

## **MINUTES**

### **SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

Wednesday, April 9, 2025

8:00 AM

Capitol Extension, Room E1.016

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Pursuant to a notice posted in accordance with Senate Rule 11.10 and 11.18, a public hearing of the Senate Committee on Transportation was held on Wednesday, April 9, 2025, in the Capitol Extension, Room E1.016, at Austin, Texas.

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#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Senator Robert Nichols, Chair  
Senator Royce West, Vice Chair  
Senator Paul Bettencourt  
Senator Brent Hagenbuch  
Senator Juan Hinojosa  
Senator Nathan Johnson  
Senator Borris Miles  
Senator Charles Perry

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Senator Phil King

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The chair called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM. The following business was transacted:

The chair laid out SB 39 and recognized the author, Senator Birdwell, to explain the bill. Senator Bettencourt sent up a committee substitute.

The roll was called, and a quorum was established.

The chair recognized Senator Birdwell to explain the difference between the committee substitute and the senate bill as filed. Witnesses testifying and registering on the bill are shown on the attached list.

Senator West assumed the chair.

Testimony continued.

Senator Nichols resumed the chair.

Testimony continued.

Senator Johnson assumed the chair.

Testimony continued.

Senator Nichols resumed the chair.

Testimony continued.

The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.  
Senator Nichols moved that SB 39 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SB 2246 and recognized the author, Senator West, to explain the bill.  
Witnesses testifying and registering on the bill are shown on the attached list. The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Nichols moved that SB 2246 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SB 2722 and recognized the author, Senator Bettencourt, to explain the bill.  
Senator Bettencourt sent up a committee substitute. The chair recognized Senator Bettencourt to explain the difference between the committee substitute and the senate bill as filed. Witnesses testifying and registering on the bill are shown on the attached list. Senator Nichols moved that SB 2722 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

There being no further business, at 11:06 AM Senator Nichols moved that the Committee stand recessed until after adjournment of the Senate. Without objection, it was so ordered.

At 3:20 PM Senator Nichols reconvened the meeting.

The chair laid out SB 2722, which had been left pending earlier in the hearing. Testimony continued. The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Nichols moved that SB 2722 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SB 2129 and recognized the author, Senator Johnson, to explain the bill. Witnesses testifying and registering on the bill are shown on the attached list. The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Nichols moved that SB 2129 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SB 2323 and recognized the author, Senator Johnson, to explain the bill. Senator Johnson sent up a committee substitute. The chair recognized Senator Johnson to explain the difference between the committee substitute and the senate bill as filed. Witnesses testifying and registering on the bill are shown on the attached list. The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Nichols moved that SB 2323 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SB 2141 and recognized Senator Hinojosa, in the absence of the author, to explain the bill. Senator Hinojosa sent up a committee substitute. The chair recognized Senator Hinojosa to explain the difference between the committee substitute and the senate bill as filed. Witnesses testifying and registering on the bill are shown on the attached list. The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Nichols moved that SB 2141 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SB 2439 and recognized Senator Hinojosa, in the absence of the author, to explain the bill. Witnesses testifying and registering on the bill are shown on the attached list. The chair moved that the public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Nichols moved that SB 2439 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SB 2129, which had been left pending earlier in the hearing. Senator Johnson moved that SB 2129 be reported favorably to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 8 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 1 absent. Senator West and Senator Perry requested unanimous consent to be shown voting aye; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Johnson moved that the bill be recommended for placement on the Local & Uncontested Calendar; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SB 2141, which had been left pending earlier in the hearing. Senator Hinojosa moved adoption of a committee substitute sent up earlier in the hearing; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Hinojosa moved that SB 2141 do not pass but that CSSB 2141 be reported back to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 8 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 1 absent. Senator West and

Senator Perry requested unanimous consent to be shown voting aye; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Hinojosa moved that the bill be recommended for placement on the Local & Uncontested Calendar; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SB 2246, which had been left pending earlier in the hearing. Senator Miles moved that SB 2246 be reported favorably to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 8 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 1 absent. Senator West and Senator Perry requested unanimous consent to be shown voting aye; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Bettencourt moved that the bill be recommended for placement on the Local & Uncontested Calendar; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SB 2323, which had been left pending earlier in the hearing. Senator Johnson moved adoption of a committee substitute sent up earlier in the hearing; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Johnson moved that SB 2323 do not pass but that CSSB 2323 be reported back to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 8 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 1 absent. Senator West and Senator Perry requested unanimous consent to be shown voting aye; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Johnson moved that the bill be recommended for placement on the Local & Uncontested Calendar; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SB 2439, which had been left pending earlier in the hearing. Senator Hinojosa moved that SB 2439 be reported favorably to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 8 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 1 absent. Senator West and Senator Perry requested unanimous consent to be shown voting aye; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Hinojosa moved that the bill be recommended for placement on the Local & Uncontested Calendar; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SB 546, which had been left pending at a previous hearing. Senator Hinojosa moved to withdraw a committee substitute sent up at a previous hearing; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Hinojosa sent up a committee substitute. The chair recognized Senator Hinojosa to explain the difference between the committee substitute and the senate bill as filed. Senator Nichols moved that SB 546 be left pending; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SB 1745, which had been left pending at a previous hearing. Senator Hagenbuch moved adoption of a committee substitute sent up at a previous hearing; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Hagenbuch moved that SB 1745 do not pass but that CSSB 1745 be reported back to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 8 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 1 absent. Senator

West requested unanimous consent to be shown voting aye; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Bettencourt moved that the bill be recommended for placement on the Local & Uncontested Calendar; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SB 1746, which had been left pending at a previous hearing. Senator Hagenbuch moved to withdraw a committee substitute sent up at a previous hearing; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Hagenbuch sent up a committee substitute. The chair recognized Senator Hagenbuch to explain the difference between the committee substitute and the senate bill as filed. Senator Hagenbuch moved adoption of the committee substitute; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Hagenbuch moved that SB 1746 do not pass but that CSSB 1746 be reported back to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 present not voting, and 2 absent. Senator Hagenbuch moved that the bill be recommended for placement on the Local & Uncontested Calendar; without objection, it was so ordered.

The chair laid out SB 546, which had been left pending earlier in the hearing. Senator Hinojosa moved adoption of the committee substitute; without objection, it was so ordered. Senator Hinojosa moved that SB 546 do not pass but that CSSB 546 be reported back to the Senate with the recommendation that it do pass and be printed. The motion carried with a record vote of 6 ayes, 2 nays, 0 present not voting, and 1 absent. Senator West requested unanimous consent to be shown voting aye; without objection, it was so ordered.

There being no further business, at 5:27 PM Senator Nichols moved that the Committee stand recessed subject to the call of the chair. Without objection, it was so ordered.

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Senator Robert Nichols, Chair

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Amy Jeter, Clerk