

Interim Hearings – Week of June 30, 2014

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Related Categories: 83rd Session, Interim hearings

Interim Hearings – Week of June 30th

[Today's Committee Meetings](#) on the LRL website is a calendar of interim committee hearings with links to agendas. Below are resources related to upcoming Interim Hearings.

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Joint Committee on [Water Desalination](#)

Topic: Water desalination, with special focus on brackish groundwater desalination

- ["Everybody is Talking about It: Is Brackish Water the Most Promising 'New' Water?"](#) *txH₂O*, Summer 2014
- ["Implementation of Brackish Groundwater Desalination Using Wind-Generated Electricity: A Case Study of the Energy-Water Nexus in Texas,"](#) *Sustainability*, February 10, 2014
- [Texas Water Report: Going Deeper for the Solution](#), Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, January 2014
- [Cost of Brackish Groundwater Desalination in Texas](#), Texas Water Development Board, September 2012
- [Brackish FAQs](#), Texas Water Development Board
- [Brackish Groundwater and Desalination Plant Location Maps](#), Texas Water Development Board
- ["Water for Texas, Desalination: Brackish Groundwater,"](#) Texas Water Development Board
- [Brackish Groundwater National Desalination Research Facility](#), U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation

House Committee on [Land & Resource Management](#)

Charge: Regulatory authority of municipalities in extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ)

- [Interim Report to the 83rd Texas Legislature](#) (Charge [4](#)), House Committee on Land & Resource Management, December 2012
- [Municipal Annexation in Texas](#), Texas Municipal League, updated March 2012
- [Interim Report to the 82nd Texas Legislature](#) (Charge [6](#)), Senate Committee on

Intergovernmental Relations, December 2010

- "Control in the ETJ: Cities, Counties Have Options to Simplify Development," Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, July/August 2010
- *Interim Report to the 81st Legislature* (Charge 7), Senate Committee on Jurisprudence, December 2008
- *Land Use and Building Regulations*, Texas Municipal League

Charge: Legislative oversight and monitoring of agencies and programs

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House Select Committee on [Child Protection](#)

Topics: Organizational hearing, issues related to child protection

- *State Laws on Child Abuse and Neglect*, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Child Welfare Information Gateway
- *Statistics & Research*, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Children's Bureau
- *What's New in Child Welfare*, National Conference of State Legislatures
- *Child Protective Services (CPS) Legislative Presentations and Reports*, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services
- *Interim Report to the 83rd Legislature* (Charge 6), Texas Senate Committee on Health & Human Services, December 2013
- *Interim Report to the 82nd Legislature* (Charges 2, 5) House Committee on Human Services, December 2010
- *Interim Report to the 81st Legislature* (Charges 4, 5, 6), Texas Senate Committee on Health & Human Services, December 2008
- *Interim Report to 80th Legislature* (Charge 8), Texas Senate Committee on Health & Human Services, December 2006
- *A Report to the House of Representatives, 79th Texas Legislature*, House Committee on Child Welfare and Foster Care, Select, Interim, November 2004

House Committee on [Homeland Security & Public Safety](#)

Topic: Texas Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF), part of the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP)

- *Emergency Medical Task Force 2013*, Texas Department of Health Services

Topic: Draft legislation on storage of ammonium nitrate and authority of first responders

- *A Public Health Report on Injuries Related to West (Texas) Fertilizer Plant Explosion*, Waco-McLennan County Public Health District and Texas Department of State Health Services, June 24, 2014
- *Actions to Improve Chemical Safety and Security – a Shared Commitment* (Executive Order No. 13650, *West Fertilizer plant explosion*), Chemical Facility Safety and Security Working Group, May 2014
- *Chemical Safety: Actions Needed to Improve Federal Oversight of Facilities with Ammonium Nitrate*, U.S. Government Accountability Office, May 21, 2014
- *Firefighter Fatality Investigation* (*West Fertilizer plant explosion*), Texas State Fire Marshal, May 16, 2014
- *Chemical Safety Board Ongoing Investigation Emphasizes Lack of Protection for Communities at Risk from Ammonium Nitrate Storage Facilities; Finds Lack of Regulation at All Levels of Government and Statement by CSB Chairperson and Supervisory Investigator on West Fertilizer Accident*, U.S. Chemical Safety Board, April 22, 2014
- *Testimony before the Texas Homeland Security and Public Safety Committee*, Office of the Texas State Chemist, April 14, 2014
- *Ammonium Nitrate Compliance Guide*, Office of the Texas State Chemist
- *Ammonium Nitrate in Texas*, Texas Department of Insurance, State Fire Marshal's Office
- *Regulation of Fertilizers: Ammonium Nitrate and Anhydrous Ammonia*, Congressional Research Service (via Federation of American Scientists), July 31, 2013

Topic: Department of Public Safety on current border operations

- *Statement by U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Homeland Security on the subject of unaccompanied children crossing the border*, June 24, 2014
- *"DPS: Surges are the Answer on the Border"* (Statesman Investigates blog), *Austin American Statesman*, June 23, 2014
- *"DPS Addresses New Border Operation," Texas Tribune*, June 19, 2014
- *"Texas DPS Won't Disclose Details of Border Spending," Houston Chronicle*, June 19, 2014
- *Letter to Col. Steven McCraw, Texas Department of Public Safety, regarding Texas border security*, Governor Rick Perry, Speaker Joe Straus, Lt. Governor David Dewhurst, June 18, 2014
- *Letter to Jeh Johnson, Secretary of U.S. Department of Homeland Security* (border security, minor detainees), Attorney General Greg Abbott, June 12, 2014

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House Select Committee on [Transportation Funding, Expenditures & Finance](#)

Topics:

- Follow-up to questions asked during May 6 hearing
 - [May 6, 2014 Notice, Minutes, Witnesses, Handouts/Presentations](#)
- 2016-2017 Legislative Appropriations Request of Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)
- [FY 2016-2017 LAR Discussion \(Presentation\)](#), Texas Transportation Commission, Texas Department of Transportation, May 29, 2014
- Briefing on TxDOT's surplus property and disposition
 - [Auctions and Surplus Property Advertisements to Public Entities](#), Texas Department of Transportation
 - [State Surplus Property Listing](#), Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts
- Status of \$100 million in savings per HB 1
- Prioritizing the planning process and development of the [Unified Transportation Program \(UTP\)](#)
- Development of regional plans by Metropolitan Planning Organizations and how they relate to the [Statewide Transportation Improvement Program \(STIP\)](#) and [UTP](#)
- Current [letting schedule](#) including proposed bond revenues for balance of biennium
- Possible sources of increased or new revenue, e.g., ending diversions through the appropriations process
 - ["Straus: Use all of the Highway Fund for transportation,"](#) Speaker Joe Straus, May 14, 2014
 - ["State highway funds should only be used for transportation,"](#) Speaker Joe Straus, *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, May 14, 2014
 - [NCSL Transportation Funding and Finance Legislation Database](#), National Conference of State Legislatures, Updated May 6, 2014
 - [Sustainable State Transportation Funding and Spending](#) (Webinar), National Conference of State Legislatures, April 24, 2014
 - [Tracking State Transportation Funding Plans](#), Transportation For America, 2013-2014
 - [Interim Report to the 83rd Texas Legislature](#) (Joint Charge with House Appropriations: transportation funding, including Federal Highway Trust Fund, State Highway Fund, and Mobility Fund), House Committee on Transportation, December 2012
 - [Interim Report to the 82nd Legislature](#) (Charge 6 with Senate Finance: transportation funding concepts), Senate Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security, February 2011
 - [Interim Report to the 82nd Texas Legislature](#), House Select Committee on Transportation Funding, January 2011
 - [Transportation Policy Research Center: Finance](#), including [Public-Private Investment Models for Roadway Infrastructure](#), [Vehicle Miles Traveled \(VMT\) Fees](#), [Innovative Finance: Strategic Research Project](#), Texas A&M Transportation Institute

