

Interim Hearings – Week of September 15, 2014

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Related Categories: 83rd Session, Interim hearings

Interim Hearings – Week of September 15th

[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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Senate Committee on [State Affairs](#)

Charge: Patent Assertion Entities (PAEs)

- [The Effect of Patent Litigation and Patent Assertion Entities on Entrepreneurial Activity](#), Catherine E. Tucker, MIT Sloan School of Management, May 15, 2014
- ["Unpacking Patent Assertion Entities \(PAEs\)," Minnesota Law Review](#), forthcoming (2014), Christopher Anthony Cotropia, University of Richmond School of Law, et al., Revised February 15, 2014
- ["As Patent Suits Increase, Firms Fight Back," Texas Tribune](#), January 24, 2014
- [The Impact of Patent Assertion Entities on Innovation and the Economy](#), Hearing Testimony, U. S. House of Representatives, Energy & Commerce Committee, November 14, 2013
- [Patent Assertion and U.S. Innovation](#), Executive Office of the President, June 2013
- ["Patent Assertion Entities and Antitrust: Operating Company Patent Transfers," The Antitrust Source](#), Mark S. Popofsky and Michael D. Laufert, American Bar Association, April 2013
- ["The Troll Toll: How 'Patent Assertion Entities' Stifle Innovation. \(It's Even Worse Than You Think.\)" Slate](#), April 9, 2012

Charge: Emerging negative impacts of Affordable Care Act, including navigators, rising health insurance premiums, lack of access to healthcare, etc.

- ["How Will Obamacare Succeed or Fail? Only 10 States Matter," Governing, Kaiser Health News](#), March 19, 2014
- [Adopted Rules, 28 Texas Administrative Code §§19.4001-19.4017, Regulation of Navigators for Health Benefit Exchanges](#), Texas Department of Insurance,

January 21, 2014

Charge: Medical price transparency, including impact of [SB 1731](#), 80th Legislature, R. S.

- ["Price Transparency Efforts Target Physicians,"](#) *Texas Medicine*, July 2014
- [Transparency and Disclosure of Health Costs and Provider Payments: State Actions,](#) National Conference of State Legislatures, Updated June 2014
- [Health Price Transparency: Improvements for Texas Consumers,](#) Texas Department of Insurance, April 15, 2014
- [Report Card on State Price Transparency Laws,](#) Catalyst for Payment Reform and Health Care Incentives Improvement Institute, March 25, 2014
- [Price Transparency in Health Care: Report from the HFMA Price Transparency Task Force,](#) Healthcare Financial Management Association, 2014
- [Interim Report to the 81st Legislature](#) (Charge 14: Legislative oversight, including implementation of SB 1731, relating to transparency of health information), Senate Committee on State Affairs, December 2008

Charge: Texas Mutual Insurance Company and residual market for workers' compensation insurance

- ["Texas Mutual Refunding Millions to Bexar County Workers Comp Customers,"](#) *San Antonio Business Journal*, August 20, 2014
- [2013 Annual Report,](#) Texas Mutual Insurance Company, 2014
- ["Texas Mutual Quietly Helps Drive State's Workers' Comp System,"](#) *Austin American-Statesman*, August 4, 2011

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on [Edwards Aquifer](#)

Topic: Update on the [Edwards Aquifer Authority](#)

- ["The Source: Stage 5 Drought Restrictions Around The Corner, EAA Pays Farmers Not To Pump,"](#) Texas Public Radio, September 3, 2014
- ["A Tale of 2 Water Districts: 1 Aquifer, 2 Strategies,"](#) *Texas Tribune*, September 3, 2014
- ["Edwards Aquifer Users Consider How to Pump Less,"](#) *San Antonio Express-News*, August 11, 2014
- ["The Edwards Aquifer Water Wars: The Final Chapter?"](#) *Texas Water Journal*, February 2013
- [Report on the Effectiveness of the Edwards Aquifer Authority,](#) South Central Texas Water Advisory Committee, November 2010

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House Select Committee on [Health Care Education & Training](#)

Topic: Mental health care workforce in Texas

- *Draft, The Mental Health Workforce Shortage in Texas, As Required By House Bill 1023, 83rd Legislature, Regular Session*, Texas Department of State Health Services, September 2014 (Draft August 18, 2014)
- *The Mental Health Workforce: A Primer*, Congressional Research Service, January 7, 2014
- *Report to Congress on the Nation's Substance Abuse and Mental Health Workforce Issues*, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, January 24, 2013
- *A Guide to Understanding Mental Health Systems and Services in Texas*, Hogg Foundation for Mental Health, The University of Texas at Austin, November 2012
- *Crisis Point: Mental Health Workforce Shortages in Texas*, Hogg Foundation for Mental Health, The University of Texas at Austin, March 2011

Senate Committee on State Affairs

Charge: Personal privacy of Texas residents from governmental and commercial surveillance

- "Think the Supreme Court Protected Your Cellphone from Warrantless Searches? Think Again.," *The Washington Post*, July 30, 2014
- "NSA Surveillance Rules Will Keep Ban on Commercial Spying," Bloomberg.com, January 24, 2014
- "Texas A&M Prof Explains Why Obama Left NSA Surveillance Mostly Intact And Why It's Legal," Texas A&M University, January 21, 2014
- "Texas Republicans Say Government Surveillance Destroys the American People's Trust," *Texas on the Potomac, The Houston Chronicle*, June 7, 2013
- "Texas Surveillance Bill Would Curb Warrantless Cellphone Tracking," *Slate*, March 5, 2013
- *Surveillance*, The Berkman Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University, last updated August 12, 2010
- *Video Surveillance*, Electronic Privacy Information Center
- *Warrantless Searches*, Surveillance Self-Defense, Electronic Frontier Foundation

Charge: Personal data collected by governmental and commercial entities

- DNA collection and databases
 - *CODIS—NDIS Statistics*, Federal Bureau of Investigation
 - *NCSL Forensic Science Laws Page*, National Conference of State Legislatures
 - *Statewide CODIS DNA Database Program Overview*, Texas Department of Public Safety
- Gun owner privacy

- [Gun Owners' Privacy](#), Electronic Privacy Information Center
- Protection of private health care information
- [Health Information Privacy](#), U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
- [Protecting the Privacy and Security of Your Health Information](#), HealthIT.gov
- ["The Case for Informed Consent,"](#) Patient Privacy Rights Foundation, August 2010
- Anonymous data handling
- [Data Disposal Laws](#), National Conference of State Legislatures, last updated December 26, 2013

Charge: Citizens' ability to know what data is being collected, including analysis of consumer informed consent

- ["How Informed Consent Has Failed,"](#) TechCrunch, July 26, 2014
- [2014 Security Breach Legislation](#), National Conference of State Legislatures, June 5, 2014
- [State Laws Related to Internet Privacy](#), National Conference of State Legislatures, January 23, 2014
- [The Surveillance Self-Defense Project](#), Electronic Frontier Foundation

Charge: Online legislative resources from Texas Senate Committee websites

- [Legislation Related to the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act \(UELMA\)](#), National Conference of State Legislatures, July 25, 2014

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

Topic: Future reliability of all current state transportation funding sources

- [Legislative Appropriations Request for Fiscal Years 2016 and 2017](#), Texas Department of Transportation, August 25, 2014
- [Overview of Selected Transportation Taxes and Fees, State Highway Fund Appropriations, and Federal Highway Funds](#) (presentation), Legislative Budget Board, June 24, 2014
- [Funding Needs and Potential Sources](#), Texas Department of Transportation
- [State Highway Fund No. 006 - All Articles](#), Legislative Budget Board, March 10, 2014

Topic: Alternatives that may increase available state funding for transportation

- "End of the Road for Diversions? Transportation Commission Makes that a 2015 Priority," *Dallas Business Journal*, August 29, 2014
- "TxDOT Takes First Step in Ending Highway Fund 'Diversions'," *The Dallas Morning News*, August 28, 2014
- *Analysis of Proposed Constitutional Amendment, November 4, 2014 Election (Revised)*, Texas Legislative Council, June 2014
- "Big Learning Curve on State Transportation Funding," *The Highwayman*, *The Houston Chronicle*, May 6, 2014

Topic: Alternative transportation funding options used nationally and internationally

- *Transportation Funding and Finance Legislation Database*, National Conference of State Legislatures, last updated August 26, 2014
- *On the Move: State Strategies for 21st Century Transportation Solutions*, National Conference of State Legislatures, July 2012
- *Taxation of Alternative Fuels*, National Conference of State Legislatures, August 2012
- *How States and Territories Fund Transportation: An Overview of Traditional and Nontraditional Strategies*, National Governors Association, July 23, 2009
- *Innovative State Transportation Funding and Financing: Policy Options for States*, National Governors Association, January 6, 2009

Senate Committee on **Veteran Affairs & Military Installations**

Charge: Access to services provided by non-profit organizations to veterans, their families, and survivors, including 2-1-1 system

- *Veterans Assistance in Texas*, 211 Texas, Texas Health and Human Services Commission

Charge: Veterans' mental health

- *Military Veteran Peer Network*
- *Mental Health Program for Veterans*, Texas Department of State Health Services, Fiscal Year 2013
- *Mental Health Program for Veterans, Fiscal Year 2013 Annual Report, As Required by HB 2392 and Rider 86*, 83rd Legislature 2013, Department of State Health Services, December 2013

House Committee on **Ways & Means**

Charge: Implementation of recent amendments to the franchise tax

- *E-Fairness and the Texas Franchise Tax*, Laffer Associates, July 8, 2014

(addendum to *Pro-Growth Tax Reform and E-Fairness*, Laffer Associates, July 2013)

- *Benefits to the Poor of Texas Franchise Tax Repeal*, National Center for Policy Analysis, June 2014
- *2014 State Business Tax Climate Index*, Tax Foundation, October 2013
- *Tax Policy News, 2013 Legislative Update, Franchise Tax*, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, September 2013
- *Tax Wrap-Up for the 83rd*, II. Franchise Tax, Texas Taxpayers and Research Association, July 2013
- *Phasing Out the Texas Business Franchise Tax: The Impact on Private Sector Employment*, National Federation of Independent Business, March 8, 2013
- *Interim Report to the 82nd Texas Legislature, Charge 1: Revised Franchise Tax*, House Committee on Ways & Means, January 2011
- *Texas Franchise Tax*, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

Topic: Texas Economic Outlook

- *The Long-Term Forecast for the Texas Economy*, Dr. M Ray Perryman, The Perryman Group, September 4, 2014
- *Texas Economic Indicators*, Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, September 2014
- *"Texas to Remain a Top State for Job Growth in 2014," Southwest Economy*, Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, First Quarter 2014
- *The Texas Economy*, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

Topic: Dynamic Scoring and Analysis use in tax policy

- *"Count the Cost," State Legislatures*, National Conference of State Legislatures, July-August 2014
- *Dynamic Scoring for Tax Legislation: A Review of Models*, Congressional Research Service, January 24, 2014

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Senate Committee on [Transportation](#)

Charge: Impact of increased oil and gas production on roadways and bridges

- *"Damaged by Oil," San Antonio Express-News*, July 25, 2014
- *"Crumbling Roads in Oil Fields Slow U.S. Energy Boom," Bloomberg*, July 11, 2014
- *The Impact of Natural Gas Extraction and Fracking on State and Local Roadways*, Journalist's Resource (Harvard Kennedy School's Shorenstein Center and the Carnegie-Knight), March 21, 2014

Charge: Implementation of [SB 1792](#), 83rd Legislature, R.S., toll nonpayment

- "North Texas Tollway Authority Begins Banning 'Habitual Toll Violators' from Area Tollroads," *Dallas Morning News*, May 5, 2014
- "TXDOT to Start Impounding Scofflaws' Cars on Toll Roads," *Austin American Statesman*, March 21, 2014
- TxDOT to Take Next Steps to Collect From Habitual Toll Violators, Texas Department of Transportation
- New Toll Enforcement Law in Effect for Habitual Violators, North Texas Tollway Authority

Charge: Uninsured motorists

- "Dallas County's Uninsured Driver Rate Speeds Up," *Dallas Morning News*, August 16, 2014
- Uninsured Motorists (statistics), Insurance Information Institute

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Senate Committee on [Natural Resources](#), Subcommittee on Studying Impacts of Mexico's Energy Reforms on Texas

Charge: Impact on Texas' economy and businesses of the recent expansion of oil and gas production in Northern Mexico, Mexico's efforts to recover shale gas from Eagle Ford Shale

- "Texas A&M International Lending Educational Expertise to Mexico's Evolving Energy Market," *San Antonio Business Journal*, August 29, 2014
- "Mexican Energy Reform Means These New Jobs in Houston," *Houston Business Journal*, August 18, 2014
- "Why the U.S. Could be the Big Winner of Mexico's Energy Reforms," *Washington Examiner*, August 8, 2014
- Mexico's Energy Reform to Bring Significant Benefits, Challenges, Rigzone, May 1, 2014
- "Houston Companies Predicted to be the Big Winners under Mexico's Energy Reform," *Houston Business Journal*, January 28, 2014
- Mexico's Oil and Gas Sector: Background, Reform Efforts, and Implications for the United States, Congressional Research, January 6, 2014