

SENATE JOURNAL

EIGHTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE — FIRST CALLED SESSION

AUSTIN, TEXAS

PROCEEDINGS

FOURTH DAY

(Tuesday, June 20, 2023)

The Senate met at 11:28 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, Creighton, Eckhardt, Flores, Gutierrez, Hall, Hancock, Hinojosa, Huffman, Hughes, Johnson, King, Kolkhorst, LaMantia, Menéndez, Middleton, Miles, Parker, Paxton, Perry, Schwertner, Sparks, Springer, West, Whitmire, Zaffirini.

Absent-excused: Nichols.

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

Senator Kolkhorst offered the invocation as follows:

Colossians 4:2 says, Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. Father, we come here today with our hearts full of thanks for so many things, for our country, for our families, for our ability to serve the people of this great state. Father, guide us in the days, the hours, the weeks to come. Guide us, be our constant guide, and may we look to You for wisdom and strength. Amen.

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

The motion prevailed without objection.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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

SENATE BILL AND RESOLUTION ON FIRST READING

The following bill and resolution were introduced, read first time, and referred to the committee indicated:

SB 26 by Bettencourt

Relating to providing property tax relief through the public school finance system, exemptions, and limitations on taxes and providing franchise tax relief.

To Committee on Finance.

SJR 2 by Bettencourt

Proposing a constitutional amendment to increase the amount of the exemption from ad valorem taxation by a school district applicable to residence homesteads, to adjust the amount of the limitation on school district ad valorem taxes imposed on the residence homesteads of the elderly or disabled to reflect increases in certain exemption amounts, and to except certain appropriations to pay for school district ad valorem tax relief from the constitutional limitation on the rate of growth of appropriations.

To Committee on Finance.

**SENATE RULES SUSPENDED
(Posting Rules)**

On motion of Senator Huffman and by unanimous consent, Senate Rule 11.10(a) and Senate Rule 11.18(a) were suspended in order that the Committee on Finance might meet and consider the following bill and resolution immediately upon recess today in the Betty King Committee Room, 2E.20: **SB 26, SJR 2.**

RECESS

On motion of Senator Whitmire, the Senate at 11:35 a.m. recessed until 11:55 a.m. today.

AFTER RECESS

The Senate met at 12:16 p.m. and was called to order by the President.

ORDERED NOT PRINTED

On motion of Senator Huffman and by unanimous consent, **SJR 2** and **SB 26** were ordered not printed.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 2

On motion of Senator Bettencourt and by unanimous consent, Senate Rule 10.01 was suspended to take up for consideration **SJR 2** at this time.

The President laid before the Senate the following resolution:

SJR 2, Proposing a constitutional amendment to increase the amount of the exemption from ad valorem taxation by a school district applicable to residence homesteads, to adjust the amount of the limitation on school district ad valorem taxes imposed on the residence homesteads of the elderly or disabled to reflect increases in certain exemption amounts, and to except certain appropriations to pay for school district ad valorem tax relief from the constitutional limitation on the rate of growth of appropriations.

BETTENCOURT

The resolution was read second time.

On motion of Senator Bettencourt and by unanimous consent, the resolution was adopted by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Absent-excused: Nichols.

SENATE BILL 26 ON SECOND READING

Senator Bettencourt moved to suspend the Constitutional Three-day Rule and the regular order of business to take up for consideration **SB 26** at this time on its second reading:

SB 26, Relating to providing property tax relief through the public school finance system, exemptions, and limitations on taxes and providing franchise tax relief.

The motion prevailed by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Absent-excused: Nichols.

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: Nichols.

SENATE BILL 26 ON THIRD READING

Senator Bettencourt moved that Senate Rule 7.18 and the Constitutional Rule requiring bills to be read on three several days be suspended and that **SB 26** be placed on its third reading and final passage.

The motion prevailed by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Absent-excused: Nichols.

The bill was read third time and was passed by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0. (Same as previous roll call)

RECESS

On motion of Senator Whitmire, the Senate at 12:48 p.m. recessed until 6:00 p.m. today.

AFTER RECESS

The Senate met at 6:12 p.m. and was called to order by Senator Eckhardt.

RECESS

On motion of Senator Hughes, the Senate at 6:13 p.m. recessed until 9:00 p.m. today.

AFTER RECESS

The Senate met at 9:07 p.m. and was called to order by President Pro Tempore Schwertner.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 5

On motion of Senator Flores, Senator King will be shown as Co-author of **SB 5**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 9

On motion of Senator King, Senator Parker will be shown as Co-author of **SB 9**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 17

On motion of Senator Parker, Senator King will be shown as Co-author of **SB 17**.

CO-AUTHOR OF SENATE BILL 19

On motion of Senator Middleton, Senator King will be shown as Co-author of **SB 19**.

CO-AUTHORS OF SENATE BILL 26

On motion of Senator Bettencourt, Senators Alvarado, Birdwell, Blanco, Campbell, Creighton, Flores, Hall, Hancock, Hinojosa, Huffman, Hughes, King, Kolkhorst, LaMantia, Menéndez, Middleton, Miles, Parker, Paxton, Perry, Schwertner, Sparks, Springer, West, Whitmire, and Zaffirini will be shown as Co-authors of **SB 26**.

CO-AUTHORS OF SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 2

On motion of Senator Bettencourt, Senators Alvarado, Birdwell, Blanco, Campbell, Creighton, Flores, Hall, Hancock, Hinojosa, Huffman, Hughes, King, Kolkhorst, LaMantia, Menéndez, Middleton, Miles, Parker, Paxton, Perry, Schwertner, Sparks, Springer, West, Whitmire, and Zaffirini will be shown as Co-authors of **SJR 2**.

RESOLUTIONS OF RECOGNITION

The following resolutions were adopted by the Senate:

Memorial Resolutions

- SR 21** by Hughes, In memory of Ella Bea Haywood.
- SR 22** by Hughes, In memory of Tonja Geanice Fields.
- SR 23** by Hughes, In memory of James C. Gilbert.
- SR 24** by Hughes, In memory of Tina Marie Foster.
- SR 25** by Hughes, In memory of Colton O'Neil Stults.
- SR 26** by Hughes, In memory of Andy Frank McPherson.
- SR 27** by Hughes, In memory of Jason Austin Fricks.
- SR 28** by Hughes, In memory of William Elbert Box.
- SR 29** by Hughes, In memory of Dorothy Joe Woods.
- SR 32** by Hughes, In memory of Linda E. Hughes.
- SR 33** by Hughes, In memory of Billy Bates Hedges.
- SR 34** by Hughes, In memory of Bill Sullivan Jr.

Congratulatory Resolutions

- SR 30** by Campbell, Recognizing the James Madison High School Cowboy Smokers barbecue team for winning a national title.
- SR 31** by West, Recognizing Bobby Waddle on the occasion of his 90th birthday.

RECESS

On motion of Senator Bettencourt, the Senate at 9:08 p.m. recessed 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:

June 20, 2023

FINANCE — **SJR 2, SB 26**

BILL ENGROSSED

June 20, 2023

SB 26

RESOLUTIONS ENROLLED

June 20, 2023

SR 21, SR 22, SR 23, SR 24, SR 25, SR 26, SR 27, SR 28, SR 29, SR 30, SR 31, SR 32, SR 33, SR 34

