



2021 Legislative Update: 87th Regular Session

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1

FAST FACTS

6,927 HOUSE & SENATE BILLS
FILED; 1,073 (15.5%) PASSED BOTH
HOUSES; 20 VETOED BY GOVERNOR

COMPARE TO 86TH R.S. - 7,324
BILLS; 1,429 (19.5%) PASSED; 56
VETOED BY GOVERNOR

LEGISLATIVE THEMES AFFECTING ADMINISTRATIVE
LAW: DISASTER PREPARATION AND OPERATIONS,
ELECTRIC & GAS RELIABILITY & OVERSIGHT,
BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT, ACCESS TO
INFORMATION, AND MORE

2

2021 SUNSET REVIEW

- Evaluated 19 entities, including TDLR, TRS and Dept. of Agriculture.
- Legislature adopted 78% of recommendations through 12 bills.
- 115 statutory changes and 114 management directives:
 - Increasing accountability
 - Streamlining licensing and services
 - Decreasing burdens on individuals

3

2021 SUNSET BILLS

- Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) and Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) -
 - Addressed regulations and functions no longer needed or no longer cost effective.
 - SB 705: TAHC to close its disease testing laboratory and consolidates testing at Texas A&M.
 - SB 703: Eliminates aquaculture licensing program and two inactive entities. Improves fairness and performance of GO TEXAN marketing program and continues the Prescribed Burning Board Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation.

4

2021 SUNSET BILLS, Cont'd

- **Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation – HB 1560**
 - Codes Affected: Alcoholic Beverage, Criminal Procedure, Education, Family, Government, Health & Safety, Human Resources, Occupations, and Transportation.
 - TDLR to post additional statistical analysis of complaints.
 - Requires risk- based inspections.
 - TDLR to study Auctioneering
 - Eliminates licensing for Polygraph Examiners.
 - Consolidates licenses and certificates for both Barbers and Cosmetologists
 - Repeals Residential Service Company Act, including licensing. Regulates through the Service Contract Regulatory Act.
 - Postpones Sunset review of certain programs transferred to TDLR until 2032-33

5

2021 SUNSET BILLS, Cont'd

- **Teachers Retirement System (TRS)-**
 - HB 1585: improve outreach to members; establish ombudsman to investigate complaints and increase member input.
 - Sunset Commission Directives: related to contracting and to transparency of investment decisions
- **Next Up:** Sunset Review for 21 entities, including PUC, ERCOT, Texas Juvenile Justice Department, and TCEQ

6

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