

SENATE JOURNAL

EIGHTIETH LEGISLATURE — REGULAR SESSION

AUSTIN, TEXAS

PROCEEDINGS

THIRTIETH DAY

(Wednesday, March 21, 2007)

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: Averitt, Brimer, Carona, Deuell, Duncan, Ellis, Eltife, Estes, Fraser, Harris, Hegar, Hinojosa, Jackson, Janek, Lucio, Nelson, Nichols, Ogden, Patrick, Seliger, Shapiro, Shapleigh, Uresti, Van de Putte, Watson, West, Whitmire, Williams, Zaffirini.

Absent-excused: Gallegos, Wentworth.

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

The Reverend Justin A. Lindstrom, Saint Aidan's Episcopal Church, Cypress, offered the invocation as follows:

Holy and gracious God, the fountain of all wisdom, whose will is good and gracious and whose law is truth, I give You humble thanks for the elected officials of our great State of Texas, especially on this day for our Senators assembled here. I give You thanks for their willingness to serve and their dedication to our citizens. Almighty God, pour Your blessing upon them, guide them in the decisions that they make that they would be right and just. I pray that they would uphold the integrity of their office in all that they do, all that they say, and in all that they are. Give them strength to struggle when answers do not come easy. Give them knowledge to find new ways of doing things. Give them the courage to persevere. Give them servants' hearts to always put Your will ahead of theirs. Guide them, lead them, and direct them, O God. In Your holy name I pray. Amen.

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

The motion prevailed without objection.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

On motion of Senator Whitmire, Senator Gallegos was granted leave of absence for today on account of illness.

On motion of Senator Whitmire, Senator Wentworth was granted leave of absence for today on account of important business.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 12

On motion of Senator Averitt, Senator Hinojosa will be shown as Co-author of **SB 12**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 127

On motion of Senator Shapleigh, Senator Lucio will be shown as Co-author of **SB 127**.

PHYSICIAN OF THE DAY

Senator Nichols was recognized and presented Dr. Katie Youngblood of Conroe as the Physician of the Day.

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

BILLS SIGNED

The President announced the signing of the following enrolled bills in the presence of the Senate after the captions had been read: **SB 378, HB 2061**.

GUESTS PRESENTED

Senator Seliger was recognized and introduced to the Senate a delegation of students and professors from The University of Texas of the Permian Basin.

The Senate welcomed its guests.

SENATE RESOLUTION 534

Senator Estes offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The 4-H Youth Development Program of Texas had its beginning in 1908 with the founding of the Jack County Boy's Corn Club by Thomas M. Marks, who taught 25 farm boys how to grow corn using improved production methods; and

WHEREAS, Establishment of the Milam County Girl's Tomato Clubs by Edna Trigg followed in 1912, through which girls learned better production and canning methods for homegrown tomatoes; and

WHEREAS, Learning opportunities for African American boys and girls were initiated in 1914 by the forerunner of Prairie View A&M University; youths learned to grow vegetable gardens and raise poultry to supplement their family diets; and

WHEREAS, The Texas 4-H Youth Development Program known today evolved from these educational outreach efforts and movements throughout the 1920s to begin similar youth groups; and

WHEREAS, The 4-H pledge and motto extol wise and productive use of the four Hs, which stand for Head, Heart, Hands, and Health in order "To Make The Best Better"; and

WHEREAS, The 4-H Youth Development Program prepares Texas youths for the future by helping them to practice life skills, develop strong character, and improve their readiness for the workplace and college; and

WHEREAS, The members of 4-H and their families have made many worthwhile contributions to the citizens of Texas and this nation, and they continue to do so today through programs such as Operation Military Kids, which supports young people who have parents serving in the military or the reserves; and

WHEREAS, During its history in Texas, 4-H has involved more than six million boys and girls in educational and developmental programs, which have contributed significantly to the quality of life for these young people and their families; and

WHEREAS, These programs are conducted by extension employees and extension-trained volunteers under the administration of the Texas Cooperative Extension and the Prairie View A&M Cooperative Extension Program, both of which are part of the Texas A&M University System; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby proclaim the period from September 1, 2007, to August 31, 2008, the Centennial Anniversary of 4-H in Texas and recognize extension employees and volunteers who support 4-H for their commendable service to the people of this state and to almost 659,000 Texas youths currently enrolled in the 4-H Youth Development Program; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared in honor of the 4-H Youth Development Program of Texas.

SR 534 was read and was adopted without objection.

GUESTS PRESENTED

Senator Estes was recognized and introduced to the Senate representatives of the Texas 4-H Youth Development Program: Dr. Martha Couch, Associate Director; Morgan Wilson, 1st Vice-president; Dan Patterson, President; Dr. Linda Williams-Willis, Dean, Prairie View A&M University; and Dr. Ed Smith, Director, Texas Cooperative Extension; accompanied by a delegation of Texas 4-H members.

The Senate welcomed its guests.

SENATE RESOLUTION 527

Senator Uresti offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to join the citizens of Crockett County in celebrating March 21, 2007, as Crockett County Day at the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, Named for the celebrated hero of the Alamo, David Crockett, the county was organized in 1891; the town of Ozona serves as the county seat and is the county's only town; and

WHEREAS, Ranching, oil, hunting, and tourism drive Crockett County's economy, and the county is among the nation's leaders in wool and mohair production; and

WHEREAS, Crockett County is home to Fort Lancaster, which was used to protect settlers' and troops' movements between San Antonio and El Paso and is now a state historic site; the Crockett County Museum offers a fascinating look into the history of West Texas through its displays on Native American artifacts and pioneer memorabilia; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby proclaim March 21, 2007, Crockett County Day at the State Capitol and extend best wishes to the county's delegation for a memorable visit to Austin; and, be it further

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

SR 527 was read and was adopted without objection.

GUESTS PRESENTED

Senator Uresti was recognized and introduced to the Senate Fred Deaton, Crockett County Judge; Randy Branch and Alfredo Tobar, Crockett County Commissioners; and John Stokes, Crockett County Auditor; accompanied by a delegation of citizens from Crockett County.

The Senate welcomed its guests.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

HOUSE CHAMBER

Austin, Texas

March 21, 2007

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:

HB 143, Relating to application of the Texas no-call list to certain transmissions to a mobile telephone number.

HB 385, Relating to condemnation of historical sites at the direction of the Commission of Control for Texas Centennial Celebrations.

HB 386, Relating to the repeal of the law creating the Texas Deepwater Port Authority.

HB 735, Relating to the discontinuation of the Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund.

HB 963, Relating to providing notice of the release or escape of a defendant to certain crime victims and witnesses in criminal trials.

HCR 157, Recognizing March 21, 2007, as Wood County Day at the State Capitol.

Respectfully,

/s/Robert Haney, Chief Clerk
House of Representatives

GUESTS PRESENTED

Senator Fraser was recognized and introduced to the Senate a delegation of citizens from Killeen, representing Leadership Killeen Day at the State Capitol.

The Senate welcomed its guests.

SENATE RESOLUTION 489

Senator Ogden offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Glen M. Gardner, Jr., a resident of Round Rock and the junior vice commander-in-chief of the VFW, has rendered heroic service in behalf of Texas military veterans and their families; and

WHEREAS, A member of the U.S. Marine Corps from 1966 to 1970, Mr. Gardner served as an aircraft mechanic with Marine Aircraft Group 12, 1st Marine Air Wing, in Chu Lai, Vietnam; his military awards include the Combat Action Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with three stars, Vietnam Campaign Medal with device, and Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry; and

WHEREAS, Glen Gardner has been a staunch supporter of veterans and the VFW for nearly four decades; he joined VFW Post 2993 in Olathe, Kansas, in 1969, and later, after moving to Texas, he became a life member of Vickery Post 3359 in Garland; twice elected post commander, he also served five terms as post quartermaster and earned a national award for his work as district commander; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gardner was selected as adjutant-quartermaster of the Department of Texas VFW in 1984, and in that capacity he provided tireless and effective leadership on a range of veterans' issues for more than 20 years; he retired from the state VFW on November 1, 2006, in order to focus on the duties of his current post with the national organization, an office to which he was elected in August 2006; and

WHEREAS, Since 1991, Mr. Gardner has also chaired the Texas Coalition of Veterans Organizations; that group, which he was instrumental in founding, now represents more than 600,000 former members of the U.S. Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gardner has given generously of his time and expertise to several national VFW committees, including those on budget and finance and national bylaw review; he is affiliated, in addition, with the Military Order of the Cootie, American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, and National Association of Uniformed Services; and

WHEREAS, Glen Gardner has long been a steadfast champion of our state's military veterans, and his elevation to national VFW office is a fitting acknowledgment of the outstanding skills and commitment he brings to the mission of that vital organization; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 80th Texas Legislature hereby honor Glen M. Gardner, Jr., for his sterling efforts in behalf of veterans and veterans' families in the Lone Star State and extend to him sincere best wishes for continued success in all his endeavors; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for Mr. Gardner as an expression of high regard by the Texas Senate.

OGDEN
VAN DE PUTTE

SR 489 was read and was adopted without objection.

GUESTS PRESENTED

Senator Ogden, joined by Senator Van de Putte, was recognized and introduced to the Senate Glen M. Gardner, Jr., Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, VFW; Jim Nier, Executive Director, Texas Veterans Commission; Larry Rivers, Past National Commander-in-Chief, VFW; John A. Brieden III, Chair, Texas Veterans Commission; and Ken Wallingford, Director of Outreach Marketing, Veterans' Land Board.

The Senate welcomed its guests.

(Senator Brimer in Chair)

SENATE RESOLUTION 494

Senator Shapleigh offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to pay tribute to the men and women of Fort Bliss and their invaluable contributions to El Paso, our state, and the nation on the occasion of Fort Bliss Day at the State Capitol, which is being celebrated on March 21, 2007; and

WHEREAS, Established in 1849, Fort Bliss integrates elements from five major United States Army commands and is home to a diverse array of training and tactical units; it is composed of state-of-the-art training areas, ranges, and facilities and is led by innovative, focused professionals; and

WHEREAS, Fort Bliss is home to an active duty military force of more than 14,000 soldiers, and with family members and retirees, the Fort Bliss community encompasses a population of more than 135,000; through upcoming base realignments and closures, Fort Bliss is expected to gain approximately 20,000 soldiers over the next five years; and

WHEREAS, Since September 11, 2001, more than 100,000 personnel have deployed through Fort Bliss, and the base expects to continue to play a major role in the continuing war against terrorism; and

WHEREAS, Fort Bliss is the largest single employer in the El Paso area and has an annual local economic impact of more than \$2 billion; rated as the United States Army installation with the highest military value, it is a premier facility for the training, mobilization, and deployment of combat forces; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby commend the men and women of Fort Bliss for their many contributions to the defense of our nation and extend to their delegation a heartfelt welcome to Austin for Fort Bliss Day at the State Capitol; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the soldiers of Fort Bliss as an expression of gratitude and high regard from the Texas Senate.

SR 494 was read and was adopted by a rising vote of the Senate.

GUESTS PRESENTED

Senator Shapleigh was recognized and introduced to the Senate Colonel Bob Burns, Garrison Commander, Fort Bliss; and Clark McChesney, Director, Team Fort Bliss Transformation Office.

The Senate welcomed its guests.

SENATE RESOLUTION 495

Senator Shapleigh offered the following resolution:

SR 495, In memory of the men and women from Fort Bliss who died while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

The resolution was read.

On motion of Senator Shapleigh, **SR 495** was adopted by a rising vote of the Senate.

In honor of the memory of the men and women from Fort Bliss who died while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, the text of the resolution is printed at the end of today's *Senate Journal*.

GUESTS PRESENTED

Senator Hegar was recognized and introduced to the Senate representatives from the Texas A&M University College of Agriculture Development Council.

The Senate welcomed its guests.

SENATE RESOLUTION 532

Senator Ellis offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize the Houston Dynamo for winning the 2006 Major League Soccer championship title; and

WHEREAS, The Houston Dynamo defeated the New England Revolution in the championship game by a score of 4-3 on penalty kicks after the teams had played to a 1-1 draw through regulation and extra time; and

WHEREAS, These Houston Dynamo athletes demonstrated great talent and perseverance in bringing the Major League Soccer Cup to Texas in the team's first year of existence; and

WHEREAS, Playing for the 2006 Houston Dynamo were goalkeepers Pat Onstad, Zach Wells, and Martin Hutton; defenders Chris Aloisi, Wade Barrett, Ryan Cochrane, Kevin Goldthwaite, Kelly Gray, Patrick Ianni, Eddie Robinson, Adrian Serieux, and Craig Waibel; midfielders Mike Chabala, Ricardo Clark, Brad Davis, Dwayne De Rosario, Stuart Holden, Aaron Lanes, Mpho Moloi, Brian Mullan, Marcus Storey, and Chris Wondolowski; and forwards Brian Ching, Paul Dalglish, Alejandro Moreno, and Julian Nash; these team members can take great pride in their outstanding performance; and

WHEREAS, Under the exceptional leadership of head coach Dominic Kinnear and with the support of assistant coach John Spencer, head athletic trainer Bruce Morgan, team administrator Nick Kowba, and equipment manager Beau Abdulla, the Dynamo players, have developed exceptional teamwork and discipline; and

WHEREAS, The City of Houston is proud of the members of the Houston Dynamo for their hard work, their impressive skills, and their fine sportsmanship; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby commend the members of the Houston Dynamo on their successful season and extend congratulations to them on winning the 2006 Major League Soccer championship; and, be it further

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

ELLIS	PATRICK
GALLEGOS	WHITMIRE
JANEK	WILLIAMS

SR 532 was read and was adopted without objection.

GUESTS PRESENTED

Senator Ellis was recognized and introduced to the Senate Dominic Kinnear, head coach of the Houston Dynamo soccer team; Chris Canetti, Chief Operating Officer; and players, Craig Waibel, Stuart Holden, and Paul DalGLISH.

The Senate welcomed its guests.

GUESTS PRESENTED

Senator Zaffirini was recognized and introduced to the Senate Herb Williams, General Manager, and Jeff Couch, Board Manager, of the Sutherland Springs Water Supply Corporation in La Vernia.

The Senate welcomed its guests.

SENATE RESOLUTION 533

Senator Estes offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to welcome members of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas on Firefighter Legislative Day at the State Capitol on March 21, 2007; and

WHEREAS, The members of this esteemed organization are gathering to recognize and honor the tireless and heroic actions of the members of the Texas fire service; the names of four courageous volunteer firefighters who died in the line of duty are being unveiled at the volunteer firemen's monument on the Capitol grounds; and

WHEREAS, The firemen being honored are Bob Leslie Boyles, Jr., of the Crosby Volunteer Fire Department, who died March 19, 1981; Clint Rice of the Carleton Volunteer Fire Department, who died November 22, 2005; Chad Wessels of the Briggs Volunteer Fire Department, who died December 11, 2005; and James McMorries of the Howardwick Volunteer Fire Department, who died April 9, 2006; and

WHEREAS, The State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas is the oldest and the largest fire service organization in the state; the association was founded in 1876 and currently represents more than 1,100 fire departments, 18,000 individual members, and more than 80 industrial fire brigades; and

WHEREAS, The association sponsors and supports the world's largest fire-training school, held each summer at Texas A&M University; the association also provides instructors, scholarships to members, and professional service on the fire school's advisory board; and

WHEREAS, The cornerstone of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association is the certification program for volunteer firefighters, which encourages training, education, and certification for all volunteers; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 70 percent of the firefighters providing fire service to the citizens of Texas are volunteer firefighters; they volunteer their valuable services, responding to emergency calls and attending training sessions to learn the latest firefighting techniques; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby commend the firefighters of Texas for their courageous actions and devotion to duty on behalf of their fellow citizens and pay tribute to the volunteer firefighters who have died in the line of duty; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared in honor of the firefighters and fire marshals of Texas.

SR 533 was read and was adopted without objection.

GUESTS PRESENTED

Senator Estes was recognized and introduced to the Senate representatives of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas.

The Senate welcomed its guests.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 157

The Presiding Officer, Senator Brimer in Chair, laid before the Senate the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Proud residents of Wood County are visiting Austin to celebrate Wood County Day at the State Capitol on March 21, 2007; and

WHEREAS, This rolling, forested country was inhabited by the Caddo people before the first permanent European settlement was founded in 1845; Wood County was organized from part of Van Zandt County in 1850 and named after George T. Wood, governor of Texas from 1847 to 1849; the county was home for a time to James Stephen Hogg, who served as justice of the peace in Quitman from 1873 to 1875 and as Wood County attorney in 1878, and who later went on to become one of the Lone Star State's great governors; and

WHEREAS, The county's economy originally depended on corn and cotton, but the discovery of oil in 1941 brought new prosperity to the region; by 1984 Wood County had produced nearly one billion barrels of oil, and today the county's economic base includes ranching, poultry and dairy farming, tourism, the harvesting of timber, and oil and gas production; and

WHEREAS, Residents and visitors alike enjoy the area's fine recreational opportunities; the county features the large Lake Fork Reservoir, widely regarded as one of the best locations for bass fishing in the state, as well as Lake Winnsboro and Lake Hawkins; and

WHEREAS, The birthplace of Academy Award-winning actress Sissy Spacek, Quitman is home to the picturesque Wood County Courthouse and to the Governor Hogg Shrine Historic Site; the town's annual celebrations include the Dogwood Fiesta and the Old Settlers Reunion; and

WHEREAS, The 80-year-old Select Theater in Mineola is the oldest continuously operating movie theater in the state, and the Autumn Trails events every October in Winnsboro draw sightseers from all over the state; and

WHEREAS, Scenic Wood County is blessed with a rich heritage and the promise of a bright future, and it is fitting to pay tribute to the county and its residents at this time; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby recognize March 21, 2007, as Wood County Day at the State Capitol and extend to the visiting delegation best wishes for an informative and enjoyable stay in Austin.

ELTIFE

HCR 157 was read.

On motion of Senator Eltife and by unanimous consent, the resolution was considered immediately and was adopted by a viva voce vote.

All Members are deemed to have voted "Yea" on the adoption of the resolution except as follows:

Absent-excused: Gallegos, Wentworth.

GUESTS PRESENTED

Senator Eltife was recognized and introduced to the Senate a delegation of citizens from Wood County.

The Senate welcomed its guests.

SENATE RESOLUTION 452

Senator Nichols offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The Texas Forestry Association is sponsoring a seedling giveaway on March 21, 2007, in an effort to promote public awareness of forestry and the importance of the state's timber resources; and

WHEREAS, The forest industry and family forest owners plant more than 100 million seedlings annually in order to maintain sustainable forests for future generations of Texans; and

WHEREAS, Covering more than 12 million acres, the forests in East Texas provide the state with over 75,000 jobs, a payroll exceeding \$2.7 billion, and a total economic impact of more than \$30.6 billion, making timber a valuable agricultural commodity statewide; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1914 by a group of dedicated conservationists, the Texas Forestry Association is a nonprofit organization of landowners, businesses, and other professionals united by a common goal to advance forestry, promote conservation practices, and enhance and perpetuate the state's forest resource; TFA offers programs such as the Sustainable Forestry Initiative and Tree Farm, which sponsors the annual Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year contest; winners of the 2006

award, Bill and Jill Russell, have earned the opportunity to advance to the next levels of competition, the Southern Regional and National Designation levels; moreover, TFA recently recognized the forest stewardship of John W. and Walta Phippen Cooke with the 2007 Texas Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year award; and

WHEREAS, The Texas Forestry Association has tirelessly striven to ensure that abundant forests remain a dependable resource for the citizens of Texas, and under the current and able leadership of President Tom Boggus, TFA will undoubtedly continue to contribute to the economic vitality and beauty of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 80th Texas Legislature hereby recognize the Texas Forestry Association on the occasion of its seedling giveaway and commend the more than 3,000 members of the association for their exemplary reforestation efforts and advocacy; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for the Texas Forestry Association as an expression of high regard by the Texas Senate.

SR 452 was again read.

The resolution was previously adopted on Monday, March 12, 2007.

GUESTS PRESENTED

Senator Nichols was recognized and introduced to the Senate representatives of the Texas Forestry Association.

The Senate welcomed its guests.

SENATE RESOLUTION 491

Senator Lucio offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize March 21, 2007, as Smoke Alarm Awareness Day at the State Capitol to honor the life of Senator Frank Madla, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, According to the National Fire Protection Association, more than 700 lives could be saved every year by the presence of a working smoke alarm in every home; this relatively inexpensive piece of equipment can avert tragedy and loss of life; and

WHEREAS, According to the State Fire Marshal, every home should be equipped with smoke alarms; the marshal recommends multiple smoke alarms throughout the home, ideally in every room; smoke alarms should be tested regularly, and batteries should be replaced twice a year; and

WHEREAS, Since battery-powered smoke alarms became available in the 1970s, the death rate from home fires has been reduced by half, and if every home had working smoke alarms, fire deaths could fall an additional 36 percent; to reduce this number even more should be the goal of every Texan; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby declare March 21, 2007, Smoke Alarm Awareness Day at the State Capitol in honor of the life of Senator Frank Madla, Jr., and encourage all Texans to install smoke alarms in their homes; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared as a memento of this special day.

LUCIO
VAN DE PUTTE

SR 491 was read and was adopted without objection.

GUESTS PRESENTED

Senator Lucio was recognized and introduced to the Senate a delegation representing Smoke Alarm Awareness Day at the State Capitol.

The Senate welcomed its guests.

GUESTS PRESENTED

Senator Averitt was recognized and introduced to the Senate students and their superintendent from the Hillsboro Independent School District.

The Senate welcomed its guests.

SENATE RESOLUTION 529

Senator Eltife offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, November 12, 2006, was the centennial of the employment of William C. Stallings as the first educator in the nation to serve a single county in the role of cooperative extension agent; the county in which he was hired was Smith County, Texas; and

WHEREAS, The creation of the position of county cooperative extension agent came about from the farming demonstrations conducted in 1903 by Dr. Seaman A. Knapp, United States Department of Agriculture special agent for the promotion of agriculture in the South, and by Walter C. Porter on the Porter Farm in Kaufman County, Texas; through their expertise and communication skills, the men were highly effective in teaching fellow citizens how to improve their farming techniques, and thus, their quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Their achievements and similar successes of that era led to the Federal Smith-Lever Act of 1914, which authorized the establishment of a national Cooperative Extension System funded through a partnership between federal, state, and local governments; and

WHEREAS, The system includes the Texas Cooperative Extension and the Cooperative Extension Program of Prairie View A&M University, both part of The Texas A&M University System; the outreach educators and trained volunteers of these organizations work together to serve all 254 counties in the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, The educators include county extension agents and extension specialists who develop unbiased educational and technology-transfer programs in response to various issues in the areas of agriculture and natural resources, 4-H and Youth Development, family and consumer sciences, and community resources and economic development; and

WHEREAS, The programs they develop are founded on the scientific research of higher education institutions and agencies and provide knowledge and practical lessons for self-improvement and community problem-solving; and

WHEREAS, The extension agency programs are as important and effective now as in their early beginnings, as extension educators and those who support them have remained committed to their purpose, which is the delivery of quality, relevant educational programs to enhance the quality of life and meet the needs of the people of the State of Texas; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby commend the personnel of the Texas Cooperative Extension and the Prairie View A&M University Cooperative Extension Program for their substantial contributions to the advancement and well-being of this state; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared in their honor and as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

ELTIFE

HEGAR

SR 529 was read and was adopted without objection.

GUESTS PRESENTED

Senator Eltife was recognized and introduced to the Senate representatives of the Texas Cooperative Extension and the Prairie View A&M University Cooperative Extension Program.

The Senate welcomed its guests.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS POSTPONED

The Presiding Officer announced that the introduction of bills and resolutions on first reading would be postponed until the end of today's session.

There was no objection.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING CALL

The Presiding Officer, Senator Brimer in Chair, at 12:15 p.m. announced the conclusion of morning call.

(President in Chair)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 12 ON SECOND READING

On motion of Senator Averitt and by unanimous consent, the regular order of business was suspended to take up for consideration **CSSB 12** at this time on its second reading:

CSSB 12, Relating to programs for the enhancement of air quality, including energy efficiency standards in state purchasing; providing penalties.

The bill was read second time.

Senator Averitt offered the following amendment to the bill:

Floor Amendment No. 1

Amend **CSSB 12** as follows:

(1) In Article 1 of the bill, add the following appropriately numbered bill SECTION and renumber the subsequent SECTIONs of the article accordingly:

SECTION 1. Subsection (b), Section 382.0622, Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Except as provided by Subsection [Subsections] (b-1) [and (e)], Clean Air Act fees shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the clean air account and shall be used to safeguard the air resources of the state.

(2) Strike SECTION 3.01 of the bill (committee printing page 9, lines 39-62), and substitute the following:

SECTION 3.01. Section 388.003, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subsections (b-1) and (b-2) to read as follows:

(b-1) If the State Energy Conservation Office determines, based on written recommendations from the laboratory, that the latest published edition of the International Residential Code energy efficiency provisions or the latest published edition of the International Energy Conservation Code will improve residential or commercial energy efficiency and air quality equivalent to or more stringent than the editions adopted under Subsection (a) or (b), the office may by rule adopt the equivalent or more stringent editions and substitute them for the initial editions described by Subsection (a) or (b). The rule, if adopted, shall establish an effective date for the new editions but not earlier than nine months after the date of adoption. The laboratory shall make its recommendations not later than six months after publication of new editions at the end of each three-year code development cycle of the International Residential Code and the International Energy Conservation Code.

(b-2) The State Energy Conservation Office shall by rule establish a procedure for persons who have an interest in the adoption of energy efficiency codes under Subsection (b-1), including commercial and residential builders, architects and engineers, county and other local government authorities, and environmental groups, to have an opportunity to comment on the codes under consideration and to have the commentary considered by the laboratory in developing its recommendations.

(2) In SECTION 3.02 of the bill, in Subdivision (2) of amended Subsection (a), Section 388.005, Health and Safety Code (committee printing page 10, line 3), strike "[~~or~~]" and substitute "or".

(3) In SECTION 3.02 of the bill, in Subdivision (2) of amended Subsection (a), Section 388.005, Health and Safety Code (committee printing page 10, line 4), strike "(B) a school district; or" and reletter the subsequent paragraphs of Subdivision (2) accordingly.

(4) In Article 3 of the bill (committee printing page 10, between lines 39 and 40), add a new SECTION 3.03 to the bill as follows and renumber subsequent SECTIONs of the article accordingly:

SECTION 3.03. Subsection (b), Section 44.901, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The board of trustees of a school district shall establish a goal to reduce the annual electric consumption by five percent each year for six years, beginning September 1, 2007. The board of trustees of a school district may enter into an energy savings performance contract in accordance with this section.

(5) In SECTION 3.05 of the bill (committee printing page 10, line 61), between "3.05." and "The" insert "(a)".

(6) In SECTION 3.05 of the bill (committee printing page 10, between lines 65 and 66), add the following:

(b) The State Energy Conservation Office shall adopt rules as necessary to implement Subsection (b), Section 44.901, Education Code, as amended by this article, as soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act.

The amendment to **CSSB 12** was read and was adopted by a viva voce vote.

All Members are deemed to have voted "Yea" on the adoption of Floor Amendment No. 1 except as follows:

Absent-excused: Gallegos, Wentworth.

Senator Shapleigh offered the following amendment to the bill:

Floor Amendment No. 2

Amend **CSSB 12** (Senate committee printing) by adding the following appropriately numbered article and renumbering the subsequent articles of the bill accordingly:

ARTICLE __. PERMITS UNDER CLEAN AIR ACT

SECTION __.01. Subchapter C, Chapter 382, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Sections 382.0592 and 382.0593 to read as follows:

Sec. 382.0592. RESTRICTION ON ISSUANCE OR RENEWAL OF PERMIT IF APPLICANT IS NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH CLEANUP OBLIGATIONS. (a) In this section, "contaminant" has the meaning assigned by Section 361.601.

(b) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this chapter, the commission may not issue or renew a permit under this chapter if the applicant has been determined by an order of an agency of the federal government, an agency of this state or another state, a local government, or a court to not be in compliance with an obligation to clean up or remove a contaminant from a site located in this state or another state unless the applicant submits:

(1) proof that the applicant is making satisfactory progress in cleaning up or removing the contaminant from the site as determined by the entity with jurisdiction over the cleanup or removal; or

(2) proof of financial responsibility showing to the satisfaction of the commission that the applicant has the ability to pay the costs of cleaning up or removing the contaminant from the site.

(c) The commission shall consult the United States Environmental Protection Agency to determine whether an applicant is subject to an order described by Subsection (b) pertaining to cleaning up or removing a contaminant from a site located in another state.

(d) An application for the issuance or renewal of a permit under this chapter must:

(1) disclose any order described by Subsection (b) to which the applicant is subject; or

(2) state that the applicant is not subject to an order described by Subsection (b).

Sec. 382.0593. PERMIT DENIAL OR AMENDMENT. The commission may deny or amend a permit, a permit amendment, or a permit renewal if the commission finds, after notice and hearing, that:

(1) there is good cause to do so for reasons pertaining to public health or air pollution;

(2) the applicant or permit holder has a compliance history that is in the lowest classification under Sections 5.753 and 5.754, Water Code, and rules adopted and procedures developed under those sections;

(3) the applicant or permit holder made a false or misleading statement in connection with an application submitted to the commission or its officers or employees, whether the statement is made in the application itself or in a written instrument relating to the application; or

(4) the applicant or permit holder is indebted to this state or a political subdivision of this state for a penalty or a delinquent tax or fee.

SECTION __.02. Sections 382.0592 and 382.0593, Health and Safety Code, as added by this article, apply only to an application for a permit, permit amendment, or permit renewal that is filed with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality under Chapter 382, Health and Safety Code, on or after the effective date of this article. An application for a permit, permit amendment, or permit renewal that is filed with the commission under that chapter before the effective date of this article is governed by the law in effect on the date the application is filed, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION __.03. This article takes effect September 1, 2007.

The amendment to **CSSB 12** was read.

Senator Shapleigh withdrew Floor Amendment No. 2.

Senator Watson offered the following amendment to the bill:

Floor Amendment No. 3

Amend **CSSB 12**, in SECTION 1.01 of bill by striking subsection (10-a)(A) (page 1 lines 30 and 31), and relettering the subsection (B) accordingly.

The amendment to **CSSB 12** was read and was adopted by a viva voce vote.

All Members are deemed to have voted "Yea" on the adoption of Floor Amendment No. 3 except as follows:

Absent-excused: Gallegos, Wentworth.

On motion of Senator Averitt and by unanimous consent, the caption was amended to conform to the body of the bill as amended.

CSSB 12 as amended was passed to engrossment by a viva voce vote.

All Members are deemed to have voted "Yea" on the passage to engrossment except as follows:

Absent-excused: Gallegos, Wentworth.

**COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
SENATE BILL 12 ON THIRD READING**

Senator Averitt moved that Senate Rule 7.18 and the Constitutional Rule requiring bills to be read on three several days be suspended and that **CSSB 12** be placed on its third reading and final passage.

The motion prevailed by the following vote: Yeas 29, Nays 0.

Absent-excused: Gallegos, Wentworth.

The bill was read third time and was passed by the following vote: Yeas 29, Nays 0. (Same as previous roll call)

SENATE BILL 526 ON SECOND READING

On motion of Senator Seliger and by unanimous consent, the regular order of business was suspended to take up for consideration **SB 526** at this time on its second reading:

SB 526, Relating to providing that a municipality may allow a municipal fire marshal or arson investigator to travel in an unmarked municipal vehicle when performing official duties.

The bill was read second time and was passed to engrossment by a viva voce vote.

All Members are deemed to have voted "Yea" on the passage to engrossment except as follows:

Absent-excused: Gallegos, Wentworth.

SENATE BILL 526 ON THIRD READING

Senator Seliger moved that Senate Rule 7.18 and the Constitutional Rule requiring bills to be read on three several days be suspended and that **SB 526** be placed on its third reading and final passage.

The motion prevailed by the following vote: Yeas 29, Nays 0.

Absent-excused: Gallegos, Wentworth.

The bill was read third time and was passed by the following vote: Yeas 29, Nays 0. (Same as previous roll call)

AT EASE

The President at 12:38 p.m. announced the Senate would stand At Ease subject to the call of the Chair.

IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The President at 12:50 p.m. called the Senate to order as In Legislative Session.

**COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
SENATE BILL 621 ON SECOND READING**

On motion of Senator Carona and by unanimous consent, the regular order of business was suspended to take up for consideration **CSSB 621** at this time on its second reading:

CSSB 621, Relating to payments by the Texas Department of Transportation to an unsuccessful private entity that submits a proposal for a comprehensive development agreement.

The bill was read second time and was passed to engrossment by a viva voce vote.

All Members are deemed to have voted "Yea" on the passage to engrossment except as follows:

Absent-excused: Gallegos, Wentworth.

**COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
SENATE BILL 621 ON THIRD READING**

Senator Carona moved that Senate Rule 7.18 and the Constitutional Rule requiring bills to be read on three several days be suspended and that **CSSB 621** be placed on its third reading and final passage.

The motion prevailed by the following vote: Yeas 29, Nays 0.

Absent-excused: Gallegos, Wentworth.

The bill was read third time and was passed by the following vote: Yeas 29, Nays 0. (Same as previous roll call)

**SENATE RULE 11.10(a) SUSPENDED
(Public Notice of Committee Meetings)**

On motion of Senator Shapiro and by unanimous consent, Senate Rule 11.10(a) was suspended in order that the Committee on Education might meet tomorrow at 8:30 a.m.

**SENATE RULE 11.13 SUSPENDED
(Consideration of Bills in Committees)**

On motion of Senator Carona and by unanimous consent, Senate Rule 11.13 was suspended to grant all committees permission to meet while the Senate was meeting today.

**SENATE RULE 11.10(a) SUSPENDED
(Public Notice of Committee Meetings)**

On motion of Senator Whitmire and by unanimous consent, Senate Rule 11.10(a) was suspended in order that the Joint Select Committee on the Operation and Management of the Texas Youth Commission might meet today.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

On motion of Senator Whitmire and by unanimous consent, the Senate at 1:00 p.m. agreed to adjourn, in memory of Sergeant First Class John S. Stephens of San Antonio, upon completion of the introduction of bills and resolutions on first reading, until 10:00 a.m. tomorrow.

SENATE BILLS ON FIRST READING

The following bills, filed on or before Friday, March 9, 2007, were introduced, read first time, and referred to the committees indicated:

SB 1029 by Shapiro

Relating to performance incentive funding for institutions of higher education.
To Subcommittee on Higher Education.

SB 1564 by Patrick

Relating to eligibility of certain persons for an alcoholic beverage license or permit.
To Committee on Business and Commerce.

SB 1565 by Patrick

Relating to a local option election in the Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County to set a limitation of not less than three percent on the maximum average annual increase in the appraised value of residence homesteads for purposes of ad valorem taxation by each county, municipality, and junior college district in the territory of the transit authority and to require the redistribution of not more than one-eighth of the sales and use tax revenue of the transit authority to those taxing units.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 1566 by Patrick

Relating to the creation of the Texas Bleeding Disorders Advisory Council.
To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1567 by Patrick

Relating to the creation of the adoption incentive program.
To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1568 by Patrick

Relating to the structure, powers, and duties of the State Board of Education and the commissioner of education.

To Committee on Education.

SB 1569 by Patrick

Relating to the automatic admission of undergraduate students to a general academic teaching institution that is a component institution of a university system.

To Subcommittee on Higher Education.

SB 1570 by Patrick

Relating to the eligibility of an undergraduate student for automatic admission to public institutions of higher education.

To Subcommittee on Higher Education.

SB 1571 by Patrick

Relating to requiring a minimum SAT or ACT score as a prerequisite to the automatic admission of an undergraduate student to certain public institutions of higher education.

To Subcommittee on Higher Education.

SB 1572 by Shapleigh

Relating to reports of performance data of private or independent institutions of higher education and to the publication of that data.

To Subcommittee on Higher Education.

SB 1573 by Shapleigh

Relating to the affordability of enrollment in public institutions of higher education and the availability of certain financial and academic information to students enrolled in those institutions.

To Subcommittee on Higher Education.

SB 1574 by Duncan

Relating to the regulation by the Railroad Commission of Texas of the use of the surface of land in connection with certain activities associated with the exploration, development, or production of oil or gas, including the gathering of oil or gas by pipeline.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1575 by Wentworth

Relating to the issuance of obligations by political subdivisions to pay unfunded liabilities for certain retirement benefits of officers and employees of the political subdivisions.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1576 by Wentworth

Relating to the appraisal for ad valorem tax purposes of certain recreational land.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 1577 by Wentworth

Relating to the authority of a county to regulate land development after a local option election.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1578 by Wentworth

Relating to determining a municipality's extraterritorial jurisdiction for municipal consent to the creation of a political subdivision in that extraterritorial jurisdiction.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1579 by Hinojosa

Relating to registration as a sex offender as a consequence of a conviction of and to the statute of limitations for certain sexual offenses committed against victims who are younger than 21 years of age.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1580 by Van de Putte

Relating to the provision of pay telephone service to inmates confined in facilities operated by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1581 by Van de Putte

Relating to eligibility for unemployment compensation benefits based on the claimant's availability to do part-time work.

To Committee on Business and Commerce.

SB 1582 by Van de Putte

Relating to payment of claims to pharmacies and pharmacists.

To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1583 by Gallegos

Relating to the prompt and efficient response to flooding and evacuations.
To Subcommittee on Flooding and Evacuations.

SB 1584 by Gallegos

Relating to the deduction from a deputy sheriff's wages or salary in certain counties for payment of membership dues to an employee association.
To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1585 by Gallegos

Relating to the creation of a statewide autism spectrum disorders resource program.
To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1586 by Estes

Relating to the allocation of transmission rights to electricity.
To Committee on Business and Commerce.

SB 1587 by Shapleigh

Relating to ensuring that a contractor with the Health and Human Services Commission or with a health and human services agency that will communicate with the public in performing the contract will provide quality services to both English-speaking and Spanish-speaking residents of this state.
To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1588 by Shapleigh

Relating to compliance by political subdivisions with the requirements and criteria of the National Flood Insurance Program.
To Subcommittee on Flooding and Evacuations.

SB 1589 by Shapleigh

Relating to municipal and county authority to enforce a solid waste collection and transportation services franchise.
To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1590 by Shapleigh

Relating to a claim against the estate of a deceased Medicaid recipient to recover certain Medicaid program costs.
To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1591 by Shapleigh

Relating to the dispensing of prescription and over-the-counter drugs and devices; providing penalties.
To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1592 by Hinojosa

Relating to the requirements regarding reporting by a common carrier or pipeline owner or operator of contamination.
To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1593 by Hinojosa

Relating to providing notice of a required court appearance to a criminal defendant and the defendant's surety.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1594 by Hinojosa

Relating to the costs a county may recover after the forfeiture of a bond.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1595 by Hinojosa

Relating to conditions that will exonerate a criminal defendant and the defendant's surety from liability on a bond.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1596 by Hinojosa

Relating to the continuing jurisdiction of a magistrate who sets bail in a criminal case.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1597 by Janek

Relating to adoption of the Revised Uniform Anatomical Gift Act; providing criminal penalties.

To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1598 by West

Relating to the dates of administration of certain assessment instruments in public schools.

To Committee on Education.

SB 1599 by West

Relating to sanctions available for certain academically unacceptable campuses.

To Committee on Education.

SB 1600 by West

Relating to the equalization of property wealth in certain school districts.

To Committee on Education.

SB 1601 by West

Relating to the operation of the Joint Admission Medical Program and to admission to the program.

To Subcommittee on Higher Education.

SB 1602 by West

Relating to public school finance.

To Committee on Education.

SB 1603 by West

Relating to eligibility for student financial assistance awarded from designated tuition charged by institutions of higher education.

To Subcommittee on Higher Education.

SB 1604 by Duncan

Relating to responsibilities of certain state agencies concerning radioactive substances; imposing fees and surcharges; providing administrative and civil penalties.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1605 by Duncan

Relating to the selection of the board of directors of an appraisal district established for certain counties.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1606 by Lucio

Relating to the extent of extraterritorial jurisdiction of certain municipalities.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1607 by Van de Putte, Duncan

Relating to the exemption from ad valorem taxation of a portion of the appraised value of real and tangible personal property used for the production, storage, distribution, or wholesale or retail sale of carbon-free hydrogen.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 1608 by Van de Putte, Duncan

Relating to certain tax exemptions to promote sales and use of hydrogen-powered motor vehicles in this state.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 1609 by Van de Putte, Duncan

Relating to the operation of hydrogen-powered motor vehicles.

To Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security.

SB 1610 by Van de Putte, Duncan

Relating to a loan program for businesses that expand the use of or manufacture, store, distribute, or sell carbon-free hydrogen energy; providing for the issuance of bonds.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 1611 by Van de Putte, Duncan

Relating to a franchise tax credit for the production of carbon-free hydrogen.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 1612 by Van de Putte, Duncan

Relating to programs, incentives, and tax exemptions to encourage the use, manufacture, storage, distribution, or sale of carbon-free hydrogen energy; providing for the issuance of bonds.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 1613 by Duncan, Fraser

Relating to the immunity from individual liability of directors of soil and water conservation districts.

To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1614 by Duncan

Relating to the implementation of health information technology standards.
To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1615 by Averitt

Relating to the collection of delinquent obligations owed to the state.
To Committee on Finance.

SB 1616 by Averitt

Relating to restitution and other assistance provided to victims of crime and to related claimants.
To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1617 by Harris

Relating to the collection of motor vehicle sales taxes on seller-financed sales by dealers.
To Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security.

SB 1618 by West

Relating to the award of a contract by an airport authority created by certain municipalities.
To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1619 by Lucio

Relating to unemployment compensation information confidentiality, and providing penalties.
To Committee on Business and Commerce.

SB 1620 by Van de Putte

Relating to confidentiality of prescription information; providing penalties.
To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1621 by Van de Putte

Relating to financial assurance required of certain recycling facilities.
To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1622 by Watson

Relating to fees for certain services performed by law enforcement agencies.
To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1623 by Watson

Relating to the administration of community property.
To Committee on Jurisprudence.

SB 1624 by Watson

Relating to genetic testing in proceedings to declare heirship; providing a criminal penalty.
To Committee on Jurisprudence.

SB 1625 by Watson

Relating to the statewide plan for delivery of services to public school students with disabilities and resources for teachers of public school students with special health needs.

To Committee on Education.

SB 1626 by Watson

Relating to the proportionate retirement program.

To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1627 by Carona

Relating to the prosecution of workers' compensation insurance fraud.

To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1628 by Uresti

Relating to advertising of entities that contract with local workforce development boards.

To Committee on Business and Commerce.

SB 1629 by Uresti

Relating to the creation of a foster care youth advisory council.

To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1630 by Wentworth

Relating to limitations on the compensation of county auditors for certain counties.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1631 by Wentworth

Relating to payment for the provision of services by a metropolitan rapid transit authority to persons with disabilities in a unit of election that has withdrawn from the authority.

To Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security.

SB 1632 by Wentworth

Relating to the authority of a dealer to conduct certain motor vehicle sales outside of a dealership.

To Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security.

SB 1633 by Wentworth

Relating to erecting an off-premise sign adjacent to and visible from certain roads.

To Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security.

SB 1634 by Wentworth

Relating to a court order for a land surveyor to cross land.

To Committee on Jurisprudence.

SB 1635 by Wentworth

Relating to the regulation of fireworks by counties; providing a criminal penalty.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1636 by Wentworth

Relating to the authority of certain counties to regulate land development after a local option election.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1637 by Williams

Relating to a small employer health benefit plan premium assistance program.

To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1638 by Williams

Relating to the calculation of an effective tax rate and certain notice requirements for local taxing jurisdictions.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 1639 by Williams

Relating to the collection, administration, and enforcement of state taxes and fees.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 1640 by Williams

Relating to the student loan program administered by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board; authorizing the issuance of bonds.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 1641 by Williams

Relating to the student loan program administered by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and to bonds issued in relation to that program.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 1642 by Williams

Relating to binding arbitration of certain appraisal review board orders.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 1643 by Shapiro

Relating to educator preparation programs and to training, continuing education, appraisal, and employment of public school teachers and administrators.

To Committee on Education.

SB 1644 by Shapiro

Relating to the eligibility of certain teachers to serve on the State Board of Education and the board of directors of a regional education service center.

To Committee on Education.

SB 1645 by Van de Putte

Relating to who may serve process in this state.

To Committee on Jurisprudence.

SB 1646 by Duncan

Relating to certain election practices and procedures.

To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1647 by Duncan

Relating to certain election practices and procedures, including provisions relating to the conduct of elections, voting systems, and recounts.

To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1648 by Janek

Relating to the enforcement of building codes in unincorporated areas of Fort Bend County; providing a civil penalty.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1649 by Janek

Relating to temporary change of ownership licenses for nursing home facilities.

To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1650 by Ellis

Relating to training required for employees of persons licensed to provide certain home and community support services.

To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1651 by Ellis

Relating to prohibiting alcoholic beverage license or permit application by certain persons.

To Committee on Business and Commerce.

SB 1652 by Ellis

Relating to the waiver of governmental immunity.

To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1653 by Ellis

Relating to the right of certain municipalities to maintain local control over wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1654 by Ellis

Relating to the enrollment of recipients of Supplemental Security Income in certain medical assistance programs.

To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1655 by Ellis, Duncan

Relating to the establishment of the capital writs standards subcommittee of the Task Force on Indigent Defense and the creation of the office of capital writs.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1656 by Nichols

Relating to the terms of a water supply contract with the Sabine River Authority in connection with the production of electricity.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1657 by Nichols

Relating to powers and duties of the Texas Department of Transportation related to relocation assistance.

To Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security.

SB 1658 by Nichols

Relating to the authority of a pharmacist to fill certain prescriptions in the event of a disaster.

To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1659 by Nichols

Relating to the transfer of the Texas State Railroad to, and the creation of, the Texas State Railroad Authority; granting authority to issue bonds or other similar obligations or to create public debt.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1660 by Wentworth

Relating to the creation of the Travis-Creedmoor Municipal Utility District; providing authority to impose taxes and issue bonds.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1661 by Wentworth

Relating to the creation, administration, powers, duties, functions, operations, and financing of the Goforth Special Utility District.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1662 by Janek

Relating to information provided to a plaintiff in a small claims court by a defendant against whom judgment is rendered.

To Committee on Jurisprudence.

SB 1663 by Janek

Relating to the selection of a presiding officer on the appointments panel of certain metropolitan rapid transit authorities.

To Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security.

SB 1664 by Gallegos

Relating to local awards plans under the public school educator excellence awards program.

To Committee on Education.

SB 1665 by Averitt

Relating to regulation of emissions from residential water heaters.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1666 by Averitt

Relating to the authority of the Railroad Commission of Texas to file a lien on certain land adversely affected by past mining practices and reclaimed by the commission.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1667 by Averitt

Relating to the amount of an administrative penalty assessed by the Railroad Commission of Texas for a violation of the Texas Surface Coal Mining and Reclamation Act or a permit issued under that act.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1668 by Averitt

Relating to license, stamp, tag, and permit provisions administered by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1669 by Averitt

Relating to revenue generated from and uses of public hunting lands and wildlife management areas.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1670 by Averitt

Relating to certificates of compliance issued by the Railroad Commission of Texas to owners or operators of certain wells subject to the jurisdiction of the commission.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1671 by Averitt

Relating to the financial responsibility requirements applicable to owners or operators of certain underground storage tanks.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1672 by Averitt

Relating to nitrogen oxide allowance allocation adjustments and the incorporation of modifications to federal rules under the state implementation plan.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1673 by Averitt

Relating to the renewal of certain air quality permits.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1674 by Averitt

Relating to the applicability of groundwater regulations.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1675 by Hegar

Relating to the authority of local governments to enforce a water pollution control and abatement program and establish standards and practices for water quality.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1676 by Hegar

Relating to the sunset review of certain river authorities.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1677 by Hegar

Relating to conservation easements created by governmental action.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1678 by Uresti

Relating to a suit against an employee of a governmental unit alleging negligence in the course of the employee's employment.

To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1679 by Janek, Uresti

Relating to requirements for participation in extracurricular athletic activities.
To Committee on Education.

SB 1680 by Averitt

Relating to extension of group life insurance to eligible children.
To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1681 by Averitt

Relating to health benefit plan coverage for children and grandchildren.
To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1682 by Averitt

Relating to the enrollment of certain children and recipients of medical assistance in group health benefit plans.
To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1683 by Averitt

Relating to the Texas Health Reinsurance System.
To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1684 by Averitt

Relating to coverage limitations in health benefit plans.
To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1685 by Averitt

Relating to rules governing suitability in certain annuity transactions.
To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1686 by Watson

Relating to the qualifications of personnel working with special education students.
To Committee on Education.

SB 1687 by Watson

Relating to emission reduction strategies for greenhouse gases.
To Committee on Business and Commerce.

SB 1688 by Watson

Relating to the creation, powers, and duties of a transportation infrastructure services district created by a municipality; imposing taxes and authorizing bonds.
To Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security.

SB 1689 by Watson

Relating to the municipalities that may annex an area for limited purposes.
To Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security.

SB 1690 by Watson

Relating to the authority of a county to zone, apply building standards, and impose impact fees in an area near certain toll projects; providing a penalty.
To Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security.

SB 1691 by Duncan

Relating to groundwater conservation districts regulation of groundwater use by political subdivisions.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1692 by Duncan

Relating to the reimbursement from the Petroleum Storage Tank Remediation Account and relating to the fee on delivery of certain petroleum products.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1693 by Nelson

Relating to the creation, financing, management, powers, operation, and control of inland port authorities and the establishment and promotion of inland port facilities in the state.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1694 by Nelson

Relating to fraud investigations and criminal offenses involving the Medicaid program; providing criminal penalties.

To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1695 by Nelson

Relating to reporting requirements regarding the consumer-directed services and voucher payment programs and to continuation of the consumer-directed services program and work group.

To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1696 by Nelson

Relating to eligibility for medical assistance for treatment of breast or cervical cancer.

To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1697 by Shapiro

Relating to improvement of reading skills of students enrolled in public middle and junior high schools and use of certain federal funds to provide accelerated instruction to certain public school students.

To Committee on Education.

SB 1698 by Shapiro

Relating to public school instructional materials.

To Committee on Education.

SB 1699 by Shapiro

Relating to the administration, organization, amount, structure and delivery of financial aid programs and services to students attending institutions of public, independent and private higher education in Texas.

To Subcommittee on Higher Education.

SB 1700 by Shapiro

Relating to state assistance with the costs of constructing or renovating public high school science laboratories.

To Committee on Education.

SB 1701 by Harris

Relating to the appointment of a successor guardian for certain wards adjudicated as totally incapacitated.

To Committee on Jurisprudence.

SB 1702 by Harris

Relating to the age at which juvenile records may be sealed.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1703 by Harris

Relating to the inspection of registered or listed family homes.

To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1704 by Harris

Relating to exempting expenditures for advertising from certain competitive bidding requirements for municipalities.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1705 by Harris

Relating to the requirements of a candidate for certain judicial offices to be placed on the ballot.

To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1706 by Harris

Relating to the resale by a taxing unit of real property that is sold to the taxing unit at an ad valorem tax sale.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1707 by Lucio

Relating to civil liability for persons performing certain investigative services without a required license.

To Committee on Business and Commerce.

SB 1708 by Hegar

Relating to the continuing education requirements for constables.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1709 by Hegar

Relating to procedures to limit the carrying of handguns by persons other than peace officers on certain premises used for law enforcement.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1710 by Hegar

Relating to the authority of certain taxing units to enter into an agreement under the Property Redevelopment and Tax Abatement Act or the Texas Economic Development Act with the owner of certain electric power generation facilities.

To Subcommittee on Emerging Technologies and Economic Development.

SB 1711 by Hegar

Relating to access to the state highway system and damages for diminished access to the state highway system.

To Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security.

SB 1712 by Hegar

Relating to exemption from application of the Private Security Act of certain peace officers employed by a sheriff's department.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1713 by Eltife

Relating to the authority of a parent to designate a child-care facility or grandparent's residence for purposes of transportation provided by a public school transportation system.

To Committee on Education.

SB 1714 by Seliger

Relating to regulation of dairy products.

To Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Affairs, and Coastal Resources.

SB 1715 by Seliger

Relating to the venue for certain crimes regarding insurance fraud.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1716 by Seliger

Relating to a fee exemption for local law enforcement agencies in the licensing and registering of X-ray devices used for screening suspicious packages and other objects.

To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1717 by West

Relating to the imposition of fees on sexually oriented businesses to provide funding for certain purposes, including funding of the sexual assault program fund, and distributing that money from that fund.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 1718 by Whitmire

Relating to municipal civil service for firefighters and police officers in certain municipalities.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1719 by Ogden

Relating to directing payment, after approval, of certain miscellaneous claims and judgments against the state out of funds designated by this Act; making appropriations.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 1720 by Ogden

Relating to making supplemental appropriations.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 1721 by Ogden

Relating to certain fiscal matters affecting governmental entities.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 1722 by Ogden

Relating to physical readiness and appearance standards for certain state law enforcement officers.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1723 by Ogden

Relating to the collection of surcharges assessed under the driver responsibility program.

To Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security.

SB 1724 by Ogden

Relating to abolishing the Texas Military Facilities Commission and transferring its functions to the adjutant general.

To Subcommittee on Base Realignment and Closure.

SB 1725 by Uresti

Relating to the closure of local eligibility determination offices for health and human services programs.

To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1726 by Uresti

Relating to a study and report of the feasibility of providing a health passport to children receiving Medicaid or enrolled in the state child health plan program.

To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1727 by Uresti

Relating to requiring the Department of Family and Protective Services to provide certain information to a foster child who leaves foster care.

To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1728 by Uresti

Relating to the satisfaction of a condition of community supervision requiring performance of community service.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1729 by Carona

Relating to the inspection, installation, maintenance, and repair of elevators, escalators, chairlifts, people movers, moving sidewalks, platform lifts, and related equipment.

To Committee on Business and Commerce.

SB 1730 by Carona

Relating to application of the Texas no-call list to certain transmissions to a mobile telephone number.

To Committee on Business and Commerce.

SB 1731 by Duncan

Relating to consumer access to health care information and consumer protection for services provided by or through health benefit plans, hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, and birthing centers; providing penalties.

To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1732 by Brimer

Relating to the setting and collecting of fees for the public's use of certain images and documents protected by copyright owned by the State Preservation Board.

To Committee on Administration.

SB 1733 by Gallegos

Relating to the content of lease agreements of housing tax credit developments regarding termination and nonrenewal.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1734 by Nelson

Relating to providing Medicaid services to certain persons with traumatic brain or spinal cord injuries.

To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1735 by Shapiro

Relating to the effect of a charter provision relating to the sale of alcoholic beverages for off-premise consumption on a subsequent local option election for the sale of alcoholic beverages in certain home-rule municipalities.

To Committee on Business and Commerce.

SB 1736 by Shapiro

Relating to the powers, duties, and financing of cultural education facilities finance corporations.

To Subcommittee on Emerging Technologies and Economic Development.

SB 1737 by West

Relating to protecting criminal history record information that is the subject of an order of expunction or an order of nondisclosure; providing penalties.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1738 by West

Relating to the power of a licensing authority to revoke, suspend, or deny a license on the basis of certain criminal proceedings.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1739 by Shapiro

Relating to charity care and unreimbursed costs of certain hospitals.

To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1740 by Shapiro

Relating to the prosecution of certain sexual offenses and to the registration and supervision of sex offenders.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1741 by Shapiro

Relating to the creation of a state agency to perform the functions relating to the sex offender civil commitment program that are currently performed by the Council on Sex Offender Treatment.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1743 by Eltife

Relating to the powers of the Red River Redevelopment Authority; providing authority to issue bonds.

To Subcommittee on Base Realignment and Closure.

SB 1744 by Eltife

Relating to the right to a jury trial in juvenile cases.

To Committee on Jurisprudence.

SB 1745 by Eltife

Relating to monthly benefits for certain retirees of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas who return to work.

To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1746 by Eltife

Relating to the authority of school districts to enter into property tax abatement agreements in connection with realigned or closed military facilities.

To Subcommittee on Base Realignment and Closure.

SB 1747 by Hegar

Relating to the date by which a prosecuting attorney may appeal certain orders, rulings, or sentences in a criminal case.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1748 by Nichols

Relating to the collateralization of certain public funds; providing administrative penalties.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 1749 by Duncan

Relating to the transfer of Angelo State University to the Texas Tech University System.

To Subcommittee on Higher Education.

SB 1750 by Whitmire

Relating to the issuance of an occupational license to certain applicants with criminal convictions.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1751 by West

Relating to the authority of the Texas Lottery Commission to establish an Internet lottery game program.

To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1752 by Seliger

Relating to the election, powers, and duties of the members of the board of directors of the Midland County Hospital District.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1755 by Ellis

Relating to the collection and dissemination of certain information for a federal firearm background check.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1756 by Ellis

Relating to a kindergarten-plus pilot project for certain children.

To Committee on Education.

SB 1757 by Ellis

Relating to the effect of the sale of real property to certain land banks on certain causes of action.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1758 by Janek

Relating to notice requirements for changes in the effective tax rate.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 1759 by Uresti

Relating to the enforceability of covenants not to compete and to certain procedures and remedies in actions to enforce those covenants.

To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1760 by Uresti

Relating to the prosecution, treatment, and rehabilitation of certain sex offenders.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1761 by Uresti

Relating to the pilot program to provide health services to state employees in state office complexes.

To Committee on Government Organization.

SB 1762 by Shapleigh

Relating to a study by the Texas Water Development Board regarding the impact of climate change on surface water supplies in this state.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1763 by Gallegos

Relating to the ratio of correctional officers to prisoners in a county jail.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1764 by Uresti

Relating to partnerships between the Health and Human Services Commission and private entities to conduct health and human services program outreach efforts.

To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1765 by Watson

Relating to the authority of a municipality to enter into contracts without competitive bidding; making conforming changes.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1766 by Watson

Relating to expansion of the use of consumer direction for delivery of certain services to persons with disabilities and elderly persons.
To Committee on Health and Human Services.

SB 1767 by Watson

Relating to physician licensing requirements for utilization review of medical decisions regarding workers' compensation claims.
To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1768 by Watson

Relating to the cost of obtaining copies of an injured employee's medical records for use by an ombudsman under the office of injured employee counsel's ombudsman program.
To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1769 by Watson

Relating to conditions of employment for law enforcement officers and corrections officers employed by certain counties.
To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1770 by Watson

Relating to the development of a comprehensive energy plan.
To Committee on Business and Commerce.

SB 1771 by Watson

Relating to the duties of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality related to the state implementation plan for national ambient air quality standards.
To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1772 by Watson

Relating to establishing a commission to study and report on a long-range plan for higher education in this state.
To Subcommittee on Higher Education.

SB 1773 by Uresti

Relating to the authority of the Texas Department of Transportation to sell or convey the Presidio International Bridge.
To Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security.

SB 1774 by Uresti

Relating to the use of real property acquired for certain venue projects.
To Subcommittee on Emerging Technologies and Economic Development.

SB 1775 by Uresti

Relating to agreements between certain municipalities and counties to provide law enforcement services in unincorporated areas.
To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1776 by Duncan

Relating to the requirements for accessibility to voting equipment by persons with disabilities in certain elections.

To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1777 by Wentworth

Relating to the pension retirement system in certain municipalities for firefighters and police.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1778 by Wentworth

Relating to the administration of a retirement health care plan for firefighters and police officers in certain municipalities.

To Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

SB 1779 by Uresti

Relating to public financing of the public education employee retirement system and an annual cost-of-living adjustment for certain retirement benefits.

To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1780 by Whitmire

Relating to the use of proceeds from criminal asset forfeiture to fund the operation of drug court programs in certain counties.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1781 by Carona

Relating to technical defects in instruments conveying real property.

To Committee on Jurisprudence.

SB 1782 by West

Relating to arbitration proceedings.

To Committee on Jurisprudence.

SB 1783 by Janek

Relating to the waiting period for issuing a decree in certain suits for divorce.

To Committee on Jurisprudence.

SB 1784 by Duncan

Relating to information that must be provided by a registered lobbyist.

To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1785 by Averitt

Relating to implementing ultraclean energy projects in this state.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1786 by Carona

Relating to temporary cardboard tags on vehicles; providing penalties.

To Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security.

SB 1787 by Carona

Relating to authorizing the Department of Public Safety to contract to provide certain fingerprint information.

To Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security.

SB 1788 by Shapiro

Relating to the creation and operation of a state virtual school network to provide education to students through electronic means.

To Committee on Education.

SB 1789 by Jackson

Relating to the protection of coastal resources; providing for administrative penalties.

To Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Affairs, and Coastal Resources.

SB 1790 by Jackson

Relating to the requirements for receiving approval to provide training to an owner of an on-site sewage disposal system using aerobic treatment in maintaining the system.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1791 by Jackson

Relating to a review by the sunset commission of the eminent domain authority of special districts and the abolition of that authority unless continued by the legislature.

To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1792 by Whitmire

Relating to a safety education program in public schools.

To Committee on Education.

SB 1793 by Ogden

Relating to the creation and re-creation of funds and accounts in the state treasury, the dedication and rededication of revenue, and the exemption of unappropriated money from use for general governmental purposes.

To Committee on Finance.

SB 1794 by Ogden

Relating to eligibility for an occupational driver's license.

To Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security.

SB 1796 by Estes

Relating to the regulation of the sale of salvia divinorum; providing a criminal penalty.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1797 by Janek

Relating to authorizing counties bordering on the shorelines of both the Gulf of Mexico and Galveston Bay to grant exclusive franchises for solid waste disposal services in unincorporated areas of the counties.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1798 by Janek

Relating to the name and powers of the Jefferson County Waterway and Navigation District.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1799 by Watson

Relating to a performance bond required of a statutory probate court judge.

To Committee on Jurisprudence.

SB 1800 by Watson, Harris

Relating to air contaminant emissions permits for coal-fired or lignite-fired electric generating facilities.

To Committee on Natural Resources.

SB 1801 by Uresti

Relating to prohibiting research on children within the juvenile probation system.

To Committee on Criminal Justice.

SB 1802 by Uresti

Relating to providing certain computerized instructional material for blind and visually impaired students at public institutions of higher education.

To Subcommittee on Higher Education.

SB 1803 by Uresti

Relating to establishing an office of state statistician.

To Subcommittee on Higher Education.

SB 1804 by Hinojosa

Relating to a consumer debt owed by certain military personnel called to active duty.

To Committee on Business and Commerce.

SB 1805 by Hinojosa

Relating to creating a recognition day in honor of Dr. Hector P. Garcia.

To Committee on Government Organization.

SB 1806 by Hinojosa

Relating to certain gaming activity conducted by an Indian tribe or tribal organization.

To Committee on State Affairs.

SB 1807 by Brimer

Relating to parental approval of a student's participation in human sexuality instruction in public schools.

To Committee on Education.

SB 1808 by Brimer

Relating to the creation, powers, and funding of the Metroplex Area Mobility Authority and to requiring the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex to be included in a single Texas Department of Transportation district; authorizing a tax.

To Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security.

RESOLUTIONS OF RECOGNITION

The following resolutions were adopted by the Senate:

Memorial Resolutions

SR 531 by Ellis, In memory of Bennie Joyce Willis of Houston.

SR 536 by Nelson, In memory of Janis Russo of Cross Roads.

Congratulatory Resolutions

SR 530 by Ellis, Recognizing Boy Scout Troop 242 in Houston on the occasion of its 40th anniversary.

SR 535 by West, Recognizing Paul Quinn College on the occasion of its 135th anniversary.

SR 537 by Nelson, Recognizing the Lewisville Masonic Lodge 201 on the occasion of its 150th anniversary.

SR 538 by Brimer, Recognizing Ida B. McNeely of Fort Worth on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

SR 539 by Brimer, Recognizing the Texas Council of Child Welfare Boards for its contributions to abused and neglected children.

SR 540 by Ogden, Recognizing Loupot's Bookstores, Incorporated, in College Station on the occasion of its 75th anniversary.

SR 542 by Harris, Commending Donald Elementary School in Flower Mound for being named a 2006 No Child Left Behind—Blue Ribbon School.

Official Designation Resolution

SR 526 by Fraser, Recognizing March 21, 2007, as Leadership Killeen Day at the State Capitol.

ADJOURNMENT

Pursuant to a previously adopted motion, the Senate at 1:38 p.m. adjourned, in memory of Sergeant First Class John S. Stephens of San Antonio, until 10:00 a.m. tomorrow.

APPENDIX

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following committee reports were received by the Secretary of the Senate in the order listed:

March 21, 2007

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND TRADE — **CSSB 99**

GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION — **CSSB 831, SB 393**

BUSINESS AND COMMERCE — **SB 222, SB 742, SB 1263**

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS — **SB 401, SB 653, SB 779, SB 948**

STATE AFFAIRS — **CSSB 64, SB 129, SB 592, CSSB 287, CSSB 346**

GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION — **SB 555**

SENT TO GOVERNOR

March 21, 2007

SB 378

In Memory
of
The men and women from Fort Bliss who died while serving in
Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom
Senate Resolution 495

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas honors and commemorates the lives of the men and women who died during Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom while serving with United States Army units based at Fort Bliss; and

WHEREAS, On March 23, 2003, personnel with the 507th Army Ordnance Maintenance Company stopped to repair stalled vehicles and were separated from a supply convoy in Nasiriyah when they were ambushed by Iraqi forces; and

WHEREAS, Losing their lives that fateful day were Specialist Jamaal R. Addison, age 22; Chief Warrant Officer Johnny Villareal Mata, age 35; Master Sergeant Robert J. Dowdy, age 38; Private Brandon U. Sloan, age 19; Private First Class Howard Johnson II, age 21; Private Ruben Estrella-Soto, age 18; Sergeant Donald Ralph Walters, age 33; Specialist James M. Kiehl, age 22; and Specialist Lori Piestewa, age 23; and

WHEREAS, Captain Gussie M. Jones, a surgical nurse with the 31st Combat Support Hospital in Baghdad, died at the hospital on March 7, 2004, at the age of 41; Specialist Tomas Garces died September 6, 2004, at the age of 19 when his convoy was attacked south of Baghdad; Sergeant Brent W. Dunkleberger was killed at the age of 29 on December 12, 2006, in Mosul while on a security mission; and

WHEREAS, Four soldiers were killed on January 15, 2007, during combat operations in Mosul; they were Second Lieutenant Mark J. Daily, age 23; Sergeant Ian C. Anderson, age 22; Sergeant John E. Cooper, age 29; and Specialist Matthew T. Grimm, age 21; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant First Class Russell P. Borea was killed at the age of 38 on January 19, 2007, during combat operations in Mosul; Specialist Nicholas P. Brown died at the age of 24 on January 22, 2007, when his vehicle was struck by an explosive device in Mosul; Sergeant Robert B. Thrasher died on February 11, 2007, at the age of 23 while on combat patrol in Baghdad; Private First Class Spence A. McNeil died at the age of 19 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on March 8, 2003, following injuries sustained in a vehicle accident; and

WHEREAS, The men and women who died during Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom were courageous patriots and true American heroes, and this state and nation are eternally grateful for their loyal and honorable service; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby pay tribute to the lives of the brave men and women from Fort Bliss who died while serving their country faithfully and courageously in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom; and, be it further

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

SHAPLEIGH