



**88<sup>th</sup> Session of Texas Legislature ... *Bill Watch Lists***

Date report generated: Tuesday, January 31, 2023 [Companion/Duplicate](#) [Support](#) [Oppose](#) [Monitor](#)

Bill & Author	Caption Text	Analysis	Comments	Status
<a href="#">HB 170</a> (Spiller)	<b>Relating to certain requirements applicable to certain public entities that engage in lobbying.</b>	would: (1) prohibit the governing body of a public entity, including a city, from spending public money or providing other compensation to a lobbyist to communicate directly with one or more members of the legislative branch to influence legislation pending before the legislature unless the expenditure is: (a) authorized by a majority vote of the governing body of the entity in an open meeting of the governing body; and (b) voted on by the governing body as a stand-alone item on the agenda at the meeting; (2) require a public entity that contracts with a lobbyist to publish on the entity's Internet website: (a) the amount of money authorized for the purpose of contracting with the person; (b) the name of the person, (c) a copy of the contract; (d) the amount of money, if any, spent by the entity for membership fees or dues to a nonprofit state association or organization of similarly situated entities that contracts with a lobbyist; and (e) a copy of any current legislative agenda or resolution adopted by the entity; (3) prohibit a lobbyist that contracts with a public entity from communicating directly with a member of the legislative branch on behalf of the entity regarding legislation pending before the legislature that specifically proposes to amend Tax Code Sections 26.04 or 26.041 (dealing with calculation of property tax rates); (4) prohibit a public entity from providing reimbursement to a lobbyist for an expenditure made by the person for food, beverages, or entertainment; (5) provide that if a public entity does not comply with (1) - (4), above, a resident of or person receiving services from the entity may file a sworn complaint with the Texas Ethics Commission against the entity; (6) provide that an officer or employee of a public entity is not prevented from: (a) providing information for a member of the legislative branch; (b) appearing before a legislative committee; or (c) communicating directly with one or more members of the legislative branch to influence legislation pending before the legislature; and (7) repeal the requirement that a political subdivision prominently display on its website a disclosure and itemization of certain expenditures relating to lobbying activities after entering into a consulting services contract.	<b>TRAPS opposes this bill based on 23-24 Public Policy Platform</b>	<b>House:</b> ▪ Filed on 11/14/22
<a href="#">SB 175</a> (Middleton)	<b>Relating to the use of a political subdivision of public funds for lobbying activities.</b>	would: (1) prohibit a political subdivision from spending public funds to: (a) hire an individual required to register as a lobbyist for the purpose of lobbying a member of the Texas legislature; or (b) pay a nonprofit state association or organization that: (i) primarily represents political subdivisions; and (ii) hires or contracts with an individual required to register as a lobbyist; (2) provide that if a political subdivision engages in activity prohibited by (1), above, a taxpayer or resident of the political subdivision is entitled to injunctive relief to prevent any further prohibited activity and any further payments of public funds; and (3) provide that a taxpayer or resident who prevails in an action under (2),	<b>TRAPS opposes this bill based on 23-24 Public Policy Platform</b>	<b>Senate:</b> ▪ Filed on 11/14/22
<a href="#">HB 149</a> (Murr)	<b>Relating to the sale of park land owned by certain municipalities.</b>	would allow any home rule city to sell park land owned by the city without an election if: (1) the park is of two acres or less; (2) the park is no longer usable and functional as a park; (3) the proceeds of the sale will be used to acquire land for park purposes; (4) a public hearing on the proposed conveyance is held by the city council and it is found that the property is no longer usable and functional as a park; and (5) the park is conveyed pursuant to an ordinance adopted by the city council, unless within 60 days from the date of the public hearing the city council is presented with a petition opposing the conveyance, in which case the city council shall either deny the conveyance or shall approve the conveyance subject to holding an election.	<b>TRAPS will monitor this bill closely as it pertains to the ability of ANY home rule city to sell park land within the specifications applicable to cities over 1,000,000 currently.</b>	<b>House:</b> ▪ Filed on 11/14/22
<a href="#">HB 550</a> (Vasut)	<b>Relating to the use of municipal hotel occupancy tax revenue for certain infrastructure projects and public parks.</b>	would: (1) authorize a city to use revenue from the city hotel occupancy tax to promote tourism and the convention and hotel industry by: (a) acquiring, constructing, repairing, remodeling, or expanding certain qualified infrastructure that is owned by the city and that is located not more than one mile from a hotel; and (b) making improvements to a public park that is owned by the city and that is located not more than one mile from a hotel; (2) provide that the amount of city hotel occupancy tax revenue a city may use in a		<b>House:</b> ▪ Filed on 11/14/22

		fiscal year as provided by (1), above, may not exceed 20 percent of the amount of revenue the city collected from that tax during the preceding fiscal year; and (3) provide that a city that uses city hotel occupancy tax revenue in accordance with (1), above: (a) may reserve not more than 20 percent of the revenue from that tax collected in a fiscal year for use for the same purposes during the succeeding three fiscal years; and (b) may not reduce the percentage of revenue from the tax allocated for the purposes of advertising and promotional programs to attract tourists and convention delegates or registrants to the city or its vicinity to a percentage that is less than the average percentage of the revenue from that tax allocated by the city for the same purposes during the 36-month per		
<b>HB 162</b> (Murr)	<b>Relating to minimum standards for prescribed burns.</b>	Would require that a certified and insured prescribed burn manager act as the burn boss and must be present on site during the conduct of the prescribed burn if listed by the prescription plan.		<b>House:</b> ▪ Filed on 11/14/22
<b>HB 293</b> (Cortez)	<b>Relating to waivers for state park entrance fees and hunting and fishing license fees for certain resident first responders.</b>			<b>House:</b> ▪ Filed on 11/14/22
<b>HB 715</b> (Patterson)	<b>Relating to the operation of electric bicycles in a state park.</b>			<b>House:</b> ▪ Filed on 11/15/22
<b>HB 542</b> (Raymond)	<b>Relating to a study on state land use to facilitate health and wellness for veterans.</b>			<b>House:</b> ▪ Filed on 11/14/22
<b>HB 59</b> (Goodwin) <b>SB 591</b> (Zaffirini)	<b>Relating to child water safety requirements for certain organizations; authorizing disciplinary action, including an administrative penalty.</b>	would: (1) provide that an organization, including a school, preschool, kindergarten, nursery school, day camp, or youth camp that takes a child in its care or under its supervision to a body of water (including a pool) or otherwise allows a child access to a body of water shall: (a) determine whether the child is able to swim or is at risk when swimming; and (b) if the organization does not own or operate the body of water, provide the owner or operator of the body of water a written or electronic disclosure that clearly identifies each child who is unable to swim or is at risk when swimming; and (2) require the organization, during the time each child who is unable to swim or is at risk when swimming has access to a body of water, to: (a) provide the child an approved personal flotation device; and (b) ensure the child is wearing the appropriate personal flotation device and the device is properly fitted for the child.		<b>House:</b> ▪ Filed on 11/14/22 <b>Senate:</b> ▪ Filed on 11/14/22
<b>HB 1526</b> (Harris) <b>SB 558</b> (Hughes)	<b>Relating to parkland dedication for property development by certain municipalities; authorizing a fee.</b>	would provide, among other things, that for a city with a population of more than 800,000: (1) the city must designate every area within the city as either suburban, urban or central business district; (2) the appraisal district must calculate average land values for each district in the city; (3) a city that requires a landowner to dedicate a portion of the landowner's property for parkland use under a development application shall require the landowner to: (a) pay a fee in lieu of land dedication in accordance with a formula based on the average land values calculated in (2), above; (b) dedicate up to ten percent of the land subject to the development application for park use; or (c) require both a fee and a dedication of land in amounts calculated according to a formula, which can result, under certain circumstances, in the city paying money to the landowner; (4) a landowner may make a written request to the city requesting a determination of the dedication amount required by (3), above; and (5) if the city fails to respond to the request from (4), above, within 30 days, the city may not require a parkland dedication or charge a fee-in-lieu of dedication.		<b>House</b> ▪ Filed on 1/23/23  <b>Senate</b> ▪ Filed on 1/23/23
<b>HB 630</b> (Vasut)	<b>Relating to the provision of lifeguards by certain municipalities and counties on public beaches.</b>	<b>Reach out to Gulf Coast Directors Association for opinion.</b>		<b>House</b> ▪ Filed on 11/14/22
<b>HB 1174</b> (Howard) <b>Sb 551</b>	<b>Relating to the authority of municipalities to prohibit the sale of</b>	would allow cities to prohibit the sale of single-use water bottles at city-owned or operated golf courses, including attached clubhouses and shops.		<b>House</b> ▪ Filed on 1/4/23 <b>Senate</b>

(Johnson)	single-use plastic water bottles at municipal golf courses.			▪ Filed on 1/23/23
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