



AUSTIN NEWSLETTER

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

May 16, 2025 | Regular Session, Issue 18 | 89th Regular Session

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.

Update on Previously Reported Bills

HB 1399 & HJR 99: Relating to an exemption from ad valorem taxation of tangible personal property consisting of animal feed held by the owner of the property for sale at retail.

[Harris, Cody / Nichols, Robert](#)

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

Update:

HB 1399 passed the Texas Senate with a 30-1 vote, and HJR 99 passed the Texas Senate with a 30-1 vote. HB 1399 and HJR 99 have now passed both the House of Representatives and Senate. HB 1399 will be sent to the governor, and HJR 99 will be on the ballot in November.

TFB supports HB 1399 & HJR 99.

TFB 2025 Policy: Other Taxes Section 145, Page 52, Lines 120-121.

HB 2018: Relating to the Texas Farm and Ranch Lands Conservation Program.

[Ashby, Trent / Hinojosa, Adam](#)

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

Update:

HB 2018 passed the Texas Senate with a 30-1 vote. HB 2018 has now passed both the House of Representatives and Senate and will be sent to the governor.

TFB supports HB 2018.

TFB 2025 Policy: Real Property Section 151, Page 63, Lines 16-20.

SB 17: Relating to the purchase of or acquisition of title to real property by certain aliens or foreign entities.

[Kolkhorst, Lois](#)

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

Update:

SB 17 was amended and passed the Texas House of Representatives with an 86-59 vote.

Seven amendments were added to the bill. One amendment to note struck the language exempting leases with foreign individuals/entities up to lease terms of 100 years. The amendment reduced the exempt lease term to one year.

SB 17 has gone back to the Texas Senate, where it did not concur with all the House amendments. The bill will now go to a conference committee to work out the differences.

TFB supports SB 17.

TFB 2025 Policy: Real Property Rights Section 151, Page 65, Lines 142-147; Real Property Rights Section 151, Page 67, Lines 261-263.

HB 3334: Relating to wildfire prevention, mitigation, and response at certain wells under the jurisdiction of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

[King, Ken](#)

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

Update:

HB 3334 passed the Texas House of Representatives with a 104-23 vote. It will now go to the Texas Senate to be considered for a committee hearing.

TFB supports HB 3334.

TFB 2025 Policy: Rural Living Section 184, Page 125, Lines 39-42; Water Disposal Section 158, Page 92, Lines 186-192; Water Disposal Section, Page 92, Lines 196-202.

HB 3619: Relating to the rights and liabilities of the owner of the surface estate of the tract of land on which a well to be plugged or replugged by the Railroad Commission of Texas is located.

[Dean, Jay](#)

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

Update:

HB 3619 passed the Texas House of Representatives with a 144-0 vote. It will now go to the Texas Senate to be considered for a committee hearing.

TFB supports HB 3619.

TFB 2025 Policy: Water Quality Section 157, Page 86, Lines 2-8 & 23-35.

SB 1245 & HB 5398: Relating to the taking of certain aoudad sheep by using a helicopter.

[Blanco, Cesar](#) / [Morales, Eddie](#)

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

Update:

SB 1245 was amended and passed the Texas House of Representatives with a 140-1 vote. The amendment removed the restriction that limited the taking of aoudad sheep to west of the Pecos River.

SB 1245 went back to the Texas Senate where it concurred with the House amendments with a 30-0 vote. SB 1245 has now passed both the House of Representatives and Senate and will be sent to the governor.

TFB supports SB 1245 and HB 2766.

TFB 2025 Policy: Animal Species Generally Section 121, Page 19, Lines 1-6, Page 20, Lines 61-64.

HB 3637 & HJR 88: Relating to the authority of a county commissioners court to adopt an exemption from ad valorem taxation by each taxing unit that taxes the property of the portion of the appraised value of a person's property that is attributable to the installation in or on the property of certain water conservation systems.

[Troxclair, Ellen](#) & [Zwiener, Erin](#)

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

Update:

HB 3637 passed the Texas House of Representatives with a 95-43 vote. It will now go to the Senate to be considered on the Senate floor. HJR 88 passed the Texas House of Representatives with a 104-29 vote. It will now go to the Senate to be considered in a committee hearing.

TFB supports HB 3637 & HJR 88.

TFB 2025 Policy: Property Taxes Section 145, Page 48, Lines 408-411; Water Management Section 156, Page 84, Lines 53-55.

Texas Farm Bureau State Legislative Team

Austin Office Phone: 512-472-8288

Regan Beck, Director of Government Affairs

Email: rbeck@txfb.org

Billy Howe, Association Director of Government Affairs

Issue Areas: Natural Resources, Environmental Regulations, Ethics & Elections, & Appropriations

Email: bhowe@txfb.org

Charlie Leal, State Legislative Director

Issue Areas: Right to Farm, Utility Regulation, Transportation Infrastructure, Trucking Regulations, Liability, & Appropriations

Email: cleal@txfb.org

Blake Roach, Associate Legislative Director

Issue Areas: Foreign Ownership, Property Rights/Land Use Regulation, Energy Regulation, Eminent Domain, Wildlife, Criminal Justice, & Appropriations

Email: broach@txfb.org

Drew Fuller, Associate Legislative Director

Issue Areas: Agriculture, Taxes, Rural Affairs, Labor, & Appropriations

Email: dfuller@txfb.org

Janelle Aello, Legislative Assistant

Email: jaello@txfb.org

Kaitlyn Cloud, Legislative Intern

Email: kcloud@txfb.org