

## **The House Committee on Appropriations**

88th Legislature

March 16, 2023

8:00 a.m.

E1.030

Pursuant to a notice posted on March 10, 2023, and permission granted on March 16, 2023, to meet while the House was in session, the House Committee on Appropriations met in a public hearing and was called to order by the chair, Representative Bonnen, at 8:06 a.m.

The initial quorum call was answered as follows: Representatives Bonnen; González, Mary; Allison; Bell, Cecil; Bryant; DeAyala; Gates; Gervin-Hawkins; Howard; Isaac; Jetton; Martinez; Morrison; Orr; Ortega; Spiller; Stucky; Tepper; Thimesch; Thompson, Ed; Toth; VanDeaver; Walle; and Wu.

A quorum was present.

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(Representative Martinez Fischer now present.)

**Article II**

(Representative Jetton in chair.)

The Chair laid out subcommittee recommendations for the agencies in Article II.

(Representative Bonnen in chair.)

Agencies included in Article II

Department of Family and Protective Services  
Department of State Health Services  
Health and Human Services Commission  
Special Provisions relating to Article II

Testimony taken/registration recorded. (See attached witness list.)

Representative Howard moved the adoption of subcommittee recommendations for Article II.

The motion was adopted without objection.

**Articles I, IV, V**

(Representative González, Mary in chair.)

The Chair laid out subcommittee recommendations for the agencies in Articles I, IV, and V.

(Representative Bonnen in chair.)

Agencies included in Article I

Commission on the Arts  
Office of the Attorney General  
Bond Review Board  
Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas  
Comptroller of Public Accounts  
The Fiscal Programs - Comptroller of Public Accounts  
Social Security and Benefit Replacement Pay  
Commission on State Emergency Communications  
Texas Emergency Services Retirement System  
Employees Retirement System  
Texas Ethics Commission  
Facilities Commission

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Lease Payments, Facilities Commission  
Texas Public Finance Authority  
General Obligation Bond Debt Service Payments, TPFA  
Office of the Governor  
Trusted Programs within the Office of the Governor  
Historical Commission  
Department of Information Resources  
Library & Archives Commission  
Pension Review Board  
Preservation Board  
State Office of Risk Management  
Secretary of State  
Veterans Commission

Testimony taken/registration recorded. (See attached witness list.)

Representative Spiller moved the adoption of subcommittee recommendations for Article I.

The motion was adopted without objection.

Agencies in Article IV

Supreme Court of Texas  
Court of Criminal Appeals  
14 Courts of Appeals  
Office of Court Administration Office of Capital and Forensic Writs  
Office of the State Prosecuting Attorney  
State Law Library  
State Commission on Judicial Conduct  
Judiciary Section, The Comptroller's Department  
Special Provisions relating to all Article IV agencies

Testimony taken/registration recorded. (See attached witness list.)

Representative DeAyala moved the adoption of subcommittee recommendations for Article IV.

The motion was adopted without objection.

Agencies in Article V

Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission  
Department of Criminal Justice  
Commission on Fire Protection Commission on Jail Standards  
Juvenile Justice Department  
Commission on Law Enforcement  
Texas Military Department

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Texas Department of Public Safety

Testimony taken/registration recorded. (See attached witness list.)

Representative Allison moved the adoption of subcommittee recommendations for Article V.

The motion was adopted without objection.

**Articles VI, VII, and VIII**

(Representative Rose now present.)

(Representative Walle in chair.)

The Chair laid out subcommittee recommendations for the agencies in Articles VI, VII, and VIII.

(Representative Bonnen in chair.)

Agencies included in Article VI

Texas Department of Agriculture

Animal Health Commission

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

General Land Office and Veterans' Land Board

Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact Commission

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Railroad Commission

Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board

Water Development Board

Testimony taken/registration recorded. (See attached witness list.)

Representative Bell moved the adoption of subcommittee recommendations for Article VI.

The motion was adopted without objection.

At 9:47 a.m., on the motion of the chair and without objection, the meeting was recessed until upon final adjourn./recess or bill referral if permission granted.

The committee reconvened at 11:20 a.m. and was called to order by the chair, Representative Bonnen.

The quorum call was answered as follows: Representatives Bonnen; González, Mary; Allison; Bell, Cecil; Bryant; Gates; Gervin-Hawkins; Howard; Isaac; Martinez; Morrison; Orr; Ortega; Rose; Spiller; Stucky; Tepper; Thompson, Ed; Toth; VanDeaver; and Wu.

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A quorum was present.

The Chair laid out subcommittee recommendations for the agencies in Articles VII, and VIII.

(Representatives Jetton, Thimesch, and Walle now present.)

Agencies included in Article VII

Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs  
Texas Lottery Commission  
Texas Department of Motor Vehicles  
Texas Department of Transportation  
Texas Workforce Commission  
Reimbursements to the UC Benefit Account

Testimony taken/registration recorded. (See attached witness list.)

Representative Thompson, Ed moved the adoption of subcommittee recommendations for Article VII.

The motion was adopted without objection.

Agencies included in Article VIII

State Office of Administrative Hearings  
Board of Chiropractic Examiners  
Board of Dental Examiners  
Funeral Service Commission  
Board of Professional Geoscientists  
Health Professions Council  
Office of Injured Employee Council  
Department of Insurance  
Office of Public Insurance Counsel  
Board of Professional Land Surveying  
Department of Licensing and Regulation  
Texas Medical Board  
Board of Nursing  
Optometry Board  
Board of Pharmacy  
Executive Council of Physical Therapy & Occupational Therapy Examiners  
Board of Plumbing Examiners  
Board of Examiners of Psychologists  
Racing Commission  
State Securities Board  
Public Utility Commission  
Office of Public Utility Counsel

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Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners  
Special Provisions relating to all of Article VIII

Testimony taken/registration recorded. (See attached witness list.)

Representative Toth moved the adoption of subcommittee recommendations for Article VIII.

The motion was adopted without objection.

**Article III**

(Representatives Martinez Fischer, and DeAyala now present.)

(Representative VanDeaver in chair.)

The Chair laid out subcommittee recommendations for the agencies in Article III Public Education and Higher Education.

(Representative Bonnen in chair.)

Agencies included in Article III – Public Education

Texas Education Agency  
School for the Blind and Visually Impaired  
School for the Deaf  
Special Provisions - School for the Blind and Visually Impaired and School for the Deaf  
Teacher Retirement System  
Optional Retirement Program

Testimony taken/registration recorded. (See attached witness list.)

The committee stood at ease briefly.

The Chair called the committee back to order.

Agencies included in Article III – Higher Education

The Higher Education Employees Group Insurance Contributions  
The Higher Education Coordinating Board  
Available University Fund  
Higher Education Fund  
National Research University Fund  
Support for Military and Veterans Exemptions  
General Academic Institutions  
Health Related Institutions  
Public Community/Junior Colleges

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Texas AgriLife Research  
Texas AgriLife Extension Service  
Texas Engineering Experiment Station  
Texas A&M Transportation Institute  
Texas Engineering Extension Service  
Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Lab  
Texas Division of Emergency Management  
Special Provisions Relating Only to Components of Texas State Technical College  
Special Provisions Relating Only to State Agencies of Higher Education

Testimony taken/registration recorded. (See attached witness list.)

Representative Walle moved to sever rider 186 from the Article III Higher Education Rider Packet and not include the rider in the recommendations.

The motion failed by the following record vote:

Ayes: Representatives González, Mary; Bryant; Gervin-Hawkins; Howard; Martinez; Martinez Fischer; Ortega; Rose; Walle; Wu (10).

Nays: Representatives Bonnen; Allison; Bell, Cecil; DeAyala; Gates; Isaac; Jetton; Morrison; Orr; Spiller; Stucky; Tepper; Thimesch; Thompson, Ed; Toth; VanDeaver (16).

Present, Not Voting: None (0).

Absent: Representative Johnson, Jarvis (1).

Representative Morrison moved the adoption of subcommittee recommendations for Article III Public Education and Higher Education.

Representative Gervin-Hawkins requested a record vote.

The motion prevailed by the following record vote:

Ayes: Representatives Bonnen; González, Mary; Allison; Bell, Cecil; DeAyala; Gates; Howard; Isaac; Jetton; Martinez; Morrison; Orr; Ortega; Rose; Spiller; Stucky; Tepper; Thimesch; Thompson, Ed; Toth; VanDeaver; Walle; Wu (23).

Nays: Representative Bryant (1).

Present, Not Voting: Representative Gervin-Hawkins (1).

Absent: Representatives Johnson, Jarvis; Martinez Fischer (2).

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### Articles IX and X

The Chair laid out recommendations for the agencies in Articles IX and X.

Agencies included in Article IX and X

General Provisions for all Articles

Senate

House of Representatives

Legislative Budget Board

Legislative Council

Commission on Uniform State Laws

Sunset Advisory Commission

State Auditor's Office

Legislative Reference Library

Retirement and Group Insurance

Social Security and Benefit Replacement Pay

Lease Payments

Special Provisions Relating to the Legislature

Representative VanDeaver moved the adoption of recommendations for Articles IX and X.

The motion was adopted without objection.

With the consent of the Committee, the Chair directs the Legislative Budget Board staff to do the following in order to produce the committee substitute for House Bill 1:

Ensure that FTE adjustments are made to conform to committee decisions.

Adjust the informational item on agencies that generate their own revenues to ensure that the agencies generate enough money to cover not only the amounts identified within the bill pattern but also indirect costs such as employee benefits, social security, etc. if appropriated elsewhere in the bill. This information will be based on the decisions adopted by the full committee for employee benefits.

Adjust informational items following each agency's bill pattern that identifies "Object of Expense Informational Listing" to conform to the committee's decisions.

Make technical adjustments to riders and performance measure targets to conform to committee's decisions.

Align appropriations among strategies and methods of finance, between years and to the appropriate bill patterns to conform to committee decisions.



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Adjust the informational listing in agency bill patterns for the percentage of funds available to the agency represented in the agency's bill pattern to conform to committee decisions.

Adjust the provisions and informational listings in Article IX, including the informational listing of Appropriations for Mental Health Services, to conform to committee decisions.

Adjust capital budget authority to conform to committee decisions.

Adjust the employee benefits (retirement, group insurance, social security, benefit replacement) appropriations to reflect final FTE counts based upon the policies established by the House Appropriations Committee.

Allocate appropriations from General Provisions and General Government agencies to the appropriate agency or functional grouping of agencies by Method of Financing for items that are made elsewhere, such as Retirement and Group Insurance, Social Security and Benefit Replacement Pay, Bond Debt Service Payments, and Lease Payments.

At the discretion of the House Appropriations Committee Chairman, make necessary technical adjustments.

At 2:06 p.m., on the motion of the chair and without objection, the meeting was adjourned subject to the call of the chair.

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Rep. Bonnen, Chair

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Cameron Cocke, Clerk