

Legislative Session Update (4/18)

Day 89 (out of 140) - 68%

8,905 bills filed (100+ bills in TEDC Bill tracker)

By the Numbers

- House
 - 2,014 bills heard in Committee
+478 bills this week
 - 53 bills passed the House
+31 bills this week
- Senate
 - 1,044 bills heard in Committee
+233 bills this week
 - 492 bills passed the Senate
+112 bills this week
- Sent to Governor – 1 bill

25 Days
First Major Deadline:
Pass out of first chamber

Review Major Actions This Week

- Public Education

- **4/17 - HB 2 (Buckley)** - ~\$7.7 billion in new funding for public schools (biennium)
- **4/17 - SB 2 (Creighton)** – School choice/vouchers/ESAs. \$1 billion annually (estimated to increase to ~\$4 by 2030...)

- Motion Pictures Incentives (**SB 22 – Huffman**) - \$500m in funding every two years

- **4/16** - Passed Senate (23-8) *[as amended]*

- 2026 Elections

- Atty. General **Ken Paxton (R)** to challenge Sen. **John Cornyn (R)**
- State Sen. **Mayes Middleton (R)** to run for Atty. General *(not a free run)*
- *More to come...*

Review Economic Development Policy

- **SB 504 (Kolkhorst)** – Requires nonprofits to post their operating budget and salaries over \$115k if they have a contract with a city, county, or EDC exceeding \$500k
 - Referred to House Intergovernmental Committee
- **HB 406 (Ordaz)** – Requires a city/county to provide written notice to their local workforce development board when they enter/amend/renew a 380/381 agreement.
 - No Change - In House Calendars Committee
- **HB 134 (Meyer)** – Destination versus origin-based sales tax
 - No Change - In House Calendars Committee
- **SB 878 (Birdwell)** – Omnibus chapter 380/381 overhaul
 - No Change - Not yet referred in House
- **SB 2206 (Bettencourt)** – R&D Tax Credit renewal
 - No Change – Voted out of Senate Finance (13-0) [~\$300m per year cost]

Review Economic Development Policy

SB 819 (Kolkhorst) – Creates burdensome siting requirements for wind/solar electric generation projects

- 4/15 - Amended and passed the Senate (22-9)

SB 1754 (Birdwell) – Prohibits a chapter 380, 381, or 312 agreement from being used for a wind, solar, or battery project.

- 4/16 – Voted out of Senate EcoDev (3-1)

HB 112 (Button) – Develops a plan to develop a “Texas Science Park”

- 4/15 - Passed out of TWED (10-0)

HB 104 (Bonnen) – Creates the Texas Future Fund - Invests funds in the Economic Stabilization Fund (aka Rainy Day Fund) into innovative Texas companies.

- 4/15 – Heard in House Approps Committee

HB 1268 (Button) – State grant for SBIR projects

- 4/16 - Passed House (116-29)...all Republicans

Review Economic Development Policy (new bills)

- **HB 4751 (Capriglione)** – Establishes the Texas Quantum Initiative
 - 4/16 – heard in DOGE committee
 - 4/17 – voted out of committee (11-0)
- **HB 5246 (Bonnen)** – Space Commission Clean up
 - 4/16 – heard in DOGE committee
 - 4/17 – voted out of committee (12-0)
- **HB 5265 (Wilson)** – Creates the health care professional education fund
 - 4/16 – heard in the Higher Education Committee
 - 4/17 – voted out of committee (10-0)
- **HB 4735 (Ashby)** – Creates "Rural Development Funds" offering tax credits to incentivize development/investment in rural areas.
 - 4/15 – heard in TWED committee
- **HB 4308 (Gates)** – Creates a county industrial development district. Bracketed to Fort Bend County
 - 4/15 – heard in TWED committee

Tracking TEDC Priorities

- **JETI Bills**

- **HB 105 (Guillen)** – Broad/omnibus changes to program
- **HB 4022 (Lujan)** – Smaller focused changes
- **SB 2322 (King)** - exempts dispatchable energy from “compelling factor”
 - **4/15 – Voted out of Committee (3-2)**

Member Call to Action:
JETI Coalition Letter

- **HB 3291 (Hefner)** - Exempts property owned by a Type A EDC from property taxes

Preview Upcoming Activities

- **Monday, 4/21**

- Senate Economic Development Hearing - [Agenda not yet posted](#)
- House Ways & Means Committee
 - 29 bills – no economic development-specific bills

- **Tuesday, 4/22**

- Senate Business & Commerce - S/C on Workforce
 - 8 bills – no economic development-specific bills
- House Floor
 - **HB 14** – Supports the nuclear energy industry within Texas
 - **HB 1971** – Supports geothermal energy projects

- **Wednesday, 4/23**

- House Trade, Workforce, and Economic Development Committee
 - 15 bills - HB 4850 (Button) – Cleanup bill for EDT

Questions/Comments/Suggestions



Next Meeting: Friday, April 25th