

## Interim Hearings - Weeks of January 23 and 30, 2012

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Related Categories: Interim hearings, 82nd Session

[Today's Committee Meetings](#) on the LRL website is a calendar of interim committee hearings with links to agendas. The following may be helpful resources for upcoming hearings.

Monday, January 23rd, 2012

House Committee on Public Education

Topic: Implementation of State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR), specifically impact on students, instruction, teachers, and graduation or promotion rates

- [STAAR Resources](#), Texas Education Agency, including [STAAR Questions and Answers](#), October 31, 2011
- [Correspondence to Administrators, Information Regarding the Implementation of the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness \(STAAR\)](#), Texas Education Agency, April 22, 2011
- ["Here a Test, There a Test: STAAR Issues Stacking Up," Classroom Teacher](#), Texas Classroom Teachers Association, December 13, 2011

Topic: Implementation of requirement that end-of-course assessment count for 15 percent of the student's course grade

- [End-of-Course \(EOC\) Assessments](#), Texas Education Agency
- ["New End-of-Course Tests Will Challenge Students, Schools," Houston Chronicle](#), December 15, 2011

Topic: Changes to graduation or testing requirements that support instructional rigor and postsecondary readiness

- [Closing the Expectations Gap 2011: On the Alignment of High School Policies with the Demands of College and Careers](#) (standards, graduation requirements, assessments, P-20 data systems, and accountability systems), Achieve, February 2011

Tuesday, January 24th, 2012

## House Committee on Culture, Recreation, & Tourism

Topic: Improve long-term funding for state parks

- [Parks in Peril](#), National Conference of State Legislatures, January 2012
- [Governor Christie Makes Access to State Parks Priority with New Sustainable Funding Strategy](#), State of New Jersey, November 2, 2011

Topic: Effects of drought and wildfires on tourism and recreation in Texas

- [Drought Impact Reporter](#), U.S. Drought Portal
- ["Drought's Economic Impact Spreading Across Texas,"](#) *Texas Tribune*, October 27, 2011

## House Committee on Public Health

Topic: Texas Healthcare Transformation and Quality Improvement Program Medicaid 1115 Waiver

- [HHSC Gets Approval for Medicaid Improvements](#), Texas Health and Human Services Commission
- [California and Texas: Section 1115 Medicaid Demonstration Waivers Compared](#), Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured, December 2011

Topic: Overutilization of orthodontic services in Medicaid

- ["Crooked Teeth: Medicaid Millions,"](#) WFAA.com, December 27, 2011 (updated January 9, 2012)

Topic: DSHS policies for hiring personnel and monitoring patient safety at state hospitals

- [25 TAC § 414.504, Pre-employment and Pre-assignment Clearance](#) (Rights and protections of persons receiving mental health services, criminal history and registry clearances), *Texas Administrative Code*
- ["In Wake of Sex Abuse Allegations, New Rules for State Hospitals,"](#) *Austin American Statesman*, November 22, 2011

Thursday, January 26th, 2012

## House Committee on Economic & Small Business Development

Topic: Texas' industry cluster initiatives, implementation of recommendations made by the Governor's Competitiveness Council, and new recommendations for Texas to remain an economic development leader

- *Texas Industry Concentrations 2012: Where the State's Key Sectors Cluster*, Office of the Governor - Economic Development and Tourism, December 2011
- *Rich States, Poor States 2011: The ALEC-Laffer State Economic Competitiveness Index*, American Legislative Exchange Council, June 2011
- *The 2010 State New Economy Index: Benchmarking Economic Transformation in the States*, Information Technology and Innovation Foundation, November 2010
- *Council's Report to the Governor*, Governor's Competitiveness Council, July 2008
- "Industry Clusters Shape Texas Economy," *Southwest Economy* (Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas), September/October 2007

Monday, January 30th, 2012

House Committee on Technology - CANCELLED

Invited testimony

Senate Committee on Economic Development

Topic: Implementation of legislation addressed by the Senate Committee on Economic Development, 82nd Legislature

Topic: Economic development incentives targeting niche markets such as the creation of data centers, film incentives, etc. (special industry clusters), and whether such incentives should be offered

- *An Analysis of Texas Economic Development Incentives 2010*, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, December 2010
- *Economic Development in Texas: Programs and Incentives*, Texas Taxpayers and Research Association, September 2011
- *Job Creation on a Budget: How Regional Industry Clusters Can Add Jobs, Bolster Entrepreneurship, and Spark Innovation*, Brookings Institution, January 2011
- *More States Abandon Film Tax Incentives as Programs' Ineffectiveness Becomes More Apparent*, Tax Foundation, June 2, 2011
- *Principles of Data Center Siting and Economic Development Incentives*, Biggins Lacy Shapiro & Company, February 23, 2011