TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF BUSINESS

THE TEXAS STATE CHAMBER

FOR THE RECORD

THE 2017 REPORT OF THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE • 85th REGULAR & FIRST CALLED SPECIAL SESSION

THE BUSINESS REPORT CARD IS IN. • DID YOUR LAWMAKERS MAKE THE GRADE?

FOR THE RECORD

DID YOUR LAWMAKERS MAKE THE GRADE?

For the Record 2017 reflects lawmakers' overall scorecard for business for the 85th Regular and First Called Special Sessions. Overall, the sessions had the potential to be damaging to Texas and our economy, but with TAB fighting for jobs and paychecks, business can consider the regular and special sessions successful.

Every session, TAB contacts the Legislature about the bills and issues that impact small and large employers across Texas. *For the Record 2017* is a valuable tool to hold legislators accountable and ensure they are addressing the needs of the business community.

For a bill to be used on the TAB voting record, we make sure our stance was communicated through one or more of the following ways. TAB produced and delivered to legislators and their staff our priorities while also meeting face-to-face when possible on issues. In addition, TAB wrote letters on specific bills and provided oral and/or written testimony or registered its position in committee hearings. As an added benefit to legislators, TAB produced a floor report that was electronically delivered to legislative offices every morning that indicated TAB's positions on each bill of interest on the calendar for that specific day. Offices also were given electronic access to all TAB memos and letters on issues as well as specific bills.

Legislators who score 90-100 on our voting record are recognized as Champions for Free Enterprise and legislators scoring 80-89 are noted as Fighters for Free Enterprise. TAB's scorecard includes a specific score of the session as well a cumulative grade that spans over their career as a state lawmaker. TAB honors the higher of either score.

The business community counts on *For the Record 2017* to assess which officeholders bring jobs to Texas, promote economic prosperity, and create a thriving workforce as a part of their legislative priorities.

How Did Your Legislator Vote on Business Issues?

Champion for Free Enterprise

Scores highlighted in **red** are legislators designated as the Texas Association of Business "Champions for Free Enterprise." A legislator must score a 90 or above to receive this distinction. This is the highest honor that a lawmaker can receive from TAB.

Fighter for Free Enterprise

Scores highlighted in **gold** are legislators designated as the Texas Association of Business "Fighters for Free Enterprise." A legislator must score an 80-89 to receive this distinction.

HOW TO READ THE VOTES

+	Pro-Business Vote
-	Vote Against Business
E	Excused Absence
A	Absence (Unexcused)
C	Chair
P	Present Not Voting
FR	Freshman Legislator

HOW DID YOUR REPRESENTATIVE VOTE ON BUSINESS ISSUES?

HOUSE VOTES

	AVG	2017	HB 28	HB 100	HB 108	HB 122	HB 1449	HB 1515	HB 1774	HB 1818	HB 2533	HB 2861	HB 3276	HB 3294	SB 4	SB 22	SB 28	SB 507	SB 1045
Mr. Speaker	As Speaker, he does not typically vote.																		
Allen	43%	71%	P	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Alonzo	45%	82%	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Alvarado	50%	65%	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Anchia	41%	47%	-	-	+	E	-	+	-	-	-	E	A	+	+	+	+	+	-
Anderson, C.	89%	82%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Anderson, R.	88%	82%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Arévalo	FR	65%	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Ashby	96%	87%	+	+	+	-	+	+	E	+	+	E	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Bailes	FR	88%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Bell	86%	76%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-
Bernal	44%	53%	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Biedermann	FR	63%	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	E	+	-	+
Blanco	44%	59%	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Bohac	82%	76%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-
Bonnen, D.	86%	81%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	E	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Bonnen, G.	88%	76%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	A	+	-	+	+	+	+
Burkett	94%	94%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Burns	85%	82%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Burrows	77%	65%	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	A	-	-	+	+	+	+
Button	91%	88%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-
Cain	FR	47%	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-
Canales	56%	82%	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Capriglione	83%	75%	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	E	+	+	+
Clardy	85%	76%	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Coleman	37%	71%	-	-	A	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Collier	53%	82%	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Cook	88%	88%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Cortez	65%	76%	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Cosper	FR	88%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Craddick	86%	82%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Cyrier	85%	76%	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Dale	90%	82%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Darby	91%	88%	+	+	+	+	+	E	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Davis, S.	85%	93%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	E	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Davis, Y.	35%	79%	-	-	+	+	+	E	-	+	+	E	+	+	+	+	+	+	E
Dean	FR	76%	+	+	+	-	+	A	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Deshotel	51%	71%	+	-	+	+	A	+	-	+	+	-	+	A	+	+	+	+	+
Dukes	36%	44%	E	-	+	+	-	+	-	A	-	-	+	A	+	P	+	+	A

	AVG	2017	HB 28	HB 100	HB 108	HB 122	HB 1449	HB 1515	HB 1774	HB 1818	HB 2533	HB 2861	HB 3276	HB 3294	SB 4	SB 22	SB 28	SB 507	SB 1045
Dutton	39%	73%	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	E	+	+	E
Elkins	90%	94%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Faircloth	91%	81%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	E	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Fallon	81%	75%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	E	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+
Farrar	36%	76%	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Flynn	94%	88%	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Frank	92%	82%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-
Frullo	87%	75%	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	E	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Geren	84%	82%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+
Gervin-Hawkins	FR	60%	-	-	+	E	-	+	-	-	E	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Giddings	44%	73%	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	A	+	E	+	+	E
Goldman	80%	79%	+	+	+	-	C	C	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	C	+
Gonzales	89%	80%	E	+	+	-	E	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
González	45%	65%	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	A	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Gooden	82%	88%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+
Guerra	69%	82%	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+
Guillen	57%	88%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Gutierrez	43%	76%	-	+	+	+	A	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Hefner	FR	76%	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+
Hernandez	47%	69%	-	-	E	+	-	+	-	P	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Herrero	47%	80%	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	E	+	+	E
Hinojosa	FR	53%	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Holland	FR	82%	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Howard	50%	59%	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Huberty	90%	94%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Hunter	82%	76%	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Isaac	87%	82%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+
Israel	44%	59%	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Johnson, E.	56%	73%	-	+	+	E	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	+	-
Johnson, J.	FR	81%	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	E
Kacal	83%	81%	+	+	+	-	E	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Keough	69%	56%	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	E	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	-
King, K.	88%	88%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	E
King, P.	88%	88%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	-	+	+	+	+
King, T.	63%	82%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	A	+	+	+
Klick	76%	80%	+	+	-	E	+	+	+	E	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Koop	97%	94%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Krause	73%	69%	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	E	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+
Kuempel	85%	81%	E	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Lambert	FR	82%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Landgraf	80%	71%	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+
Lang	FR	47%	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+
Larson	89%	88%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Laubenberg	88%	79%	+	+	-	+	E	+	+	+	E	-	E	+	-	+	+	+	+

	AVG	2017	HB 28	HB 100	HB 108	HB 122	HB 1449	HB 1515	HB 1774	HB 1818	HB 2533	HB 2861	HB 3276	HB 3294	SB 4	SB 22	SB 28	SB 507	SB 1045
Leach	86%	76%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	+
Longoria	80%	100%	E	+	+	+	E	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	+
Lozano	72%	82%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Lucio III	59%	82%	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Martinez	47%	75%	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	E	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Metcalf	81%	80%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	E	+	+	E
Meyer	94%	88%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Miller	89%	81%	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	E
Minjarez	46%	56%	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	A	+	E	+	+	+	+	-
Moody	50%	71%	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Morrison	87%	82%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-
Muñoz	62%	71%	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Murphy	89%	88%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Murr	77%	71%	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+
Neave	FR	71%	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Nevárez	57%	76%	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	A	+
Oliveira	46%	75%	-	+	+	E	-	+	P	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A
Oliverson	FR	76%	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Ortega	FR	65%	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Paddie	91%	87%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	E	+	+	-	+	+	+	E
Parker	88%	82%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Paul	88%	82%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Perez	77%	81%	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	+
Phelan	85%	82%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Phillips	85%	82%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	-
Pickett	55%	82%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	A
Price	87%	82%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Raney	90%	88%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Raymond	50%	94%	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Reynolds	47%	63%	-	-	+	+	+	E	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Rinaldi	62%	47%	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+
Roberts	FR	88%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Rodriguez, E.	36%	59%	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	A	+	+	+	+	+
Rodriguez, J.	49%	71%	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Romero	59%	76%	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Rose	55%	65%	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A
Sanford	85%	81%	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	+	-	-	+	+	+	+
Schaefer	69%	50%	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	E	+	+	+
Schofield	91%	82%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Schubert	91%	82%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Shaheen	65%	53%	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+
Sheffield	81%	82%	+	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	A	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Shine	94%	94%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Simmons	83%	82%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+

	AVG	2017	HB 28	HB 100	HB 108	HB 122	HB 1449	HB 1515	HB 1774	HB 1818	HB 2533	HB 2861	HB 3276	HB 3294	SB 4	SB 22	SB 28	SB 507	SB 1045
Smithee	85%	80%	+	+	-	-	+	E	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	E
Springer	84%	76%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+
Stephenson	82%	76%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	+
Stickland	61%	41%	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	A	-	+
Stucky	FR	82%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Swanson	FR	53%	+	-	A	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+
Thierry	FR	76%	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Thompson, E.	86%	88%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Thompson, S.	39%	81%	A	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	E	+	+	+	-
Tinderholt	65%	53%	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+
Turner	50%	65%	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	P	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Uresti	FR	82%	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
VanDeaver	88%	82%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Villalba	90%	94%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Vo	49%	63%	-	+	E	+	-	+	-	A	+	A	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Walle	43%	63%	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	E	+	+	+	+	+
White	84%	76%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+
Wilson	FR	65%	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	+
Workman	90%	94%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Wray	85%	82%	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Wu	58%	69%	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	E	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Zedler	80%	76%	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Zerwas	84%	87%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	E	+	+	E

HOUSE VOTES

Franchise Tax Repeal – HB 28

Passage to Third Reading

The franchise tax has proven to be a revenue source from businesses that does not fairly or equitably allocate the tax burden and simply adds to the already disproportionate contribution of business to the state's total tax revenues. This bill would have provided for both reductions in the franchise tax rate, based on the availability of revenues, and established conditions under which the franchise tax would be repealed in the future without unduly disrupting state operating revenues.

The vote occurred on passage to third reading. A vote for HB 28 was a vote with TAB. HB 28 passed the House but died in the Senate.

Transportation Network Companies – HB 100

Passage to Third Reading

This bill creates comprehensive, statewide regulations for transportation network companies, unifying the patchwork rules currently in place across 19 Texas cities. Uniform regulation offers consumer protections, provides a stable regulatory framework, eliminates conflicting local regulations, and encourages economic development and significant new job opportunities.

The vote occurred on passage to third reading. A vote for HB 100 was a vote with TAB. HB 100 passed and was signed by the Governor.

Recruit Texas Program – HB 108

Third Reading and Final Passage

This bill amends the Labor Code to authorize the Texas Workforce Commission to use the skills development fund to facilitate the relocation to or expansion in this state of employers offering complex or high-skilled employment opportunities.

The vote occurred on third reading and final passage. A vote for HB 108 was a vote with TAB. HB 108 passed and was signed by the Governor.

Raise-the-Age – HB 122

Third Reading and Final Passage

HB 122 would have raised the age of criminal responsibility in Texas to age 18 from age 17 while giving a judge discretion to transfer a younger person to an adult prison on a case-by-case basis. Studies have shown locking up 17-year-olds with older prisoners increases the likelihood they will re-offend. Ninety-six percent of 17 year olds are convicted with nonviolent crimes and are saddled with a permanent record. Forty-one other states treat those younger than 18 as juveniles.

The vote occurred on third reading and final passage. A vote for HB 122 was a vote with TAB. HB 122 passed the House but died in the Senate.

Prohibition of Fees on New Construction – HB 1449

Third Reading and Final Passage

Municipalities around the country, including some in Texas, are increasingly turning to new growth to finance affordable housing through fees on new construction. If subsidized housing is a priority for any municipality, the costs should be shared by all. This bill ensures that the support of affordable housing does not place a discriminatory burden on new homeowners or businesses just entering the market.

The vote occurred on third reading and final passage. A vote for HB 1449 was a vote with TAB. HB 1449 passed and was signed by the Governor.

Dry Cleaner Environmental Response Program – HB 1515

Third Reading and Final Passage

The Dry Cleaner Environmental Response Program is an industry supported and funded program that provides for the remediation of soil and groundwater contamination from releases of dry-cleaning solvents. This bill would have extended the program beyond its current expiration date of 2021. Continuation of the program is necessary to ensure that all contaminated sites are remediated and that funding for future releases, provided by the industry, continues to be made available to protect public groundwater resources.

The vote occurred on third reading and final passage. A vote for HB 1515 was a vote with TAB. HB 1515 passed the House but died in the Senate.

Hailstorm Litigation Reform – HB 1774

Third Reading and Final Passage

This bill aims to end rampant hailstorm lawsuit abuse and remove the incentive for trial lawyers to manufacture lawsuits, while allowing for continued consumer protection. The bill lowers the interest penalty on late payments, requires 60-day pre-suit notice, includes a right of inspection by the insurer, grants immunity for an agent if the insurer accepts liability, and limits attorney's fees.

The vote occurred on passage to third reading. A vote for HB 1774 was a vote with TAB. HB 1774 passed and was signed by the Governor.

Railroad Commission Sunset – HB 1818

Third Reading and Final Passage

This bill represents meaningful and appropriate changes to the agency's authority and funding structure without unnecessary provisions that are outside the appropriate scope of a Sunset bill or which would unduly hinder the important development of our energy sector.

The vote occurred on third reading and final passage. A vote for HB 1818 was a vote with TAB. HB 1818 passed and was signed by the Governor.

Civil Suits Brought by Local Governments – HB 2533

Third Reading and Final Passage

Current law gives local governments the authority to sue in district court for environmental violations that are under the enforcement jurisdiction of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This bill ensures that whether enforcement action is taken by a local government or state agency, the criteria for initiating enforcement and the penalties and sanctions imposed will be consistent.

The vote occurred on third reading and final passage. A vote for HB 2533 was a vote with TAB. HB 2533 passed and was signed by the Governor.

Comprehensive Development Agreements (CDAs) – HB 2861

Passage to Third Reading

This bill would have continued and expanded the use of CDAs to build transportation projects across the state. Increasing transportation investment is absolutely essential to the support of the Texas economy. TAB supports the use of CDAs to maximize transportation funding by supplementing state funds with private sector investments.

The vote occurred on passage to third reading. A vote for HB 2861 was a vote with TAB. The vote failed on passage to third reading so the bill died.

Freestanding ER Transparency – HB 3276

Third Reading and Final Passage

This bill requires freestanding emergency rooms to post notice of health benefit plan provider network status. This is an important step to greater transparency at freestanding ERs and will help ensure consumers receive adequate information to make informed health care decisions for them and their families. Texas has more than half of the Freestanding ERs in the country and many consumers are unaware that these facilities are often out-of-network, resulting in surprise medical bills.

The vote occurred on third reading and final passage. A vote for HB 3276 was a vote with TAB. HB 3276 passed and was signed by the Governor.

Major Events Reimbursement Program for NASCAR – HB 3294

Motion to Concur

This bill makes major NASCAR events eligible for funding under the major events reimbursement program in the same way as the Superbowl, NCAA championship, or other major national event that will significantly benefit the Texas economy.

The vote occurred on the motion to concur with senate amendments. A vote for the motion was a vote with TAB. HB 3294 passed and was filed without the Governor's signature.

Sanctuary Cities – SB 4

Passage to Third Reading

This bill regulates how law enforcement interacts with Texas' potential undocumented population. TAB's issue was with a provision that was in the original bill, then stripped out in the House committee, and later added back on the House floor, also known as the "show me your papers" amendment. This provision directs officers to inquire about legal status at the point of detainment instead of arrest. It expanded the bill beyond its intent of safety and potentially creates a climate for discriminatory behavior and most likely could negatively impact safety of our citizens by discouraging the reporting of crimes and creating distrust for law enforcement within the undocumented population.

The vote occurred on passage to third reading. A vote against SB 4 was a vote with TAB. SB 4 passed and was signed by the Governor.

P-TECH Program – SB 22

Passage to Third Reading

This bill establishes the Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) Program, an innovative public school model that creates a direct pathway from high school to college and career. The P-TECH model addresses the need for trained, career-ready graduates by linking academic curriculum directly to labor market demands. The partnership between school districts, higher education institutions, and business/industry will help fulfill the workforce needs of a particular region.

The vote occurred on passage to third reading. A vote for SB 22 was a vote with TAB. SB 22 passed and was signed by the Governor.

Port Financing – SB 28

Third Reading and Final Passage

It is critical to maintain and properly fund our port infrastructure to be able to compete with neighboring Gulf States and to meet the opportunities created by the improvements to the Panama Canal. This bill creates the Ship Channel Improvement Revolving Fund to act as a revolving loan program to finance navigation district projects, with the intention of improving depth and infrastructure.

The vote occurred on third reading and final passage. A vote for SB 28 was a vote with TAB. SB 28 passed and was signed by the Governor.

Balance Billing Reform – SB 507

Third Reading and Final Passage

This bill protects consumers from "balance bill shock" by expanding the current mediation statute to include all out-of-network hospital-based providers and freestanding ERs. Surprise medical bills are the number one cause of bankruptcy and bad credit ratings; many of these are a direct result of balance billing. Balance billing occurs when a consumer receives out-of-network services and is directly billed by the provider for the balance of what the health plan did not pay. This commonly happens when the consumer or employee goes to an in-network hospital, yet the doctor providing care is out-of-network. Another common cause of surprise bills are freestanding ERs, which look like urgent care centers but may charge much more. These surprise medical bills not only create financial insecurity for the consumer but drive up health care costs to the employer.

The vote occurred on third reading and final passage. A vote for SB 507 was a vote with TAB. SB 507 passed and was signed by the Governor.

Air Quality Permit Reform – SB 1045

Third Reading and Final Passage

Under current law, an applicant must provide a notice of the intent to obtain an air quality permit from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). If TCEQ actually issues a draft permit, a second notice is required. For minor permits, this bill would simplify the process by combining the two notices into one so that interested members of the public receive notice after review of the application and when details about the permit are actually available.

The vote occurred on third reading and final passage. A vote for SB 1045 was a vote with TAB. SB 1045 passed and was signed by the Governor.

HOW DID YOUR SENATOR VOTE ON BUSINESS ISSUES?

SENATE VOTES

	AVG	2017	SB 4	SB 22	SB 26	SB 28	SB 408	SB 507	SB 1045	HB 100	HB 108	HB 1774	HB 1818	HB 2533	HB 3276	HB 3294	SB 3 (1)
Bettencourt	87%	73%	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-
Birdwell	88%	73%	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-
Buckingham	FR	80%	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Burton	70%	53%	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	-
Campbell	81%	67%	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-
Creighton	87%	80%	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Estes	90%	80%	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Garcia	55%	60%	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+
Hall	67%	53%	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-
Hancock	90%	73%	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-
Hinojosa	62%	80%	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+
Huffines	74%	60%	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	-
Huffman	91%	87%	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Hughes	78%	80%	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Kolkhorst	86%	71%	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	E	-	-
Lucio	61%	80%	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-
Menéndez	49%	77%	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	E	+	E	+	+	+
Miles	47%	71%	+	+	+	+	-	+	E	-	+	P	+	-	+	+	+
Nelson	88%	80%	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Nichols	85%	73%	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-
Perry	88%	80%	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Rodríguez	58%	73%	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+
Schwertner	85%	73%	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-
Seliger	82%	73%	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Taylor, L.	92%	87%	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
Taylor, V.	77%	60%	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-
Uresti	61%	71%	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	E	+	-	+	P	+	+	+
Watson	54%	67%	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+
West	53%	80%	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+
Whitmire	57%	80%	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+
Zaffirini	50%	73%	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	+

SENATE VOTES

Sanctuary Cities – SB 4

Passage to Third Reading

This bill regulates how law enforcement interacts with Texas' potential undocumented population. TAB's issue was with a provision known as "show me your papers," which directs officers to inquire about legal status at the point of detainment instead of arrest. It expanded the bill beyond its intent of safety and potentially creates a climate for discriminatory behavior and most likely could negatively impact safety of our citizens by discouraging the reporting of crimes and creating distrust for law enforcement within the undocumented population.

The vote occurred on passage to third reading. A vote against SB 4 was a vote with TAB. SB 4 passed and was signed by the Governor.

P-TECH Program – SB 22

Third Reading and Final Passage

This bill establishes the Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) Program, an innovative public school model that creates a direct pathway from high school to college and career. The P-TECH model addresses the need for trained, career-ready graduates by linking academic curriculum directly to labor market demands. The partnership between school districts, higher education institutions, and business/industry will help fulfill the workforce needs of a particular region.

The vote occurred on third reading and final passage. A vote for SB 22 was a vote with TAB. SB 22 passed and was signed by the Governor.

Texas Emissions Reduction Program (TERP) Reform – SB 26

Third Reading and Final Passage

This bill would have extended the TERP program until the state achieves attainment of federal ozone standards. It also would have made much-needed improvements to the TERP program by focusing on the most cost-effective uses of the funds, granting needed flexibility to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality in allocating funds, and improving the agency's ability to assess the impacts of foreign pollution and ensure continued opportunities for capital investment and job growth in the state's ozone nonattainment areas.

The vote occurred on third reading and final passage. A vote for SB 26 was a vote with TAB. SB 26 passed the Senate but died in the House; however, portions of the legislation passed in SB 1731, which was signed by the Governor.

Port Financing – SB 28

Third Reading and Final Passage

It is critical to maintain and properly fund our port infrastructure to be able to compete with neighboring Gulf States and to meet the opportunities created by the improvements to the Panama Canal. This bill creates the Ship Channel Improvement Revolving Fund to act as a revolving loan program to finance navigation district projects, with the intention of improving depth and infrastructure.

The vote occurred on third reading and final passage. A vote for SB 28 was a vote with TAB. SB 28 passed and was signed by the Governor.

Entities Subject to the Public Information Act – SB 408

Third Reading and Final Passage

This bill would have unnecessarily burdened chambers of commerce and economic development corporations (EDCs) and placed those chambers and EDCs at a disadvantage during the negations with economic development prospects hopefully bringing infrastructure investment and jobs to a local area. This bill would have imposed governmental body status on one of these entities if they enter into a contract with a governmental body that involves public funds. While government transparency and access to public information is important, these bills went too far and unnecessarily restricted the ability of chambers of commerce and EDCs to conduct their programs efficiently and effectively.

The vote occurred on third reading and final passage. A vote against SB 408 was a vote with TAB. SB 408 passed the Senate but died in the House.

Balance Billing Reform – SB 507

Third Reading and Final Passage

This bill protects consumers from "balance bill shock" by expanding the current mediation statute to include all out-of-network hospital-based providers and freestanding ERs. Surprise medical bills are the number one cause of bankruptcy and bad credit ratings; many of these are a direct result of balance billing. Balance billing occurs when a consumer receives out-of-network services and is directly billed by the provider for the balance of what the health plan did not pay. This commonly happens when the consumer or employee goes to an in-network hospital, yet the doctor providing care is out-of-network. Another common cause of surprise bills are freestanding ERs, which look like urgent care centers but may charge much more. These surprise medical bills not only create financial insecurity for the consumer but drive up health care costs to the employer.

The vote occurred on third reading and final passage. A vote for SB 507 was a vote with TAB. SB 507 passed and was signed by the Governor.

Air Quality Permit Reform – SB 1045

Third Reading and Final Passage

Under current law, an applicant must provide a notice of the intent to obtain an air quality permit from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). If TCEQ actually issues a draft permit, a second notice is required. For minor permits, this bill would simplify the process by combining the two notices into one so that interested members of the public receive notice after review of the application and when details about the permit are actually available.

The vote occurred on third reading and final passage. A vote for SB 1045 was a vote with TAB. SB 1045 passed and was signed by the Governor.

Transportation Network Companies – HB 100

Third Reading and Final Passage

This bill creates comprehensive, statewide regulations for transportation network companies, unifying the patchwork rules currently in place across 19 Texas cities. Uniform regulation offers consumer protections, provides a stable regulatory framework, eliminates conflicting local regulations, and encourages economic development and significant new job opportunities.

The vote occurred on third reading and final passage. A vote for HB 100 was a vote with TAB. HB 100 passed and was signed by the Governor.

Recruit Texas Program – HB 108

Third Reading and Final Passage

This bill amends the Labor Code to authorize the Texas Workforce Commission to use the skills development fund to facilitate the relocation to or expansion in this state of employers offering complex or high-skilled employment opportunities.

The vote occurred on third reading and final passage. A vote for HB 108 was a vote with TAB. HB 108 passed and was signed by the Governor.

Hailstorm Litigation Reform – HB 1774

Motion to Suspend the Regular Order of Business

This bill aims to end rampant hailstorm lawsuit abuse and remove the incentive for trial lawyers to manufacture lawsuits, while allowing for continued consumer protection. The bill lowers the interest penalty on late payments, requires 60-day pre-suit notice, includes a right of inspection by the insurer, grants immunity for an agent if the insurer accepts liability, and limits attorney's fees.

The vote occurred on the motion to suspend the regular order of business. A vote for the motion was a vote with TAB. HB 1774 passed and was signed by the Governor.

Railroad Commission Sunset – HB 1818

Third Reading and Final Passage

This bill represents meaningful and appropriate changes to the agency's authority and funding structure without unnecessary provisions that are outside the appropriate scope of a Sunset bill or which would unduly hinder the important development of our energy sector.

The vote occurred on third reading and final passage. A vote for HB 1818 was a vote with TAB. HB 1818 passed and was signed by the Governor.

Civil Suits Brought by Local Governments – HB 2533

Third Reading and Final Passage

Current law gives local governments the authority to sue in district court for environmental violations that are under the enforcement jurisdiction of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This bill ensures that whether enforcement action is taken by a local government or state agency, the criteria for initiating enforcement and the penalties and sanctions imposed will be consistent.

The vote occurred on third reading and final passage. A vote for HB 2533 was a vote with TAB. HB 2533 passed and was signed by the Governor.

Freestanding ER Transparency – HB 3276

Third Reading and Final Passage

This bill requires freestanding emergency rooms to post notice of health benefit plan provider network status. This is an important step to greater transparency at freestanding ERs and will help ensure consumers receive adequate information to make informed health care decisions for them and their families. Texas has more than half of the Freestanding ERs in the country and many consumers are unaware that these facilities are often out of network, resulting in surprise medical bills.

The vote occurred on third reading and final passage. A vote for HB 3276 was a vote with TAB. HB 3276 passed and was signed by the Governor.

Major Events Reimbursement Program for NASCAR – HB 3294

Third Reading and Final Passage

This bill makes major NASCAR events eligible for funding under the major events reimbursement program in the same way as the Superbowl, NCAA championship, or other major national event that will significantly benefit the Texas economy.

The vote occurred on third reading and final passage. A vote for HB 3294 was a vote with TAB. HB 3294 passed and was filed without the Governor's signature.

Discriminatory Legislation – SB 3 (First Called Special Session)

Passage to Third Reading

This bill would have required people to use bathrooms, locker rooms, and dressing rooms corresponding with "biological sex" in public schools and/or government buildings. TAB and the Keep Texas Open for Business Coalition opposed this legislation because it could hinder our members' ability to attract, recruit, and retain top talent and would tarnish Texas' reputation as open and friendly to businesses and families.

The vote occurred on passage to third reading. A vote against SB 3 was a vote with TAB. SB 3 passed the Senate but died in the House.

THE 2017 REPORT OF THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE
85th REGULAR & FIRST CALLED SPECIAL SESSION

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