

## Interim Hearings – Weeks of September 3 and 10, 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. Below are resources related to upcoming Interim Hearings, and a list of upcoming [Budget Hearings](#).

### September 4th

#### Senate Committee on [Criminal Justice](#)

Charge: Administrative segregation

- [Reassessing Solitary Confinement: The Human Rights, Fiscal, and Public Safety Consequences](#) [hearing transcript, testimony and submitted materials], U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary, June 19, 2012
- ["Psychiatrists Decry Punishment That Isolates Prisoners,"](#) *Psychiatric News*, September 3, 2010
- ["Beyond Supermax Administrative Segregation: Mississippi's Experience Rethinking Prison Classification and Creating Alternative Mental Health Programs,"](#) *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, July 2009

Charge: Female inmates

- [Improvements to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice Community Justice Assistance Division & Board of Pardons and Paroles: Response to Sunset Advisory Commission Staff Report](#) [see Part 8], Texas Criminal Justice Coalition, June 2012
- ["Statistics on Women Offenders,"](#) Corrections.com, February 6, 2012
- ["Feeling the Squeeze,"](#) *Amarillo Globe-News*, January 3, 2012
- [Mothers Behind Bars: a State-by-State Report Card and Analysis of Federal Policies on Conditions of Confinement for Pregnant and Parenting Women and the Effect on Their Children](#), National Women's Law Center, October 2010

### September 5th

#### [Sunset Advisory Commission – Meeting Materials, Sunset Reports - 83rd Legislature](#)

- Commission Decisions on the Texas Criminal Justice Agencies
  - Texas Department of Criminal Justice
  - Correctional Managed Health Care Committee
  - Windham School District

- Board of Pardons and Paroles
- Staff Presentation and Public Testimony
  - State Pension Review Board
  - Office of Fire Fighters' Pension Commissioner
  - Port of Houston Authority
  - State Employee Charitable Campaign Policy Committee
  - Texas Commission on the Arts
  - Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs

September 6th

Senate Committee on **Natural Resources**, Subcommittee on Interim Charge #9

Charge: Efficiency of Texas Renewable Portfolio Standard

- **Texas Renewable Portfolio Standard** (history and overview), Texas Energy Conservation Office
- **Texas Utilities Code §39.904**, Goal for Renewable Energy, added by **SB 7**, 76th Leg. and amended by **SB 20**, 79th Leg., 1st C.S. and **HB 1090**, 80th Leg.
- PUC Rule, **16 Texas Administrative Code §25.173**, Goal for Renewable Energy, amended January 2, 2009
- **Renewable Energy Standards Deliver Affordable, Clean Power** (electricity rate changes before and after renewable energy standards in Texas and other states), Center for American Progress, April 11, 2012
- **The High Cost of Renewable-Electricity Mandates** (includes Texas), Manhattan Institute for Policy Research, February 2012

September 10th

Senate Committee on **Higher Education**

Charge: Cost-effective funding of financial aid, incentives, student debt

- **"Completion-Focused Financial Aid,"** *Inside Higher Ed*, August 7, 2012
- **Balancing Passion and Practicality: The Role of Debt and Major on Students' Financial Outcomes: A Report to the 83rd Regular Session of the Texas Legislature**, TG Research and Analytical Services, August 2012
- **The Cost of College: How Texas Students and Families Are Financing College Education**, Center for Public Policy Priorities, May 2012
- **Trends in Student Aid 2011**, College Board, October 2011

Charge: Returned value funding model for Texas State Technical College

- ["TSTC First College in Nation to Fund by Results," \*Marshall News Messenger\*, June 6, 2012](#)
- ["Tech College System to Link State Funds to Student Jobs," \*Texas Tribune\*, March 15, 2012](#)

Charge: Monitor the implementation and make recommendations for any legislation needed to improve, enhance and/or complete implementation of the following bills (82nd Regular):

- [SB 5](#), Relating to the administration and business affairs of public institutions of higher education
- [SB 28](#), Relating to eligibility for a TEXAS grant and to administration of the TEXAS grant program
- [HB 9](#), Relating to student success-based funding
- [HB 33](#), Relating to measures to increase the affordability of textbooks used for courses at public or private institutions of higher education
- [SB 1107](#), Relating to the vaccination against bacterial meningitis of entering students at public and private or independent institutions of higher education
- [HB 1000](#), Relating to the distribution of money appropriated from the National Research University Fund

September 11th

Senate Committee on [Agriculture & Rural Affairs](#)

Charge: Seafood consumption

- [Seafood and Aquatic Life Group Homepage](#), Texas Department of State Health Services, last updated July 27, 2012
- [Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 436, Texas Aquatic Life Act \(Food and Drug Health Regulations\)](#)
- [Rules and Regulations: Crabmeat \(25 TAC Sections 241.1-241.9\) and Molluscan Shellfish \(25 TAC Sections 241.50-241.71\)](#), Texas Department of State Health Services

Charge: Use of Texas agricultural products in healthy foods

- *"Mapping Food Deserts in the U.S.,"* *Amber Waves*, U.S. Department of Agriculture, December 2011
- *Opportunities for Increasing Access to Healthy Foods in Washington*, Access to Healthy Foods Coalition, Washington State Department of Health, June 2010
- *"Limited Access to Healthy Foods"* (Texas county map showing percent of population who are low-income and do not live close to a grocery store), *County Health Rankings & Roadmaps*, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2006 data

Topic: Texas drought conditions and wildfires

- *Drought Information*, Texas Water Development Board
- *Texas Drought Maps*, Office of the State Climatologist, Texas A&M University

September 12th

House Committee on Pensions, Investments & Financial Services

Charge: Local retirement systems

- *The Funding of State and Local Pensions: 2011-2015*, Center for Retirement Research at Boston College, May 2012
- *"Fort Worth Tells Employees About Plans to Trim Pension Benefits,"* *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, April 26, 2012
- *Public-Employee Retirement Systems State- and Locally-administered Pensions Summary Report: 2010*, U.S. Census Bureau, April 2012
- *State and Local Pension Plans: Funding Status, Asset Management, and a Look Ahead*, Cato Institute, February 2012
- *Strengthening State and Local Government Finances: Lessons for Negotiating Public Pension Plan Reforms* and *Updated Houston Fact Sheet*, Center for State and Local Government Excellence, September 2011, updated June 2012
- *Guide to Public Retirement Systems in Texas: a Comparison of Statutory Public Retirement Systems in Texas*, Texas Pension Review Board, January 2011

Charge: Payday lending under HB2592 and HB2594

- *Payday Lending in America: Who Borrows, Where They Borrow, and Why*, Pew Charitable Trusts, July 2012
- *Quarterly Update to the Senate Business and Commerce Committee*, Texas Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner, July 2, 2012

- "Cities Move to Regulate Payday Lenders," *San Antonio Express-News*, May 4, 2012
- "Big Print is a Big Step Towards Reining In Predatory Loan Fees," *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, January 11, 2012

Charge: Federal consumer protection laws

- "The Dodd-Frank Act: Unhappy Birthday to You," *The Economist*, July 28, 2012
- *Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act: Provisions Relating to Public Retirement Systems*, Texas Pension Review Board, updated October 2011
- *Industry Outlook on Dodd-Frank Act Preemption Provisions*, Conference of State Bank Supervisors, August 24, 2011

Charge: Viability of defined benefit pension plans; feasibility of alternative plans

- "State Pension Assets Grew in 2011, But Large Gaps Remain," *Governing*, August 9, 2012
- *Legal Constraints on Changes in State and Local Pensions*, Center for Retirement Research at Boston College, August 2012
- *A Review of Defined Benefit, Defined Contribution, and Alternative Retirement Plans*, Texas Pension Review Board, May 2012
- *Pensionomics 2012: Measuring the Impact of DB [Defined Benefit] Pension Expenditures*, National Institute on Retirement Security, March 2012
- *A State Budgeting Perspective on Public Pensions*, National Association of State Budget Officers, January 20, 2012
- *Analysis of Defined Benefit Plan Efficiency*, Texas Association of Public Employee Retirement Systems, July 25, 2011

Joint Committee on Seacoast Territory Insurance

Charge: Windstorm and Hail Insurance pursuant to HB 3 (82nd 1st C.S.)

- *Residual Market Property Plans: From Markets of Last Resort to Markets of First Choice - 2012* (focuses on Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New York, North and South Carolina, and Texas), Insurance Information Institute, July 2, 2012
- *Hurricane and Windstorm Deductibles* (focuses on 18 coastal states and the District of Columbia), Insurance Information Institute, May 2012
- "Hurricane Insurance: Private Insurers at Risk," *The Ledger* (Florida), June 19,

2012

- "Commissioners Debate Regional Solution to Gulf Coast Insurance Woes," *Times-Picayune* (New Orleans), May 30, 2012
- *Four Problems, Four Solutions: A Blueprint for Reforming Texas's Insurance Environment*, Heartland Institute, March 2011
- Windstorm Inspection Program - [General Information](#) and [Building Codes and Downloads](#), Texas Department of Insurance

September 13th

House Committee on [Agriculture & Livestock](#)

Charge: Cedar eradication as a means to enhance resource conservation

- "Removing Woody Vegetation Has Little Effect on Conduit Flow Recharge," *Ecohydrology*, April 2012
- *Simulation of Streamflow and the Effects of Brush Management on Water Yields in the Upper Guadalupe River Watershed, South-Central Texas, 1995-2010*, U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report, 2012
- "Energy Balance and Water Use in a Subtropical Karst Woodland on the Edwards Plateau, Texas," *Journal of Hydrology*, May 2009
- *Saltcedar Control and Water Salvage on the Pecos River, Texas, 1999 to 2003*, USDA Forest Service, 2007
- *A Report to the House of Representatives, 79th Legislature* (Interim Charge No. 2), House Committee on Agriculture & Livestock, November 24, 2004

House Committee on [Pensions, Investments & Financial Services](#) (continuation of previous day's hearing)

House Committee on Ways and Means

Topic: Local economic development tools including but not limited to:

- [Chapter 311, Tax Code](#)
- [Chapter 312, Tax Code](#)
- [Chapter 313, Tax Code](#)
- [Chapter 380, Local Government Code](#)
- [Chapter 381, Local Government Code](#)
- [Chapter 387, Local Government Code](#)
- [Chapters 501-505, Local Government Code](#)

## Senate Committee on Education

Charge: Extended learning time and student success, after-school programs

- *Expanding Time for Learning Both Inside and Outside the Classroom: A Review of the Evidence Base*, Child Trends, commissioned by The Wallace Foundation, August 2012
- "Senate Panel Would Allow Use of After-School Funds for Extended Day," *Education Week/Politics K-12*, June 19, 2012
- *Harnessing the Power of Expanded Time to Improve Schools: A Study of Three Districts*, National Center on Time & Learning, August 2011
- *A State Policymaker's Guide to Expanded Learning Time*, Education Commission of the States, Summer 2011

## Oversight of Higher Ed Governance, Excellence & Transparency

Invited and public testimony

Upcoming Budget Hearings

Listed below are budget hearings of state agencies, listed by agency name or date on the Legislative Budget Board website along with the time and location.

September 4th

Bond Review Board

Optometry Board

September 5th

Judiciary Section, Comptroller's Department

Prairie View A&M University

Risk Management, State Office of

Tarleton State University

Texas A&M University

Texas A&M University at Galveston

Texas A&M University System Health Science Center

Texas A&M University System: Administrative and General Offices

West Texas A&M University

September 6th

Alcoholic Beverage Commission, Texas

Emergency Communications, Commission on State

Ethics Commission, Texas

Texas A&M International University

Texas Transportation Institute

Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi, Kingsville, Commerce, San Antonio, Central Texas, Texarkana

Texas Engineering Experiment Station

Texas Engineering Extension Service

September 7th

Adjutant General's Department

AgriLife Extension Service and AgriLife Research, Texas

Racing Commission

Texas Forest Service



Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory

Veterans Commission

September 10th

Assistive and Rehabilitative Services, Department of

Court of Criminal Appeals

State Law Library

Utility Commission of Texas, Public

September 11th

Aging and Disability Services, Department of

Historical Commission

September 12th

Attorney General, Office of the

Blind and Visually Impaired, School for the

Deaf, School for the

Injured Employee Counsel, Office of

Lamar Institute of Technology

Lamar State College- Port Arthur, Orange

Lamar University

Sam Houston State University

Sul Ross State University, Rio Grande College

Texas State University - San Marcos

Texas State University System

September 13th

Family and Protective Services, Department of

Texas State Technical College - Harlingen, West Texas, System Administration,  
Marshall, Waco

September 14th

Preservation Board