



Experienced advocacy

TARGETED STRATEGIES.
Proven results.



[HillCo Partners, 823 Congress Avenue Suite 900, Austin, Texas](#)
[512-480-8962](#)

After Election - 88th Session Bill Filing Begins Monday

The 88th Legislative Session will have a few new faces when it begins on [January 10th, 2023](#). Bill pre-filing for the 88th Session begins in 3 days on Monday, November 14th.

88th Legislature - House and Senate Breakdown

Senate (6 new faces)

- 19 Republicans (5 Freshman)
- 12 Democrats (1 Freshman)

House (25 new faces)

- 86 Republicans (16 Freshmen)
- 64 Democrats (9 Freshmen)

Upcoming Interim Hearings

See below for the upcoming interim legislative hearings. Hearing dates and times are subject to change. Please note that additional hearings dates may also be added at any time.

The standing committee hearings can be found at the following links: [House](#) | [Senate](#)

House

[House Natural Resources - 11/14/22 at 11:00 AM](#)

The committee will meet to take testimony on issues regarding the Hidalgo County Water Improvement District No. 3 as they relate to both the introduced and passed versions of SB 2185

Senate

[Senate Border Security - 11/15/22 at 9:00 AM](#)

- The committee will hear invited testimony from state agencies to review border security appropriations and their directed purposes.
- The committee will hear invited and public testimony on the following interim charge - Community Impact: Study and report on the impact of Operation Lone Star on border, rural, and urban communities throughout Texas

[Senate Water, Agriculture & Rural Affairs - 11/16/22 at 10:00 AM](#)

The committee will meet to hear invited and public testimony on the following interim charges:

- Groundwater Management and Protection: Evaluate the status and effectiveness of the State's groundwater management process, including data used to support regional water planning and conservation goals. Report on the effectiveness of the State's groundwater protection efforts and whether statutory changes are needed to protect groundwater quality.
- Monitor the implementation of legislation:
 - Senate Bill 8 (86th Legislature), Relating to state and regional flood planning;
 - Senate Bill 601 (87th Legislature), Relating to the creation and activities of the Texas Produced Water Consortium;
 - Senate Bill 905 (87th Legislature), Relating to guidance on the regulations applicable to the potable reuse of wastewater; and
 - House Bill 3516 (87th Legislature), Relating to the regulation of the recycling of fluid oil and gas waste.

[Senate Business & Commerce - 11/17/22 at 9:00 AM](#)

The committee will meet to hear invited and public testimony on the following interim charges:

- Electricity: Assess the electricity market in Texas. Study issues impacting the Texas electric grid, including transmission planning and maintenance scheduling. Study the consequences of increased electric vehicle usage and charging on the generation, transmission and distribution, and retail sectors of Electric Reliability Council of Texas

(ERCOT) and evaluate their potential impact on increased electric demand and reliability of the grid. Examine the growth of renewable energy generation in the state and evaluate its impact on grid reliability. Make recommendations to strengthen the reliability of the grid, and meet the future generation needs of ERCOT through new and existing dispatchable generation. Assess plans to expeditiously add new dispatchable generation. Monitor the implementation of Senate Bill 2 and Senate Bill 3, 87th Legislature.

- Blockchain and Virtual Currencies: Study current state and federal regulations surrounding blockchain and virtual currencies. Examine how these technologies impact industries such as banking, business, and electricity. Make recommendations to protect consumers while encouraging innovation. Monitor the implementation of House Bill 1576 and House Bill 4474, 87th Legislature.

[Senate Natural Resources & Economic Development - 11/17/22 at 10:00 AM](#)

The committee will meet to hear invited and public testimony on the following interim charges:

- Economic Development Programs: Review the programs in Chapters 380 and 381 of the Local Government Code. Consider the benefits of each program in generating economic development. Make recommendations for improvements to Chapters 380 and 381 to increase transparency and accountability and the effectiveness of the programs.
- Hotel Occupancy Taxes: Study the collection and use of hotel occupancy taxes. Evaluate and make recommendations related to the effectiveness, costs of rebates, incentives, and other taxes applied to qualified hotel and convention center projects. Investigate and determine whether the creation of a standard Hotel Occupancy Tax legislative template is feasible, and whether it would enable the legislature to more efficiently evaluate proposed Hotel Occupancy Tax bills during the legislative session.
- Monitor the implementation of legislation:
 - Senate Bill 13, Relating to state contracts with and investments in certain companies that boycott energy companies.

Agency Meeting Spotlight

[State Board of Education Full Board - 11/16/22 at 9:00 AM](#)

[Texas Commission on Environmental Quality - 11/16/22 at 9:30 AM](#)

[SBOE Committee on Instruction - 11/17/22 at 9:00 AM](#)

[SBOE Committee on School Initiatives - 11/17/22 at 9:00 AM](#)

[PSF Corporation Meeting - 11/17/22 at 9:00 AM](#)

[Texas Water Development Board - 11/17/22 at 9:30 AM](#)

[SBOE Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund - 11/17/22 at 10:00 AM](#)

[State Board of Education General Meeting - 11/18/22 at 9:00 AM](#)

[Public Utility Commission - 11/30/22 at 9:30 AM](#)

Governor Abbott Announces Over \$355 Million In Public Safety Grants

Governor Greg Abbott [announced](#) that his [Public Safety Office](#) will administer more than \$355 million in grant funding for a variety of public safety programs and services in Texas, including victims services, anti-human trafficking efforts, and law enforcement support. This grant funding is made possible through a combination of federal and state dollars.

The grants recently released include, but are not limited to, funding for the following:

- **Homeland Security:** 350 awards totaling \$60 million
- **Human Trafficking:** 64 awards totaling \$25.3 million
- **Justice Assistance:** 239 awards totaling \$15.6 million
- **Juvenile Justice and Truancy Prevention:** 100 awards totaling \$8.2 million
- **Local Border Security (Border Star):** 94 awards totaling \$5.4 million
- **Non-Profit Security Enhancement:** 73 awards totaling \$10 million
- Specific funding has been reserved for projects that support responses to the opioid epidemic.
- **Serving Victims of Crime and Addressing Violence Against Women:** 486 awards totaling \$193.8 million
- **Specialty Courts:** 66 awards totaling \$8.1 million
- **Statewide Emergency Radio Infrastructure:** 20 awards totaling \$12.1 million

State of Texas Annual Cash Report Available

The [State of Texas Annual Cash Report](#) for fiscal 2022 is now available. This report presents

the state's financial condition and details revenues and expenditures on a cash basis. The report reflects revenue and expenditure details for all funds in the state treasury. Revenue is reported in the period when cash is collected, and expenditures are reported in the period when cash disbursements are made. Funds held outside the state treasury are not included in the report, with the exception of petty cash, investments and Fund 0938 – Unemployment Trust Fund Account (in the federal Treasury). The full report can be found [here](#).

Public Utility Commission of Texas - November 10, 2022

The Public Utility Commission met on November 10, 2022 to discuss the construction of advanced power stations, reports, electric reliability, and wholesale electric market design. An archive of this hearing and the agenda can be found [here](#).

This report is intended to give you an overview and highlight the various topics taken up. It is not a verbatim transcript of the discussions but is based upon what was audible or understandable to the observer and the desire to get details out as quickly as possible with few errors or omissions.

[Read more](#)

Sunset Advisory Commission - November 10, 2022

The Sunset Advisory Commission met on November 10th to report decisions on the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact Commission, Texas Juvenile Justice Department, and Office of the Independent Ombudsman. The Commission also heard public testimony on the limited review of the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners.

This report is intended to give you an overview and highlight the various topics taken up.

[Read more](#)

TWDB 2027 State Water Plan Interregional

Planning Council - November 9, 2022

The TDWB's 2027 State Water Plan Interregional Planning Council held its inaugural meeting on November 9th to discuss the responsibilities of the council, select officers, and discuss agendas. The full agenda, council membership, and recommendations can be found [here](#).

This report is intended to give you an overview and highlight the various topics taken up. It is not a verbatim transcript of the discussions but is based upon what was audible or understandable to the observer and the desire to get details out as quickly as possible with few errors or omissions.

[Read more](#)

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Manage your subscription](#)

HillCo Partners, 823 Congress Avenue Suite 900, Austin, Texas

[View this in your browser.](#)

SAMPLE