

MINUTES

SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Monday, July 11, 2022

10:00 AM

Capitol Extension, Room E1.036

Pursuant to a notice posted in accordance with Senate Rule 11.10 and 11.18, a public hearing of the Senate Committee on Finance was held on Monday, July 11, 2022, in the Capitol Extension, Room E1.036, at Austin, Texas.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Joan Huffman, Chair
Senator Juan Hinojosa, Vice Chair
Senator Dawn Buckingham
Senator Donna Campbell
Senator Brandon Creighton
Senator Lois Kolkhorst
Senator Jane Nelson
Senator Robert Nichols
Senator Charles Perry
Senator Charles Schwertner
Senator Royce West
Senator John Whitmire

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Senator Paul Bettencourt
Senator Kelly Hancock
Senator Bryan Hughes

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM. There being a quorum present, the following business was transacted:

Senator Huffman made opening remarks.

The Committee heard invited and public testimony on the following interim charge:

Federal Funds - Report on the state use of federal COVID-19 relief funds provided under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, the American Rescue Plan Act, Infrastructure Investment and

Jobs Acts, and similar federal legislation. Examine local use of federal relief funding, including funding provided to school districts through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund. Evaluate the overall fiscal impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on state agencies, including costs incurred due to federal mandates. Identify barriers to the effective utilization of funds and make recommendations on the expenditure of unappropriated funds. In addition, evaluate and report on the spending by state agencies that have been utilizing "one-time" federal funding (temporary enhancements, e.g. FMAP and ESSER) sources, where federal funding will likely be significantly reduced in future biennia.

Witnesses testifying and registering are shown on the attached list.

The Chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.

There being no further business, at 3:33 PM Senator Huffman moved that the Committee stand recessed subject to the call of the chair. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Senator Joan Huffman, Chair

Stephanie Hoover, Clerk