



**CHANGING THE  
MAKEUP OF  
THE COURTS,  
WHY NOW?**

## **Advanced Texas Administrative Law Seminar**

September 7-8, 2023

**Chief Justice Darlene Byrne**

*Third Court of Appeals, Austin*

**Judge Amy Clark Meachum**

*Local Administrative Judge and Judge of the 201<sup>st</sup> Judicial  
District Court, Austin*

0

## INTRODUCTION

A. Personal Introduction


B. How We Got Here

C. The Present

D. Issues Raised

E. Other Legislative Impacts

1



How We Got  
Here

PRIOR  
LEGISLATIVE  
EFFORTS

2

## SPECIALIZED BUSINESS TRIAL AND APPELLATE COURTS

### *HISTORY*

- 2015 chancery court bill (HB 1603) that was voted out of committee (but failed to pass in the House)
- 2017 chancery court bill (HB 2594) that was filed but never voted out of committee
- 2019 business courts bill (HB 4149) that was filed but never voted out of committee
- 2021 business courts bill (HB 1875) that was voted out of committee (but failed to pass in the House)



3

# 15<sup>TH</sup> COA HISTORY

2021 Legislative  
Session

Senate Bill 1529



4

## SB 1529:

Creation of  
a Statewide  
Texas Court  
of Appeals

### EXCLUSIVE APPELLATE JURISDICTION:

“

all cases or any matters arising out of or related to a civil case brought by or against the state or a state agency, board, or commission or by or against an officer of the state or a state agency, board, or commission.

”

5

Find the full text of this and thousands of other resources from leading experts in dozens of legal practice areas in the [UT Law CLE eLibrary \(utcle.org/elibrary\)](https://utcle.org/elibrary)

Title search: Changing the Makeup of the Courts, Why Now?

Also available as part of the eCourse

[2023 Texas Administrative Law Legislative and Operational Updates](#)

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the  
18<sup>th</sup> Annual Advanced Texas Administrative Law Seminar session  
"Changing the Makeup of the Courts"