

Interim Hearings – Week of February 17, 2020

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February 20

House Committee on [Culture, Recreation & Tourism](#) (Victoria)

Charge 1 (selection): [HB 1300](#) and [HB 2321](#), which relate to the regulation of oyster harvesting and to cultivated oyster mariculture. Monitor the implementation of the cultivated oyster mariculture program, the implementation of increased penalties related to the regulation of oyster harvesting, and the effectiveness of these state laws as related to the protection, conservation, and sustainability of oysters in Texas coastal waters.

- ["Legislation, Science Bode Well for Future of Oyster Aquaculture in Texas," AgriLife Today](#) (Texas A&M University System), July 18, 2019
- [Oyster Restoration in the Gulf of Mexico: Proposals from The Nature Conservancy](#), The Nature Conservancy, 2018
- [Interim Report to the 84th Legislature](#) (Charge 3 – Commercial oyster industry and license buyback program), House Committee on Culture, Recreation, & Tourism, January 2015
- [Texas Parks and Wildlife Code Chapter 75](#), Cultivated Oyster Mariculture
- [Texas Parks and Wildlife Code Chapter 76](#), Oysters
- [31 Texas Administrative Code §§ 58.10- 58.70](#), Statewide Oyster Fishery Proclamation
- [Oyster Resource and Recovery Center](#) (See Marine Resource Development), Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies, Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi

February 21

House Committee on Culture, Recreation & Tourism (Seadrift)

Topic: Short briefing by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department on illegal oyster harvesting and to observe Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's law enforcement activities for oyster harvesting on Matagorda Bay and the surrounding area.

House Committees on International Relations & Economic Development and Transportation (Laredo, Joint Hearing)

Charge (selection): Examine the infrastructure at international border ports of entry in Texas and identify transportation-related impediments to international trade that negatively impact the state. Make recommendations to reduce border wait times, facilitate economic growth, and expedite trade.

- *Texas-Mexico International Bridges and Border Crossings*, Texas Department of Transportation, December 2019
- "Go Figure: Assessing the Cost of Longer Border Wait Times," *Southwest Economy*, Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, Fourth Quarter 2019
- *Texas Border District Trade Transportation Activities*, Texas Department of Transportation, January 2019
- *2019 Border District Trade Transportation Report*, Texas Department of Transportation, 2019
- *Texas-Mexico Border Transportation Master Plan*, Texas Department of Transportation, 2019
- *Interim Report to the 86th Texas Legislature* (Charge 7 – Port infrastructure), House Committee on Transportation, November 2018