children. I get it. But we also, at the same time, want to make sure these things are not manufactured by China. By the way, China manufactures over 90 percent of these products. Over 90 percent. And they're flooding them into our market and harming American children and adults. They're doing harm to them. And the product that I have in my pocket says it's a product of Vietnam. Well, it's not. What they do is they ship all of the components to Vietnam, punch three or four pieces together, and put it back in a box, and they say that it's a Vietnamese product. But right after, it says from China. It's China materials, 100 percent. And we have tariffs right now, high tariffs across this entire globe right now. One of them is with China.

So I'm telling you that this bill left the Texas House significantly different than it came back. There's several different parts of the bill. I believe there's five parts to the bill. One part specifically addressed these devices. This bill is not what it was when it left the house. I would tell my peers we all want to get rid of these, and I think it's important for us to take a bite at it next time. I hate to say that, but if we don't do this the right way, if we don't stop these devices from being developed in China and then marketed to our children, we're not doing this the right way. I will tell you I am disappointed, disappointed that I was told I'd be on a conference committee so we would hurry up and get it out, and we were not on it. We didn't get to help make these decisions. You deserve the truth. You deserve to vote on what we pushed out of the house. And that's not what came back. Now we have products that are going to come back to Texas that are almost fully—100 percent of the product is Chinese. And it's going to be manufactured in California, in Vietnam, doesn't matter. There are several parts to this bill, and I think we are failing Texans if we pass this bill the way it sits.

REPRESENTATIVE WU: Mr. Tinderholt, Mr. Cain had offered an amendment that said that the components of these vapes cannot be manufactured in China either. Do you remember that?

TINDERHOLT: Correct. It's item number (B) on page 2, and it's missing now.

WU: But in the bill they added that it would be banned if it is wholly or partially manufactured or marketed as being manufactured in China or one of the other countries. Would it be reasonable that that is a recodified definition of that? That this bill would ban it?

TINDERHOLT: I believe so. I believe that's the intent.

WU: If we're going to say we're going to ban the stuff from China, it shouldn't just be the final product. A single screw, a piece of plastic, the gel, anything, a battery, if it's from China, it would also be banned as well, right?

TINDERHOLT: Correct. It basically said contains any part or component manufactured in China. So what I told you, this box in my pocket, there's about six items that are punched together. They are shipped to Vietnam, they punch them together, they stick them in a box, and they say it's a Vietnamese product, but it's actually Chinese. One hundred percent of the stuff in that box is Chinese product.

WU: And China makes probably 99.9 percent of the products and the components. So effectively this bill would be a complete ban of vapes in the future.

TINDERHOLT: We would have gotten rid of all vapes. If this amendment would have stayed in, we would have protected a whole lot more kids because they wouldn't be able to sell these to Americans, the Chinese vape. Had that stayed in, vaping would have pretty much gone away for a period of time until American companies started creating them. But with that gone and without the amendment that I had that was pretty simple, the bill still allows these vapes from China to come into America and harm our children. So I'm recommending a no vote on this strictly because we're failing Texans; we're failing on stopping these Chinese vapes from coming into our country. And I'm disappointed. I'm disappointed that one of my peers told me we would do something right here, and it didn't happen and then this stuff gets stripped out.

REMARKS ORDERED PRINTED

Representative Hopper moved to print all remarks on **SB 2024**.

The motion prevailed.

SB 2024 - REMARKS

REPRESENTATIVE HARRISON: Members, I rise today in opposition for different reasons than were just articulated here—primarily role of government issues. Guys, the State of Texas has got a reputation for being a small government, low regulation state but, unfortunately, we have just been coasting on that reputation for far too long and bills like this continue our trajectory of trampling on liberty on our path to becoming a nanny state. This bill is big government, it is liberal, and it is not conservative, and you do not have to take my word for it. Let me read you just a couple of quick quotes, then I will be done. One, from Charlie Kirk. Charlie Kirk is amplifying a prominent conservative who said, "RINOs in the Texas state legislature are following in the footsteps of left wing New York Attorney General Letitia James and are planning to hold a

vote on a bill to ban vapes and smokeless tobacco products in Texas this Thursday." Charlie Kirk echoed those remarks with his own statement saying, "Marching in lockstep with leftist Letitia James to ban vapes in Texas is moral confusion." He then went on to chastise us against banning products which are less harmful alternatives to combustible cigarettes. I will close with one final quote from somebody I had the honor of previously working for, President Trump. "I saved flavored vaping in 2019, and it greatly helps people get off smoking. I raised the age to 21, keeping it away from the kids. Kamala Harris and Joe Biden want everything banned, killing small businesses all over the country. I'll save vaping again." Again, a quote from President Donald J. Trump, September of 2024. Please join me. Vote against the nanny state. Vote against this bill.

REPRESENTATIVE LEACH: When he said he was quoting his former boss, I thought it was going to be Anthony Fauci. Mr. Speaker and members, let me set the record straight here. You've been confused and you've been misled and misinformed. This bill is about banning very dangerous e-liquid product that is flooding the market into our schools, on our streets, into your homes. This bill is about banning that. This bill is about protecting our children. Do we maybe need to go further next session on some other legislation to ban devices that look like flash drives or to discuss the issue of manufactured parts? Sure, let's have that discussion, but this bill has always been about and remains about banning the e-liquid itself.

With respect to Representative Tinderholt's comments about the conference committee, I don't hold any authority, never have, hope to never have that responsibility to appoint a conference committee. I can request conferees, I can suggest conferees, but the conferees on this bill and every bill is at the discretion and the power of our speaker. If I represented to Mr. Tinderholt and Mr. Cain that they would be on a conference committee, if I promised them, then I simply misspoke. I'm sorry. I've been known to do that lately. I will tell you that they were helpful in this bill. We actually kept part of Mr. Cain's amendment relating to the gas station heroin that's banned. That part is still in there, which I'm proud to keep. We kept Representative Olcott's amendment. The conference committee process, the appointment of conferees, the language that's decided between the house and the senate is complicated. It can be complex. Sometimes you have to stand in front of a body and there's not a whole lot of answers to why a certain provision didn't make it in the bill. It's just the other senators, Senator Perry, Senator Bettencourt, Senator Huffman, and the other conferees over there simply didn't want it in.

This bill is about, let me be very clear, banning the very dangerous e-liquid that is finding its way into our kids' backpacks and keeping them safe. That is what it's about and I ask that you support the conference committee report for **SB 2024**.

REPRESENTATIVE MCQUEENEY: Chairman Leach, does this bill ban Chinese vapes?

LEACH: This bill bans dangerous e-liquid that's finding its way into vapes.

MCQUEENEY: Does this bill prevent people from marketing to our children with these products?

LEACH: Yes.

MCQUEENEY: That's all.

LEACH: This bill is about protecting our kids.

REPRESENTATIVE TINDERHOLT: You say that this is all about the product—the vape liquid. In the background and purpose, it specifically talks about disguising things as vape pens, other products, school supplies, office supplies, things like that. Yet you're saying this is strictly about the vape juice, the stuff that goes in it.

LEACH: I'm saying the conversation we're having right now with respect to the intent of the bill is about dangerous products. Yes, good point, Representative Tinderholt. It is primarily about the vape liquid itself, but to your point earlier from the back mic and from the front mic, it is also about banning other devices that are made to look like other products, whether it's a purse or a cell phone or a mini game or, I would say, you're at your language on the flash drive since you've spoken and brought that point up. I've actually been advised that language protecting flash drives is in there. It doesn't say flash drives directly, but it's in there in the definition that would protect products that are meant to look like other products, a flash drive being a perfect example.

TINDERHOLT: I'm looking through here and I don't see that anywhere. All I see is smart phone, smart watch, smart phone case, smart watch. I feel like some part of this—somewhere someone, I'm not saying you—I feel like this is a vendor bill. I feel like it supports Altria, I feel like it supports Juul, and I feel like it supports one of the two big companies that produce all of these. I really do because there's no reason that that piece should have been taken out of here. Nothing's going to change my mind. I apologize. I'm just disappointed. I wanted this bill to ban the Chinese products, which when it left the house, that's where we were. That's how the house made it and it came back and it's different.

LEACH: And Representative Tinderholt, you and I are friends. I respect you deeply. You don't have to apologize for voting your conscience, but I would remind you that, although this bill may not be perfect in your eyes and it may not be perfect in my eyes, this bill does protect our children. It does. You said that our state would be worse off. I patently disagree with that. I believe that our state will be better off. I believe our children will be safer as a result of this bill. I would ask that you rethink between now and 30 seconds from now when the speaker calls the vote. But this protects our children and I hope, members, that you will join me in voting for the final conference committee report on **SB 2024**.

Representative Leach moved to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 2024**.

The motion to adopt the conference committee report on **SB 2024** prevailed by (Record 4165): 96 Yeas, 35 Nays, 2 Present, not voting.

Yeas — Alders; Anchía; Ashby; Barry; Bell, C.; Bell, K.; Bonnen; Bowers; Bryant; Buckley; Bucy; Bumgarner; Button; Campos; Canales; Capriglione; Cole; Collier; Cook; Cortez; Craddick; Curry; Darby; Dean; DeAyala; Dyson; Fairly; Frank; Garcia, J.; Garcia Hernandez; Gates; Gerdes; Geren; González, M.; Goodwin; Guerra; Guillen; Harless; Harris Davila; Hayes; Hefner; Hernandez; Hickland; Hinojosa; Holt; Howard; Hull; Isaac; King; Kitzman; LaHood; Lambert; Landgraf; Leach; Little; Lopez, J.; Lopez, R.; Louderback; Lozano; Lujan; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; McQueeney; Metcalf; Meyer; Moody; Morales, E.; Morales Shaw; Muñoz; Noble; Ordaz; Orr; Patterson; Paul; Perez, M.; Perez, V.; Phelan; Raymond; Romero; Rose; Rosenthal; Schofield; Shaheen; Simmons; Smithee; Spiller; Talarico; Tepper; Thompson; Troxclair; Turner; VanDeaver; Villalobos; Wharton; Wilson; Zwiener.

Nays — Bhojani; Cain; Cunningham; Dorazio; Gámez; Harrison; Hopper; Hunter; Johnson; Jones, J.; Kerwin; Leo Wilson; Lowe; Luther; McLaughlin; Meza; Money; Morgan; Olcott; Oliverson; Pierson; Plesa; Richardson; Rodríguez Ramos; Schatzline; Schoolcraft; Shofner; Slawson; Swanson; Tinderholt; Toth; Vasut; Virdell; Ward Johnson; Wu.

Present, not voting — Mr. Speaker(C); Flores.

Absent, Excused — Allen; Garcia, L.; Harris; Jones, V.

Absent — Bernal; Davis, A.; Davis, Y.; Dutton; Gervin-Hawkins; González, J.; Lalani; Longoria; Manuel; Morales, C.; Reynolds; Vo; Walle.

STATEMENTS OF VOTE

When Record No. 4165 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted no.

Gervin-Hawkins

When Record No. 4165 was taken, I was shown voting no. I intended to vote yes.

Johnson

When Record No. 4165 was taken, I was in the house but away from my desk. I would have voted yes.

Manuel

REASONS FOR VOTE

Representative Cain submitted the following reason for vote to be printed in the journal:

As originally passed by the house, the bill banned all vape products from China and would have brought manufacturing back to America. The current version no longer does this. I cannot, in good conscience, support the bill.

Representatives Olcott, Hopper, Toth, Schatzline, Richardson, Cain, Schoolcraft, and Pierson submitted the following reason for vote to be printed in the journal:

When this bill was before the house, Representative Cain and Representative Tinderholt brought amendments that would have ensured that dangerous Chinese-produced e-cigarettes were not marketed and sold to Texas kids. These amendments were stripped in conference. Therefore, I am voting against this weakened version which appears to be a vendor bill designed to protect the interests of a single company.

**PROVIDING FOR A SUSPENSION
CONGRATULATORY AND MEMORIAL CALENDAR
RULES SUSPENDED**

Representative Patterson moved to suspend all necessary rules to allow the chair of the Committee on Local and Consent Calendars to prepare and distribute a suspension congratulatory and memorial calendar to be considered Monday, June 2, at a time to be determined by the speaker.

The motion prevailed.

RESOLUTIONS REFERRED TO COMMITTEES

Resolutions were at this time laid before the house and referred to committees. (See the addendum to the daily journal, Referred to Committees, List Nos. 1 and 2.)

PROVIDING FOR ADJOURNMENT

At 7:06 p.m., Representative Meyer moved that, at the conclusion of the reading of resolutions on first reading and referral to committees, the signing of bills and resolutions, and the receipt of messages, the house adjourn until 11 a.m. tomorrow.

The motion prevailed.

(Schofield in the chair)

The chair called the house to order at 7:15 p.m.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the senate was received at this time (see the addendum to the daily journal, Messages from the Senate, Message No. 3).

HOUSE AT EASE

At 7:16 p.m., the chair announced that the house would stand at ease.

(Speaker in the chair)

The chair called the house to order at 7:35 p.m.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the senate was received at this time (see the addendum to the daily journal, Messages from the Senate, Message No. 4).

HOUSE AT EASE

At 7:36 p.m., the chair announced that the house would stand at ease.

Monday, June 2

(Hefner in the chair)

The chair called the house to order at 10:48 a.m. Monday, June 2.

ADJOURNMENT

In accordance with a previous motion, the house, at 10:48 a.m. Monday, June 2, adjourned until 11 a.m. today.

ADDENDUM

REFERRED TO COMMITTEES

The following bills and joint resolutions were today laid before the house, read first time, and referred to committees, and the following resolutions were today laid before the house and referred to committees. If indicated, the chair today corrected the referral of the following measures:

List No. 1

HR 1517 (By Dyson), Congratulating the Dixie Chicken in College Station on receiving a Texas Treasure Business Award from the Texas Historical Commission.

To Local and Consent Calendars.

HR 1518 (By Dyson), Commemorating the 100th anniversary of Martin's Place in Bryan.

To Local and Consent Calendars.

HR 1520 (By Darby), Commemorating the 20th anniversary of the West Texas Legislative Summit and commending the San Angelo Chamber of Commerce for hosting the event.

To Local and Consent Calendars.

HR 1521 (By Patterson), Congratulating Jack Baxley on his retirement as vice president of governmental affairs for TEXO, The Construction Association.

To Local and Consent Calendars.

HR 1524 (By Geren), Congratulating Gary Calfee on his retirement as an attorney.

To Local and Consent Calendars.

HR 1525 (By Dutton), Commemorating the 150th anniversary of the community of Barrett.

To Local and Consent Calendars.

HR 1526 (By Dutton), In memory of José Griñán, former broadcast journalist for FOX 26 Houston.

To Local and Consent Calendars.

HR 1527 (By Dutton), In memory of the Reverend Dr. Byrd Lacey Jr. of Houston.

To Local and Consent Calendars.

HR 1528 (By Louderback), Congratulating the Ganado High School softball team on winning the 2025 UIL 2A Division 1 state championship.

To Local and Consent Calendars.

List No. 2

HR 1529 (By Cortez), Congratulating State Representative Ryan Guillen and State Representative Richard Peña Raymond on becoming the longest-serving desk mates in the history of the Texas House.

To Local and Consent Calendars.

HR 1530 (By Canales), Commemorating the 2025 Harvest Christian Academy BBQ Cook Off in Edinburg.

To Local and Consent Calendars.

SIGNED BY THE SPEAKER

The following bills and resolutions were today signed in the presence of the house by the speaker:

House List No. 29

HB 2, HB 6, HB 14, HB 20, HB 121, HB 126, HB 127, HB 149, HB 223, HB 300, HB 500, HB 549, HB 1314, HB 1973, HB 2011, HB 2067, HB 2525, HB 2731, HB 2854, HB 3071, HB 3333, HB 3372, HB 3556, HB 3595, HB 3689, HB 4081, HB 4144, HB 4187, HB 4623, HB 4690, HB 5646, HB 5666, HB 5677, HB 5682, HCR 88, HCR 137, HCR 153, HCR 166, HCR 167, HCR 168

Senate List No. 30

SB 10, SB 34, SB 251, SB 261, SB 456, SB 500, SB 519, SB 527, SB 614, SB 646, SB 667, SB 705, SB 748, SB 777, SB 790, SB 826, SB 857, SB 869, SB 918, SB 924, SB 926, SB 955, SB 1049, SB 1055, SB 1137, SB 1164, SB 1188, SB 1233, SB 1243, SB 1266, SB 1302, SB 1307, SB 1333, SB 1335, SB 1398, SB 1400, SB 1433, SB 1467, SB 1558, SB 1563, SB 1596, SB 1858, SB 1862, SB 1896, SB 2073, SB 2206, SB 2405, SB 2610, SB 2781, SB 2885, SB 2995, SCR 3, SCR 9, SCR 18, SCR 30, SCR 53, SJR 59

Senate List No. 31

SB 4, SB 6, SB 9, SB 22, SB 23, SB 25, SB 36, SB 38, SB 40, SB 204, SB 612, SB 672, SB 766, SB 823, SB 876, SB 968, SB 1084, SB 1207, SB 1230, SB 1313, SB 1318, SB 1448, SB 1621, SB 1644, SB 1718, SB 1758, SB 2177, SB 2232, SB 2366, SB 2367, SB 2398, SB 2406, SB 2480, SB 2501, SB 2515,

SB 2520, SB 2589, SB 2786, SB 2790, SB 3048, SB 3050, SB 3052, SB 3053, SB 3056, SJR 5

Senate List No. 32

SB 7, SB 17, SB 21, SB 57, SB 66, SB 140, SB 413, SB 437, SB 467, SB 509, SB 510, SB 512, SB 710, SB 785, SB 800, SB 850, SB 863, SB 904, SB 905, SB 974, SB 1191, SB 1198, SB 1281, SB 1300, SB 1362, SB 1504, SB 1522, SB 1567, SB 1580, SB 1723, SB 1760, SB 1833, SB 1838, SB 1923, SB 1957, SB 2155, SB 2167, SB 2321, SB 2368, SB 2407, SB 2778, SB 2986, SJR 27

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

The following messages from the senate were today received by the house:

Message No. 1

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE
SENATE CHAMBER
Austin, Texas
Sunday, June 1, 2025

The Honorable Speaker of the House
House Chamber
Austin, Texas

Mr. Speaker:

I am directed by the senate to inform the house that the senate has taken the following action:

THE SENATE HAS TAKEN THE FOLLOWING OTHER ACTION:

SB 293

The Senate has adopted a motion respectfully requesting that the House take up for consideration the Senate's request to recede from a House amendment and concur in the alternative Senate amendment to Senate Bill 293 as presented in Senate Resolution 695. The Senate has also appointed a conference committee on the pending matters of disagreement on Senate Bill 293 in the event the House chooses to not act upon the Senate's request pursuant to Senate Resolution 695.

Senate Conferees: Huffman - Chair / Bettencourt / Menendez / Schwertner / West

Respectfully,
Patsy Spaw
Secretary of the Senate

Message No. 2

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE
SENATE CHAMBER
Austin, Texas
Sunday, June 1, 2025 - 2

The Honorable Speaker of the House

House Chamber
Austin, Texas

Mr. Speaker:

I am directed by the senate to inform the house that the senate has taken the following action:

THE SENATE HAS PASSED THE FOLLOWING MEASURES:

HCR 157 Hunter SPONSOR: Kolkhorst
Designating Rockport as the official Redfish Capital of Texas for a 10-year period ending in 2035.

SCR 56 Perry SPONSOR: King
Instructing the enrolling clerk of the house of representatives to make corrections in H.B. No. 46.

THE SENATE HAS ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS:

HB 46 (31 Yeas, 0 Nays)

SB 1610 (30 Yeas, 1 Nay)

Respectfully,
Patsy Spaw
Secretary of the Senate

Message No. 3

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE
SENATE CHAMBER
Austin, Texas
Sunday, June 1, 2025 - 3

The Honorable Speaker of the House
House Chamber
Austin, Texas

Mr. Speaker:

I am directed by the senate to inform the house that the senate has taken the following action:

THE SENATE HAS PASSED THE FOLLOWING MEASURES:

HCR 146 Shofner SPONSOR: Hancock
Directing the governor of the State of Texas to award the Texas Legislative Medal of Honor to U.S. Army veteran Rickey Dudley Wittner.

HCR 148 Phelan SPONSOR: Nichols
Designating Bridge City as the official Corn Dog Capital of Texas for a 10-year period ending in 2035.

HCR 149 Bumgarner SPONSOR: Hancock

Message No. 4

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE
 SENATE CHAMBER
 Austin, Texas
 Sunday, June 1, 2025 - 4

The Honorable Speaker of the House
 House Chamber
 Austin, Texas

Mr. Speaker:

I am directed by the senate to inform the house that the senate has taken the following action:

THE SENATE HAS ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS:

HB 493 (23 Yeas, 8 Nays)

Respectfully,
 Patsy Spaw
 Secretary of the Senate

APPENDIX

ENROLLED

May 31 - HB 2, HB 6, HB 14, HB 20, HB 121, HB 126, HB 127, HB 149, HB 223, HB 300, HB 500, HB 549, HB 1314, HB 1973, HB 2011, HB 2067, HB 2525, HB 2731, HB 2854, HB 3333, HB 3372, HB 3689, HB 4081, HB 4144, HB 4187, HB 4623, HB 4690, HB 5646, HB 5666, HB 5677, HB 5682, HCR 88, HCR 137, HCR 153, HCR 166, HCR 167, HCR 168

SENT TO THE GOVERNOR

May 31 - HB 18, HB 24, HB 35, HB 43, HB 101, HB 103, HB 107, HB 114, HB 138, HB 143, HB 163, HB 171, HB 216, HB 227, HB 426, HB 449, HB 541, HB 581, HB 647, HB 654, HB 700, HB 713, HB 721, HB 762, HB 824, HB 851, HB 1052, HB 1237, HB 1306, HB 1500, HB 1522, HB 1532, HB 1584, HB 1629, HB 1868, HB 1960, HB 2012, HB 2035, HB 2037, HB 2080, HB 2213, HB 2217, HB 2221, HB 2313, HB 2348, HB 2488, HB 2495, HB 2517, HB 2520, HB 2598, HB 2637, HB 2655, HB 2686, HB 2688, HB 2694, HB 2712, HB 2757, HB 2818, HB 2820, HB 2851, HB 3005, HB 3016, HB 3092, HB 3112, HB 3126, HB 3153, HB 3185, HB 3250, HB 3348, HB 3388, HB 3463, HB 3464, HB 3486, HB 3487, HB 3512, HB 3516, HB 3546, HB 3623, HB 3629, HB 3686, HB 3711, HB 3815, HB 3824, HB 4099, HB 4134, HB 4145, HB 4158,

HB 4170, HB 4202, HB 4214, HB 4226, HB 4263, HB 4264, HB 4285,
HB 4310, HB 4341, HB 4350, HB 4361, HB 4384, HB 4386, HB 4463,
HB 4466, HB 4488, HB 4520, HB 4530, HB 4535, HB 4559, HB 4630,
HB 4765, HB 4848, HB 4894, HB 4903, HB 4904, HB 4995, HB 5033,
HB 5081, HB 5154, HB 5196, HB 5247, HB 5320, HB 5323, HB 5331,
HB 5435, HB 5437, HB 5650, HB 5651, HB 5652, HB 5654, HB 5655,
HB 5656, HB 5659, HB 5661, HB 5662, HB 5664, HB 5665, HB 5670,
HB 5671, HB 5672, HB 5674, HB 5679, HB 5695, HB 5698, HCR 9, HCR 46,
HCR 81, HCR 83, HCR 111

