



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

April 10, 2015

Weekly legislation "movement" update.

Be advised, the caption of the bill may not adequately describe in enough detail what the bill actually does! Each bill listed is linked so that you may see the proposed legislation in full.

Please do not hesitate to contact the TADC should you have any concerns about any bills filed this session.

TADC tracked legislation movement - April 6, 2015 - April 10, 2015:

[HB 221](#) [Stephenson, Phil\(R\)](#) Relating to the eligibility of a person to serve as a campaign treasurer of a general-purpose political committee.

Last Action: 4-13-15 House Meeting set for 2:00 P.M. OR ADJ., E1.026, House Elections

[HB 230](#) [Farrar, Jessica\(D\)](#) Relating to recovery of attorney's fees in certain civil cases.

Last Action: 4- 9-15 Passed on local calendar (Vote: Y:143/N: 0)

[HB 409](#) [Turner, Chris\(D\)](#) Relating to liability insurance for persons holding certain alcoholic beverage permits.

Last Action: 4- 6-15 Voted favorably from committee as substituted House Licensing and Administrative Procedures

[HB 512](#) [Moody, Joe\(D\)](#) Relating to waiver of immunity in certain employment discrimination actions in connection with a workers' compensation claim.

Last Action: 4- 7-15 Committee action pending House Business and Industry

[HB 574](#) [Bonnen, Greg\(R\)](#) Relating to the operation of certain managed care plans with respect to health care providers.

Companions: [SB 1098](#) Campbell, Donna(R) (Identical)
3-16-15 Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

Last Action: 4- 8-15 Committee action pending House Insurance

[HB 690](#) [Walle, Armando\(D\)](#) Relating to injury and occupational disease reporting requirements for employers who do not obtain or otherwise provide workers' compensation insurance coverage.

Companions: [SB 263](#) Ellis, Rodney(D) (Identical)

1-28-15 Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

Last Action: 4- 7-15 Committee action pending House Business and Industry

[HB 737](#)

[Aycock, Jimmie Don\(R\)](#)

Relating to the creation of regional emergency communications districts.

Companions:

[SB 532](#)

Fraser, Troy(R) (Identical)

2-18-15 Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Intergovernmental Relations

Last Action: 4- 8-15 Voted favorably from committee as substituted House Special Purpose Districts

[HB 801](#)

[King, Ken\(R\)](#)

Relating to planning for the use of and liability resulting from prescribed burns by the Parks and Wildlife Department.

Last Action: 4- 9-15 Passed on local calendar (Vote: Y:143/N: 0)

[HB 860](#)

[Rodriguez, Eddie\(D\)](#)

Relating to employer retaliation against employees who seek recovery of unpaid wages and procedures in wage claim hearings conducted by the Texas Workforce Commission.

Companions:

[SB 151](#)

Rodriguez, Jose(D) (Identical)

1-27-15 Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Natural Resources and Economic Develop

Last Action: 4- 7-15 Committee action pending House Business and Industry

[HB 1079](#) [Thompson, Senfronia\(D\)](#)

Relating to the distribution of certain civil penalties and civil restitution received by the attorney general.

Last Action: 4- 7-15 Committee action pending House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

[HB 1091](#) [Schofield, Mike \(F\)\(R\)](#)

Relating to the creation of a special three-judge district court. The *TADC testified on this bill, with serious concerns as to parts of the bill*

Companions: [SB 455](#) Creighton, Brandon (Identical) (F)(R)
2- 9-15 Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs

Last Action: 4- 7-15 Committee action pending House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

[HB 1171](#) [Farney, Marsha\(R\)](#)

Relating to the applicability of certain immunity and liability laws to open-enrollment charter schools.

Companions: [SB 1569](#) Lucio, Eddie(D) (Identical)

3-23-15 Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Education

Last Action: 4- 7-15 Committee action pending House Public Education

[HB 1306](#) [Hughes, Bryan\(R\)](#) Relating to the reimbursement of expenses incurred by court reporters in judicial districts composed of more than one county.

Last Action: 4- 7-15 Committee action pending House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

[HB 1390](#) [Thompson, Senfronia\(D\)](#) Relating to remedies for discrimination by a public employer against a public employee in connection with a claim for workers' compensation.

Last Action: 4- 7-15 Committee action pending House Business and Industry

[HB 1492](#) [Miller, Doug\(R\)](#) Relating to consideration of asbestos or silica trust claims in certain actions asserting asbestos- or silica-related injuries. ***The TADC monitored this hearing***

Last Action: 4- 7-15 Committee action pending House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

[HB 1494](#) [Hughes, Bryan\(R\)](#) Relating to the filing by a court reporter of an official transcript of a court proceeding.

Last Action: 4- 7-15 Committee action pending House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

[HB 1531](#) [Geren, Charlie\(R\)](#) Relating to the making and receiving of referrals for legal services by certain legislators and executive officers.

Last Action: 4- 7-15 Reported from committee as substituted House General Investigating and Ethics

[HB 1668](#) [Workman, Paul\(R\)](#) Relating to the status of a subcontractor as an employee for the purposes of workers' compensation insurance coverage.

Companions: [SB 666](#) Eltife, Kevin(R) (Identical)
2-24-15 Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

Last Action: 4- 7-15 Committee action pending House Business and Industry

[HB 1692](#) [Sheets, Kenneth\(R\)](#) Relating to the doctrine of forum non conveniens. *The TADC registered in favor of this bill*

Companions: [SB 1942](#) Huffman, Joan(R) (Identical)
3-25-15 Introduced and referred to committee on Senate State Affairs

Last Action: 4- 7-15 Committee action pending House Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence

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

Last Action: 4-14-15 Meeting set for 2:00 P.M., E2.016, House Business and Industry

[HB 2049](#) [Darby, Drew\(R\)](#) Relating to indemnification and duties of engineers and architects under certain governmental contracts.

Companions: [SB 799](#) Eltife, Kevin(R) (Identical)
3- 2-15 Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Business and Commerce

Last Action: 4- 6-15 Voted favorably from committee on Licensing and Administrative Procedures

[HB 2089](#) [Darby, Drew\(R\)](#) Relating to the repeal of certain occupational license fees and taxes.

Companions: [SB 765](#) Eltife, Kevin(R) (Identical)
3- 3-15 Committee action pending Senate Finance

Last Action: 4- 6-15 Voted favorably from committee as substituted Licensing and Administrative Procedures

[HB 2184](#) [Miller, Rick\(R\)](#) Relating to liability of certain electric utilities that allow certain uses of land that the electric utility owns, occupies, or leases.

Companions: [SB 1444](#) Taylor, Larry(R) (Identical)
4- 7-15 Committee action pending Senate Natural Resources and Economic Develop

Last Action: *4- 8-15 Received in the House*

[SB 418](#) [Whitmire, John\(D\)](#) Relating to requests by the State Commission on Judicial Conduct for certain records held by court reporters.

Last Action: *4- 7-15 Meeting set for 1:30 P.M. OR ADJ., E1.016, Senate Criminal Justice*

[SB 432](#) [West, Royce\(D\)](#) Relating to continuation of an additional fee for filing civil cases in certain Dallas County courts.

Last Action: *4- 9-15 Passed (Vote: Y: 30/N: 1)*

[SB 474](#) [Kolkhorst, Lois \(F\)\(R\)](#) Relating to the recovery of costs and fees in connection with certain eminent domain proceedings.

Companions: [HB 3339](#) Burkett, Cindy(R) (Identical)
3-17-15 Introduced and referred to committee on House Land and Resource Management

Last Action: 4- 9-15 S Passed (Vote: Y: 25/N: 6)

[SB 491](#)

[Schwertner,
Charles\(R\)](#)

Relating to consideration of asbestos or silica trust claims in certain actions asserting asbestos- or silica-related injuries.

Last Action: 4-13-15 Meeting set for 9:00 A.M.,
SENATE CHAMBER, Senate State
Affairs

[SB 735](#)

[Fraser, Troy\(R\)](#)

Relating to the availability and use of certain evidence in connection with an award of exemplary damages.

Companions:

[HB
969](#) King, Ken(R) (Identical)
3- 2-15 Introduced and referred to
committee on House Judiciary and
Civil Jurisprudence

Last Action: 4-13-15 Meeting set for 9:00 A.M.,
SENATE CHAMBER, Senate State
Affairs

[SB 774](#)

[Fraser, Troy\(R\)](#)

Relating to a study on periodic rate adjustment by electric utilities.

Companions:

[HB
2327](#) Thompson,
Senfronia(D) (Identical)
4- 6-15 Recommended for Local
and Consent Calendar

Last Action: 4- 9-15 Passed on local calendar (Vote:
Y: 31/N: 0)

REGISTER NOW!

For the 2015 TADC Spring Meeting

**Join the TADC in Galveston, Texas – April 29-
May 3, 2015**

*A program for the practicing trial lawyer
offering 10.5 hours CLE, including 2.0 hours ethics*

Topics Including:

- ~ Nabors: The Supremes Got It Right!*
 - ~ Voir Dire and Technology: So Help Me Google*
 - ~ Recruiting and Retaining Clients: Rebooting Your Legal
Self*
 - ~ Deconstruction of the Discovery Rule*
 - ~ Electronic Discovery: Wake Up! It's a New Century*
- ...and much more!*

Hotel Reservation cut-off is April 15, 2015

REGISTRATION MATERIALS

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