



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.

ACTION ALERT

CALL YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVE TO **OPPOSE** ATRAZINE AND GLYPHOSATE BEING INCLUDED AS FOOD INGREDIENTS IN SB 25!

The Texas House will vote on SB 25 this Saturday, May 24.

SB 25 by Sen. Lois Kolkhorst & Rep. Lacey Hull requires U.S. food products containing certain artificial colors, additives, or chemicals banned in other countries include the following label:

WARNING: This product contains an ingredient that is not recommended for human consumption by the appropriate authority in Australia, Canada, the European Union, or the United Kingdom.

The House version of SB 25 includes two ag herbicides that will trigger this labeling requirement—atrazine and glyphosate

Therefore, any food produced from crops where these herbicides have been applied would trigger the labeling requirement. As a result, food manufacturers could require crops they use for food products to be grown without the use of atrazine or glyphosate. It would be a de facto ban on the use of those agricultural chemicals.

Please use this [Voter Voice Action Alert link](#) to CALL your state representative to oppose atrazine and glyphosate being included in SB 25!

Rep. Hull has offered to “exempt ag” but still list these herbicides in the list of food ingredients. In our opinion, this incorrectly calls into question the safety of food manufactured from these crops.

These herbicides are not food ingredients and are not a threat to food consumers. They should not be included in SB 25.

Update on Previously Reported Bills

HB 43: Relating to the Texas Agriculture Finance Authority and certain programs administer by the authority.

[Kitzman, Stan](#) / [Sparks, Kevin](#)

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

Update:

HB 43 was heard in the Texas Senate Water, Agriculture & Rural Affairs on Monday, May 19. TFB District 12 State Director Brian Adamek and county leaders, Morgan Hodges (Sterling-Coke CFB) and Rodney Schronk (Hill CFB), were in attendance to testify in support of HB 43. It was voted out of the committee with an 8-0 vote. It now waits to be heard on the Senate floor.

TFB supports HB 43.

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

HB 2003: Relating to provision to the Texas Department of Transportation of information regarding certain high-speed rail projects.

[Harris, Cody](#)

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

Update:

HB 2003 passed the Texas Senate with a 22-9 vote. The bill has now passed both the House of Representatives and Senate and will be sent to the governor.

TFB supports HB 2003.

TFB 2025 Policy: Rail Transportation Section 162, Page 100, Lines 41-46.

HB 3679: Relating to the operation of certain vehicles during disasters.

[Tepper, Carl](#)

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

Update:

HB 3679 passed the Texas House of Representatives with a 114-0 vote. It now goes to the Texas Senate to be considered for a committee hearing.

TFB supports HB 3769.

TFB 2025 Policy: Truck Transportation Section 165, Page 104, Lines 89-90.

[HB 4163:](#) Relating to the authority of a city to impose certain governmental requirements on an agricultural operation.

[Guillen, Ryan](#)

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

Update:

HB 4163 was heard in Senate Water, Agriculture & Rural Affairs on Monday, May 19. TFB District 12 State Director Brian Adamek was in attendance to testify in support of the bill. It was then voted out of the committee with an 8-0 vote.

It passed the Texas Senate with a vote of 28-3. It has now passed the Texas House of Representatives and Senate and will be sent to the governor.

TFB supports HB 4136.

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

[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 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 be sent 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 be sent 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.

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