

SENATE JOURNAL

EIGHTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE — REGULAR SESSION

AUSTIN, TEXAS

PROCEEDINGS

THIRD DAY

(Wednesday, January 29, 2025)

The Senate met at 11:09 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, Blanco, Campbell, Cook, Creighton, Eckhardt, Flores, Gutierrez, Hagenbuch, Hall, Hancock, A. Hinojosa, J. Hinojosa, Huffman, Hughes, Johnson, King, Kolkhorst, Menéndez, Middleton, Miles, Nichols, Parker, Paxton, Perry, Schwertner, Sparks, West, Zaffirini.

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

Pastor Brett McDonald, Central Baptist Church, Round Rock, offered the invocation as follows:

Father, thank You for the opportunity to pray for this body. I am asking You to help them. Please guide them today as they gather in service to the people of the great State of Texas. Give them clarity and focus as they govern. Lead them by Your spirit to protect the innocent, uphold justice, and build a future where Texans can thrive in liberty and peace. I pray in Your holy name. Amen.

Senator Zaffirini 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.

GUEST PRESENTED

Senator Flores, joined by Senators J. Hinojosa and Campbell, was recognized and introduced to the Senate a Texas Police Chiefs Association Day delegation including John Ortis, Ronnie Strain, Jim Kohler, Glen Hanson, Gary McHone, Eddie Wilson, Carrie Ellis, Justin Soza, Shawn Reynolds, Richard Garcia, Jaime Ayala, and Kirby Warnke.

The Senate welcomed its guests.

PHYSICIAN OF THE DAY

Senator Nichols was recognized and presented Dr. Joshua Splinter, of Athens as the Physician of the Day.

The Senate welcomed Dr. Splinter, accompanied by Sarah Jethro, and thanked him for his participation in the Physician of the Day program sponsored by the Texas Academy of Family Physicians.

(Senator Schwertner in Chair)

SENATE RESOLUTION 16

Senator Miles offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Proud members of the South Central Region of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., are gathering in Austin on January 29, 2025, to celebrate Alpha Kappa Alpha Day at the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, The nation's first Greek sorority for African American women, Alpha Kappa Alpha was founded as a social and service organization on January 15, 1908, by Howard University undergraduate Ethel Hedgeman Lyle and 19 other students; these inspiring women are today known as "the Twenty Pearls"; and

WHEREAS, The sorority seeks to cultivate and encourage high scholastic and ethical standards, to promote unity and friendship among college women, to improve the social stature of women of all ages, and to be of service to all mankind; a member of the National Pan-Hellenic Council, Alpha Kappa Alpha serves people around the world through the efforts of more than 360,000 members in over 1,000 chapters located in the United States, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Bahamas, Bermuda, Canada, Germany, South Korea, Japan, the United Arab Emirates, Liberia, Nigeria, and South Africa; and

WHEREAS, For more than a century, the group has made a positive difference with its important work in the areas of civil rights, education, economic empowerment, and health care; under the leadership of the sorority's 31st international president, Danette Anthony Reed, Alpha Kappa Alpha continues to focus on the personal and professional development of its members, on the bonds of sisterhood, and on its domestic and international servant leadership; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., has long remained at the forefront of effective advocacy and social change, and its members' efforts have made an important contribution to the goals of equality and equity for all citizens of the world; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 89th Texas Legislature hereby recognize January 29, 2025, as Alpha Kappa Alpha Day at the State Capitol and extend a warm welcome to the sorority's visiting delegation.

SR 16 was read and was adopted without objection.

GUESTS PRESENTED

Senator Miles was recognized and introduced to the Senate an Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, delegation including South Central Regional Director Dr. Shawn E. Simmons; South Central Representative to the International Connections and Social Action Committee DeMetris Sampson, Esq.; Texas Connections Coordinator and AKA Day at the Capitol Chairman Kelly Hodges; AKA Day at the Capitol Co-chairman Dr. Darlene Breaux; and AKA Day at the Capitol

Steering Committee sponsor Priscilla Barbour Randle; joined by Carmen Turner, Carol West, wife of Senator West; Cydonii Miles, wife of Senator Miles; and Diedra Fontaine, sister of Senator Miles.

The Senate welcomed its guests.

SENATE RESOLUTION 9

Senator Perry offered the following resolution:

SR 9, Recognizing January 29, 2025, as Texas American Public Works Association Day.

The resolution was read and was adopted without objection.

GUESTS PRESENTED

Senator Perry was recognized and introduced to the Senate the American Public Works Association, Texas Chapter, delegation including Dorothy Bergesen, Jason Kirby, Sharon Valiante, Alan Greer, John Warnement, Matt Froehlich, and Angela Johnson.

The Senate welcomed its guests.

SENATE RESOLUTION 10

Senator Perry offered the following resolution:

SR 10, Congratulating Heather Keister of Lubbock on being named the 2024 Engineer of the Year.

The resolution was read and was adopted without objection.

GUEST PRESENTED

Senator Perry was recognized and introduced to the Senate Heather Keister, American Public Works Association, Texas Chapter.

The Senate welcomed its guest.

GUESTS PRESENTED

Senator A. Hinojosa was recognized and introduced to the Senate a City of Brownsville delegation including Mayor John Cowen.

The Senate welcomed its guests.

RESOLUTION SIGNED

The Presiding Officer announced the signing of the following enrolled resolution in the presence of the Senate: **HCR 54**.

SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were offered:

SR 13 by A. Hinojosa, Recognizing January 29, 2025, as Brownsville Day.

SR 18 by Huffman, In memory of Michael Shannon Ewing.

The resolutions were read and adopted without objection.

MOTION IN WRITING

Senator Zaffirini offered the following Motion In Writing:

Mr. President:

I move to suspend Senate Rule 11.13 so that committees may meet during the reading and referral of bills.

ZAFFIRINI

The Motion In Writing was read and prevailed without objection.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 142

On motion of Senator Menéndez, Senator Alvarado will be shown as Co-author of **SB 142**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 144

On motion of Senator Menéndez, Senator Alvarado will be shown as Co-author of **SB 144**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 145

On motion of Senator Menéndez, Senator Alvarado will be shown as Co-author of **SB 145**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 146

On motion of Senator Menéndez, Senator Alvarado will be shown as Co-author of **SB 146**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 147

On motion of Senator Menéndez, Senator Alvarado will be shown as Co-author of **SB 147**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 148

On motion of Senator Menéndez, Senator Alvarado will be shown as Co-author of **SB 148**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 161

On motion of Senator Menéndez, Senator Flores will be shown as Co-author of **SB 161**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 163

On motion of Senator Menéndez, Senator Alvarado will be shown as Co-author of **SB 163**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 164

On motion of Senator Menéndez, Senator Alvarado will be shown as Co-author of **SB 164**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 169

On motion of Senator Menéndez, Senator Alvarado will be shown as Co-author of **SB 169**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 260

On motion of Senator Huffman, Senator Flores will be shown as Co-author of **SB 260**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 371

On motion of Senator Campbell, Senator Bettencourt will be shown as Co-author of **SB 371**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 469

On motion of Senator Sparks, Senator Perry will be shown as Co-author of **SB 469**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 500

On motion of Senator Sparks, Senator Hall will be shown as Co-author of **SB 500**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 513

On motion of Senator Sparks, Senator Perry will be shown as Co-author of **SB 513**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 843

On motion of Senator Kolkhorst, Senator Bettencourt will be shown as Co-author of **SB 843**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 855

On motion of Senator Sparks, Senator Perry will be shown as Co-author of **SB 855**.

RECESS AND MOTION TO ADJOURN

On motion of Senator Zaffirini and by unanimous consent, the Senate at 11:52 a.m. agreed to recess until 10:00 a.m. Monday, February 3, 2025, for the introduction of bills and resolutions on first reading.

The Senate further agreed to adjourn, upon completion of the introduction of bills and resolutions on first reading, until 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, February 4, 2025.

APPENDIX

COMMITTEE REPORT

The following committee report was received by the Secretary of the Senate:

January 29, 2025

EDUCATION K-16 — **SB 2**

RESOLUTIONS ENROLLEDJanuary 29, 2025**SR 9, SR 10, SR 13, SR 16, SR 18**