
Memorandum

Memorandum No: 23-124

Date: March 30, 2023
To: Honorable Mayor and City Council
From: Ryan Henderson, Interim City Manager 
Re: State of Texas 88th Legislative Session Update II

As discussed in Memorandum No. 23-114, the bill filing deadline for the 88th State of Texas Legislative Session regular session was March 10. A record breaking 8,153 bills and joint resolutions were filed, the most in any session.

This week Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar projected the state's Economic Stabilization (or Rainy Day) Fund will reach its limit for the first time. The Comptroller's 2024-25 Biennial Revenue Estimate projects the fund will reach more than \$27 billion by fiscal year 2025, compared to less than \$11 billion at the close of fiscal 2022. The Rainy Day Fund is capped and can be no more than 10% of the amount of certain revenue deposited into the General Revenue Fund during the previous biennium. Therefore, about \$690 million that would have gone to the fund will remain in general revenue, while the fund is projected to receive \$9.8 billion. The Texas Constitution authorizes the Legislature to withdraw from the fund with a three-fifths vote.

Committees are actively meeting and hearing bills. Our representatives serve on the following committees:

- Senator Angela Paxton:
 - Committee of the Whole Senate
 - Education
 - Finance
 - Local Government
 - Nominations
 - State Affairs (Vice Chair)
- Representative Jeff Leach:
 - Criminal Jurisprudence
 - Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence (Chair)
- Representative Frederick Frazier
 - Business & Industry
 - Pension, Investments & Financial Services

Significant Committee Action

- H.B. 2 (Meyer), imposing a five percent appraisal cap on all property. Committee substitute voted from House Ways & Means.
- H.B. 471 (Patterson), expanding paid sick leave for first responders and expanded disease presumption. Committee substitute voted from House Business & Industry. Placed on Calendar for 4/04.
- H.B. 2468 (Burrows), expanding workers compensation lifetime benefits for certain injuries sustained in the course of employment. Committee substitute voted from House Business & Industry.
- H.J.R. 1 (Meyer), amending the Texas Constitution to establish a five percent appraisal cap on all real property. Committee substitute voted from House Ways & Means.
- S.B. 28 (Perry), creating the Texas water fund. Committee substitute voted from Senate Water, Agriculture and Rural Affairs.
- S.B. 130 (Campbell), prohibiting a city from regulating private wages or benefits. Voted from Senate Business & Commerce.
- S.B. 224 (Alvarado), increasing penalties and punishment for theft of a catalytic converter. Committee substituted voted from Senate Criminal Justice.
- S.B. 1015 (King), removing regulatory authorities, including cities, from the electricity rate-making process. Voted from Senate Business & Commerce.
- S.B. 1016 (King), presumption that employee compensation and benefits are reasonable and necessary when establishing the rates of electric utilities. Voted from Senate Business & Commerce.
- S.B. 1105 (Birdwell), allowing the governor to remove a city officer for certain activities including publicly declaring they will not enforce laws of the state. Voted from Senate State Affairs.
- S.J.R. 58 (Birdwell), amending the Texas Constitution to state the governor shall convene the legislature in a special session when there is a state of disaster or emergency. Voted from Senate State Affairs.
- S.J.R. 75 (Perry), creating the Texas water fund. Committee substitute voted from Senate Water, Agriculture and Rural Affairs.

Significant Floor Action

- S.B. 5 (Parker), imposing a business personal property tax exemption of \$25,000. TML provided written testimony. Passed the Senate.

Assistant City Manager Taylor Lough will continue to work with the Offices of our Senator and Representative, the Texas Municipal League, and city staff to track and review legislation that may substantially affect the City of Anna. The City Manager's Office will continue to provide members of the 88th Legislature information about the City of Anna and its operations that may assist in the drafting, review, or action during the session.

- c. Taylor Lough, Assistant City Manager
Greg Peters, Interim Assistant City Manager
Clark McCoy, City Attorney
Carrie Land, City Secretary
Management Team