



AUSTIN NEWSLETTER

Texas Farm Bureau's Weekly Newsletter for the 89th Legislature

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Every Friday, this newsletter will keep you up to speed on some of the legislation important to Texas Farm Bureau members that Austin staff are following. Please do not hesitate to contact the appropriate staff with any questions.

Property Rights

HB 4163: Relating to the applicability of certain city requirements to agricultural operations.

Guillen, Ryan

Summary:

HB 4163 adds to the current Texas Right to Farm statute that provides protections for agricultural operations against certain city regulations.

This bill specifically prohibits cities from requiring a farmer or rancher to maintain the vegetation in rights-of-way along public roads adjacent to their land. Farmers and ranchers are not able to utilize the property in the city right-of-way, so they should not be forced to maintain it at their own cost.

This legislation will prevent cities from imposing governmental requirements that could negatively impact farming and ranching activities.

Current Status:

HB 4163 was heard in the House Committee on House Agriculture & Livestock on April 8. Texas Farm Bureau Secretary-Treasurer and District 12 State Director Brian Adamek testified in support of HB 4163. Following normal committee procedure, the bill was left pending in committee.



[Click here](#) to listen to the testimony.

TFB supports HB 4136.

TFB 2025 Policy: Real Property Rights 151, Pg. 63, lines 30-33.

Update on Previously Reported Bills

[SB 503](#): Relating to the establishment of an electronic registry of livestock marks and brands.

[Perry, Charles](#)

This bill was summarized in a previous edition of the [Austin Newsletter](#).

Update:

SB 503 passed out of the Senate with a 31-0 vote. The bill will now go to the House to be considered for a committee hearing.

TFB supports SB 503.

TFB 2025 Policy: Livestock section 120, Page 18, Lines 133-167.

[SB 1035](#): Relating to equitable relief from the enforcement of certain governmental requirements that affect agricultural operations.

[Sparks, Kevin](#)

This bill was summarized in a previous edition of the [Austin Newsletter](#).

Update:

SB 1035 passed out of the Senate with a 28-1 vote. The bill will now go to the House to be considered for a committee hearing.

TFB supports SB 1035.

TFB 2025 Policy: Real Property Rights Section 151, Page 63, Lines 30-33.

[SB 819:](#) Relating to renewable energy generation facilities; authorizing fees.
[Kolkhorst, Lois](#)

This bill was summarized in a previous edition of the [Austin Newsletter](#).

Update:

SB 819 was heard in Senate Committee on Business and Commerce on March 27. Texas Farm Bureau registered in support of the bill. It was voted out of committee with a 7-4 vote.

TFB supports SB 819.

TFB 2025 Policy: Renewable Energy Section 147, Page 55, Lines 40-46

[HB 1400:](#) Relating to creation of the groundwater science, research, and innovation fund to be administered by the Texas Water Development Board.
[Harris, Cody](#)

This bill was summarized in a previous edition of the [Austin Newsletter](#)

Update:

HB 1400 passed out of the House with a 133-14 vote. The bill will now go to the Senate to be considered for a committee hearing.

TFB supports HB 1400.

TFB 2025 Policy: Groundwater Section 154, Page 75, Lines 100-101.

[HB 43:](#) Relating to the Texas Agricultural Finance Authority and to a study and report on plant diseases and pest outbreaks.
[Kitzman, Stan](#)

This bill was summarized in a previous edition of the [Austin Newsletter](#).

Update:

HB 43 was voted out of the House Committee on Agriculture & Livestock on April 9. It will now wait to be scheduled for consideration by the full Texas House of Representatives.

TFB supports HB 43.

TFB 2025 Policy: Banking and Credit Section 174, Page 116, Lines 30-35.

HB 143: Relating to the authority of the Railroad Commission of Texas and the Public Utility Commission of Texas to address a failure by an operator to maintain an electrical power line serving a well site or certain surface facilities in accordance with the National Electrical Code.

[Ken, King](#)

This bill was summarized in a previous edition of the [Austin Newsletter](#).

Update:

HB 143 passed the Texas House of Representatives with a 132-15 vote. It is now referred to Senate Committee on Natural Resources.

TFB supports HB 143.

TFB 2025 Policy: Minerals Section 153, Page 73, Lines 164-166.

HB 17: Relating to the purchase of or acquisition of title to real property by certain aliens or foreign entities; creating a criminal offense.

[Hefner, Cole](#)

This bill was summarized in a previous edition of the [Austin Newsletter](#)

Update:

HB 17 was heard in House Committee on Homeland, Public Safety, Veterans' Affairs on April 2. Texas Farm Bureau registered in support of the bill.

TFB supports HB 17.

TFB 2025 Policy: Real Property Rights Section 151, Page 65, Lines 142-147; Real Property Rights Section 151, Page 67, Lines 261-26

[HB 3000 & SB 1377](#): Relating to a grant program to provide financial assistance to qualified ambulance service providers in certain rural counties.

King, Ken / Perry, Charles

These bills were summarized in an earlier addition of the [Austin Newsletter](#).

Update:

HB 3000 was heard in House Committee on Public Health on March 31. Following normal committee proceedings, the bill was left pending. SB 1377 was heard in Senate Committee on Finance on April 2. The bill was left pending, as well. Texas Farm Bureau registered in support of both bills.

TFB supports HB 3000 and SB 1377.

TFB 2025 Policy: Rural Living Section 184, Page 125, Lines 18-19

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