



December 5, 2022
Number 2

Though the Texas Legislature doesn't convene until January 10, moves are already being made that impact the parks and recreation industry. A total of 906 bills were filed on the first day of filing (November 14), which nearly doubled the amount of bills filed in the 87th session on the first day. Each session, the TRAPS Legislative Committee creates a 'Bill Watch' that keeps an eye on bills that are being filed that relate to the TRAPS Advocacy Platform.

So far, nine bills have made it to the TRAPS Bill Watch, covering topics ranging from water safety to community censorship. The Legislative Committee will utilize the approved platform to decide whether to support, oppose, or simply monitor each piece of legislation.

- **OPPOSE**
 - HB 170 (Spiller): Relating to certain requirements applicable to certain public entities that engage in lobbying.
 - SB 175 (Middleton): Relating to the use of a political subdivision of public funds for lobbying activities.
- **SUPPORT**
 - HB 550 (Vasut): Relating to the use of municipal hotel occupancy tax revenue for certain infrastructure projects and public parks.
 - HB 59 (Goodwin): Relating to child water safety requirements for certain organizations; authorizing disciplinary action, including an administrative penalty.
- **MONITOR**
 - HB 149 (Murr): Relating to the sale of park land owned by certain municipalities.
 - HB 162 (Murr): Relating to minimum standards for prescribed burns.
 - HB 293 (Cortez): Relating to waivers for state park entrance fees and hunting and fishing license fees for certain resident first responders.
 - HB 715 (Patterson): Relating to the operation of electric bicycles in a state park.
 - HB 542 (Raymond): Relating to a study on state land use to facilitate health and wellness for veterans.

For our legislative efforts to succeed, we will need the entire parks and recreation community. That includes your staff, parks board members, council members, citizens, friends, family, and anyone else that loves their parks. For more information on the legislative process and how to get involved, visit the TRAPS Legislation and Advocacy page.

TRAPS member cities may use the material herein for any purpose. No other person or entity may reproduce, duplicate, or distribute any part of this document without the written authorization of the Texas Recreation and Park Society.