

June 21, 2021

City Council Work Session, Item 7

87th Texas Legislature

End of Session Update



Goal 6. Set the standard for sound governance and fiscal management

Provide an update on:

- Bills Filed
- City's Priority Legislative Initiatives
- City Related Bills Effective Immediately
- July 6 Update by Focused Advocacy on Special Session(s?) and Overall Political Atmosphere of Regular Session
- Council Direction on Adopting Special Session Legislative Agenda

El Paso State Delegation



Sen. Blanco

- Health & Human Services
- Higher Education
- Transportation
- Veteran Affairs & Border Security



Rep. Fierro

- Elections
- Licensing & Administrative Procedures



Rep. González

- Vice Chair, Appropriations
- Public Education



Rep. Moody

- Vice Chair, Calendars
- Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence
- Redistricting



Rep. Ortega

- Higher Education
- Transportation



Rep. Ordaz Perez

- Business & Industry
- International Relations & Economic Development
- Resolutions Calendars

Current and Past Legislative Bill Activity

- **2017 Session:** 6,800 filed, more than 2,000 were city related; 1,220 passed of which 290 were city related
- **2019 Session:** 7,541 filed, more than 2,000 were city related; 4,581 passed of which 338 were city related
- **2021 Session:** 9,994 filed, more than 1,069 were city related; 3,798 passed which 249 were city related

City Priority Legislative Initiatives

- Appropriate money for the Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant (DEAAG)
30 million dollars to the Program in the Appropriations Bill.
- Appropriate funding for the Wyler Aerial Tramway
5 million additional dollars to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for Repairs
- Seek legislation that will provide for more economic incentives and support for solar and renewable energy initiatives.
Bill filed by Senator Blanco did not get a committee hearing

City Priority Legislative Initiatives cont.

- Seek legislation that will clearly allow municipalities to convey city owned property as part of Chapter 380 economic development agreement
- Seek legislation that will expand program eligibility under the Texas Economic Development Act to include back office and large-scale warehouse distribution companies and extend the Act.

Neither the House or Senate bills filed by El Paso delegation made it to a Committee. Bills filed by members of other cities' delegation to extend the Act also did not pass.

Expires in December 2022.

City Priority Legislative Initiatives cont.

- Seek legislation that will strengthen community safety and prevent mass violence by strengthening existing laws to allow for a stronger more efficiently and consistently enforcement of laws and new legislation that will assist in the identification of risk indicators for potential threat to include the use and role of mental health professionals and ways to reduce the risk.

SB 162/ HB 347 - Relating to a false or misleading statement made to illegally acquire a firearm; creating a criminal offense. SB 162 passed and signed.

SB 168/HB 1016 - Relating to emergency school drills and exercises conducted by public schools. SB 168 passed and signed, eff. imm.

HB 103 - Requires the Texas Department of Public Safety to establish the Texas Active Shooter Alert System. Passed and signed.

City Priority Legislative Initiatives (cont.)

- Seek legislation concerning police reform and training that will enhance and foster public trust in the police department, to include the appropriation of funding to municipalities for the acquisition of police body cameras and storage of data obtained by body cameras
 - 15 Million Dollars was allocated in the Governor's Trusteed Program to the Body Worn Camera Program, Appropriations Bill
 - HB 323 - Relating to a law enforcement agency accreditation grant program.
 - HB 1938 - Relating to a grant program for law enforcement agencies to defray the cost of data storage for recordings created with body worn cameras

Police Reform Bills That Passed

- **SB 2212** Relating to the duty of a peace officer to request and render aid for an injured person.
- **SB 69** Relating to a duty for peace officers to intervene and make a report when a peace officer uses excessive force.
- **HB 3712** Relating to the training of and policies for peace officers.
- **SB 24** Relating to the procedures required before a law enforcement agency hires certain persons.
- **HB 54** Relating to accompanying and filming peace officers of state and local law enforcement agencies for producing reality television programs. (signed)

City Related Bills Signed by the Governor that are Effective Immediately



- **SB 3** Relating to preparing for, preventing, and responding to weather emergencies and power outages; increasing the amount of administrative and civil penalties.
- **SB 742** Relating to installment payments of ad valorem taxes on property in a disaster area or emergency area.
- **HB 17** relating to a restriction on the regulation of utility services and infrastructure based on the energy source to be used or delivered.
- **SB 858** Relating to the disclosure of information collected by a metropolitan rapid transit authority, regional transportation authority, municipal transit department, or coordinated county transportation authority under the public information law.

City Related Bills Signed by the Governor that are Effective Immediately cont.



- **HB 1118** Relating to state agency and local government compliance with cybersecurity training requirements.
- **SB 1334** Relating to the donation to the United States of certain facilities relating to a toll bridge by certain municipalities.
- **SB 877** Relating to the inspection of municipal buildings during a declared disaster.
- **HB 1276** Relating to the sale of certain food by food service establishments
- **SB 1122** Relating to participation in the comptroller's contracts for travel services.
- **SB 780** Relating to the authority of a local government to enter into an intergovernmental support agreement with a branch of the armed forces of the United States.

Other City Related Bills Signed by the Governor

- **HB 1900** Police Defunding
- **HB 914** Relating to the authority of certain municipal employees to request the removal and storage of certain abandoned or illegally parked vehicles
- **HB 1428** Relating to procurement by a political subdivision of a contingent fee contract for legal services.
- **SB 721** to the disclosure of appraisal reports in connection with the use of eminent domain authority.
- **HB 139** Relating to state occupational licensing of certain military veterans and military spouses
- **HB 2404** Relating to the creation and maintenance of a database of information regarding certain local economic development agreements; providing a civil penalty

City Related Bills (Pandemic Related) That Have Passed in Senate and House

- **SB 6** Relating to liability for certain claims arising during a pandemic or disaster related to a pandemic.
- **SB 967** Relating to the expiration of Public Health Orders.
- **SB 968** Relating to public health disaster and public health emergency preparedness and response; providing a civil penalty.
- **HB 2073** Relating to quarantine leave for fire fighters, peace officers, detention officers, and emergency medical technicians employed by, appointed by, or elected for a political subdivision.
- **SB 22** Relating to certain claims for benefits, compensation, or assistance by certain public safety employees and survivors of certain public safety employees.

City Related Bills That Have Passed in Senate and House

- **SB 1** General Appropriations Bill.
- **HB 5** Relating to the expansion of broadband services to certain areas.
- **SB 4** Relating to provisions in agreements between governmental entities and professional sports teams requiring the United States national anthem to be played at team events.
- **HB 33** - Relating to measures to facilitate the award of postsecondary course credit leading to workforce credentialing based on military experience, education, and training.
- **SB 1308** Relating to a study on the impacts of using certain motor vehicle technologies.

City Related Bills That Have Passed in Senate and House

- **HB 1869** Relating to the definition of debt for the purposes of calculating certain ad valorem tax rates of a taxing unit.
- **HB 1929** Relating to the breach of development agreement contracts governing land in the extraterritorial jurisdiction of certain municipalities.
- **HB 1927** Relating to provisions governing the carrying of a firearm by a person who is 21 years of age or older and not otherwise prohibited by state or federal law from possessing the firearm and to other provisions related to the carrying, possessing, transporting, or storing of a firearm or other weapon; creating criminal offenses
- **SB 1907** Relating to a feasibility study on the colocation of federal and state motor vehicle inspection facilities at ports of entry.

City Related Bills That Have Passed in Senate and House



- **HB 636** - Relating to the continuation and functions of the Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners; authorizing a fee.
- **HB 2025** Relating to certain statutes and governmental actions that relate to the federal census.
- **SB 73** Relating to providing access to local public health entities and certain health service regional offices under Medicaid.
- **SB 726** Relating to establishing actual progress for the purposes of determining the right to repurchase real property from a condemning entity.

City Related Bills That Have Passed in Senate and House



- **SB 374** Relating to municipal annexation of certain rights-of-way.
- **SB 500** Relating to creating the criminal offense of operating a boarding home facility without a permit and to a study regarding the regulation of group homes.
- **SB 988** Relating to ad valorem taxation; creating a criminal offense.
- **SB 1438** Relating to the effect of a disaster on the calculation of certain tax rates and the procedure for adoption of a tax rate by a taxing unit.
- **SB 19** Relating to prohibited contracts with companies that discriminate against the firearm or ammunition industries.

Other City Related Bills Team Monitored that Did not Pass

- **HB 199** Relating to the establishment of a public law school in El Paso County
- **HB 1556** Relating to the Texas Economic Development Act.
- **HB 4242** Relating to the extension of the expiration of certain parts of the Texas Economic Development Act.
- **SB 10** Relating to the use by a county or municipality of public money for lobbying activities
- **SB 1947** Relating to the time for the issuance of municipal building permits.
- **HB 2700** Relating to agreements for municipal maintenance of state highway right-of-way.

Possible Items for the Special Session Legislative Agenda

- State Distribution of Federal Stimulus Funds
Advocate for putting some funds in the grant program for law enforcement agencies to defray the cost of data storage for recordings created with body worn cameras
- Voting Integrity Bill



Questions?