

# SENATE JOURNAL

EIGHTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE — REGULAR SESSION

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AUSTIN, TEXAS

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PROCEEDINGS

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SIXTY-SECOND DAY

(Monday, May 27, 2019)

The Senate met at 11:00 a.m. pursuant to adjournment and was called to order by the President.

The roll was called and the following Senators were present: Alvarado, Bettencourt, Birdwell, Buckingham, Campbell, Creighton, Fallon, Flores, Hall, Hancock, Hinojosa, Huffman, Hughes, Johnson, Kolkhorst, Lucio, Menéndez, Miles, Nelson, Nichols, Paxton, Perry, Powell, Rodríguez, Schwertner, Seliger, Taylor, Watson, West, Whitmire, Zaffirini.

The President announced that a quorum of the Senate was present.

Senator Kolkhorst offered the invocation as follows:

Father, we gather today on a day that ends the 86th Legislature, but a day, too, that we memorialize all who have given their lives while serving our country. Father, we mourn them, we remember them, but most of all we celebrate them. We celebrate their families and we remember them as well for all that they have given so that we may have freedom in this country, freedom. Freedom is never free. Father, we also gather today on a day that we called sine die, a day without another, but because of our faith, because of Jesus Christ, I always know there is another day and that eternal life awaits us. And so as we go forth, Father, from this 86th Legislature, having served You as servant leaders, I pray for all of our civil servants who will go to work on the things that we have passed. I pray for those that touched the lives of others and help others and teach others, those that serve in our law enforcement. Father, I just thank You for the opportunity to serve You, as we saw yesterday in a service where Senators gathered in Your name. I know that You live in this building and in our lives, and for that I thank You. For all these things, I pray in Your name. Amen.

Senator Whitmire moved that the reading of the Journal of the proceedings of the previous day be dispensed with and the Journal be approved as printed.

The motion prevailed without objection.

**MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE**

HOUSE CHAMBER

Austin, Texas

Monday, May 27, 2019 - 1

The Honorable President of the Senate  
Senate Chamber  
Austin, Texas

Mr. President:

I am directed by the house to inform the senate that the house has taken the following action:

THE HOUSE HAS PASSED THE FOLLOWING MEASURES:

**HCR 192** Burrows

Instructing the enrolling clerk of the senate to make technical corrections in S.B. No. 2.

**HCR 193** Huberty

Instructing the enrolling clerk of the house to make corrections in H.B. No. 3.

Respectfully,

/s/Robert Haney, Chief Clerk  
House of Representatives

**SENATE RESOLUTION 865  
(Caucus Report)**

Senator Whitmire offered the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. CAUCUS REPORT. At a caucus held on May 27, 2019, and attended by 31 members of the senate, the caucus made the recommendations for the operation of the senate contained in this resolution.

SECTION 2. EMPLOYEES. (a) The lieutenant governor may employ the employees necessary for the operation of the office of the lieutenant governor from the closing of this session and until the convening of the next session. The lieutenant governor and the secretary of the senate shall be furnished postage, telegraph, telephone, express, and all other expenses incident to their respective offices.

(b) The secretary of the senate is the chief executive administrator and shall be retained during the interval between adjournment of this session and the convening of the next session of the legislature. The secretary of the senate may employ the employees necessary for the operation of the senate and to perform duties as may be required in connection with the business of the state from the closing of this session and until the convening of the next session.

(c) Each senator may employ secretarial and other office staff for the senator's office.

(d) The chairman of the administration committee is authorized to retain a sufficient number of staff employees to conclude the work of the enrolling clerk, calendar clerk, journal clerk, and sergeant-at-arms. The administration committee shall establish the salaries for the senate staff.

SECTION 3. SENATE OFFICERS. (a) The following elected officers of the 86th Legislature shall serve for the interval between adjournment of this session and the convening of the next session of the legislature:

- (1) Secretary of the Senate—Patsy Spaw;
- (2) Calendar Clerk—Tracy Ortiz;
- (3) Doorkeeper—Austin Osborn;
- (4) Enrolling Clerk—Patience Worrel;
- (5) Journal Clerk—Lourdes Litchfield; and
- (6) Sergeant-at-Arms—Rick DeLeon.

(b) All employees and elected officers of the senate shall operate under the direct supervision of the secretary of the senate during the interim.

(c) Officers named in this section serve at the will of the senate.

SECTION 4. PARLIAMENTARIAN AND ASSISTANT PARLIAMENTARIAN. The parliamentarian, Karina Davis, and the assistant parliamentarian, Colby Beuck, are named by the lieutenant governor and are officers of the senate. They shall serve for the interval between adjournment of this session and the convening of the next session of the legislature.

SECTION 5. DUTIES OF CHAIRMAN OF ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE. (a) The chairman of the administration committee shall place the senate chamber in order and purchase supplies and make all necessary repairs and improvements between the adjournment of this session and the convening of the next session of the legislature.

(b) The chairman shall make an inventory of all furniture and fixtures in the senate chamber and in the private offices of the members, as well as of the supplies and equipment on hand in the purchasing and supply department and shall close the books for the Regular Session of the 86th Legislature.

(c) The chairman shall not acquire any equipment on a rental/purchase plan unless the equipment is placed on the senate inventory at the termination of the plan.

(d) The chairman shall examine records and accounts payable out of the contingent expense fund as necessary to approve all claims and accounts against the senate, and no claim or account shall be paid without the consent and approval of the chairman.

(e) The chairman and any member of the administration committee shall be entitled to receive actual and necessary expenses incurred during the interim.

(f) In addition to the duties of the administration committee expressly imposed by this resolution, the committee shall take actions necessary to ensure that the administrative operations of the senate comply with applicable law and are conducted effectively and efficiently.

SECTION 6. JOURNAL. (a) The secretary of the senate shall have 225 volumes of the Senate Journal of the Regular Session of the 86th Legislature printed. Two hundred and twenty-five copies shall be bound in buckram and delivered to the secretary of the senate who shall forward one volume to each member of the senate, the lieutenant governor, and each member of the house of representatives on request.

(b) The printing of the journals shall be done in accordance with the provisions of this resolution under the supervision of the chairman of the administration committee. The chairman shall refuse to receive or receipt for the journals until corrected and published in accordance with the preexisting law as finally approved by the chairman of the administration committee. When the accounts have been certified by the chairman of the administration committee, the accounts shall be paid out of the contingent expense fund of the 86th Legislature.

SECTION 7. PAYMENT OF SALARIES AND EXPENSES. (a) Salaries and expenses authorized by this resolution shall be paid out of the per diem and contingent expense fund of the 86th Legislature as provided by this section.

(b) The senate shall request the comptroller of public accounts to issue general revenue warrants for:

(1) payment of the employees of the lieutenant governor's office, the lieutenant governor, members of the senate, employees of the senate committees, and employees of the senate, except as provided by Subchapter H, Chapter 660, Government Code, upon presentation of the payroll account signed by the chairman of the administration committee and the secretary of the senate; and

(2) the payment of materials, supplies, and expenses of the senate, including travel expenses for members and employees, upon vouchers signed by the chairman of the administration committee and the secretary of the senate.

SECTION 8. EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT AND PER DIEM. (a) In furtherance of the legislative duties and responsibilities of the senate, the administration committee shall charge to the individual member's office budget:

(1) the reimbursement of all actual expenses incurred by the members when traveling in performance of legislative duties and responsibilities or incident to those duties; and

(2) the payment of all other reasonable and necessary expenses for the operation of the office of the individual senator during any period the legislature is not in session. Expenditures for these services by the administration committee are authorized as an expense of the senate and shall not be restricted to Austin but may be incurred in individual senatorial districts. Such expenses shall be paid from funds appropriated for the use of the senate on vouchers approved by the chairman of the administration committee and the secretary of the senate in accordance with regulations governing such expenditures.

(b) Each senator shall be permitted a payroll of \$41,000 per month to employ secretarial and other office staff and for intrastate travel expenses for staff employees. This payroll amount accrues on the first day of the month and may not be expended prior to the month in which it accrues, but any unexpended portion for a month may be carried forward from month to month until the end of the fiscal year. An unexpended amount remaining at the end of each fiscal year, not to exceed \$12,000, may be carried forward to the next fiscal year. Other expenses, including travel

expenses or other reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the furtherance and performance of legislative duties or in operation of the member's office or incident thereto, shall be provided in addition to the maximum salary authorized.

(c) The secretary of the senate may order reimbursement for legislative expenses consistent with this resolution and the establishment by the Texas Ethics Commission of per diem rates.

(d) Any member of the senate and the lieutenant governor are eligible to receive such reimbursement on application of the member or the lieutenant governor to the secretary of the senate.

(e) On the application of a member of the senate or the lieutenant governor, the applicant shall be entitled to reimbursement for legislative expenses for each legislative day.

(f) For purposes of this section, a legislative day includes each day of a regular or special session of the legislature, including any day the legislature is not in session for a period of four consecutive days or less, and all days the legislature is not in session if the senator or lieutenant governor attends a meeting of a joint, special, or legislative committee as evidenced by the official record of the body, and each day, limited to 12 days per month for non-chairs or 16 days per month for chairs and the lieutenant governor, the senator or the lieutenant governor, including those living within a 50-mile radius, is otherwise engaged in legislative business as evidenced by claims submitted to the chairman of the administration committee.

SECTION 9. MEMBER'S EMPLOYEE LEAVE POLICY. (a) An employee of a senator accrues vacation leave, compensatory leave, or sick leave in accordance with policies adopted by the senator consistent with the requirements of this section.

(b) An employee may accrue vacation leave, compensatory leave, or sick leave only if the employee files a monthly time record with the senate human resources office. Time records are due not later than the 10th day of the following month.

(c) Compensatory time must be used not later than the last day of the 12th month following the month in which the time was accrued.

(d) An employee is not entitled to compensation for accrued but unused compensatory time.

SECTION 10. DESIGNATION FOR ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS AND FUNCTIONS. (a) The lieutenant governor may appoint any member of the senate, the secretary of the senate, or any other senate employee to attend meetings of the National Conference of State Legislatures and other similar meetings. Necessary and actual expenses are authorized upon the approval of the chairman of the administration committee and the secretary of the senate.

(b) The lieutenant governor may designate a member of the senate to represent the senate at ceremonies and ceremonial functions. The necessary expenses of the senator and necessary staff for this purpose shall be paid pursuant to a budget approved by the administration committee.

SECTION 11. MEETINGS DURING INTERIM. (a) Each of the standing committees and subcommittees of the senate of the 86th Legislature may continue to meet at such times and places during the interim as determined by such committees

and subcommittees and to hold hearings, recommend legislation, and perform research on matters directed either by resolution, the lieutenant governor, or as determined by majority vote of each committee.

(b) Each continuing committee and subcommittee shall continue to function under the rules adopted during the legislative session where applicable.

(c) Expenses for the operation of these committees and subcommittees shall be paid pursuant to a budget prepared by each committee and approved by the administration committee.

(d) The operating expenses of these committees shall be paid from the contingent expense fund of the senate, and committee members shall be reimbursed for their actual expenses incurred in carrying out the duties of the committees.

SECTION 12. SENATE OFFICES. Members not returning for the 87th Legislature shall vacate their senate offices by December 1, 2020.

SECTION 13. FURNISHING OF INFORMATION BY SENATE EMPLOYEE. An employee of the senate may not furnish any information to any person, firm, or corporation other than general information pertaining to the senate and routinely furnished to the public.

SECTION 14. OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT. An employee of the senate may not be employed by and receive compensation from any other person, firm, or corporation during the employee's senate employment without the permission of the employee's senate employer.

SECTION 15. REMOVAL OF SENATE PROPERTY. The secretary of the senate is specifically directed not to permit the removal of any of the property of the senate from the senate chamber or the rooms of the senate except as authorized by the chairman of the administration committee.

**SR 865** was read and was adopted by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

### **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 192**

The President laid before the Senate the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 2 has been adopted by the senate and the house of representatives and is being prepared for enrollment; and

WHEREAS, The bill contains technical errors that should be corrected; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas, That the enrolling clerk of the senate be instructed to make the following corrections to the enrolled version of Senate Bill No. 2:

(1) In SECTION 52 of the bill, in added Section 26.075(b)(2)(A), Tax Code (page 87, line 7), between "(A)" and "lower than", insert "equal to or".

(2) In SECTION 56 of the bill, in added Section 26.16(d-2), Tax Code (page 93, line 9), strike "Not later than August 7" and substitute "By August 7 or as soon thereafter as practicable".

(3) In SECTION 88 of the bill, strike amended Section 49.236(a)(3), Water Code, as added by Chapter 335 (S.B. 392), Acts of the 78th Legislature, Regular Session, 2003 (page 131, line 27, through page 132, line 26), and substitute the following:

(3) contain a statement in substantially the following form, as applicable:

(A) if the district is a district described by Section 49.23601:

"NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE [~~TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ROLLBACK ELECTION~~]"

"If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing [~~increase~~] by more than eight percent, [~~the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that~~] an election must be held to determine whether to approve [~~reduce~~] the operation and maintenance tax rate [~~to the rollback tax rate~~] under Section 49.23601 [~~49.236(d)~~], Water Code.";

(B) if the district is a district described by Section 49.23602:

"NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE"

"If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code."; or

(C) if the district is a district described by Section 49.23603:

"NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE"

"If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code."; and

(4) In SECTION 89 of the bill, strike added Section 49.23601(c), Water Code (page 133, line 24, through page 134, line 2), and substitute the following:

(c) If the board of a district adopts a combined debt service, contract, and operation and maintenance tax rate that would impose more than 1.08 times the amount of tax imposed by the district in the preceding year on a residence homestead appraised at the average appraised value of a residence homestead in the district in that year, disregarding any homestead exemption available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older, an election must be held in accordance with the procedures provided by Sections 26.07(c)-(g), Tax Code, to determine whether to approve the adopted tax rate. If the adopted tax rate is not approved at the election, the district's tax rate is the voter-approval tax rate.

(5) In SECTION 89 of the bill, strike added Section 49.23602, Water Code (page 134, line 3, through page 135, line 22), and substitute the following:

Sec. 49.23602. AUTOMATIC ELECTION TO APPROVE TAX RATE FOR CERTAIN DEVELOPED DISTRICTS. (a) In this section:

(1) "Developed district" means a district that has financed, completed, and issued bonds to pay for all land, works, improvements, facilities, plants, equipment, and appliances necessary to serve at least 95 percent of the projected build-out of the district in accordance with the purposes for its creation or the purposes authorized by the constitution, this code, or any other law.

(2) "Mandatory tax election rate" means the rate equal to the sum of the following tax rates for the district:

(A) the rate that would impose 1.035 times the amount of tax imposed by the district in the preceding year on a residence homestead appraised at the average appraised value of a residence homestead in the district in that year, disregarding any homestead exemption available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older; and

(B) the unused increment rate.

(3) "Unused increment rate" has the meaning assigned by Section 26.013, Tax Code.

(4) "Voter-approval tax rate" means the rate equal to the sum of the following tax rates for the district:

(A) the current year's debt service tax rate;

(B) the current year's contract tax rate;

(C) the operation and maintenance tax rate that would impose 1.035 times the amount of the operation and maintenance tax imposed by the district in the preceding year on a residence homestead appraised at the average appraised value of a residence homestead in the district in that year, disregarding any homestead exemption available only to disabled persons or persons 65 years of age or older; and

(D) the unused increment rate.

(b) This section applies only to a developed district that is not a district described by Section 49.23601.

(c) If the board of a district adopts a combined debt service, contract, and operation and maintenance tax rate that exceeds the district's mandatory tax election rate, an election must be held in accordance with the procedures provided by Sections 26.07(c)-(g), Tax Code, to determine whether to approve the adopted tax rate. If the adopted tax rate is not approved at the election, the district's tax rate is the voter-approval tax rate.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the board of a district may give notice under Section 49.236(a)(3)(A), determine whether an election is required to approve the adopted tax rate of the district in the manner provided for a district under Section 49.23601(c), and calculate the voter-approval tax rate of the district in the manner provided for a district under Section 49.23601(a) if any part of the district is located in an area declared a disaster area during the current tax year by the governor or by the president of the United States. The board may continue doing so until the earlier of:

(1) the second tax year in which the total taxable value of property taxable by the district as shown on the appraisal roll for the district submitted by the assessor for the district to the board exceeds the total taxable value of property taxable by the district on January 1 of the tax year in which the disaster occurred; or

(2) the third tax year after the tax year in which the disaster occurred.

(6) In SECTION 89 of the bill, strike added Section 49.23603(c), Water Code (page 136, lines 11-17), and substitute the following:

(c) If the board of a district adopts a combined debt service, contract, and operation and maintenance tax rate that would impose more than 1.08 times the amount of tax imposed by the district in the preceding year on a residence homestead appraised at the average appraised value of a residence homestead in the district in that year, disregarding any homestead exemption available only to disabled persons or

persons 65 years of age or older, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the tax rate adopted for the current year to the voter-approval tax rate in accordance with the procedures provided by Sections 26.075 and 26.081, Tax Code.

HANCOCK

**HCR 192** was read.

On motion of Senator Hancock, the resolution was considered immediately and was adopted by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

### **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 191**

The President laid before the Senate the following resolution:

WHEREAS, House Bill No. 3906 has been adopted by the house of representatives and the senate and is being prepared for enrollment; and

WHEREAS, The bill contains a technical error that should be corrected; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas, That the enrolling clerk of the house of representatives be instructed to make the following correction:

In SECTION 3 of the bill, in amended Section 39.023(a-12), Education Code, strike Subdivision (1) and substitute the following:

(1) if administered to students in grades three and four [~~through five~~], 85 percent of students will be able to complete that part [~~the assessment instrument~~] within 60 [~~40~~] minutes; and

TAYLOR

**HCR 191** was read.

On motion of Senator Taylor, the resolution was considered immediately and was adopted by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

### **PHYSICIAN OF THE DAY**

Senator Watson was recognized and presented Dr. Lamia Kadir of Austin as the Physician of the Day.

The Senate welcomed Dr. Kadir and thanked her for her participation in the Physician of the Day program sponsored by the Texas Academy of Family Physicians.

### **SENATE RESOLUTION 855**

Senator Hughes offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Tina Currie, who is retiring as manager and executive chef of the Lieutenant Governor's Reception Room on June 30, 2019, after more than 21 years of exceptional service to this chamber; and

WHEREAS, The Texas Senate is fortunate to have a devoted and skilled central staff, and Tina Currie is among the most outstanding members of this select group; and

WHEREAS, A dedicated Senate employee since February 17, 1998, she has the knowledge, skills, and creativity of a cordon bleu chef and oversees the production of delicious fare that rivals or surpasses that of the finest restaurants; and

WHEREAS, She is noted for cheerfully handling her wide-ranging responsibilities and for facing the challenging requests that come her way with poise and equanimity; under her leadership, the food preparation and service and all kitchen activities have run smoothly and efficiently; and

WHEREAS, An exemplary public servant, she is respected and admired by her co-workers and by those she serves so well; it is truly fitting that she receive special recognition as she leaves Senate service to spend more time traveling, hiking, gardening, and enjoying other outdoor activities with her family; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 86th Legislature, hereby commend Tina Currie on her exceptional service as manager and executive chef of the Lieutenant Governor's Reception Room and extend to her best wishes for continued success in all her endeavors; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for her as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

**SR 855** was read and was adopted by a rising vote of the Senate.

### GUESTS PRESENTED

Senator Hughes was recognized and introduced to the Senate Tina Currie and her son, Ty Currie.

The Senate welcomed its guests.

### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 193

The President laid before the Senate the following resolution:

WHEREAS, House Bill No. 3 has been adopted by the house of representatives and the senate and is being prepared for enrollment; and

WHEREAS, The bill contains technical errors that should be corrected; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas, That the enrolling clerk of the house of representatives be instructed to make the following corrections to the enrolled version of House Bill No. 3:

(1) In the recital for SECTION 1.006 of the bill, strike "by amending Subsections (c) and (e)" and substitute "by amending Subsections (c), (e), and (i)".

(2) In SECTION 1.006 of the bill, following amended Section 44.004(e), Education Code, add the following:

(i) A school district that uses a certified estimate, as authorized by Subsection (h), may adopt a budget at the public meeting designated in the notice prepared using the estimate, but the district may not adopt a tax rate before the district receives the certified appraisal roll for the district required by Section 26.01(a), Tax Code. After receipt of the certified appraisal roll, the district must publish a revised notice and hold another public meeting before the district may adopt a tax rate that exceeds:

(1) the rate proposed in the notice prepared using the estimate; or

(2) the district's voter-approval ~~rollback~~ rate determined under Section 26.08, Tax Code, using the certified appraisal roll.

(3) In SECTION 1.008 of the bill, in added Section 45.003(d-1), Education Code, strike "for the 2019 tax year exceeds \$1.04" and substitute "excluding the district's current debt rate under Section 26.08(n)(1)(C), Tax Code, for the 2019 tax year is equal to or exceeds \$0.97".

(4) In SECTION 1.008 of the bill, in added Section 45.003(d-1), Education Code, between "rate" and the underlined period, insert "excluding the district's current debt rate under Section 26.08(n)(1)(C), Tax Code".

(5) In SECTION 1.009 of the bill, in added Section 45.0032(d), Education Code, between "rollback tax rate" and "for", insert "excluding the district's current debt rate under Section 26.08(n)(1)(C), Tax Code".

(6) In SECTION 1.038 of the bill, in transferred, redesignated, and amended Section 48.202(a), Education Code, in each place that it appears in Section 48.202(a), between [~~42.2521~~] and the comma, insert "or by the quotient of the value of "DPV" as determined under Section 48.256(d) if that subsection applies to the district".

(7) In SECTION 1.063 of the bill, in added Section 26.08(a-1), Tax Code, between "flood," and "or", insert "wildfire".

(8) Strike SECTION 1.065 of the bill and substitute the following:

SECTION 1.065. Effective January 1, 2020, Sections 26.08(d) and (g), Tax Code, are amended to read as follows:

(d) If the proposition is not approved as provided by Subsection (c), the governing body may not adopt a tax rate for the school district for the current year that exceeds the school district's voter-approval [~~rollback~~] tax rate.

(g) In a school district that received distributions from an equalization tax imposed under former Chapter 18, Education Code, the no-new-revenue [~~effective~~] rate of that tax as of the date of the county unit system's abolition is added to the district's voter-approval [~~rollback~~] tax rate.

(9) In SECTION 1A.005 of the bill, in transferred, redesignated, and amended Section 48.051, Education Code, immediately following Subsection (c), insert the following:

(d) In this section, "compensation" includes benefits such as insurance premiums.

(10) In SECTION 1A.008 of the bill, in amended Section 26.08(n)(2)(B), Tax Code, strike "\$0.04" and substitute "\$0.05 [~~\$0.04~~]".

(11) Add the following appropriately numbered SECTIONS to Article 3 of the bill and renumber the SECTIONS of that article accordingly:

SECTION 3.\_\_\_\_. Effective January 1, 2020, Section 45.105(e), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(e) The governing body of an independent school district that governs a junior college district under Subchapter B, Chapter 130, in a county with a population of more than two million may dedicate a specific percentage of the local tax levy to the use of the junior college district for facilities and equipment or for the maintenance and operating expenses of the junior college district. To be effective, the dedication must be made by the governing body on or before the date on which the governing body adopts its tax rate for a year. The amount of local tax funds derived from the percentage of the local tax levy dedicated to a junior college district from a tax levy may not exceed the amount that would be levied by five percent of the

~~no-new-revenue~~ ~~[effective]~~ tax rate for the tax year calculated as provided by Section 26.04, Tax Code, on all property taxable by the school district. All real property purchased with these funds is the property of the school district, but is subject to the exclusive control of the governing body of the junior college district for as long as the junior college district uses the property for educational purposes.

SECTION 3.\_\_\_\_. Effective January 1, 2020, Section 45.261(e), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(e) Any part of a school district's tax rate attributable to producing revenue for purposes of Subsection (c)(1) is considered part of the district's:

(1) current debt rate for purposes of computing a voter-approval ~~[rollback]~~ tax rate under Section 26.08, Tax Code; and

(2) interest and sinking fund tax rate.

SECTION 3.\_\_\_\_. Effective January 1, 2020, Sections 825.405(h) and (i), Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

(h) This section does not apply to state contributions for members employed by a school district in a school year if the district's ~~no-new-revenue~~ ~~[effective]~~ tax rate for maintenance and operation revenues for the tax year that ended in the preceding school year equals or exceeds 125 percent of the statewide average ~~no-new-revenue~~ ~~[effective]~~ tax rate for school district maintenance and operation revenues for that tax year. For a tax year, the statewide average ~~no-new-revenue~~ ~~[effective]~~ tax rate for school district maintenance and operation revenues is the tax rate that, if applied to the statewide total appraised value of taxable property for every school district in the state determined under Section 403.302, would produce an amount equal to the statewide total amount of maintenance and operation taxes imposed in the tax year for every school district in the state.

(i) Not later than the seventh day after the final date the comptroller certifies to the commissioner of education changes to the property value study conducted under Subchapter M, Chapter 403, the comptroller shall certify to the Teacher Retirement System of Texas:

(1) the ~~no-new-revenue~~ ~~[effective]~~ tax rate for school district maintenance and operation revenues for each school district in the state for the immediately preceding tax year; and

(2) the statewide average ~~no-new-revenue~~ ~~[effective]~~ tax rate for school district maintenance and operation revenues for the immediately preceding tax year.

(12) Strike "rollback" and substitute "voter-approval ~~[rollback]~~" in each place that it appears in the bill.

(13) Strike "rollback" and substitute "voter-approval" in each place that it appears in the bill.

(14) In SECTION 5.002 of the bill, strike "rollback" and substitute "voter-approval".

TAYLOR

**HCR 193** was read.

On motion of Senator Taylor, the resolution was considered immediately and was adopted by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

## ELECTION OF PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE AD INTERIM EIGHTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

The President announced that the time had arrived for the election of President Pro Tempore Ad Interim of the 86th Legislature.

Senator Nelson placed in nomination the name of Senator Huffman for the office of President Pro Tempore Ad Interim of the 86th Legislature.

On motion of Senator Hughes and by unanimous consent, the nominating speech by Senator Nelson and the remarks by Senator Whitmire made to second the nomination were ordered reduced to writing and printed in the *Senate Journal* as follows:

**Senator Nelson:** Thank you, Mr. President. I rise to nominate Senator Joan Huffman as President Pro Tempore of our Senate. Members, and for those of you who are in the gallery, one of the great traditions of this body is to elect one of our own Members to serve as President Pro Tempore. The President Pro Tempore is the third in line of succession to serve as Governor if both the Governor and the Lieutenant Governor are out of state. And when that happens, I know Texas will be in good hands with Senator Huffman at the helm. Senator Huffman is a true public servant, having served the people of Texas in various ways for nearly four decades. Born in Louisiana and, yes, that is why she loves TABASCO sauce, she was taught by nuns in Catholic schools. After college her career began as a secretary in the Harris County district attorney's office, a job that she loved getting a real bird's eye view of the criminal justice system, Senator Whitmire. She was so inspired by the work of prosecutors that she enrolled in night school at the South Texas College of Law. Upon graduation, she became a respected lead prosecutor for over 100 jury trials. She was twice elected judge to the 183rd criminal justice court in Harris County, and then Senator Huffman was elected to our Texas Senate in 2008. We know Senator Huffman to be a strong, poised, compassionate, intelligent stateswoman. She has friends on both sides of the aisle, Republican and Democrat, and she approaches each issue in a very nonpartisan way, thinking what's right for Texas. As Chair of state affairs and as a Member of the Senate finance committee, she's been instrumental in our efforts to improve resources for our most vulnerable Texans. She's fought against human trafficking, sexual assault, domestic violence. Senator Huffman has fought for, to protect free speech on our college campuses and even was invited last month to the White House to discuss her efforts to protect our students' First Amendment rights. Our current retired teachers will benefit from her hard work to reform and strengthen our retired teachers retirement system, and they're going to have that 13th check, and they have Senator Huffman to thank for that. They are indeed going to receive that. Senator Huffman represents her district well as was evident as we worked our way through hours, finance hearings when we discussed Hurricane Harvey. Many of her constituents were impacted by Harvey, and she was the voice of the people who were suffering in those communities. She made sure that we were allocating the resources that her constituents needed to recover and rebuild in the Gulf Coast area. Senator Huffman has a heart for public service and for the people of Texas. She brings knowledge, discernment, and a passion for this work each and every day. She's got a long list of legislative accomplishments, but I know what she considers to be her greatest

accomplishment and that is her family, Keith, sitting right next to her, and Luke, who sends his love, Senator, but he is traveling in Brazil right now. I want to talk for just a minute about mom Joan Huffman—here I go, I'm going to make it through this—mom Joan Huffman because, you know, we mothers like to brag about our kids, and Senator Huffman has bragged about Luke and has every right to do so. I remember when you came into the Senate, Senator Huffman, you were sitting right where Senator, in fact, this was the "no" row, Lieutenant Governor, you remember? You were a Senator, you, it was Senator Huffman, Senator Nichols, and me, we were known as the "no" row back then. I digress. But I remember opening day, and Luke and Keith were right there, and Luke was a little boy. And he is now a strong, impressive young man. Y'all have done well. Luke, I know, got his love for traveling, and he's in Brazil right now, from his mom and dad, who, by the time he was 18, had made sure that he visited all seven continents. You might also not know, well, I know you know this, Senator Huffman's a champion for dyslexia. That passion stems from watching her son overcome those challenges that come with dyslexia. That's where she gets that passion. And she has drawn attention to dyslexia and has worked tirelessly to expand resources to address the issue for those who have it. I know her family is proud of her accomplishments, and I know she's proud of her family. Senator Huffman and I have taken several girl trips together. We both enjoy traveling and she told me I could tell some of these stories. And we both travel a lot, so we've been to a lot of the places that, you know, we've seen the sights. And we decided we needed a theme, and so we decided to travel to famous bars around the world. Now, think about this, we went, in London there's a place, in fact, it's where the martini was invented, that Ian Fleming wrote his James Bond novels, historically important place to visit if you've already been to those other places. And we went to the Hemingway bar in Paris, where the typewriter's there. I'll stop now. I'll save the rest of the stories for sine die parties, okay. But Senator Huffman is a good friend and I so treasure that friendship. Senator Huffman is a great Senator and she is a good friend to so many in this body. So, having said that, Mr. President, I know Senator Whitmire wants to talk at the appropriate time, I would like to nominate Senator Huffman to serve as our Senate Pro Tempore.

**Senator Whitmire:** Thank you, Senator Nelson. We began the session together on a positive note, and we're definitely ending the session on a positive note. Mr. President and Members, I rise to second the nomination of Senator Joan Huffman as President Pro Tempore for the 86th ad interim. Rising to second this nomination on behalf of Senator Huffman is so special, not only because she chose to shorten the list of speakers to two, respecting the time of her colleagues, but it speaks volumes of Joan and my personal relationship. Yes, she's a colleague in the Senate, Vice-chairman of criminal justice. Some days she acts like Co-chair. But I remind her, she has her own committee. But our close friendship and the closeness of our families, my children are close to her son and husband, her son is close to me and my family, makes this so special. Our professional relationship, Members, most of you have never been told, began in 1993 when DA Huffman prosecuted the armed robber that held me, my wife, and nine-year-old daughter at gunpoint in our garage. And obviously, the Lord had a plan for me to continue working with you, because I really thought this was the end. Senator Huffman was a prosecutor and a tough one and that person got 25 years in

TDCJ, which was actually, Mr. President, the beginning of my focus on criminal justice. And Bob Bullock was enough of a genius to know what a better person to chair it than someone that would work to see no other Texan experience what Senator Huffman so toughly prosecuted. I witnessed her judgeship as a criminal district judge, which obviously, again, prepared her for this mission. But you know what, let me also share with you, you never know the relationship between Members. You get the opportunity to talk publicly about it today. In 2008, by this time, Keith, her husband, Keith, great to have you here, had become great friends. So, one Saturday morning in '08, we all knew Kyle Janek was retiring. Joan had retired from the bench to raise her child, she did a great job, but in 2008, I was having coffee at Starbucks one Saturday morning, minding my Democratic business. Keith told me the challenge that Joan had. Joan wanted to go back to being a public servant that she was so prepared for, but the powers to be, some in Austin, some in Houston, some kingmakers had told her no, it's not your time, we have our own candidate. Joan, never run for the Legislature, thought when, allegedly, these folks tell you you can do it or not to do it—we've all faced those, sometimes falsehoods, sometimes they really mean it—but that Starbucks was the beginning of Joan's campaign, because when Keith told me that the likes of John Nau and others were saying Joan can't do it, I said, I don't believe that. I don't think they've really met that list of power brokers. So, at that Starbucks, I called John Nau and others, and they said, we don't even know that person. The lesson there, Members, the Joan monster campaign, and I don't mind talking about playing a small role. I think my Democratic credentials are solid, and I hope I don't hurt her campaign or her service too much, but that was really special, divine intervention in that campaign for sure. So, it's a really special moment in our friendship and public careers to second her nomination. I have no doubt that she will do a great job for the Senate and the great State of Texas and serve with distinction when the Lieutenant Governor and the Governor are out of state. Always done a great job, great partner to Keith, mother to Luke, Senator, risen to the ranks of being now effective, powerful state affairs Chair, conference committee member. You're a very forceful debater on the Senate floor, Senator Creighton. She's focused, human trafficking, the Harvey recovery, and I could go on. Members, I'm excited for her and her family and for this Senate, to see her serve as our President Pro Tempore. Members, I have no doubt that she will serve us well, and I proudly second her nomination, Members and Mr. President. Thank you.

**President:** Thank you, Senator Whitmire. Senator Nelson.

**Senator Nelson:** Mr. President, it is my great privilege and honor to move that we elect Senator Joan Huffman for President Pro Tempore Ad Interim of the Senate.

On motion of Senator Nelson, Senator Huffman was elected President Pro Tempore Ad Interim.

The President declared that the Honorable Joan Huffman had been duly elected President Pro Tempore Ad Interim of the 86th Legislature by acclamation.

The President appointed the following Committee to Escort Senator Huffman and her husband, Keith Lawyer, to the President's Rostrum: Senators Nichols, Campbell, Hinojosa, and Alvarado.

Senator Huffman and her party were then escorted to the President's Rostrum by the committee.

### **OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED**

The President administered the Constitutional Oath of Office to Senator Huffman as follows:

I, Joan Huffman, do solemnly swear, that I will faithfully execute the duties of the office of President Pro Tempore Ad Interim of the Senate of the State of Texas, and will to the best of my ability preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States and of this state, so help me God.

### **ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE AD INTERIM**

President Pro Tempore Ad Interim Joan Huffman addressed the Senate as follows:

Thank you. Thank you very much, Members, and very much appreciate this honor. I had been joking with Senator Watson this morning about isn't it wonderful we have this transition of power with no bullets fired, right. And I think that's what makes this whole day so special for me because there's so much tradition involved, and as we move forward and we go into the interim, we still, we're still Senators, right, and the traditions that we follow through the years and all the days we're together, are what kind of makes this body great. I'm so excited to be able to be your President Pro Tem. I want to take the opportunity, I have my staff up there in the gallery, and I see them all grinning, so I want to wave to them and acknowledge them. We all know we can't do the work that we do without our Senate staff, my Chief of Staff, Wroe Jackson, and my committee director, Sean Opperman, are back over here, and everyone on the floor knows them. I want to thank my husband, of course, Keith Lawyer. John told good stories about how I first, you know, thought about becoming a Senator, and it was Keith, of course, who was kind of the driving force, and he and Whitmire worked together and helped me get the framework that I needed to get started. So, we all have people behind us that make us successful and I think we know that. Lois, when she gave the prayer this morning, referred to a prayer meeting that we had yesterday, and it was very special, and I did pay attention. I was paying attention in church and it was interesting the things that I heard. And it made me realize that in many ways we're all thinking the same way because everything that people said touched my heart. And Kelly Hancock talked about the hurry sickness and about trying to rush through everything and not living in the moment and realize that, the importance of what we do. I think that's a great lesson that sometimes I sit in the Chamber and people are talking and I make myself stop and I look up at the light up there, where it says, I don't know how many people have noticed it, but it says Texas up there in the lights. And we have such a privilege to work and represent almost a million people. We sit in here and we, we're just, but we're just a passing speck. And I think someone said that we're just dust. We're just

moving through, and though what we do is important, we need to understand that we have to be so responsible in what we do because though we're here and our votes are so important, we're just a little piece of history. And you look around at the photographs and the paintings of people who have come before us, and I'm like Whitmire, I don't know who some of these people are. I think Whitmire said that during one of our debates. But if we can try to aspire to be the type of Senator that maybe some day someone will want to put our picture on the wall. And we do the best that we can and we use our gifts. That was also said yesterday in the prayer meeting, being able to use your gifts to do the best that you can do. We are our best, also, when we are one. Think about the big things we've done this session, whether it's public ed, teacher pay, property tax reform, human trafficking. Many people have worked on so many big issues, but we are at our best when we act as one. And as Senators, we should always strive to try to come together. Sometimes we can't, but most of the time we do. So, as we go apart and we go our separate ways across this great state, I think of, you know, Senator Rodríguez, you're so far away over in the mountains of El Paso; Senator Nichols, in your piney woods, you know; the beautiful Metroplex; Houston; Senator Seliger, the great plains of West Texas; Pete Flores, beautiful Big Bend. I mean, we are so blessed to represent just a part of such a wonderful state and we have such opportunities to make a difference. I'm going to make a prediction here. I believe that all 31 of us, 32, will be back next session together, just thinking of who's coming up and who's coming up for election. And, yes, Senator Flores, no matter what Senator Whitmire says, I think you're going to be back, too. So, so that's my prayer, is that my 31 dear people that I love so much, that we will all be back together in two years, and we can continue to work together to make Texas the best state in the best country in the world. So, God bless you, God bless Texas, and thank you so much.

#### **PRESENTATION OF GAVEL**

The President presented a gavel to President Pro Tempore Huffman.

#### **VIDEO RELEASE POLICY WAIVED**

On motion of Senator Hughes and by unanimous consent, the Senate policy that governs the release of recordings of the Senate proceedings was waived in order to grant the request of Senator Huffman for a DVD of today's session.

#### **BILL SIGNED**

The President announced the signing of the following enrolled bill in the presence of the Senate after the caption had been read: **HB 4205**.

#### **RECESS**

On motion of Senator Whitmire, the Senate at 12:04 p.m. recessed until 1:30 p.m. today.

#### **AFTER RECESS**

The Senate met at 1:52 p.m. and was called to order by the President.

**MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE**

HOUSE CHAMBER

Austin, Texas

Monday, May 27, 2019 - 2

The Honorable President of the Senate  
Senate Chamber  
Austin, Texas

Mr. President:

I am directed by the house to inform the senate that the house has taken the following action:

THE HOUSE HAS PASSED THE FOLLOWING MEASURES:

**HCR 174** Springer  
Paying tribute to Kenneth E. Stumpf on the occasion of the 2019 Medal of Honor Host City Weekend in Gainesville.

**HCR 175** Springer  
Paying tribute to Patrick Henry Brady on the occasion of the 2019 Medal of Honor Host City Weekend in Gainesville.

**SCR 65** Hughes Sponsor: Schaefer  
In memory of William James "Jamie" Boring.

Respectfully,

/s/Robert Haney, Chief Clerk  
House of Representatives

**BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS SIGNED**

The President announced the signing of the following enrolled bills and resolutions in the presence of the Senate after the captions had been read:

**SB 2.****HB 1** (Signed subject to Art. III, Sec. 49a, Texas Constitution).

**SB 6, SB 11, SB 12, SB 20, SB 30, SB 390, SB 500** (Signed subject to Art. III, Sec. 49a, Texas Constitution), **SB 562, SB 601, SB 604, SB 616, SB 619, SB 799, SB 815, SB 891, SB 911, SB 916, SB 944, SB 982, SB 1096, SB 1151, SB 1207, SB 1742, SB 1845, SB 1991, SB 2138, SB 2342, SB 2432, SB 2551, SCR 66, SCR 67.**

**GUESTS PRESENTED**

Senator Paxton was recognized and introduced to the Senate her legislative interns Louie Casteel, Ashley Buckner, and Josh Goh.

The Senate welcomed its guests.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 862**

Senator Rodríguez offered the following resolution:

**SR 862**, In memory of Victor "Trae" Apodaca III.

On motion of Senator Rodríguez, the resolution was read and was adopted by a rising vote of the Senate.

In honor of the memory of Victor "Trae" Apodaca III, the text of the resolution is printed at the end of today's *Senate Journal*.

#### **SENATE RESOLUTION 854**

Senator Campbell offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, For well over a century, Americans have set aside Memorial Day as a time to honor those members of the military forces who have given their lives in service to the United States; and

WHEREAS, This observance was introduced after the Civil War as a means of paying tribute to those who had died on both sides of the conflict; originally called Decoration Day for the practice of adorning the graves of soldiers with flowers once a year, the holiday came to be known as Memorial Day, a day to honor all of the country's fallen; though it was celebrated on May 30 for a number of decades, it has been observed on the final Monday in May since the early 1970s; and

WHEREAS, In communities across the nation, veterans and their fellow citizens gather in cemeteries and other public places to pay tribute to the armed forces personnel who died protecting our liberty; "Taps," the haunting bugle call customarily performed at military funerals and memorials since the Civil War, is played during these ceremonies, and in accordance with tradition, the United States flag is lowered to half staff early in the day before being raised again at noon; and

WHEREAS, The most well-known observance of Memorial Day occurs in Arlington National Cemetery at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, where the remains of unidentified Americans from World War I, World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War are interred; the president of the United States, accompanied by honor guards from all branches of the armed services, traditionally lays a wreath at the tomb, and a bugler offers a final salute by playing "Taps"; and

WHEREAS, Americans owe an immeasurable debt to those men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in behalf of the peace and stability of our nation, and it is a privilege to join with citizens across the country in paying homage to the courage, commitment, and patriotism of its military personnel; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 86th Legislature, hereby recognize Memorial Day 2019 in solemn commemoration of those who have died in service to our nation.

**SR 854** was read and was adopted without objection.

#### **SENATE RESOLUTION 863**

Senator Hughes offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, It is with great pride that the Texas Senate honors one of its most loyal and respected staff members, Eric Beck, by naming him the 2019 administrative recipient of the Betty King Public Service Award; and

WHEREAS, The longtime proofreading supervisor in the Office of Engrossing and Enrolling, Eric exemplifies the best in Senate service, and through his highly effective leadership he consistently brings out the best in those who serve with him; and

WHEREAS, The work in the E and E department is critical to the legislative process, and as head of the proofing division, Eric maintains the highest standards for attention to detail and accuracy in the proofreading process; his leadership is of the utmost importance during legislative sessions, and the demands of his position would be daunting to the hardest of employees, yet he faces his responsibilities with confidence and is noted for his flawless work; and

WHEREAS, Eric has consistently carried out his duties with dedication and enthusiasm, and he has enjoyed the enduring admiration of permanent staff as well as that of countless session employees; he has a sincere concern for the well-being of his co-workers, and he is noted for his ready smile and witty sense of humor and for maintaining the high spirits of those working with him during the stressful session hours; and

WHEREAS, Eric is beloved by all who serve in the Office of Engrossing and Enrolling, and he is an indispensable asset to the department; he is a true unsung hero of the Texas Senate, and he is most deserving of his selection for a Betty King Public Service Award; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 86th Legislature, hereby commend Eric Beck on his invaluable service to the Texas Senate and extend to him congratulations on earning the 2019 Betty King Public Service Award; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for him as an expression of highest esteem from the Texas Senate.

**SR 863** was read and was adopted without objection.

### **GUEST PRESENTED**

Senator Hughes was recognized and introduced to the Senate Eric Beck.

The Senate welcomed its guest.

### **SENATE RESOLUTION 864**

Senator Hughes offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The Texas Senate takes pleasure in paying tribute to one of its most valuable staff members, Tatum Reagan, by naming her the 2019 legislative recipient of the Betty King Public Service Award; and

WHEREAS, Over the course of more than 16 years, Tatum Reagan has served the Senate with distinction as clerk of multiple committees, and most recently she has been of tremendous assistance to the Business and Commerce Committee; in addition, she has been a mentor and friend to countless new clerks and other employees and has readily shared with them her knowledge and experience; and

WHEREAS, Tatum has long been a treasured member of the Senate family, and her loyalty, her exceptional work ethic, and her dedication to public service have been an inspiration to all who have had the good fortune of working with her; and

WHEREAS, She is noted for her thorough knowledge of committee procedures and rules and for her insight and good judgment, and she has been a significant asset to the committees she has served; and

WHEREAS, Tatum has assisted the committee chairs in setting their agendas, and she has deftly coordinated committee activities and kept accurate records of all committee proceedings; in addition, she has managed the committees' public hearings with efficiency and a clear sense of the importance of citizen testimony; and

WHEREAS, A role model for anyone aspiring to public service, Tatum Reagan is known for her warmth, her generous spirit, and her willingness to help others with whatever their needs might be; her professionalism and her dedication to duty truly represent the highest standards of the Texas Senate; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 86th Legislature, hereby extend sincerest gratitude and appreciation to Tatum Reagan for her exceptional service and best wishes to her for continued success in all her endeavors; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for her as an expression of highest regard from the Texas Senate.

**SR 864** was read and was adopted without objection.

### **GUEST PRESENTED**

Senator Hughes, joined by Senator Hancock, was recognized and introduced to the Senate Tatum Reagan.

The Senate welcomed its guest.

### **SENATE RESOLUTION 843**

Senator Whitmire offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas takes great pride in recognizing Patsy Spaw, our much-beloved and highly regarded secretary of the Senate, for her 50 years of outstanding service to this chamber; and

WHEREAS, Patsy Spaw began her distinguished career with the Texas Senate in 1969, when she joined the Engrossing and Enrolling Department as a typist; she was promoted to assistant enrolling clerk in 1972, and in 1977, she was elected to the position of enrolling clerk; and

WHEREAS, During her 24 years as head of the Engrossing and Enrolling Department, Patsy set high standards for excellence in managerial and administrative efficiency, and she became known throughout the Capitol for her exceptional work ethic and her meticulous attention to detail; Patsy handled her numerous responsibilities with admirable skill while also attending law school and earning a degree from The University of Texas School of Law; her unwavering fortitude during those challenging years served as an enduring example and a source of inspiration to her staff and to others at the Capitol; and

WHEREAS, In 2001, Patsy was elected to the position of secretary of the Senate, and over the last 18 years, she has brought great distinction to the Senate's highest administrative office; her exemplary leadership and her thorough knowledge of the intricacies of Capitol proceedings have made her an invaluable asset to the Senate and to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor; and

WHEREAS, In her half century of Senate service, Patsy has excelled in every facet of her work, and she has been a trusted friend and mentor to innumerable Senate employees, as well as to the state's legislative leaders; she is treasured by all who serve in the Capitol, and she is an inspiring role model for anyone in public service; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 86th Legislature, hereby honor Patsy Spaw for her steadfast loyalty and dedication to the Texas Senate and extend to her the utmost gratitude for her 50 years of superior service; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for her as an expression of warmest appreciation from the Texas Senate.

WHITMIRE	HINOJOSA	PERRY
ALVARADO	HUFFMAN	POWELL
BETTENCOURT	HUGHES	RODRÍGUEZ
BIRDWELL	JOHNSON	SCHWERTNER
BUCKINGHAM	KOLKHORST	SELIGER
CAMPBELL	LUCIO	TAYLOR
CREIGHTON	MENÉNDEZ	WATSON
FALLON	MILES	WEST
FLORES	NELSON	ZAFFIRINI
HALL	NICHOLS	
HANCOCK	PAXTON	

**SR 843** was read.

On motion of Senator Hughes and by unanimous consent, the names of the Lieutenant Governor and Senators were added to the resolution as signers thereof.

On motion of Senator Whitmire, the resolution was adopted by a rising vote of the Senate.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Senator Whitmire, joined by Senators Zaffirini, Huffman, Watson, Lucio, Kolkhorst, Bettencourt, Nichols, Campbell, Flores, Paxton, Hancock, West, Johnson, Rodríguez, Hinojosa, Miles, Seliger, Hall, Nelson, Schwertner, Menéndez, Birdwell, Fallon, Hughes, Powell, Taylor, Perry, and the President, acknowledged Secretary of the Senate Patsy Spaw for her 50 years of service to the Texas Senate.

#### REMARKS ORDERED PRINTED

On motion of Senator Hughes and by unanimous consent, the remarks regarding **SR 843** were ordered reduced to writing and printed in the *Senate Journal* as follows:

**President:** Senator Whitmire.

**Senator Whitmire:** Thank you, Mr. President. Members, I'm honored to present this resolution on behalf of the entire Senate to Patsy Spaw. As you know, Patsy cares more about this body and traditions of the Texas Senate than I dare say anyone else on this floor. When we have a bad day on the Senate floor, Patsy's heart hurts. And when we have a good day in the Senate, Patsy beams with pride. We trust Patsy with some of our most personal stories. We seek her advice and counsel, and we look to her to

keep the Senate running. We are her family and she is ours. Steve, I thank you and your children and grandchildren for sharing this wonderful woman with us for so many years. I often say everyone is replaceable, but, Patsy, I can honestly say you could never be replaced. I hope you will take the interim to rest and enjoy your family, but I know you'll be back next session because we all need you. Patsy, we thank you for a lifetime of service and dedication to our Texas Senate, an institution we all hold so dear, and I speak for all 31 Members and our presiding officer and everyone that can hear my voice. We literally could not do our work without your support and understanding. Mr. President, I yield at this time.

**President:** Senator Zaffirini.

**Senator Zaffirini:** Thank you, Mr. President. It is my pleasure to join Dean Whitmire and Senator Nelson and all the Members of the Texas Senate in paying tribute to this wonderful leader. Patsy, you are just an incredible Secretary of the Senate. Each of us probably has stories about you, but today we simply want to express our gratitude to you for the wonderful work that you do. You truly care about every Senator and help all of us as much as you help our staffs. So, you are a role model not only especially for the new Senators but for everyone who comes to work here. We hear nothing but the nicest things about you. And what a lot of people didn't realize is that you are an attorney. So, you bring your legal expertise to work with you every day, and certainly your experience at different levels of administration helps you understand the perspective of those who work here. But we also know that you are a leader at the national level and that you are also a role model for secretaries of senates throughout our country. They look to you for inspiration, they look to you for example, and they look to you with the same admiration, respect, and affection that we do. Thank you for everything that you do and everything that you will do. We love you.

**President:** Senator Huffman.

**Senator Huffman:** Thank you, Mr. President and Members. And, Patsy, I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank you. You're too young, but you, lot of time you feel like my mom's here. You know, you're such, you're so comfortable, and when things are kind of low around here, sometimes I go up to you and just want to talk to you, just for a second, and you always make me feel better. You've always gone out of your way to make things special around here. When I was sworn in in 2008, you might remember this, it was Christmastime, I'd won a special election, the Chamber was beautiful. It was decorated and I had my swearing in, had my family here, and my little 11-year-old son, Luke, came. And you arranged on your own, listen to this, Members, to have the Sam Houston Bible brought out of the archives so that Luke could hold and touch that Bible while I was sworn in, and he will never forget it. But I promise you, he still talks about that and the fact that he was able to open it and see Sam Houston's signature and hold that Bible. And you did that just on your own, no one asked you to do that. You always go out of your way to do something special for all of us, and we appreciate it. We love you. Thank you, Patsy.

**President:** Senator Watson.

**Senator Watson:** Thank you, Mr. President. Members, I am very proud that Patsy Spaw is my constituent, and I always try to serve my constituent, but what is wonderful is that you're a universal friend. You are, every one of us feels so close to you and every one of us could share stories about something you've done to make our service better, to make our lives better, and to help us. So, thank you. God bless you, and as it's been said and it, and it bears repeating, we dearly love you. Thank you.

**President:** Senator Lucio.

**Senator Lucio:** Thank you, Mr. President. Patsy, I, too, rise. I have to because I'm third in seniority behind Dean Whitmire and Judy Zaffirini, and I've been here and I've seen many, many people come and go, but I think our prayers have always been for you to stay. We have reached out to you. You've never ever had that door closed in your office or here as we approach you, always with a smile, and I can thank you. God's greatest commandment, commandment of love, to love one another as He had loved us, and you live that commandment. That's all I can say and I'm grateful to be part of this wonderful family. Thank you, Patsy, for being just such a wonderful person. Thank you.

**President:** Senator Kolkhorst.

**Senator Kolkhorst:** Thank you, Mr. President. As a former Chair of administration, there's an incredible bond that you have with the Secretary of the Senate. I'd written down a few words, Members, in thinking about saying a few words about Patsy, and it's amazing that I heard these words from the Senators that have already stood up. And what's amazing about that is because she treats us all the same. Doesn't matter if you're a Democrat or a Republican. Doesn't matter if you're a freshman or the Dean of the Senate. Doesn't matter where you come from. Senator Watson, she's almost my constituent, and I'm jealous that she's not. But I will just say this and it is true, when the times are the darkest and the toughest, whether it's during a session or an interim, my Chief of Staff has been doing this with me since 2001, and I'll call him and say, what do we do and he goes, Chris Steinbach will say, I don't know, but I'm going to call Patsy. That's what he says. And so, I wrote down these words, Madame Secretary, that describe you: grace, honor, trust, professionalism, not just a woman of stature but a person of stature. And then, most of all, Senator Lucio, love. Love for us individually, love for our families, love for the sacrifice that we make, but above all else, love for what the Texas Senate is, what it has been, and what it can be to this unbelievable state that we serve and the people, always the people. So, with that we say thank you for a half century of service. We love you.

**President:** Senator Bettencourt.

**Senator Bettencourt:** You know, there are people that touch other people's lives, and I'm looking at somebody that's touched the life of everybody in this room and everybody that's been here for 50 years. I look back 50 years ago and it was a different world. Apollo moon shot, Woodstock, but you were the same person then. I know because you're the same person now, because you touch everybody's lives for the better. Now a moment of levity, because I don't want to make her cry, any more than she already has. There was a large freshman class, like a big class, nine Senators, Senator Menéndez was part of it. The original crew was Senator Kolkhorst, Senator

Perry, and Senator Creighton, y'all came in on special elections if I remember right. But there were five of us all jammed up at once so there had to be a drawing on seniority, and Senator Schwertner knows I had just had a major hip operation and I couldn't come. And I'd just met Patsy and I gave Patsy the instructions of, she said, well, I could draw for you. I said great, just don't draw last, okay. And with her great skill and incredible attention to detail, she drew fourth out of five, and I was not last on seniority, okay. Because she can grab that out of any bag, she can grab whatever problem that we have out of any situation and she can fix it. And she has and always will be the beating heart of the Texas Senate. God bless you.

**President:** Senator Nichols.

**Senator Nichols:** Thank you, Mr. President. I rise also to thank you for everything that you do for all us. You do it with dignity, you do it with a smile. It's amazing to me on some of these nights that we're here for hours and hours that you continue to stand. I think they've offered to give you stools on occasion, but you refused it. I don't know if everybody knows that, but you're, you like to do it old school. You send us notes about things that happen to Members or Members' families. You try to keep us in touch even when we're not in session. You keep the confidences that we give you, our little notes of which bills we don't like, things like that. I had one, I wasn't used to sending them by e-mail, I always just handed them to her, until I was instructed it's better to do it much earlier when you can. But I remember one in particular this session, you contacted me and you said, I think you missed this one. You said, I think you meant, and you corrected a mistake that I made that I might have paid dearly of, and I appreciate it. You seem to know how we're supposed to vote before we even vote, and it get so confusing out here sometimes, but you manage to keep it all sorted out. And so, we all know that, we understand that, and we just all wanted to thank you for what you do.

**President:** Senator Campbell.

**Senator Campbell:** Thank you, Mr. President. Patsy, thank you for the work that you've done to highlight all the females in the Senate across the years. And that's a work that you've put your heart into and we thank you for that. You have such a warm spirit and a tender heart, and it's a privilege to have you as a friend. God has you in the right place for all of us. So, you are a blessing to us and to me. Thank you very much.

**President:** Senator Flores.

**Senator Flores:** Thank you, Mr. President. Miss Patsy, as a freshman, thank you very much. I picked this desk on purpose because I wanted her to give me all the line signals for every time I was starting to mess up. But I will say one of the best advice you've given me, and it's a good lesson in life especially when you come here, is you said, you know, you're a handsome guy, you're real smart, too, you're pretty witty, you know I like you. And then you said, it's not true. Around here people will tell you anything to get their way, remember that. And just remember to vote your district and to do the right thing. Thank you very much. Thank you, Miss Patsy.

**President:** I think all those compliments were actually true about you, Pete. You're the exception to the rule, of course, but, Senator Paxton.

**Senator Paxton:** Patsy, I'm one of the new people, but I had heard of you. When my husband served in the Senate, he always came home with these stories about how helpful you were, how smart you were, all the things actually that Pete just said, but they were really true about you. But the main thing I remember him saying was, Angela, the Senate is an amazing place and it's an amazing place because Patsy Spaw makes it an amazing place. Thank you. Thank you for the faithfulness with which you have carried that, that sense of duty with great honor, dignity, and grace. God bless you and thank you for your service.

**President:** Senator Hancock.

**Senator Hancock:** Patsy, you may have never received a vote, not a one, but you're one of us. In fact, I think all of us can agree that you're the standard-bearer. You're the one we look to on how we're supposed to behave, how we're supposed to act, how we're supposed to conduct our business. You're the standard-bearer. You're the one who knows. We're the ones that think we know, but you're the one we go to. Senator Watson and I talk about we're going to change this or that, we think we know. But if we pause a little while, we look at each other and say, let's go ask Patsy because she's the one that really knows, and for that we thank you. We need a standard-bearer. We would run roughshod over this place and this place is to be respected, its traditions to be carried forward, to be observed. Even when they don't make sense, they're to be observed, because of the tradition. And you help us carry that out. Not a vote one have you received but, Patsy, you're one of us and we all love you.

**President:** Patsy, I know you'll say no, but would you like to sit on that stool for a second because we have everybody that wants to talk. Can we pull it? James, can you just pull it? Yes, you're sure you're okay? You're okay? You're fine, okay. I just want to be sure, because all the long-talkers are coming up now. Oh, let's see, which one of those do I want to select here? Senator West, you're next.

**Senator West:** When I was a little boy— Patsy, you know I think Senator Hancock kind of hit the nail on the head. When I first came to the Senate, you were not the secretary, but we had a great secretary. And what has happened between the two of you is maintaining tradition and reminding us of the tradition and the fidelity that you've had with this institution in carrying forth those traditions. It is so important that, yes, we recognize you as a member of this body. We recognize you as a friend, a confidant in many instances. You have not passed any laws, but if you tell us something, the fact of the matter is it might as well be the law because we follow advice that you provide us. And I, like many of my colleagues, just want to say thank you. Thank you for being Patsy Spaw, thank you for the sacrifices that you make, thank the staff for being here, sometimes three and four hours after we leave. And I also thank you for making certain that we don't spread too much on the Journal to have your staff write. Thank you, Madame Secretary.

**President:** Senator Johnson.

**Senator Johnson:** In addition to the freshmen, thanks, to the frightening entrance when you all made us feel comfortable, and we knew we weren't going to remember anything that we learned in orientation but we knew you were there, and we knew that you wouldn't yell at us when we came back to talk to you. So, besides the thank you,

thank you. I'm in awe of you and I think we all are. And you set a standard for professionalism because when we walk up to approach you and give us our cards, you're leaning over your shoulder talking to Lieutenant Governor, you've got a note to Karina, got behind-the-back with a card, and then you talk to Vicky, and she hands you something, and then we change our vote on this thing, and you put it in page three, and then you scribble that out, and it's all correct all the time, and I come back to my desk and think, man, my job's easy. And when Senator Hughes is gaveling through the local and consent calendar, and it's 1:15 and I've finished my stint, and I'm thinking I'm so tired, and I realize there's two more people to go and you're standing and you're going and you haven't had a break. So, every time I look up there I think it raises our game, so thank you for inspiring, for me and all of us, in everything you've done.

**President:** Senator Rodríguez.

**Senator Rodríguez:** Thank you, Mr. President. Patsy, I, too, want to thank you for everything you've done for me, for my staff, for the advice you have given us. You know, I very early on went over to the House and I saw some people over there, Members and President, in jeans. And so, I came back and I said to my Chief of Staff, Sushma, hey, I want to wear some jeans in the Senate. She said, Patsy is not going to allow it. And there were other questions like that from me at the beginning, wanting to know and it was always, Patsy is not going to put up with that. So, I, coming from another time zone from, from far, far, far out West, I am deeply moved by your stamina, your ability, as Senator Johnson pointed out, to multi-task, you know, at the moment of hectic activity here on the Senate floor. And I want people in the gallery to know how hard you work. I think people have mentioned that, but this is my first session, this is my fifth session, this time in the Capitol, up there on the third floor. And whatever hour in the evening I might be coming down those stairs to the second floor, because I always stop by the Senate lounge, I look over there and I see Patsy and her light on, working. And that work ethic has been the most impressive, in addition to everything else people have said about your kindness, your respect for tradition, your loving all of us. Your work ethic has given me this sense that I'm not doing enough because you stand here all day long into the evening, whether it's 10 hours, 12 hours, 14 hours sometimes. I think last session when we got out at two o'clock in the morning, Patsy was standing out here still. And, and you are just an amazing woman, and I want to thank you for all you do for all of us. Thank you very much.

**President:** Senator Hinojosa.

**Senator Hinojosa:** Thank you, Mr. President. And, Patsy, I just want to thank you for always having an open door to any one of us at any time. I'm also amazed at the number of hours you put in. I come in in the morning, you're there. I leave late at night, you're still there. But also, thank you for protecting the Senate, our traditions, our history. You really give us a lot of respect and just as important, you treat each one of us equal. Republicans, Democrats, South Texas, North Texas, every single person you treat with dignity and respect. That's so important. And I will tell you that you, quite frankly, made my voting record a lot better. Probably, you know better than any of us how we're supposed to vote. And before, many times, you know when we

changed our minds and changed the vote. And so, I thank you for all the work. I would just tell you the same thing that Senator Johnson did. I just don't know how you're able to keep up with all of us going up there giving you a card, switching votes, that back and forth, but, God, you do a fantastic job, and thank you for being who you are.

**President:** Senator Miles.

**Senator Miles:** Miss Spaw, I'll never forget the first thing and the best thing that my predecessor told me: Take care of Miss Spaw because she will take care of you. And I want to thank you for being my counselor, my office manager, keeping my voting record straight. In my community in Senate District 13, we have something called big mommas and they take care of all the kids in the neighborhood. So, I want to say thank you for being my Capitol, our Capitol big momma. Thank you very much.

**President:** I think that one might stick there, Senator, Senator Miles. I think that's going down in the book. Anyone want to put that in the Journal, motion, yes. Senator Seliger.

**Senator Seliger:** Thank you, Mr. President. Earlier in the day the Dean of the Senate suggested that just a few and very brief speeches would be adequate, but they're not because of what you represent and have represented to so many people who have sat on this floor for so many years. We would all be remiss not to talk about somebody who represents the best of what goes on on this floor. As you walk around the Senate, these walls that around, and you see all these pictures, what do we see? We see transients, people who come and go with the transience and the impermanence of elections and life and death and things like this. But what makes institutions great ones are those things that are enduring and lasting, and that's what you represent. The finest qualities that people can bring to a place like this are reliability and dignity and honesty and integrity, and you represent that to all of us. Mine, too, is one of the offices when something goes on and we say what do we do here when it comes to payroll issues, ethics issues, logistics issues, let's ask Patsy. One night I was sitting here with my son and we were voting and I got up to come over and talk about a vote, and I was about as far as that grate, and you held up a one. And I walked back and sat down and my son, Dad, what's that? And I said, well, I went up there and Miss Spaw already knew how I was going to vote, and he said, well, how did she know that? And I said, I don't know but it's a little scary, and so, that's why nobody messes with Mrs. Spaw. If there was Olympic medal for standing still for long periods of time, you would have won the last 18. But I think I speak for the people who can't be on our floor today whose experience here was enriched by their association with you. Thank you.

**President:** Senator Hall.

**Senator Hall:** Patsy, if I were to say all of what I really want to say, I'd be repeating what everybody else has said here today. And they've said it very eloquently. It's hard to overstate what you mean to this body, what you have done for it, your integrity, your dignity, and your knowledge. If I, like Senator Flores, I remember the first time when I came here, you kind of said the same things to me that you said to him, but what's really impressed me was my lack of knowledge when I came here and

everybody would say, well, ask Patsy. But I go to ask you, never once did you pick up a book, did you go to the computer, did you look at anything, but you gave me a detailed answer, sometimes longer than what I really needed to get the answer to the question I had. But you wanted to make sure that my question was answered, and it didn't matter that I was a freshman who didn't know much. You showed patience, you showed love, you showed kindness, and I see that, that you show that to everyone. And so, I just want to say thank you for who you are and what you do for this body. God bless you.

**President:** Senator Nelson.

**Senator Nelson:** Patsy, I think, I don't think there's anyone else in this room that was on the selection committee that chose the successor to Betty King, for whom that room is named. I was on the selection committee that picked Betty King's successor. And a young Patsy Spaw was the obvious choice to assume that position. I will never say take the place of, because those of us who knew Betty King, she was a very special person. And we knew Patsy Spaw would carry on that tradition. And I have to tell you, you know, Patsy and I are both old school and what, it is true. A lot of those traditions that may seem stuffy or, you know, why can't we wear jeans on the floor of the Texas Senate? There is a reason. There's a reason for the traditions that we have, that we had for year after year after year. And sometimes you don't understand why we have those traditions, but I think I can sum it up by using the same words that I've heard used over and over again about Patsy Spaw, and that is dignity and respect. And Patsy Spaw knows how important it is that we have respect for each other, for this institution, and she knows that a lot of those traditions that we don't pay much attention to or we don't think are very important, they are important. In fact, Ms. Spaw, I would suggest that one of the reasons that this body works together well, that we're not partisan, we do work together to do what's best, is because of those deeply, deeply instilled traditions that you've taught us, that Betty King taught us, that we were to respect each other, we were to respect this institution, and for that I am so grateful. I am, I don't think the Senate would be this Senate without you, Ms. Spaw, and we love you and we appreciate you for making us continue those traditions. Thank you, Patsy.

**President:** Senator Schwertner.

**Senator Schwertner:** Ms. Spaw, the way I was taught to address you as a freshman and the only way I will ever address you. You are the protector and the keeper of the Texas Senate and the traditions of this great institution. And through your dignity and grace, you have made us all better Senators. And through your example you've made everybody around this perimeter better individuals and staffers, and through them made this institution and made this state a better place. Thank you.

**President:** Senator Menéndez.

**Senator Menéndez:** Thank you, Mr. President. Ms. Spaw, it's hard to repeat everything that's been said and so I won't because, even though it's all true, what I think about as I was listening to my colleagues, you know, I spent 15 years on the other side. And when I came over and while I was there, many of us used to, not knowing this body the way I know now, we'd sort of joke around a little bit that the

first thing happens when you get elected to the Senate, they change your first name to Senator. You know, talking about sort of the, the attitude that people have who serve in this body. And what I've been so overwhelmed with as I've listened to my colleagues, people who are highly respected around this state and the country, is the genuine, authentic admiration and respect and love they have for you. And you don't get that any other way but by earning it. And everyone feels that, and as people talk about what you've done for them, have to realize, the way I look at it is, that you've done it for all of our constituents. So, there's 30-plus million Texans that thank you. Because as this state swings politically from the left, the days where everybody was a Democrat to now where the majority has been in the Republican for the last few years, and it may swing back, it will swing back. But here's the reality, the beauty of this is this, the institution of the Texas Senate is more important than any of that. And the way that Texans know that they're going to get a fair shake regardless of who's standing up proposing whatever law, is that there are people in charge that are, that have much more respect for the law, for the, the institution, for the traditions, and you give everyone on this floor the feeling that they have a fair shake. Regardless of they're a new Member, where they're from, what part of the state, and we can all go back and we can all know that when we come to work here, we know that because of Patsy Spaw, every Texan can feel the pride that we have to work in this body, a body that works on behalf of the State of the Texas. Thank you for who you are because without that being in you, we would probably not be as good as this Senate is. You've kept it, in this day and age where many institutions are crumbling, you've kept this institution going. Thank you.

**President:** Senator Birdwell.

**Senator Birdwell:** Thank you, Mr. President. I, Senator Hancock and many of the others have said many of the, the sentiments. This is my second institution. And you occupy a place, Patsy, that's very similar to what Master Sergeant Hernandez occupied for me. Everybody remembers their drill instructor. You've never asked me to do push-ups or called me something off-color, but just, Senator Hancock says, maybe you have, I just don't know it. But just that same position of reverence and respect that I have for my drill instructor in 1983, you have taught me to be a part of this body and the exacting professionalism that it takes to be a representative of nearly a million people within the great State of Texas. God bless you and thanks, Mom.

**President:** Senator Fallon.

**Senator Fallon:** Patsy, thank you. And I'm going to be incredibly brief because I have a 12-year old and a nine-year old that want to see their dad, and I got a U-Haul I'm about to get. But when I get home, I'm going to hug them, I'm going to spend quality time with them, and I'm going to put them to bed because I know that's you'd want me to do. And we love you, and we respect you, and for 19 months we're going to miss you, but we'll see you in '21. Thank you.

**President:** And they all promise to be much better about bringing all those slips up and bothering you. If we're all better, she'll come back. You know, if you're all better, she'll come back. We promise. Senator Hughes.

**Senator Hughes:** President, thank you. Mrs. Spaw, it's been said so well and there are a number of threads that have run through these remarks, and I'm reminded of the title of a, a steward. It's not a term we use very much but a steward, of course, is someone whom you trust with very important matters. Someone who you know will discharge them well and there's a verse over in 1 Corinthians that says, it is required in stewards that one be found faithful. And of all these adjectives, and there, the English language doesn't give us enough, but of all these adjectives and all these attributes, I would say you are faithfulness. We know that what we entrust you with and even what we don't know to ask, we know that everything you're handling will be done well. So, thank you for being faithful. Thank you for using all your gifts and all your talents to bless us and to bless the people of Texas. And, Mr. President, this may be premature as remarks are being made, but, and maybe ironic to put more work on Ms. Spaw's staff, but I would move that all the remarks made this afternoon about Ms. Spaw be reduced to writing and placed in the Journal.

**President:** And I'm sure the ladies will not mind. Remember you have until the end of August, so take your time, under the heading of big momma. Anyone object to the motion to put everything in writing? We have a few more who wish to speak, Senator Powell, Senator Taylor, and Senator Perry. Senator Powell.

**Senator Powell:** Patsy, on election night you start to wonder when the votes are tallied exactly what you've gotten yourself into. And the morning after, you are really wondering what the heck is going to happen to me now. And I distinctly remember very early on, my staff made an appointment for me to talk to you on the phone. This was long after I had talked to many of my colleagues on the Senate floor, and I could feel that stress sort of rising with every conversation. And so, on the day that I had my telephone conversation with you, it was the first moment at which I began to realize I can really do this thing, because I knew that there was a friend who was going to look out for my interest, who was going to protect me from freshman mistakes, and who was going to introduce me to a new work environment that was totally foreign to me. And from the first day that I saw your precious smile and your smiling grace, I felt all of that stress fall away from me when we went through our orientation and you made all of these freshmen so comfortable with the path that was ahead of us. And then every single day on this floor, hour after hour after hour, you became the person that we could all depend on. You became the person that we knew was, knew what we were going to vote before we voted it. You were the person who we could take our card to and know we were in good hands with you. And so, of all the gratitude that I feel to so many of my colleagues, I feel especially grateful to you for having shepherded me through this first session and for having done it with such loving, kind, beautiful grace. So, Patsy, thank you.

**President:** Senator Taylor.

**Senator Taylor:** Thank you, Mr. President. You know every sailor knows that a boat needs a good rudder to maintain a steady course. Patsy Spaw, you are the Texas Senate's rudder. Your love for this institution maintains the high standards that we enjoy in this body. Your love for each Member makes each one of us feel like we have a special kinship that you, and that you are taking special care of each one of us. Your calm demeanor, sometimes in daunting circumstances, provides a calming influence

over this body when we need it the most. And we can just look at you, you're steady as a rock, and that smile, and sometimes the nice admonition done quietly and softly to say you might want to not do that. It's appreciated by all of us, big momma, the parenting sometimes we all need because we're all away from our parents up here. We love and appreciate you as a very special person who's been called out to serve in a very unique role. Thank you for what you do, thank you for who you are, and thank you all for, for what all you do for our state. I ask that God bless you, the sacrifices you've made on behalf of the Senate, and your family. Thank you, Patsy.

**President:** Thank you, Senator. Senator Perry.

**Senator Perry:** Lucky me, I'm last, I guess. I wasn't really going to speak but hearing everybody. When I got elected I heard from my predecessors, Montford, Hance, and Duncan, it's a special place. And they kept talking about this special place. And I thought, man, that's a lot of work. And, you know, I figured out real quick that when you get here there is a spirit. I mean it's the Patsy Spaw spirit. And it's a continuation of Betty King. I didn't have the privilege of knowing her, but there is something that when things are special there's an "it" factor and intangible and it's you and it's that spirit. Without you it would just be hard work and sometimes almost unbearable. I think most people would agree on this floor some of the things and the challenges we make. You know, something as simple as don't wear jeans. I'm reminded when I was growing up, go to church, you know, you put on your Sunday best. You bring your A game, you bring your best when you show up on the floor. And part of that's because we're expected to, to be our best. When we get elected, our constituents want us to be our best. But I think if we're all honest with ourselves, we don't want to disappoint Patsy Spaw. We have such a high mark that we look to, and I think a lot of our, whether we recognize it or not, there's a, a, a constant feeling that we want to make sure we don't upset Patsy, because she expects the best, because she is the best. You walk the walk. You're not going to outwork her. You're not going to be here longer than she is. You're professional at every level. The people that you touch, the young mentors, your mentorship hasn't been spoke to, but every one of these interns that we see working these floors, they end up, two or three years, four years down the road as committee clerks. And I don't think we can ever underestimate you've got to have a bench. You know, we as elected officials are come and go. There's got to be a bench in the institution, and you are that coach that treats these kids and teaches them how to become young professionals and adults in a very serious business. We change the lives with every vote. Thirty million people are different with every single vote. And that's your impact, but I want to tell you I think we're all better and we're at our best when we ascribe to be like Patsy Spaw. Thank you for your contribution.

**President:** Thank you, Senator. And, Patsy, I'll just close before we adopt the resolution of, first of all I want to apologize for singing from this microphone with Royce West a couple of years ago. I think that was probably outside the blue jean limit. So, I know you were horrified. And you're right, Charles, I realize I disappointed big momma, and I'll never ever do that again. I can't imagine standing here, eight years on the floor and now six years here, without you being here. So, you can't leave. You know, God has been lifted up this session in this body, and we all

know it. From Larry Taylor on the floor, to Senator Whitmire on the floor, to our Bible study the other day, to that incredible prayer yesterday, Senator West. And I believe that God has been lifted up because I know God resides in the heart and soul of that woman. And she, she has made us all better people and better Senators, and she has made us realize who we really represent, first and foremost, our God and the 30 million people of Texas. And we love you, Patsy. Thank you. Members, Senator Whitmire, make a motion.

**Senator Whitmire:** I ask Patsy to receive the flowers. And, Members, we have a photo of when Patsy started to work in this body and a current picture. Patsy, we want you to keep that near and dear, it's symbolic of our love for you and the flowers that Senator Hughes will give you, and wonderful day, Mr. President. Thank you.

**President:** Wonderful day. Members, the motion is adopted.

### AT EASE

The President at 3:42 p.m. announced the Senate would stand At Ease subject to the call of the Chair.

### IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The President at 3:51 p.m. called the Senate to order as In Legislative Session.

### BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS SIGNED

The President announced the signing of the following enrolled bills and resolutions in the presence of the Senate after the captions had been read:

#### SCR 65.

**HB 5, HB 29, HB 69, HB 101, HB 279, HB 292, HB 356, HB 368, HB 396, HB 406, HB 463, HB 489, HB 515, HB 539, HB 555, HB 651, HB 685, HB 687, HB 696, HB 706, HB 771, HB 803, HB 831, HB 956, HB 996, HB 1112, HB 1135, HB 1343, HB 1401, HB 1404, HB 1474, HB 1524, HB 1532, HB 1574, HB 1614, HB 1697, HB 1709, HB 1771, HB 1850, HB 1900, HB 2042, HB 2305, HB 2318, HB 2363, HB 2364, HB 2365, HB 2718, HB 2757, HB 2794, HB 2810, HB 2813, HB 2816, HB 2856, HB 3091, HB 3117, HB 3124, HB 3145, HB 3147, HB 3163, HB 3203, HB 3247, HB 3252, HB 3306, HB 3314, HB 3345, HB 3428, HB 3522, HB 3635, HB 3703, HB 3704, HB 3716, HB 3884, HB 3965, HB 4075, HB 4129, HB 4158, HB 4166, HB 4258, HB 4350, HB 4559, HB 4635, HB 4672, HB 4673, HB 4674, HB 4698, HB 4704, HB 4709, HB 4716, HB 4719, HB 4720, HB 4721, HB 4725, HB 4728, HB 4729, HB 4731, HB 4734, HB 4741, HB 4744, HB 4747, HB 4754, HB 4762, HCR 76, HCR 86, HCR 117, HCR 148, HCR 177, HCR 180.**

### PRESENTATION OF GAVEL

The President presented a gavel to Senator Hughes for serving as Chair of the Senate Committee on Administration.

### MOTION IN WRITING

Senator Hughes offered the following Motion In Writing:

Mr. President:

I move that a committee of five members of the Senate be appointed by the President to notify the Governor that the Senate has completed its legislative duties and is preparing to adjourn Sine Die.

HUGHES

The Motion In Writing was read and prevailed without objection.

Accordingly, the President appointed the following Committee to Notify the Governor: Senators Nelson, Chair; Taylor, Whitmire, Kolkhorst, and Lucio.

**MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR**

The following Messages from the Governor were read and were filed with the Secretary of the Senate:

STATE OF TEXAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

MESSAGE

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
OF THE EIGHTY-SIXTH TEXAS LEGISLATURE, REGULAR SESSION:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14 of the Texas Constitution, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby disapprove and veto Senate Bill No. 124 of the 86th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, due to the following objections:

Senate Bill 124 would have allowed commissioners courts to create a patchwork of bidding requirements, with some counties accepting hard-copy bids and others insisting on electronic bids. This would lay a trap for the unwary bidder. If the Legislature prefers electronic bidding, it should pursue consistency across the State.

Since you remain gathered in regular session and continue to conduct formal business, I am delivering this disapproval message directly to you along with the unsigned official enrolled copy of the bill.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Greg Abbott  
Governor of Texas

Austin, Texas  
May 27, 2019

STATE OF TEXAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

MESSAGE

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
OF THE EIGHTY-SIXTH TEXAS LEGISLATURE, REGULAR SESSION:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14 of the Texas Constitution, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby disapprove and veto Senate Bill No. 467 of the 86th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, due to the following objections:

Senate Bill 467 is not needed because it would require the State Commission on Judicial Conduct to take actions that it can already do without a statutory change

Since you remain gathered in regular session and continue to conduct formal business, I am delivering this disapproval message directly to you along with the unsigned official enrolled copy of the bill.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Greg Abbott

Governor of Texas

Austin, Texas  
May 27, 2019

STATE OF TEXAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

MESSAGE

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
OF THE EIGHTY-SIXTH TEXAS LEGISLATURE, REGULAR SESSION:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14 of the Texas Constitution, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby disapprove and veto Senate Bill No. 511 of the 86th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, due to the following objections:

Senate Bill 511 would authorize a new civil penalty for installing used tires on vehicles. While ensuring drivers' safety is a legitimate governmental objective, there is no real and substantial relationship between that goal and the way this law would function in practice. I vetoed similar legislation last session and must do so again because more regulation is not the answer to every problem. Texas needs fewer laws that impose regulatory burdens on small businesses and consumers.

Since you remain gathered in regular session and continue to conduct formal business, I am delivering this disapproval message directly to you along with the unsigned official enrolled copy of the bill.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Greg Abbott

Governor of Texas

Austin, Texas  
May 27, 2019

STATE OF TEXAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

MESSAGE

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
OF THE EIGHTY-SIXTH TEXAS LEGISLATURE, REGULAR SESSION:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14 of the Texas Constitution, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby disapprove and veto Senate Bill No. 536 of the 86th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, due to the following objections:

Senate Bill 536 highlights that the answer to a perceived problem cannot always be to throw more state money and bureaucracy at it. The Legislature has not shown that it is necessary to create new associate judgeships to specialize in guardianship proceedings, and Senate Bill 536 was misguided in its attempt to create this expensive new system. The Legislature should find a better way to address this issue.

Since you remain gathered in regular session and continue to conduct formal business, I am delivering this disapproval message directly to you along with the unsigned official enrolled copy of the bill.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Greg Abbott

Governor of Texas

Austin, Texas  
May 27, 2019

**RESOLUTIONS OF RECOGNITION**

The following resolutions were adopted by the Senate:

**Memorial Resolution**

**SR 861** by Hughes, In memory of William James Boring.

**Congratulatory Resolutions**

**SR 857** by Flores and Menéndez, Recognizing Rey A. Saldaña for his service on the San Antonio City Council.

**SR 858** by Hughes, Recognizing Marcus Hill for being named a Distinguished Alumni of Texas A&M University-Commerce.

**SR 859** by Hughes, Recognizing the Republican Women of Wood County on the occasion of its 20th anniversary.

**SR 860** by Hughes, Recognizing the Texas Travel Industry Association for its contributions.

**SR 866** by Zaffirini, Recognizing Mateo Simpson for being named 2019 Laredo Sector Border Patrol Youth of the Year.

**HCR 174** (Fallon), Paying tribute to Kenneth E. Stumpf on the occasion of the 2019 Medal of Honor Host City Weekend in Gainesville.

**HCR 175** (Fallon), Paying tribute to Patrick Henry Brady on the occasion of the 2019 Medal of Honor Host City Weekend in Gainesville.

### ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE

On motion of Senator Whitmire, the Senate of the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, at 4:00 p.m. agreed to adjourn sine die, in memory of Victor "Trae" Apodaca III, pending the completion of administrative duties and the receipt of messages from the House.

### BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS SIGNED

The President announced the signing of the following enrolled bills and resolutions in the presence of the Senate after the captions had been read:

**HB 8, HB 16, HB 19, HB 26, HB 36, HB 72, HB 76, HB 123, HB 170, HB 191, HB 207, HB 305, HB 391, HB 448, HB 475, HB 548, HB 601, HB 616, HB 721, HB 864, HB 872, HB 888, HB 906, HB 907, HB 914, HB 933, HB 963, HB 965, HB 1025, HB 1026, HB 1028, HB 1048, HB 1051, HB 1063, HB 1078, HB 1120, HB 1140, HB 1174, HB 1215, HB 1244, HB 1263, HB 1277, HB 1421, HB 1548, HB 1552, HB 1590, HB 1731, HB 1742, HB 1824, HB 1849, HB 1869, HB 1941, HB 1949, HB 1999, HB 2041, HB 2048, HB 2050, HB 2053, HB 2102, HB 2103, HB 2112, HB 2159, HB 2169, HB 2174, HB 2190, HB 2195, HB 2199, HB 2218, HB 2261, HB 2325, HB 2335, HB 2345, HB 2348, HB 2384, HB 2422, HB 2424, HB 2439, HB 2446, HB 2477, HB 2481, HB 2486, HB 2536, HB 2546, HB 2584, HB 2586, HB 2590, HB 2620, HB 2628, HB 2640, HB 2706, HB 2729, HB 2758, HB 2763, HB 2771, HB 2782, HB 2784, HB 2910, HB 2913, HB 2944, HB 2978, HB 2984, HB 3012, HB 3081, HB 3082, HB 3143, HB 3195, HB 3224, HB 3227, HB 3231, HB 3285, HB 3301, HB 3304, HB 3312, HB 3316, HB 3374, HB 3390, HB 3460, HB 3531, HB 3630, HB 3642, HB 3648, HB 3668, HB 3714, HB 3782, HB 3803, HB 3809, HB 3867, HB 3871, HB 3875, HB 3911, HB 3980, HB 4032, HB 4090, HB 4150, HB 4182, HB 4260, HB 4280, HB 4298, HB 4310, HB 4372, HB 4390, HB 4429, HB 4455, HB 4531, HB 4533, HB 4541, HB 4544, HB 4614, HB 4637, HB 4644, HB 4653, HB 4657, HB 4661, HB 4662, HB 4668, HB 4676, HB 4677, HB 4678, HB 4687, HB 4688, HB 4689, HB 4693, HB 4697, HB 4699, HB 4702, HB 4703, HB 4706, HB 4710, HB 4714, HB 4730, HB 4742, HB 4752.**

**HB 6, HB 234, HB 410, HB 492, HB 496, HB 510, HB 684, HB 700, HB 722, HB 766, HB 812, HB 994, HB 1313, HB 1399, HB 1495, HB 1504, HB 1545, HB 1576, HB 1584, HB 1634, HB 1734, HB 1735, HB 1833, HB 1962, HB 1973, HB 2065, HB 2143, HB 2155, HB 2210, HB 2287, HB 2402, HB 2463, HB 2524, HB 2587, HB 2747, HB 2764, HB 2858, HB 3148, HB 3193, HB 3222, HB 3317, HB 3420, HB 3582, HB 3636, HB 3745, HB 3834, HB 3842, HB 4120, HB 4388, HB 4542, HB 4749, HCR 172.**

**HB 109, HB 1053, HB 1177, HB 1397, HB 1523, HB 1755, HB 2726, HB 2847, HB 3284, HB 3371, HB 3557, HB 3800, HB 3808, HB 4181, HB 4686, HB 4712, HCR 181, HCR 182, HCR 183, HCR 184, HCR 185, HCR 186, HCR 187, HCR 189, HCR 190, HCR 191, HCR 192, HCR 193, HJR 34.  
HB 3, HB 680, HB 1806, HB 3906, HCR 174, HCR 175.**

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**APPENDIX**

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**BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS ENROLLED**

May 26, 2019

**SB 30, SB 390, SB 562, SB 568, SB 601, SB 619, SB 668, SB 911, SB 916, SB 944, SB 982, SB 1096, SB 1151, SB 1207, SB 1511, SB 1804, SB 1845, SB 1991, SB 2104, SB 2138, SB 2342, SB 2432, SB 2551, SR 834, SR 835, SR 838, SR 839, SR 842, SR 844, SR 845, SR 846, SR 847, SR 848, SR 849, SR 850, SR 852, SR 853, SR 856**

May 27, 2019

**SB 2, SB 6, SB 11, SB 12, SB 20, SB 500, SB 604, SB 616, SB 799, SB 815, SB 891, SB 1742, SCR 65, SCR 66, SCR 67, SR 843, SR 854, SR 855, SR 857, SR 858, SR 859, SR 860, SR 861, SR 862, SR 863, SR 864, SR 865, SR 866**

**SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**

May 27, 2019

**SB 1820**

**VETOED BY GOVERNOR**

May 27, 2019

**SB 124, SB 467, SB 511, SB 536**

**SENT TO COMPTROLLER**

May 28, 2019

**SB 500**

**SENT TO SECRETARY OF STATE**

May 28, 2019

**SCR 66, SCR 67, SJR 24, SJR 79**

**SENT TO GOVERNOR**

May 28, 2019

**SB 2, SB 6, SB 11, SB 12, SB 20, SB 30, SB 390, SB 562, SB 601, SB 604, SB 616, SB 619, SB 799, SB 815, SB 891, SB 911, SB 916, SB 944, SB 982, SB 1096, SB 1151, SB 1207, SB 1742, SB 1845, SB 1991, SB 2138, SB 2342, SB 2432, SB 2551, SCR 65**

**SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**

May 28, 2019

**SB 1236, SB 1276, SB 1306, SB 1413, SB 1420, SB 1512, SB 1557, SB 1571, SB 1720, SB 1780, SB 1802, SB 1821, SB 1950, SB 2131, SB 2449, SCR 2**

**FILED WITHOUT SIGNATURE OF GOVERNOR**

May 28, 2019

**SB 2469, SB 2481, SB 2517, SB 2527**

**SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**

May 31, 2019

**SB 228, SB 317, SB 354, SB 435, SB 442, SB 579, SB 624, SB 646, SB 822, SB 874, SB 893, SB 932, SB 1037, SB 1038, SB 1041, SB 1063, SB 1113, SB 1350, SB 1402, SB 1751, SB 2038**

June 2, 2019

**SB 557, SB 698, SB 781, SB 790, SB 821, SB 827, SB 1312, SB 1370, SB 1531, SB 1700, SB 1707, SB 1746, SB 1784**

June 4, 2019

**SB 20, SB 71, SB 73, SB 170, SB 195, SB 201, SB 282, SB 401, SB 430, SB 443, SB 476, SB 496, SB 522, SB 733, SB 935, SB 942, SB 1024, SB 1082, SB 1092, SB 1153, SB 1211, SB 1232, SB 1239, SB 1259, SB 1268, SB 1324, SB 1376, SB 1415, SB 1450, SB 1584, SB 1679, SB 1680, SB 1682, SB 1822, SB 1824, SB 1856, SB 1947, SB 2075, SB 2135, SB 2151, SB 2224, SB 2448, SCR 61, SCR 62**

**FILED WITHOUT SIGNATURE OF GOVERNOR**

June 4, 2019

**SB 1262, SB 2208, SB 2502**

**SENT TO GOVERNOR**

June 5, 2019

**SB 500**

**SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**June 5, 2019**SB 494****VETOED BY GOVERNOR**June 5, 2019**SB 1804****VETO PROCLAMATION**

The following Veto Proclamation by the Governor was filed in the Office of the Secretary of State:

PROCLAMATION  
BY THE  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14, of the Texas Constitution, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby disapprove of and veto Senate Bill No. 1804 as passed by the Eighty-Sixth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, because of the following objections:

Senate Bill 1804 was a laudable effort to address domestic violence, until someone slipped in an ill-considered giveaway to a radioactive waste disposal facility. Unfortunately, the bill author's good idea about domestic violence has been dragged down by a bad idea about radioactive waste.

Since the Eighty-Sixth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, by its adjournment has prevented the return of this bill, I am filing these objections in the office of the Secretary of State and giving notice thereof by this public proclamation according to the aforementioned constitutional provision.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed my name officially and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this 5th day of June, 2019.

(Seal)

/s/Greg Abbott  
Governor of Texas

ATTESTED BY:

/s/Joe Esparza  
Deputy Secretary of State

**SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**June 6, 2019**SB 11, SB 500**

June 7, 2019

**SB 14, SB 21, SB 22, SB 24, SB 26, SB 27, SB 30, SB 37, SB 40, SB 54, SB 64, SB 68, SB 372, SB 384, SB 405, SB 436, SB 437, SB 475, SB 479, SB 489, SB 530, SB 535, SB 548, SB 575, SB 607, SB 608, SB 615, SB 1180, SB 1184, SB 1189, SB 1801**

June 10, 2019

**SB 8, SB 12, SB 16, SB 18, SB 41, SB 58, SB 235, SB 237, SB 241, SB 284, SB 285, SB 289, SB 300, SB 322, SB 340, SB 341, SB 345, SB 362, SB 483, SB 493, SB 520, SB 563, SB 568, SB 569, SB 572, SB 583, SB 592, SB 601, SB 604, SB 616, SB 619, SB 668, SB 712, SB 747, SB 749, SB 750, SB 799, SB 810, SB 819, SB 820, SB 891, SB 907, SB 911, SB 916, SB 936, SB 948, SB 969, SB 976, SB 982, SB 986, SB 988, SB 1017, SB 1083, SB 1096, SB 1138, SB 1151, SB 1200, SB 1207, SB 1221, SB 1374, SB 1386, SB 1397, SB 1404, SB 1414, SB 1451, SB 1454, SB 1468, SB 1494, SB 1504, SB 1510, SB 1511, SB 1519, SB 1525, SB 1545, SB 1564, SB 1570, SB 1593, SB 1623, SB 1636, SB 1640, SB 1702, SB 1754, SB 1755, SB 1778, SB 1788, SB 1806, SB 1823, SB 1827, SB 1828, SB 1834, SB 1840, SB 1852, SB 1859, SB 1876, SB 1887, SB 1928, SB 1940, SB 1943, SB 1969, SB 1971, SB 1978, SB 1991, SB 1995, SB 2011, SB 2015, SB 2018, SB 2060, SB 2073, SB 2083, SB 2104, SB 2111, SB 2117, SB 2128, SB 2136, SB 2138, SB 2143, SB 2156, SB 2168, SB 2200, SB 2212, SB 2215, SB 2270, SB 2272, SB 2283, SB 2286, SB 2293, SB 2296, SB 2309, SB 2315, SB 2330, SB 2342, SB 2410, SB 2432, SB 2531, SB 2535, SB 2551, SB 2552, SCR 7, SCR 58, SCR 59, SCR 64, SCR 65**

**FILED WITHOUT SIGNATURE OF GOVERNOR**

June 10, 2019

**SB 1336, SB 1422, SB 1621, SB 1835, SB 2445, SB 2530, SB 2558**

**SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**

June 12, 2019

**SB 2**

June 13, 2019

**SB 6, SB 7**

June 14, 2019

**SB 25, SB 65, SB 69, SB 139, SB 194, SB 198, SB 207, SB 212, SB 230, SB 232, SB 339, SB 357, SB 502, SB 504, SB 562, SB 632, SB 633, SB 662, SB 670, SB 683, SB 688, SB 700, SB 706, SB 708, SB 709, SB 711, SB 719, SB 741, SB 748, SB 751, SB 772, SB 869, SB 902, SB 943, SB 944, SB 981, SB 1056, SB 1091, SB 1125, SB 1147, SB 1152, SB 1177, SB 1210, SB 1214, SB 1217, SB 1219, SB 1230, SB 1231, SB 1238, SB 1264, SB 1271, SB 1283, SB 1303, SB 1311, SB 1337, SB 1441, SB 1474, SB 1476, SB 1582, SB 1642, SB 1742, SB 1915, SB 2119, SB 2223, SB 2248, SB 2364, SB 2409, SB 2452**

**FILED WITHOUT SIGNATURE OF GOVERNOR**June 14, 2019**SB 31, SB 355, SB 386, SB 658, SB 952, SB 1164, SB 1757, SB 1845, SB 2137, SB 2553****SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**June 15, 2019**SB 38, SB 560, SB 962, SB 1497****FILED WITHOUT SIGNATURE OF GOVERNOR**June 15, 2019**SB 346****VETOED BY GOVERNOR**June 15, 2019**SB 390, SB 550, SB 667, SB 815, SB 1319, SB 1575, SB 1793, SB 1861, SB 2456****VETO PROCLAMATIONS**

The following Veto Proclamations by the Governor were filed in the Office of the Secretary of State:

PROCLAMATION  
BY THE  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14, of the Texas Constitution, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby disapprove of and veto Senate Bill No. 390 as passed by the Eighty-Sixth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, because of the following objections:

Senate Bill 390 would create, within Houston city limits, a municipal management district that would be governed by a self-perpetuating board appointed by the city and would impose assessments on property to fund services that the city already has a responsibility to provide to area residents. This goes too far. Creating districts like these within city limits undermines core principles of protecting taxpayers and promoting transparency, which led to historic achievements this session in Senate Bill 2. It is tantamount to double taxation on the district's property owners, forcing them to pay an ad valorem tax to the city and another assessment to the district. The creation of a municipal management district, or any special purpose district, should not be used to circumvent property-tax reforms.

Since the Eighty-Sixth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, by its adjournment has prevented the return of this bill, I am filing these objections in the office of the Secretary of State and giving notice thereof by this public proclamation according to the aforementioned constitutional provision.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed my name officially and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this 15th day of June, 2019.

(Seal)

/s/Greg Abbott  
Governor of Texas

ATTESTED BY:

/s/Joe Esparza  
Deputy Secretary of State

PROCLAMATION  
BY THE  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14, of the Texas Constitution, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby disapprove of and veto Senate Bill No. 550 as passed by the Eighty-Sixth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, because of the following objections:

I vetoed similar legislation in 2015 and must do so again here. Convicted criminals should have a pathway to reintegrating into society after they complete their sentences, and the law rightfully allows them to clear their records in certain circumstances. For example, this session I have signed into law Senate Bill 20, which expands the ability of human trafficking victims to seek orders of nondisclosure. Senate Bill 550, however, would allow individuals who were convicted of violent felonies to hide their dangerous conduct from society and from potential employers. I look forward to working with the next Legislature on a more tailored approach.

Since the Eighty-Sixth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, by its adjournment has prevented the return of this bill, I am filing these objections in the office of the Secretary of State and giving notice thereof by this public proclamation according to the aforementioned constitutional provision.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed my name officially and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this 15th day of June, 2019.

(Seal)

/s/Greg Abbott  
Governor of Texas

ATTESTED BY:

/s/Joe Esparza  
Deputy Secretary of State

PROCLAMATION  
BY THE  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14, of the Texas Constitution, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby disapprove of and veto Senate Bill No. 667 as passed by the Eighty-Sixth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, because of the following objections:

Senate Bill 667 would make a number of improvements to the law governing probate and guardianship matters, but they unfortunately cannot take effect this session because of a section of the bill that would create new public guardianship offices controlled by counties. It has not been shown that it is necessary to add permanent county offices dedicated to this function. Private attorneys are capable of handling these cases without the expense of this new bureaucracy.

Since the Eighty-Sixth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, by its adjournment has prevented the return of this bill, I am filing these objections in the office of the Secretary of State and giving notice thereof by this public proclamation according to the aforementioned constitutional provision.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed my name officially and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this 15th day of June, 2019.

(Seal)

/s/Greg Abbott  
Governor of Texas

ATTESTED BY:

/s/Joe Esparza  
Deputy Secretary of State

PROCLAMATION  
BY THE  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14, of the Texas Constitution, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby disapprove of and veto Senate Bill No. 815 as passed by the Eighty-Sixth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, because of the following objections:

The law requires that arrested individuals be brought before a magistrate to be informed about the charges against them and to receive important warnings about their rights. Records must be made of these communications, and while a statute currently fixes the periods for which courts must retain the records, Senate Bill 815 would instead have delegated

to an agency the discretion to set—and change—the retention periods. Administrative flexibility is not a virtue in this instance. The Legislature should be the one to provide clear direction on this issue.

Since the Eighty-Sixth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, by its adjournment has prevented the return of this bill, I am filing these objections in the office of the Secretary of State and giving notice thereof by this public proclamation according to the aforementioned constitutional provision.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed my name officially and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this 15th day of June, 2019.

(Seal)

/s/Greg Abbott  
Governor of Texas

ATTESTED BY:

/s/Joe Esparza  
Deputy Secretary of State

PROCLAMATION  
BY THE  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14, of the Texas Constitution, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby disapprove of and veto Senate Bill No. 1319 as passed by the Eighty-Sixth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, because of the following objections:

The author of Senate Bill 1319 had the right idea in imposing additional reporting requirements for hotel occupancy taxes. Taxpayers deserve that kind of transparency. But the bill was amended by others to add pet projects that would allow a single county and a single city to have an existing tax, previously enacted for a particular purpose, "converted" by election into a different tax for a different purpose. This tax "conversion" process would have misled voters, masking the reality that such an election is for a new tax by failing to inform them that they could simply allow the existing tax to expire. I applaud the author for his original concept and look forward to approving it next session, without the counterproductive amendments.

Since the Eighty-Sixth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, by its adjournment has prevented the return of this bill, I am filing these objections in the office of the Secretary of State and giving notice thereof by this public proclamation according to the aforementioned constitutional provision.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed my name officially and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this 15th day of June, 2019.

(Seal)

/s/Greg Abbott  
Governor of Texas

ATTESTED BY:

/s/Joe Esparza  
Deputy Secretary of State

PROCLAMATION  
BY THE  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14, of the Texas Constitution, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby disapprove of and veto Senate Bill No. 1575 as passed by the Eighty-Sixth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, because of the following objections:

Disaster-recovery tools are critically important in Texas, and this session I have signed into law important legislation that will help Texans rebuild from prior disasters and prepare for future ones. But Senate Bill 1575 goes too far in shielding municipalities from being sued for all sorts of contracts they may enter into for an unspecified period after a disaster declaration. I look forward to working with the Legislature on a more tailored approach to this issue next session.

Since the Eighty-Sixth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, by its adjournment has prevented the return of this bill, I am filing these objections in the office of the Secretary of State and giving notice thereof by this public proclamation according to the aforementioned constitutional provision.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed my name officially and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this 15th day of June, 2019.

(Seal)

/s/Greg Abbott  
Governor of Texas

ATTESTED BY:

/s/Joe Esparza  
Deputy Secretary of State

PROCLAMATION  
BY THE  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14, of the Texas Constitution, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby disapprove of and veto Senate Bill No. 1793 as passed by the Eighty-Sixth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, because of the following objections:

Senate Bill 1793 would have given government lawyers a pass on filling out a nepotism disclosure form prescribed by the State Auditor's Office. For procurement contracts worth at least \$1 million, this form compels agency employees to disclose relationships with, and direct or indirect pecuniary interests in, any party to the proposed contract with the state agency. Uncovering such ties to a potential vendor is important even if the procurement employee happens to be a member in good standing of the Texas Bar. Government lawyers should fill out the same nepotism disclosure form as everyone else at the agency.

Since the Eighty-Sixth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, by its adjournment has prevented the return of this bill, I am filing these objections in the office of the Secretary of State and giving notice thereof by this public proclamation according to the aforementioned constitutional provision.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed my name officially and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this 15th day of June, 2019.

(Seal)

/s/Greg Abbott  
Governor of Texas

ATTESTED BY:

/s/Joe Esparza  
Deputy Secretary of State

PROCLAMATION  
BY THE  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14, of the Texas Constitution, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby disapprove of and veto Senate Bill No. 1861 as passed by the Eighty-Sixth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, because of the following objections:

Public facility corporations are a way for government entities to get in the business of affordable housing and issue conduit debt. To the extent Senate Bill 1861 would encourage taxing entities, including school districts and community colleges, to engage in activities that are outside of their core missions, it would distract those entities from improving student outcomes. Schools and community colleges should focus on educating students, and House Bill 3 provides the necessary resources to accomplish that goal.

Since the Eighty-Sixth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, by its adjournment has prevented the return of this bill, I am filing these objections in the office of the Secretary of State and giving notice thereof by this public proclamation according to the aforementioned constitutional provision.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed my name officially and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this 15th day of June, 2019.

(Seal)

/s/Greg Abbott  
Governor of Texas

ATTESTED BY:

/s/Joe Esparza  
Deputy Secretary of State

PROCLAMATION  
BY THE  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14, of the Texas Constitution, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby disapprove of and veto Senate Bill No. 2456 as passed by the Eighty-Sixth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, because of the following objections:

Municipal management districts typically serve as a financing mechanism for commercial, residential, or entertainment development, but sometimes they are misused to supplant services that a city should provide, resulting in double taxation for district residents. Senate Bill 2456 illustrates the problem. It would give the Karis Municipal Management District, located within the City of Crowley, new powers to perform a litany of services paid for by assessments on property within the district. The services range from police and fire protection to the construction and permitting of public concession facilities. These are services that residents should expect the city to provide, using taxes the city imposes. Yet Senate Bill 2456 would allow the district to impose additional assessments for these services. Property owners should not be forced to pay both residential property taxes to the city and residential assessments to the district. Giving this district such expansive authority would reduce transparency and circumvent the taxpayer protections in Senate Bill 2.

Since the Eighty-Sixth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, by its adjournment has prevented the return of this bill, I am filing these objections in the office of the Secretary of State and giving notice thereof by this public proclamation according to the aforementioned constitutional provision.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed my name officially and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this 15th day of June, 2019.

(Seal)

/s/Greg Abbott  
Governor of Texas

ATTESTED BY:

/s/Joe Esparza  
Deputy Secretary of State

**In Memory**  
**of**  
**Victor "Trae" Apodaca III**  
**Senate Resolution 862**

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joins the citizens of El Paso in mourning the loss of Victor "Trae" Apodaca III, who died April 23, 2019, at the age of 55; and

WHEREAS, Born September 5, 1963, Trae Apodaca was an esteemed member of the community, and he enriched the lives of all who knew him through his kind nature, his gentle spirit, and his sincere concern for others; and

WHEREAS, Trae demonstrated a desire to help others while still a young man, and he took great joy in teaching his sister how to swim and drive a car; his thoughtfulness remained steadfast throughout his life, and he was noted for actively supporting his loved ones' professions, interests, and hobbies; and

WHEREAS, Trae's true passion was in the hospitality business, and he enjoyed a long career as the owner of Café Central, a premier upscale restaurant in Downtown El Paso; he became a local icon of the restaurant industry, and he sold his establishment in 2009 after 18 years of running the business; he then entered the bail bond business as the owner and operator of Apodaca Bail Bonds; and

WHEREAS, A loving and supportive family man, Trae shared a life of devotion with Shirlyn Apodaca, and he was blessed with three children, who enriched his life immeasurably; and

WHEREAS, Trae Apodaca cherished time spent with friends and loved ones, and he was always there for them in times of need; he was known for his love of family, food, dogs, and good wine, and he will long be remembered with respect and admiration by all who were privileged to share in his life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 86th Legislature, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of Victor Apodaca III; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Victor Apodaca III.

RODRÍGUEZ