87th Legislative Session Update
UT CLE Car Wrecks Seminar
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87th Legislative Session Update

- **6,970 House and Senate bills filed**
- **1,073 bills actually passed**
- **Sine Die was May 31, 2021**
- **First called special session began July 8, 2021.**
- **Each special session can last up to 30 days**
- **At least one more special session necessary for redistricting. Census numbers hit mid-August.**

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87th Legislative Session Update

Courts

- **Remote Proceedings**
- **Appellate redistricting**
- **Business Courts**
- **New Texas Court of Appeals**
- **Omnibus Court Creation**
- **Judicial Qualifications**
- **MDL**

87th Legislative Session Update

COURTS (passed)

- **Omnibus Court Creation. HB 3774** was the court creation bill for the session and creates several new district, county, justice and municipal courts. It also contains sections on specialty court programs, electronic filing and transfer of court files, among other provisions. It is effective September 1.

87th Legislative Session Update

COURTS (passed)

- **MDL. HB 2950** amends the MDL statute to allow former or retired court of appeals justices to serve on the panel and except DTPA actions by the Consumer protection division of the AG from being transferred. The bill originally changed the jurisdiction of the MDL panel to a dangerous and much broader definition. The bill was signed and is effective June 16, 2021.

87th Legislative Session Update

COURTS (passed)

- **Judicial Qualifications. SJR 47** changes the qualifications in the Texas Constitution for an attorney to run to become a judge. The years of experience to become a district judge increase from four to eight years. Voters must approve it in November.

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